



Friday, 14th November 2025

NOTES FROM MRS MITCHELL

Dear Parents,

What a lively and uplifting week it has been at school! We began with a whole-school assembly to launch Anti-Bullying Week, and the hall was awash with colour as pupils arrived proudly wearing their 'odd socks.' This simple act never fails to bring smiles—and it beautifully reinforces the message that our differences make our community vibrant and unique. During the assembly, we reflected on taking responsibility, like 'Archie the Acorn,' for our actions and considered how we can show our school value of kindness in our words, choices, and friendships. We shared the much-loved story *The Monster Who Lost His Mean*, sparking wonderful conversations about what it means to be kind. The children are now creating their own imaginative whole-school 'Onster' artwork, each one colourful and full of character. My thanks go to Miss Lomax, who led a thoughtful session on Wednesday sharing the importance of speaking up and not being a bystander, and playtimes have been buzzing with music and dancing as part of our celebration of friendship and positivity.

A special highlight came from our Wellbeing Ambassadors (Tienna, Ophelia, Amelie, Ava and Georgia), who marked World Kindness Day by gifting every member of staff a crocheted star—a lovely reminder of the power of small acts of kindness. Their initiative brightened everyone's day.

My thanks also to Mr Smith and Miss Lomax for coordinating the London City Lionesses vs Spurs Women event last weekend. I was told it was a gripping match with Freya Godfrey scoring twice and London City Lionesses just beating Tottenham Hotspur in a back-and-forth 4-2 win. This week we also hosted the first inter-house chess competition, with Stanstead and Hillside drawing 11–11. Well done to all players, who showed great skill and sportsmanship.

Last week, Miss Wright, Reception teacher and Charities Lead, and I visited Buxton Lodge Care Home. As part of our commitment to nurturing empathy, community spirit, and meaningful connections beyond the classroom, we are delighted to announce a new partnership. Through this initiative, we hope to foster intergenerational relationships between our pupils and the residents, enriching the lives of both young and old alike. During our Reception visits, pupils will take part in small group activities such as arts and crafts, games, reading, and conversation with the residents.

Congratulations to Ellie (Y4), Scarlett (Y4), Kenji, Theo, Ophelia and Nurel (Y5), who carried out some superb work this week, including creative writing, recounts and maths. A huge well done also to Lizzie (Y6), who has qualified for the ISA Swimming Nationals at the Olympic Park in Stratford—an amazing achievement! Alice (Y5) created an outstanding piece of artwork, a delicious and very edible cupcake! —and is a well-deserved winner of the ‘Masterpiece of the Month’ award. In other exciting news, Dominic and Sebastian have become older brothers to baby Laurence—and what amazing brothers they are going to be!

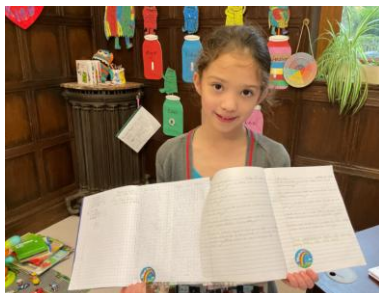
Looking ahead, we have another exciting week in store. Some of our swimmers will be heading to Caterham School for a Swimming Gala, and Year 3 will be showcasing their talents in their Form Assembly. We are also looking forward to our whole-school Inter-House Cross Country event—parents are warmly invited to cheer the children on. We hope to see many of you at these events as we continue to celebrate the pupils’ enthusiasm, teamwork, and achievements.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Mitchell







NOTES FROM THE EXCEPTIONAL OAKHYRST STAFF

Pre-Reception

Over the last fortnight, Pre-Reception have been learning all about the seasons, particularly Autumn. We have looked at the world around us and the changes we can see and we have been talking about hibernation, who does it and what it means.

We made snacks for the animals to gather before going to sleep, took part in a team activity to decorate pumpkins and used conker in our maths work.

We also had the opportunity to make conker caterpillars in our forest school lesson with Mr Burke this week!



Reception

This week, we joined the rest of the school in observing the Remembrance 2-minute silence and listening to the Last Post. The children showed great respect and understanding as we talked about why this moment is so important.

