

# Pyrford C of E Primary School Weekly Newsletter



## Talent Across the School



*A huge well done to our brilliant Year 2 singers who performed at Halstead St Andrew's School on Monday. Their positive attitude and determination to do their best was incredible to see and hear. Well done.*



*Recently some of our children in Year 6 took part in the Primary Maths Challenge. This challenge aims to encourage enthusiasm and boost children's confidence in Maths through problem solving. Five of our children did so well in the first round that they went through to the bonus round. We are so proud of our incredible mathematicians at Pyrford and were so pleased to celebrate this success!*

*After reading, *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch*, Year 2 designed and made their own pulleys.*



### Inside this issue

Headteacher's Letter.....	2
Golden Book.....	3
Online Safety Sessions.....	4
Spring Term Dates.....	4
Sports Report.....	5
Eid.....	6
Summer Term Dates.....	7
Free School Meals.....	7
Gardening Club.....	7
Colour Raffle.....	8
Ads.....	9
Church Page.....	10



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## Headteacher's Letter

Dear Parents,

This week has been a whirlwind of exciting activities at school! On Monday, two hockey teams from our school visited Charterhouse School to compete in matches against other local schools. Both teams showed great sportsmanship and skill, with a few wins, a couple of draws, and a few losses.

Our children also participated in a Badminton festival at Greenfield School, and our Netball teams travelled to New Haw for some exciting fixtures, bringing home even more victories! We're so lucky to have such talented athletes who are passionate about sports and to have amazing staff who dedicate their time to make these events possible and provide our children with these opportunities.

It was wonderful to attend the Open The Book assembly today. The hall was filled with a vibrant rainbow of colours, and the children and their families showed their support for the school by donating and dressing up for the Colour Raffle. The PTA team was also busy this morning, packing up all the donations, so there are some fantastic hampers to be won. There's still time to buy some tickets if you haven't already (see page 8 for details).

Outside of our usual English and Maths lessons, the school was filled with delightful aromas as Year 6 took on their D&T cooking challenge. They worked hard to experiment with different spices and flavours, creating their own unique versions of egg fried rice. The staff were thrilled to try the food, and I can confidently say that it was absolutely delicious. It's amazing to see our children exploring different aspects of the curriculum, enjoying it, and excelling in it.

Just a friendly reminder about the upcoming Online Safety sessions for the children during the day on Thursday, April 3rd, and the session for parents after school. Please let us know if you can make it (see page 4). Also, I wanted to give a shout-out to parents interested in supporting the Smart Phone Free childhood movement. If you missed it last week, I'm forming a working party of parents to discuss ways the school can contribute. A few parents have already expressed interest, but if you'd like to know more, send me an email. I'm planning to meet with them after the Easter holidays.

Fingers crossed for good weather so we can have our MAGS event outside this afternoon. We'd love to see you there!

Also, I wanted to thank those parents who've shared positive comments about the class mix-up letter that went home yesterday. Your support means a lot to us.

Have a wonderful weekend, and I can't wait to see you all next week for the last week of term!

Mr. D

Gavin Dutton  
Headteacher

*If your child will be celebrating Eid on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March, please can we ask that you complete the Request for Absence form on the homepage of the school website.*

*Next Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April, school will finish at 12:00 so please collect your child promptly. There will be no hot meals provided on this day.*

*However, if your child is in Reception or KS1, a school packed lunch will be sent home with your child.*

# Golden Book Awards



**N SQUIRRELS - Max W** Max has had a brilliant half term. He engages in all our activities and joins the children in their play. Max is thriving at Squirrels and we love to see how happy he is!

