West Byfleet Junior School

6 November 2026

Headteacher's Message

Welcome Back!

We've had a great first week back in school and the children seem very refreshed and ready to learn after their two-week break. I know half terms can bring their own challenges for parents too but I hope everyone had a positive couple of weeks. Next year, Surrey is reverting to a one-week October half-term for maintained schools like ours so this year's fortnight off was a one-off arrangement for this year. You can find our term dates for 2027-28 published on our website.

Arrangements for Next Week

We have a few events in school next week so I thought a brief summary of arrangements would be helpful. Monday 9th is a non-uniform day where children can wear their own clothes in return for a donation to the PTA Christmas Cracker event. Y3 and 4 children should bring sweet treats, toys or games and Y5 and 6 children should bring creative supplies—there's helpful guidance on this on page 4 of this newsletter.

Monday 9th is also our first parents evening while Wednesday 11th is the second one. Appointments have already been booked through Scopay before half term, but if you do not have an appointment yet, please email your child's teacher or the school office to arrange one. It's really important to hear about your child's progress at this early stage in the year. Following parental feedback last year, children's books will be available for you to see.

Wednesday 11th is also Remembrance Day. We have been selling poppies at playtime this week and will continue next week on Monday and Tuesday. We'll hold a period of silence at 11.00 am. Previously, we have allowed children who are scouts or guides to wear their pack uniform. This is complicated this year by it being a PE day but we are happy to try! Perhaps some children will be able to come in their PE kit with the pack uniform as outer layers, or perhaps others will find most of the pack uniform suitable for PE—please feel free to work this out as you see fit but do ask us if you're not sure!

Finally, I'd like to confirm we won't be involved with Children in Need this year, which is taking place on Friday 13th. It's a great national event but we've very recently done some fundraising for the Woking and Sam Beare Hospice and the school community was so generous (an amazing £1148!) that it doesn't feel right to do another one as a school at this point.

New Website Ideas

We've been busy working on our website behind the scenes and are hoping to launch a new version of it by the end of this term, or after Christmas. We're trying to make it even easier to navigate and find all the key information—your feedback on this will be very welcome once it's live! In the meantime, if you have any comments or requests that will help us shape the new site, please do share them.

WBJS Fireworks

I hope to see many of you at the fireworks event tonight, which is always a brilliant show. Thanks to the PTA and wider community for all of the many months of hard work to bring this event together!

Thank you
Ben Wasserberg

Diary Reminders & Updates

Fri day 6 November 2026

Please check each newsletter as dates are occasionally subject to change

Mon 9 Nov	Non Uniform Day—for PTA	
Mon 9 Nov	Y4 Bikeability Training (optional)	
Mon 9 Nov	Parent Consultations (face to face)	16:00-19:00
Tue 10 Nov	Y4 Bikeability Training (optional)	
Wed 11 Nov	Y4 Darwin Swimming (session 7)	10:15-12:00
Wed 11 Nov	Parent Consultations (face to face)	15:40-18:00
Thur 12 Nov	Y4 Bikeability Training (optional)	
Mon 16 Nov	Odd Socks Day (Anti bullying week)	
Mon 16 Nov	Y5 Fire Safety Education Workshops	
Tue 17 Nov	Y4 Visit to Butser Ancient Farm	
Wed 18 Nov	Y4 Darwin Swimming (session 8)	10:15-12:00
Thur 19 Nov	Y3 Tate Visit to the Lightbox, Woking	
Fri 20 Nov	Y3 Kew Visit to the Lightbox, Woking	
Wed 25 Nov	Y4 Darwin Swimming (session 9)	10:15-12:00
Mon 30 Nov	Y4 Bikeability Training (optional)	
Wed 2 Dec	Y4 Darwin Swimming (session 10)	10:15-12:00
Thur 3 Dec	Y3 Eden Visit to the Lightbox, Woking	
Fri 4 Dec	Y3 Tate Nativity Performance for parents	14:00-14:45
Mon 7 Dec	Y3 Kew Nativity Performance for parents	14:00-14:45
Thur 10 Dec	National Christmas Jumper Day	
Fri 11 Dec	Y3 Eden Nativity Performance for parents	14:00-14:45
Tue 15 Dec	Y3/Y4 Christmas Singing Service at St John's Church – all welcome	09:30-10:15
Tue 15 Dec	Y5/Y6 Christmas Singing Service at St John's Church – all welcome	11:00-11:45
Wed 16 Dec	Christmas Dinner	
Fri 18 Dec	Last Day Autumn Term, school closes at 13:25	13:25

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS WEEK 9-13 NOVEMBER:

All after school clubs will run as normal this week, with the exception of Woking Karate Club, which will not take place this week, as per their flyer. If you have any queries please contact the club providers directly. Thank you.

<u>Christmas Dinner—Wednesday 16 December</u>

If your child usually has school meals and you **have already booked meals** for this half term you do not need to take any action.