Our topic for the past two weeks has been Roald Dahl, and what fun we've had exploring the magical worlds created by this much-loved author! We've enjoyed reading some of his most famous stories and have been inspired to do some wonderful creative work of our own. The children designed their very own golden ticket invitations, invented and illustrated new sweets, and even concocted their own marvellous medicine recipes! To finish off our Roald Dahl adventures, we built the very first Oakhyrst Grange Chocolate Factory – what an incredible team effort!



Year 1

We're delighted to share that rehearsals for our Nativity performance are well underway and going swimmingly. The children are already showing great confidence with their lines, actions, and songs—it's shaping up to be a wonderful show!

In Maths this week, we explored measuring length using different tools and units. The children also worked hard on practising the 2 and 5 times tables, showing brilliant progress and growing confidence. In English, we wrapped up our work on the alphabet and learned how to order words alphabetically. The class enjoyed hands-on activities that helped them recognise the importance of alphabetical order in everyday life.

Our budding scientists took their learning outdoors as they identified different trees by their leaves. They examined shape, colour, and texture to compare and classify a variety of leaves—great observational skills all around! This week in Digital Learning, we began exploring key vocabulary linked to algorithms. The children are learning what an algorithm is and why clear instructions are important—a fantastic foundation for future computing tasks.

Year 2

This week, Year 2 focused on one of their favourite activities—learning in the woods! When asked, they summed up their experience using the following adjectives and phrases:

- exciting
- colossal (our absolute favourite new word!)
- intriguing
- always different
- incredible
- fun, fun fun!

Thank you, Mr Burke and Mrs Stevens, for our amazing Forest school sessions!



Year 3

Year 3 had an amazing day stepping back in time with a Stone Age to Iron Age workshop. The children were fascinated to learn about how Britain looked during the Ice Age and how early humans survived by hunting woolly mammoths. They even played lively games to understand what life was like for Neanderthals!

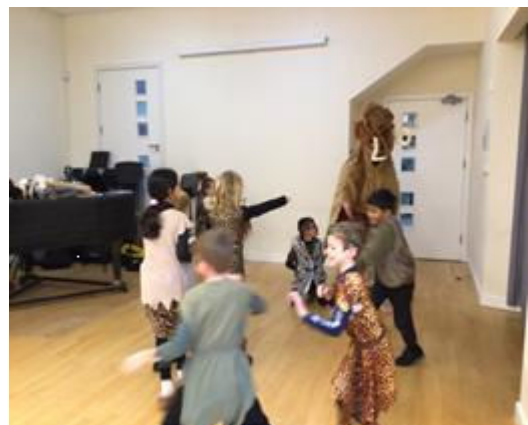
After break, the class explored real and replica artefacts, answered quiz questions and enjoyed a Bronze Age board game. In the afternoon, they discovered how farming began, why stone was used for building, and how bronze and iron changed life forever.

It was a fantastic hands-on experience that really brought history to life. The children came away with lots of new knowledge which I hope they shared with you at home!

My favourite part was when we got to see and feel the artefacts like the woolly mammoth tooth and arrow head."
Oscar

"I got to pretend to be an engineer to figure out how they moved the rocks in Stonehenge!" Hanna

Thank you, parents, for 'pulling it out of the bag' with the children's outfits. They looked absolutely fantastic!



Year 4

In English, the children have been busy writing their very own play scripts, using all their creativity and imagination to bring their stories to life. Next week, they will be performing their plays to the rest of the class – we can't wait to see their amazing writing and acting skills in action! In Maths, Year 4 have been learning how to accurately draw bar charts, and they've done a brilliant job! They collected data from the class, created a tally chart of data and plotted this onto a bar chart to show Year 4's favourite colours. Everyone worked carefully to make sure their charts were clear, colourful, and accurate.

We also enjoyed celebrating Odd Socks Day this week, showing off our individuality and kindness in style. There were plenty of bright, colourful, and funky socks on display – and even a few Christmas ones sneaking out early.

Our classroom is also looking extra special thanks to our new Anglo-Saxon brooch display. The children worked so hard on these beautiful creations, and they have become a real talking point in Year 4 – everyone loves admiring the wonderful designs!