**R BEECH - Alex** for becoming a superstar writer. This week she chose to write and reflect on the learning we have been doing in assembly. She clearly listened well and thought about what the stories mean to her. What a lovely topic to write about! *"God helps people if he sees them. If I suddenly fall God can help me or the teacher can sometimes. Amen. David's friend died. He was sad so David put his tears in a bottle, Amen. God believes in everyone but not people who lie Amen."*

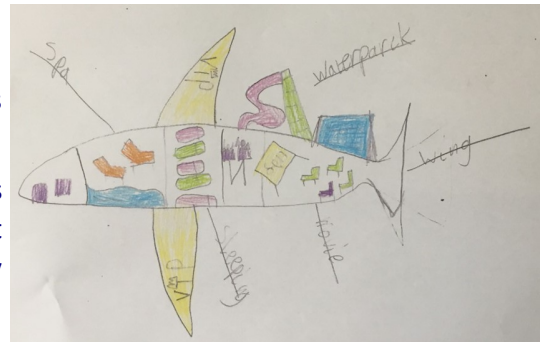
**R HAZEL - Kayleigh** for doing so well with her reading. We are very proud of her putting in a lot of effort, as well as having lots of enthusiasm, reading at home this weekend with Bedtime Bear. Well done Kayleigh!

**1 OAK - Arabella** We have been writing the story of Augustus the tiger who lost his smile. She used wonderful adjectives to add detail to her writing and used capital letters and full stops to punctuate her sentences. Miss Daly is so proud of the effort she is making in her writing and the progress she is making - well done Arabella!

**1 PINE - Thea** for making excellent progress with her writing. She has been working hard to remember full stops, capital letters and forming her letters correctly. Well done Thea, keep it up!

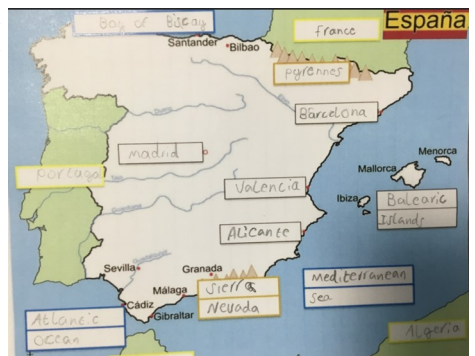
**2 CEDAR - Aayat** for her amazing Maths work. We recently recapped addition and subtraction and Aayat worked hard in every lesson, particularly in our subtraction lesson where she completed all the tasks and challenges. Keep up the hard work!

**2 HAWTHORN - Tabs** Tabs was inspired by her trip to Brooklands Museum, where she shared how her great, great grandfather was part of a team to develop an engine. She showed her own creativity by inventing a flying machine *The Great Napier!*



**3 ELM - Charlie** This week we started our new text *How the stars came to be*. Charlie responded to the story with this beautiful drawing using shape and colour to great effect. Wonderful work Charlie!

**3 MAPLE - Austin** for his excellent work in Geography. Mrs Brockway was very impressed with how confidently he labelled a map of Spain and how neatly he presented his work.



**4 ALDER - Bethany** In English, Year 4 wrote poems showing how Varjak Paw was confused thinking that cars were dogs. Bethany thought very creatively and used some excellent adjectives and verbs to describe what Varjak saw. Brilliant, imaginative writing Bethany!

**4 LARCH - Kira** Kira has impressed us with her musical ability in our brass lessons. She has been learning to read notations and play the notes beautifully on the cornet.

**5 CHERRY - Mia M** In Year 5 we have been writing a diary entry from the perspective of the protagonist of our book *Floodland*. Miss Dennis was really impressed with Mia's use of powerful vocabulary and 'show, not tell' technique to show how the character is feeling. Well done Mia, keep up the fabulous work!



**5 ROWAN - Nicole** In Art we have been learning how artists use perspective to create depth and make their pictures look more realistic. This week we used a technique called foreshortening to create a superhero. Miss Wilson was really impressed by Nicole's drawing. She has taken great care and precision to create the effect that her superhero is coming straight towards us. Great work Nicole.

**5 WILLOW - Jessica** for excellent participation in PE. She has been demonstrating great sportsmanship during our football lessons as well as excellent creativity during our Dance unit. Mrs Woodhams has seen great improvements over the last few weeks. Keep up the fabulous work Jessica!

**6 HOLLY - Immy** In our arithmetic lesson this week, Imogen was so thrilled that she got nearly all the answers correct. She has worked so hard all year with her Maths and this week has proved that she understands the processes in all types of arithmetic calculations. Mrs Bull is so proud of her and knows that Immy is proud of herself too. Well done!