If your child has school meals and you book meals weekly, or if your child usually has a packed lunch and you wish your child to have the Christmas meal then you should book **by Thursday 26 November latest.**

In order to assist Olive Dining with ordering, the children will be asked to make their meal choice in class after this date, if you have not booked by Thursday 26 November then Olive Dining will not be able to provide a meal for your child on the day.

Thank you for your co-operation



Community and School Notices

Year 6 Visit to the Imperial War Museum

Year 6 recently enjoyed an exciting and enriching visit to the Imperial War Museum in London. During the day, the children explored the Second World War Galleries, as well as the new *Children and War* exhibition, which provided a fascinating insight into the impact of conflict on children across different periods of history.

The children also took part in an engaging, hands-on workshop led by a museum volunteer, which complemented our classroom learning about the Blitz, the blackout and other significant events of the Second World War.

One of the highlights of the day was the 'Documentary Challenge', where the children took on the role of museum staff, presenting a range of artefacts and sharing information they had discovered during their visit.

We would like to extend our thanks to the staff and volunteers at the Imperial War Museum for making the experience so enjoyable and informative. We would also like to thank all the school staff who accompanied the children, as well as our parent volunteers who generously gave their time to help make the trip possible.

The Year 6 Team







Outdoor Learning Day—Thursday 5 November

The children across Key Stage 2 enjoyed a fantastic Outdoor Learning Day, embracing the opportunity to take their learning beyond the classroom. Year 5 combined creativity, teamwork and mathematical thinking by creating their own robots using natural materials such as leaves, twigs and branches, inspired by their English text *Robot Girl*. They also explored cube numbers through practical outdoor activities, investigating how numbers can be represented in three dimensions. Year 6 applied their understanding of fractions by creating their own examples using chalk and natural resources, explored positive bystander behaviour through drama activities in PSHE, and practised spelling patterns and syllable splits outdoors. Throughout the day, both year groups demonstrated excellent teamwork, communication and collaboration skills.

Meanwhile, Years 3 and 4 enjoyed a range of outdoor learning experiences, developing their problem-solving, team-building and communication skills through practical activities in the school grounds. The children embraced the opportunity to work together, explore their environment and learn in a different setting, showing great enthusiasm and perseverance throughout the day.

It was a wonderful day of learning across the school, bringing our values of Aspiration, Resilience, Opportunity, Creativity and Kindness (AROCK) to life. Well done to all the children for their enthusiasm, cooperation and outstanding behaviour.







THE GREAT CHRISTMAS CRACK-OFF

MONDAY | 9TH | NOVEMBER

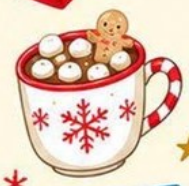
WEAR YOUR OWN CLOTHES TO SCHOOL IN RETURN FOR A DONATION TO THE CHRISTMAS CRACKER EVENT.
BELOW IS A GUIDE FOR DONATIONS PER YEAR GROUP.

Year 3 & 4 - Sweet Treats & Toys and Games



Bags of sweets or chocolate bars | Hot chocolate/ Hot chocolate mugs
Marshmallow cones or sweet cones | Retro sweet mixes
NO NUTS please





Card games (Uno, Top Trumps etc) | Small games or gadgets
Fidget toys (spinners, pop-its, stress balls) | Board games
Any fun games suitable for KS2 children











Year 5 & 6 - Creative Supplies

Stationery sets or notebooks | Mini puzzles or colouring books | Pen sets
Pencil cases | Colouring accessories | Themed Keyrings | Diaries
Any stationery suitable for girls and boys in KS2













School Meals

Please remember to book your child's school meal in advance.

The kitchen can not always provide extra meals as they cook to the number that we have provided first thing in the morning.
You may wish to set alerts up on SCOPAY to remind you when credit is low on the account.
Thank you for your co-operation.

Autumn Term 2027	
INSET Days: Wednesday 1, Thursday 2 September & Monday 1 November 2027	
Term Starts:	Friday 3 September 2027
Half Term:	Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October 2027
Term Ends:	Tuesday 21 December 2027 *Early finish: 1:25pm*
Spring Term 2028	
INSET Day: Monday 21 February 2028	
Term Starts:	Tuesday 4 January 2028
Half Term:	Monday 14 February – Friday 19 February 2028
Term Ends:	Friday 31 March 2028 *Early finish: 1:25pm*
Summer Term 2028	
INSET Day: Monday 5 June 2028	
Term Starts:	Tuesday 18 April 2028
Half Term:	Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June 2028
Term Ends:	Wednesday 19 July 2028 *Year 6 early finish: 12:00pm, All other year groups early finish: 1:25pm*



Unauthorised Absence from School Notice

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child,** if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

2.If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.

3.If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per** child, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

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.