Year 5

The children have been focusing on their descriptive writing skills within our English lessons, exploring a variety of stylistic effects including similes, metaphors and personification to enhance our work. We have written descriptions of firework night, the school woods, a jungle and over the weekend, I am sure many of us will be visiting our local supermarket to help write our descriptive pieces of homework! It has been a joy to see their confidence grow as the week has progressed and how they have experimented with language to create vivid and engaging descriptions.

In Science, we have reached the end of our *Earth and Space* topic. This week, the children particularly enjoyed learning about the dwarf planets, asking thoughtful questions and showing brilliant enthusiasm for the wonders of our solar system. Our Geography lessons have continued to explore the features of coastlines and the powerful effects of erosion. The class have shown excellent curiosity as they build their understanding of how natural forces shape the world around us. Within History, we continue to research into the historical period of the Tudors.

Year 6

In English, the children have continued developing their use of expanded noun phrases and have been practising how to infer a character's emotions. They have also been writing about a place they know well, taking time to look at it in greater detail and describe it vividly. I am really looking forward to reading their finished pieces! The children particularly enjoyed hearing about my favourite place and seeing a photo of me as a child, in my nan and grandad's garden. It definitely helped inspire their own ideas.

In Maths, we have been learning how to divide fractions using the reciprocal, following our memorable acronym KFC (Keep, Flip, Change). Not the chicken kind! The children have grasped this concept brilliantly and applied it with confidence.

In History, we have completed our comic strips on Franz Ferdinand, showing great creativity and understanding of key historical events. Meanwhile, in Science, we wrapped up our investigation on peppered moths, exploring how they adapted to changes in their environment. We discovered that the white peppered moths became almost extinct during the time when factories were heavily used, as soot from pollution clung to the trees and turned the bark black, making it much easier for predators to spot the lighter moths.

The children also thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Remembrance assembly, especially singing "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" with great enthusiasm and respect. It was a wonderful way to reflect and honour those who served.

Sport

Epsom College Cross country competition – Friday 17th October 2025

Before half term, some of our Year 5 & 6 runners competed in an exciting cross-country event at Epsom College. The challenging 2.5km course saw hundreds of competitors in each race and an incredible atmosphere throughout. All our athletes showed great determination and effort, with Ophelia achieving an excellent 6th place in the Year 5 Girls race—our best result of the day. A fantastic effort from everyone!

Football fixtures with Chinthurst – 4th & 5th November

This week, our Years 3–5 football teams took part in a series of exciting fixtures against Chinthurst, all played in great spirit with plenty of enthusiasm, teamwork, and learning on display.

The Year 3 A team showed great determination but were narrowly defeated 3–1, with Sebastian scoring our goal.
POTM: *Sebastian L*

Our Year 3 & 4 mixed team produced an impressive 5–3 victory, combining well in attack and defence. Goals came from Max and Harrison. **POTM:** *Harrison G*

The Year 5 team faced a strong Chinthurst side and, despite a 5–2 loss, showed improved communication and strong individual performances. **POTM:** *Freddie F*

Overall, it was a fantastic couple of afternoons of football, full of learning and great sportsmanship. Well done to all who represented the school so proudly, and thank you to Chinthurst for hosting.

Netball fixtures with Chinthurst – 4th & 5th November

Our Years 3–6 Netball teams enjoyed a fantastic series of fixtures against Chinthurst, played in great spirit with plenty of enthusiasm, teamwork, and learning on display.

Year 3 played 4-a-side games and showed brilliant teamwork moving the ball down the court. Team 1 won their matches, while Team 2 narrowly missed out by a single goal.

Year 4 played two 5-a-side matches, both showing excellent communication and teamwork. Team 1 lost by one goal, while Team 2 won 1–0.

POTM: *Olivia B*

Years 5 and 6 travelled to Chinthurst, with Year 5 split into two strong teams. Team 1 lost 7–12 but scored impressively, and Team 2 battled hard in a close 3–5 defeat.

POTMs: *Isabelle M, Ophelia W & Georgia R-B*

Year 6 faced Chinthurst A in a competitive 5–7 match, showing great communication and determination throughout.

POTM: *Lizzie K*

Overall, it was a brilliant couple of afternoons of netball, full of effort, learning, and sportsmanship. Well done to all who represented the school so proudly, and thank you to Chinthurst for the enjoyable fixtures.