**6 LAUREL - Belle** for working so hard in English. She took such care working on her mind map to describe a jungle story setting and prepared a strong argument for sailing around the world. Belle is really enjoying *Kensuke's Kingdom*, as are the rest of the class. Well done Belle, keep up the great writing!



**Childnet Online Safety Session for Parents and Careers, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 7pm**

Don't forget to log in to our online safety session for parents and carers on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm delivered by Childnet. Childnet is a UK-based charity who empower children, young people and those

who support them in their online lives. Its mission is to work with others to make the internet a great and safe place for children and young people. More information about Childnet can be found here:

<https://www.childnet.com/>

You will be able to access the session on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm online at home using the link in the email sent to you, and we will also be joining the session from school if you would like to join us. The session will be recorded and will be available for 4 weeks following the presentation.

If you haven't already done so, we would be very grateful if you could click on this link and give us an indication of your participation plans so that we have a rough idea of numbers. <https://forms.gle/VfDXesu45s8n7A6U7>

We hope that you find the session really helpful, and look forward to continuing to work together to keep our children safe and happy online.

If you have any questions about the presentation, please contact Emma Booker on [e.booker@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:e.booker@pyrford.surrey.sch.uk)

SPRING TERM DATES		
Fri 28 Mar	14:00-14:30	MAGs Event (Years 1 & 2)
Fri 28 Mar	14:00-14:30	MAGs Event (Nursery & YR)
Fri 28 Mar	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 5 & 6
Tue 1 Apr		Easter Pause Day
<b>Wed 2 Apr</b>	<b>08:45</b>	<b>KS2 Awards Assembly</b>
<b>Thu 3 Apr</b>	<b>08:45</b>	<b>EYFS/KS1 Awards Assembly</b>
Thu 3 Apr		Online Safety Day
Thu 3 Apr	19:00-20:00	Online Safety Presentation to Parents
Fri 4 Apr	12:00	Last Day of Spring Term
Mon 7 - Mon 21 Apr		<b>EASTER HOLIDAY</b>

# Sports Report

## NETBALL

Our year 5/6 netball team very much enjoyed playing at New Haw school against their team. They all played brilliantly as two teams and were very pleased to come away with a 7-0 and 10-0. Congratulations to them all!



## RACKETPACK FESTIVAL

We took a group of keen year 4 children out to Greenfield school this week to take part in badminton inspired games and activities, ending with a chance to show off their new skills against each other. All the children were full of enthusiasm when they returned the next day! Well done to them all.



## HOCKEY

On Monday, Pyrford took part in an U11 hockey tournament at Charterhouse school, run by Guildford hockey club. It's a friendly tournament with mini hockey games (5 aside) to give players an introduction to the sport. This is the third time we have entered this tournament so our players were familiar with the format and demonstrated some fantastic hockey skills, with each team improving and growing in confidence as the tournament progressed. The teams started to show excellent team work, determination and sportsmanship. There were some fantastic goals scored, lots of passing and co-ordination in the midfield and strong tackles in defence. Everyone got stuck in and did not give the opposition time on the ball before a tackle went in. Well done to everyone that took part - Mr Dutton, Mrs Smith and Mrs Westen are very proud of you all. Thank you also to all the spectators that cheered the teams on and kept them positive in the more challenging games.





**Eid Mubarak**  
عيد مبارك  
**'Have a blessed Eid'**

**Eid al-Fitr 'Festival of breaking the fast'**

Eid al-Fitr is the first of the two official holidays celebrated in Islam. Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by 1.9 billion Muslims worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-dusk fasting of Ramadan when the new moon is sighted.

On the day of Eid Muslims will observe giving charity, giving thanks to God and a short Eid prayer at the mosque. This is followed by festivities, visiting family, eating and sharing lots of food and hugs. Traditionally children receive money, sweets and presents and wear new Eid clothes.

Different countries have different traditions. You can find how countries around the world celebrate Eid by visiting this link: [Eid al-Fitr - Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eid_al-Fitr) in the 'Practices and culture by country' section.

As you can imagine our children and young people in care who are of Muslim faith will inevitably be missing their families and traditions from their homes and countries this time of year. Saying 'Eid Mubarak' will make them smile and feel a bit of that Eid cheer and know they are loved.

