



West Byfleet Junior School

Week ending: Friday 15 March 2024



Hooke Court

Year 4 enjoyed a brilliant trip to Hooke Court. The children enjoyed a range of activities. Day 1 focused on enhancing our teamwork skills through a range of team building activities, this was followed by a night walk, where we found out about badger sets and fox dens and how to tell the difference between and listening to the nocturnal animals in the woods. Day 2 was filled with amazing activities where we learnt all about where our food comes from, which included a visit to a local dairy farm where we learnt the process of getting milk from a cow through to the shelves of Sainsbury's, visiting the local Hooke Court animals and polytunnel and cooking with a range of local ingredients, cooking a feast filled with scones, jam, homemade butter, soups and quiches. We even learnt how to gut a trout. We spent our final morning, in the woods learning how to build dens. We all had lots of fun and learnt lots. A huge thank you to all the amazing staff, led by Miss Heatley who gave up their time with their own families to make this happen. On behalf of you the parents we thank them all. Thank you to those parents and children who have taken the time to show their appreciation, as such trips should never be taken for granted.



New Heritage Apple Trees on Our School Grounds!

A number of WBJs pupils had the joyful opportunity to join Mr Schofield and Mrs Bradshaw to plant four local heritage rare apple saplings on our school grounds on Thursday 14 March. Mr Schofield's vision for a School and Community 'Wildlife Garden Project' has started to take form with the precious help, expertise and generosity of Mrs Bradshaw, our Eco Parent and Avant Gardener. We look forward to keeping you updated on many Wildlife and Gardening whole school projects that will be happening over the Summer Term and in the years to come. The apple trees now sit beautify in our school grounds and we hope to bring some *school-made* Apple Chutney or some delicious WBJs Apple pies to you all in the near future. The four trees planted are named as follows: '**Byfleet Seeding**', '**George Carpenter**' (there are 2 of these) and '**Victory**'. The trees were kindly donated by RHS Wisley to West Byfleet Community Gardening Group who kindly donated to our school.



"It's a Fish out!"

A massive thank you to both teams who represented WBJs at Dorking Leisure Centre in the annual Surrey Schools Life Saving "It's a Fish out!" competition. Both teams did really well with our A team finishing 15 out of 24 teams. Only 12 schools in Surrey attended and we are very proud of being one of them, giving our children this great opportunity. Many thanks for the parents getting the children across to Dorking for this event. Well done to: Ollie W, Elyse, Bea, Archie P, Jacob P, Leonie, Immie and James L.

Godstone Farm

Year 4 children enjoyed a fun day out at Godstone Farm on Tuesday in spite of the wet weather. They had talks about pigs, seeds, chicks and sheep. The children studied different seeds under a microscope and were lucky enough to see a lamb being born at the end of the time there. There was an opportunity for them to stroke some of the animals and feed the pigs and lambs. There was a farm tour and the children were able to ask questions about the many other animals on the farm.



Hoebriidge Science Challenge

On Tuesday, selected children from Years 5&6 took part in a Science Challenge in Hoebriidge school. Together with other schools, they took part in a project to build a paper helicopter that will be slowest to land. The children were only allowed to change one thing in order to assure this was a fair test. After a morning of troubleshooting, the best prototype from each school team was tested in action - from a significant height of a ladder. All participating children really enjoyed their day testing, writing up their method and working on their team skills. Special thanks to Ms. Lanaway, a parent helper, who accompanied us on the trip and Miss Moore, who drove us there.