U8 Caterham football competition – Saturday 8th November 2025

Seven Year 3 children took part in a competitive 8-school tournament this weekend. Drawn into a tough group, they battled hard in every match but results didn't quite go our way. In the Plate semi-final, the team showed great spirit but lost 3–1 to Aberdour. Throughout the morning, the children improved noticeably, growing in confidence and teamwork. For some, it was their first competitive experience. **Player of the Tournament:** *Edie R-B* for her two goals and fantastic effort.

U11 Girls Cup football match – Monday 10th November 2025

This week, our U11 Girls football team made their debut in the Surrey Cup—an exciting FA Cup-style knockout competition. Facing a strong Warren Mead side with some very talented players, the girls showed great determination and never gave up. For several players, it was their first match, and they rose to the challenge brilliantly. Highlights included a fantastic goal from **Sienna** and a superb penalty save from **Ophelia**. A proud moment for the team in their first Surrey Cup appearance—well done, girls!



U11 Cross-Country team



U8 & U9 Netballers



U8 & U9 Footballers



Year 6 Netballers



U8 Football team



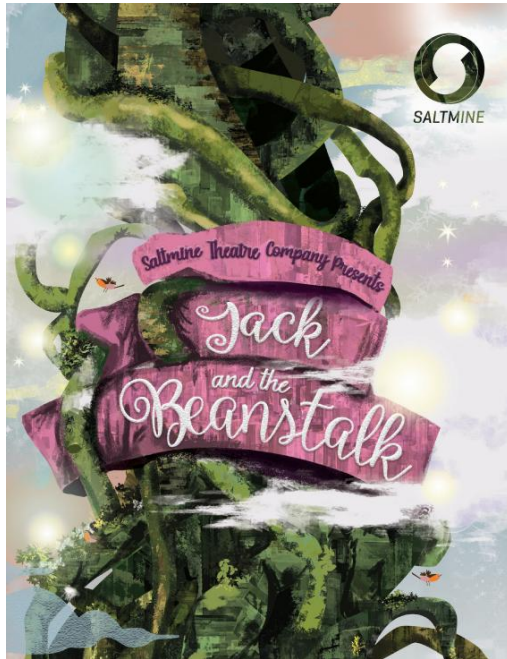
U11 Girls Football team

CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION



Thank you to everyone who entered our competition to design a Christmas card for Claire Coutinho MP. We had 33 entries from 32 pupils. We've bundled them off and sent them off. Good luck everyone! Here are some examples of the wide range of artwork we received. Ophelia W (Y5), Theo B (Y5), Alice S (Y5), Honor K (Y3), Anassa D (R), Ophelia S-W (Y2), Teddy M-R (Y2), Jack W (Y2).

OTHER NEWS



Exclusive Christmas wreath making masterclass for Oakhyrst parents

Parents from year two have organised an exclusive OGS Christmas wreath making masterclass in partnership with GRACE, a charity which exists to support local women who are diagnosed with gynae cancers.

Taking place in the evening (7:30pm to 10pm) on Monday, 1st December at Robert Denholm House, near Bletchingley, the event will be hosted by GRACE and led by an experienced and qualified florist.

Tickets cost £65 and include everything you need to make and take home your own stunning wreath, as well as a glass of prosecco (or soft alternative) on arrival and festive nibbles and treats throughout the evening. There will also be plenty of Christmas cheer to kick off the festive period.

Places are limited so don't miss out. You can book your place via a dedicated OGS link on the charity 's online shop: [Exclusive Oakhyrst Parents' Christmas Wreath making masterclass - Monday 1 December 2025 - GRACE Charity -](#)

Mrs Harrison and Mrs Morgan-Robinson

A Helping Hand

After very successful donations over the years, we are hoping that we can continue to support this appeal. Mrs Judy Baker our Flute Teacher has once again asked us to her support the Salvation Army New Gift Christmas Appeal 2025

They are looking for new unwrapped gifts for children aged from birth up to older children/teenagers too.