As well as this Muslims will also observe another festival called Eid al-Adha after the holy days of Hajj which takes place in Saudi Arabia. This will be a round two months after Eid al-Fitr. How lucky are we?!

**Eid Day**



SUMMER TERM DATES		
Tue 22 Apr		First Day of Summer Term
Fri 25 Apr		Y5 Tudor Workshop @ RGS (Rowan)
Mon 28 Apr		EYFS & KS1 Perform Drama Workshops
Fri 2 May		Y5 Tudor Workshop @ RGS (Willow)
Tue 6 May		Swimming lessons start
Tue 6 - Fri 16 May		Ducks in Reception
Fri 9 May		YR to Godstone Farm
Fri 16 May		Y5 Tudor Workshop @ RGS (Cherry)
Mon 19 May	pm	Y3/4 Performance Technical Rehearsal
Tue 20 May	pm	Y3/4 Performance Dress Rehearsal to school
Wed 21 May		Class Photos
Wed 21 May		Y5 Shah Jahan Mosque Visit
Wed 21 May	14:15	Y3/4 Production @ CoGS
Thu 22 May	am	YR Fire Service Visit
Thu 22 & Fri 23 May		Y3 Feet First Walking Training
Mon 26 - Fri 30 May		<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</b>
Mon 2 Jun		Class Photos
Thu 5 Jun	13:30	KS2 Author Visit
Fri 6 Jun	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - EYFS & Ys 1 & 2
Mon 9 Jun		Y5 Fullbrook Away Day
Wed 11 Jun		EYFS Bugfest
Thu 12 Jun		Y2 to The Lookout Discovery Centre
Fri 13 Jun	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 3 & 4
Tue 17 Jun		Y6 Leavers' Service @ Cathedral
Fri 20 Jun		Y4 Chinese Dragon Workshop
Fri 20 Jun	15:20-15:50	Friendly Friday - Ys 5 & 6
<b>Mon 23 Jun</b>	<b>am</b>	<b>EYFS/KS1 Sports Day</b>
Tue 24 Jun		Y6 Lego Stem Workshop
<b>Wed 25 Jun</b>	<b>am</b>	<b>KS2 Sports Day</b>
Fri 27 Jun		Y5 to Wildwood
Sat 28 Jun	13:00-15:00	PTA Summer Fair
Sat 28 Jun	18:00	Brass Concert @ CoGS
Mon 30 Jun		<b>INSET DAY</b>
Tue 1 & Wed 2 Jul		Forest School - 1 class per day
Fri 4 Jul		Y3 Outdoor Learning Activity Day
Mon 7 - Fri 11 Jul		Y6 Marchants Hill Residential
Fri 18 Jul	12:00	Last Day of Summer Term



### IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE FREE SCHOOL MEALS

From 1 April 2025, the Government's transitional protection arrangements for means tested Free School Meals (FSM) will end.

Any eligible claims confirmed from this date will no longer be protected. This means any child confirmed as eligible for free school meals from 1 April 2025 will be subject to ongoing checks to confirm continued eligibility. This will not impact any children who are already confirmed as eligible.

*If you think you may be eligible for free school meals, even if your child is still in Squirrels or KS1 please contact the school office re this as only applications processed before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 will maintain transitional protection.*

### Gardening Club - Call for Parent Helpers

For the last few years the school has run an after school gardening club for children in the current Year 4 and Year 5. This has been organised and run by parents, but unfortunately this year changes in circumstances mean that we need one more parent volunteer to make the club viable - two extra volunteers would be ideal.

The club runs on a Monday after school during the summer term, and there is no need for extensive experience of horticulture! A willingness to try new things and get your hands dirty is all that is needed.

If you think you might be able to help, even if unable to commit to coming every week, or just want to find out more, Martin Hunter (07812601920 or [martinhunter61@hotmail.com](mailto:martinhunter61@hotmail.com)) would love to hear from you. Or alternatively please let the office know.

Thank you!