Diary Reminders & Updates
Newsletter week ending Friday 15 March 2024
Please check weekly, as dates are occasionally subject to change

DATE	YR GP/CLASS	EVENT	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Mon 18 Mar	Y6	Trip to Natural History Museum	Children arrive in school at 07:45
Mon 18 Mar	Y4	Bikeability L1 training (Group 1)	09:00-12:15
Mon 18 Mar	Darwin	Forest Schools (session 2)	Children arrive wearing Forest School Clothes, AM group bring in school uniform, spare socks
Mon 18 Mar	Y3	Performance of "You're Special!"	14:15 (doors open 14:00)
Tue 19 Mar	Y4	Bikeability L1 training (Group 2)	09:00-12:15
Tue 19 Mar	Y3	Performance of "You're Special!"	09:30 (doors open 09:15)
Tue 19 Mar	Y3	Performance of "You're Special!"	14:15 (doors open 14:00)
Wed 20 Mar	Y4	Bikeability L1 Training (Group 3)	09:00-12:15
Wed 20 Mar	Y3, 4 & 6	PE lessons for Y3, 4 & 6	
Wed 20 Mar	Y5	Swimming lesson 9	
Thur 21 Mar	Y5/6	Reading Café Please sign up via the website (Parent Zone)	15:30-16:15
Fri 22 Mar	Y3, 4 & 6	PE for Year 3, 4 & 6	
Mon 25 Mar	Darwin	Forest Schools (session 3)	Children arrive wearing Forest School Clothes, AM group bring in school uniform, spare socks
Mon 25 Mar		Poetry recital Final (Hoebridge) (selected children)	09:00-10:00
Mon 25 Mar		Y3/4 Easter Service at St John's	10:00-10:30
Mon 25 Mar		Y5/6 Easter Service at St John's Church, West Byfleet	11:00-11:30
Tue 26 Mar		EXPO Extravaganza, parent invited to	14:30-15:00
Wed 27 Mar		Swimming lesson 10	
Thur 28 Mar		Last Day of Term, school finishes at 13:20	
Mon 15 April		INSET DAY	
Tue 16 April		Summer Term starts	

Unauthorised Absence from School

Just to remind parents/carers that if you take your child/ren out of school without authority for five or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), you will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent/carer per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent/carer per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices. Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.



Red Nose Day 2024

Thank you to all those who donated to this **wonderful** cause today. The children (and staff) looked brilliant in their **red accessories** and the red themed tuck shop was a huge success. Well done to the following School Councillors: Bella, Katie, Adriana, Daisy, Darcey, Elkon, Harrison and Poppy for their hard work and enthusiasm.



Get your kids active with FREE local activities this Spring!

Do you know about the FREE, FUN and LOCAL weekly activities on offer for kids and teenagers in Surrey?

You can [search by town or postcode](#) to see what's on offer near you.

The 6-8 weeks of activity training kick off across 9 of Surrey's boroughs and districts (excluding Tandridge and Surrey Heath) after Easter.

All the coaches have been handpicked to be friendly and supportive - the emphasis is on having fun and taking part. There's SO MUCH on offer for 7-16 year olds, including:

- Dance
- Judo
- Girls' Touch Rugby
- Boxing
- The Run, Ride, Row Challenge
- Boccia (a type of seated bowls accessible to all)
- Street Basketball
- Tennis

Families LOVE the Specsavers Surrey Youth Games:

"My daughter absolutely LOVED every week from the first time." - Parent

"My son looked forward to attending every session." - Parent

"The other kids are all really nice. I've made friends I didn't know before." - Charlie, 12

"9 out of 10 children who took part in the Specsavers Surrey Youth Games last year said they were happier for doing so and their confidence had been boosted", according to Lil Duggan, MD of Active Surrey.

She added, *"Daily physical activity is vital for children's happiness and physical and mental health. The cost-of-living crisis has exacerbated the challenges faced by Surrey's children, making it even more crucial for families to have access to free, fun and local activities."*

Registration for the FREE, FUN & LOCAL activity training is open now!

Places are limited so BOOK NOW to avoid disappointment.

To sign your child up, visit the Active Surrey website at <https://bit.ly/3OFQibH>

Or use your phone to scan this code:



**BOOK NOW BY SCANNING THE QR CODE
OR VISITING WWW.PLLGROUP.CO.UK**

WEEK 1: TUESDAY 3RD - THURSDAY 5TH APRIL 2024

CAMP RUNS FROM 8.30AM - 4PM



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@SKILLZONEUK
INFO@SKILLZONESOCCER.CO.UK**