The NEW gifts get distributed to local families with the Caterham area

0-5 years: (Baby and Pre School age): large dolls / dinosaurs, soft toys, mobiles, bath toys, nursery rhyme and story books, large and wood block puzzles, large cars / lorries, crayons, building blocks / Duplo, musical toys, dressing up outfits; wooden train sets

5-11: (Primary school age): family and trivia games, toys, stationery (colouring sets, felt-tip pens, paints), books, puzzles, construction kits / Lego, art & craft activities, Barbie / action dolls, foot or hoops balls, hair accessories, gloves/hats/warm socks, race track sets

11-14: (High School age): £10 "Amazon" or £10 "All store" gift cards, Toiletry Sets or Make Up

If you would like to make a donation, please send your gift(s) into the school office and we will arrange to pass your donation onto Mrs Baker. The last day for donations will be 28th November 2025. Thank you for your continued support.

Be a STAR and donate a gift to our
Christmas Present Appeal

OUT SHOPPING?
Please help us make Christmas special for those who are struggling this Christmas.

By adding an extra gift to support Caterham Salvation Army

We believe every child deserves NEW GIFTS so they are special. So we are unable to take second hand items for the Christmas Present Appeal. Stuck for gift ideas? Suggested gifts are:

- **0-5 years: (Baby and Pre School age):** large dolls / dinosaurs, soft toys, mobiles, bath toys, nursery rhyme and story books, large and wood block puzzles, large cars / lorries, crayons, building blocks / Duplo, musical toys, dressing up outfits; wooden train sets
- **5-11: (Primary school age):** family and trivia games, toys, stationery (colouring sets, felt-tip pens, paints), books, puzzles, construction kits / Lego, art & craft activities, Barbie / action dolls, foot or hoops balls, hair accessories, gloves/hats/warm socks, race track sets
- **11-14: (High School age):** £10 "Amazon" or £10 "One4All" gift cards, toiletry sets or make up.

PLEASE DONATE NEW UNWRAPPED GIFTS BEFORE 1st DECEMBER.
Collection points are at Caterham Tesco, Morrisons and The Westway Centre.

VOLUNTEERS are needed to help sort, pack and deliver the gifts between 2nd and to 13th December. Do call 01883 330718 for detail of how to get involved.

 **Christmas Appeal** 

Forest Friends at Oakhyrst Grange
Come and have some Autumn Adventures!

For preschool children (ages 2-5)

- ✓ Leaf hunts & autumn treasures
- ✓ Conker and acorn collecting
- ✓ Nature crafts & storytime
- ✓ Bug discovery & outdoor play

A warming cup of hot chocolate to finish!

📅 Wednesdays – 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th November and 3rd December
🕒 9.30am start
🆓 Free event – all welcome!

✉ office@oakhyrst-grangeschool.co.uk or 01883 343344

LOOKING FOR RECEPTION 2026?

Help your child get ready for school – and discover what makes Oakhyrst

Join us for our **Autumn Sessions** – a series of fun, free Friday mornings for pre-school children and their parents. Each session is led by our specialist trained staff, designed to spark curiosity, confidence, and a love of learning.



AUTUMN SESSIONS AT OAKHYRST GRANGE SCHOOL
All sessions run 9.30 – 10.30am

- Friday 7 November – Little Explorers in the Woods
- Friday 14 November – Autumn Music & Movement
- Friday 21 November – Storytime with the Head & Stay and Play
- Friday 28 November – Christmas Crafts Morning

Places are limited – book your session now!
Tel: 01883 343344
Email: office@oakhyrstgrangeschool.co.uk



CAMP OGS

15-18 DEC

PRICE
£40
PER DAY
9AM-4PM

GAMES | OUTDOOR ACTIVITY | CRAFT

EARLY DROP OFF AT
08.30AM £5 EXTRA

BOOK NOW!

OCS pupils PR-Year 3

Booking information to follow



CHRISTMAS SPORTS CAMP

MR SMITH & MISS LOMAX

15-16 DECEMBER

9AM - 4PM

OAKHYRST GRANGE SCHOOL
FOR OGS PUPILS YEARS 3 - 6

ACTIVITIES:

FOOTBALL
BASKETBALL
HOCKEY
TENNIS
PICKLEBALL
and more!