**THANK YOU FOR ALL THE  
FABULOUS HAMPER  
DONATIONS**  
There is a bonus Rainbow  
Hamper now in the draw

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO  
ENTER**  
See below for details

# Spring Colour Raffle & Multi Day

**Raffle tickets - £1 each  
purchased via Raffall link or QR Code below**  
<https://raffall.com/380037/enter-raffle-to-win-fabulous-colour-hampers-hosted-by-pyrford-primary-school>  
Raffall sign-up answer is "red"

The draw will take place  
at 23.55 on 28 March.  
Winners announced and prizes  
for collection on Mon 31 March







Building futures  
Transforming lives

## Parent and carer support

Supporting children who face additional challenges can be difficult at times. With that in mind, the Hope Service has created a space for groups of parents and carers to come together on a regular (fortnightly) basis to discuss the challenges they face in a confidential and supportive environment.

These groups are specifically for parents and carers of children who would like additional support. You will have an opportunity to exchange experiences and receive support towards managing the often complex situations you find yourselves in. This is not a parenting class, rather a non-judgemental support group and we encourage you to talk about whatever seems most important.

The Hope Service will be offering topical sessions to coincide with the dates on offer, where parents and carers can join together to discuss current difficulties.

Support is offered via Microsoft Teams by Hope staff members, which could include a Therapist, Nurse, Teacher, Social Worker and Hope day programme staff or outside facilitators.

The following link details the sessions on offer:

<https://clicktime.symantec.com/15wPURrH3sqdNRyUBSm6S?h=HoBLVLuvjpOmfho-JzvP7c1OsGj2TUbnQU9T6LXwJWQ=&u=https://www.hopeservice.org.uk/parent-and-carer-support>

<b>Tuesday 1 April</b> 5 - 6 pm	<b>Substance and Alcohol Misuse:</b> The impact of Substance and Alcohol misuse on a young person.
<b>Tuesday 15 April</b> 5 - 6 pm	<b>What is Sexual Exploitation (WiSE):</b> An opportunity to learn more about the WiSE project, a service using a trauma informed approach to working with children and young people up to the age of 25. They support young people to recognise the process of grooming and cohesion and how this can influence behaviour. They support young people in identifying risks and responding to concerns.
<b>Tuesday 22 April</b> 5 - 6 pm	<b>Action For Carers:</b> Are you looking after a friend or relative? Find out what support is available for parents and carers from Action For Carers.
<b>Tuesday 29 April</b> 5 - 6 pm	<b>Keyworking Service:</b> An opportunity to learn more about the new Keyworking Service that supports children and young people aged 5 to 25 years with an autism and/or learning disability diagnosis, and who are at risk of hospital admission or placement breakdown. Discover what support is available to young people and families living in Surrey.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

### PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

*Good quality pre-loved uniform items available in a range of sizes*

The PTA are now running the uniform shop

- Email: [pyrforduniform@gmail.com](mailto:pyrforduniform@gmail.com) with your request
- Collections/donations: meet at the portacabin (back playground) on Fridays at 3pm
- Cash or card accepted - proceeds go to the school!

**EMAIL: [PYRFORDUNIFORM@GMAIL.COM](mailto:PYRFORDUNIFORM@GMAIL.COM)**

## Easter Trail Café & Chill Zone

**THURSDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 10-12NOON**  
**SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2-4PM**

@ the Church of the Good Shepherd, Coldharbour Road, Pyrford GU22 8SP

**Come on an interactive journey through the Easter Story!**

**A story trail including craft, games, eggs, hot cross buns.**

- Easter Trail in Main Church.
- Café area, sofa, toys & soft play in Main Hall.
- Games Zone including table tennis, table football, Wii, in Sherwood Jones/Lantern Room.

We'd love to see you at the  
**Coffee Shop**  
Friday Mornings (term time)  
At the Church of the Good Shepherd, Pyrford

- 9:00am to 11:00am. Hall and play area in Church are open.
- 9:00am-10:30am. Cooked Breakfasts served.

## Tots Praise!

**Tuesday Mornings,  
10 to 11:30am**

@ the Church of the Good Shepherd,  
Coldharbour Road, Pyrford GU22 8SP

**Songs, puppets, story, cake, coffee, juice,**

We'd love to see you.

Any enquiries Suzanne at the Parish Office 01932 356166  
Suzanne@wisleywithpyrford.org