£40
PER DAY

£5 EXTRA
8.30AM
DROP OFF

BOOK NOW

BOOKING INFORMATION TO FOLLOW



Caterham Craft Room

@caterham_craftroom

contact@caterhamcraftroom.co.uk

www.caterhamcraftroom.co.uk

The Arc, 39 Weston Drive, Caterham CR3 5XY

ROTATIONAL WEEKLY MENUS



Oakhyrst Grange School Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 1	Week Commencing: 1 st , 22 nd September 2025, 13 th October, 17 th November 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Jacket Potatoes served with Baked Beans Cheese and Sweetcorn	Beef Chilli Con Carne served with Nachos and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Chow Mein Served with Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes served with Stuffing Balls and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Goujons and Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Chilli	Stir fry Oriental Vegetables with Noodles	Vegetarian Strudel	Plant Based Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Water Melon and Pineapple	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Chip Cookies
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table



Oakhyrst Grange School Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 2	Week Commencing 8 th , 29 th September 2025, 3 rd , 24 th November 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Margherita Pizza Served with Hash Browns and Sweetcorn	Beef Pasta Bolognese served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Chicken Korma Curry Basmati Rice served with Naan and Seasonal Vegetables	Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes Gravy served with Yorkshire Pudding and Seasonal Vegetables	Battered Pollock with Steak Cut Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Veggie Pasta Bake	Chickpeas and Potato Curry	Vegan Roast Strudel	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Water Melon and Pineapples	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Chip Cookies
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table



Oakhyrst Grange School Autumn Term Menu 2025

Week 3	Week Commencing: 15 th September 2025, 6 th Oct, 3 rd November, 1 st December 2025				
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Dish of the Day	Tomato and Cheese Pasta served with Garlic Bread and Seasonal Vegetables	Beef Burger and Hash Browns served with Ketchup and Cucumber Batons	Mediterranean Chicken with Basmati Rice and Vegetables	Roast Turkey Roast Potatoes Rosemary Gravy served with Stuffing Balls and Seasonal Vegetables	Breaded Fish with Steak Cut Chips served with Cucumber Batons
Vegetarian Dish (only for who require this)	As above	Plant Based Burger	Vegetarian Paella	Richmond Vegan Sausages	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Homemade Cake	Honeydew Melon Pineapples	Yoghurt	Ice Cream	Chocolate Eclairs
	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table	Fruit Table

KEY FORTNIGHTLY DATES

- Tuesday 18.11.25 U8 and U9 Netball Match v Cumnor House – home 2.00pm
- Tuesday 18.11.25 Selected pupils Swimming Gala away Caterham School leave OGS 3.15pm
- Wednesday 19.11.25 Wellbeing Wednesday – no homework
- Wednesday 19.11.25 Inter-house Cross Country whole school event – 1.00pm to 3.00pm parents welcome
- Thursday 20.11.25 Year 1 Football competition during Games lesson – 2.00pm parents welcome
- Friday 21.11.25 Year 3 Form Assembly – 8.45am parents welcome
- Monday 24.11.25 LAMDA Assembly for exam pupils from Years 1, 2 and 3 – parents welcome 8.45am
- Tuesday 25.11.25 LAMDA Examinations all morning
- Tuesday 25.11.25 Reverend Frany taking assembly – 8.45am
- Tuesday 25.11.25 PFOG Christmas Decoration Making for Years 1, 2 and 3 1.15pm Year 1 classroom
- Wednesday 26.11.25 Year 6 ISEB Examinations during the morning
- Wednesday 26.11.25 PFOG Christmas Decoration Making for Years 4, 5 and 6 1.15pm BWA Hall
- Wednesday 26.11.25 U10 & U11 Netball match v Cumnor House – home 2.00pm
- Wednesday 26.11.25 Year 5 Class Concert – 5.00pm Cameron Hall
- Thursday 27.11.25 Year 6 ISEB Examinations during the morning
- Thursday 27.11.25 Year 2 Football competition during swapped Games lesson – 2.00pm parents welcome
- Friday 28.11.25 U11 ISA National Swimming Gala – all day
- Friday 28.11.25 U11 Boys Surrey Cup Football Match – home 3.30pm
- Saturday 29.11.25 PFOG Team in school to put up Christmas Decorations - am