

# Headlines

Issue 14 - 24.04.26



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to a new term, it doesn't seem possible it's the Summer term already. I hope you all had a very enjoyable holiday. We have a very busy term ahead with many exciting activities arranged, including Sports Day on Thursday 21st May (weather permitting). Further details will follow in due course.

We are almost in May with SATs tests for Year 6 starting the week beginning Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Assessments will also be taking place in all year groups during May. PLEASE make sure your child is in school every day so they do not miss any preparation work or tests. Year 6 are ready and raring to go with their SATs tests!! They have worked very hard with all the staff and we wish them 'Good Luck' - we know they will all do their very best and we will be proud of their achievements.

### SAFEGUARDING

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of their responsibility regarding collecting their children on time at the end of the school day. It is upsetting for the children involved to be left waiting at the end of the day, feeling unsure as to the whereabouts of their parent/carer. Whilst I understand there are occasions when this can be unavoidable, it is imperative you contact the school office if you are running late. Unfortunately, as staff have professional commitments after school, if your child is not collected on time they will be taken to our after school club, The Burrow, which will incur a charge.

### ATTENDANCE

This year we are aiming for whole school attendance above 95%; unfortunately our whole school attendance for Spring term was 93.1%. I know we can do better this term as the weather improves and we get rid of all those coughs and colds!

Well done to the 86 children who achieved 100% attendance during Spring term; this is a fantastic achievement and they have all received certificates.



Finally, a special mention must go to Jackson in Year 6 who has, in his own time, produced this fabulous piece of artwork. I am 'blown away' by the quality of his work and the artistic flair Jackson has shown; he should feel very proud. I am sure we will see great things in the future! In the meantime the painting will be displayed in Reception.

Mrs T Ford  
Headteacher

### ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Kites and Ladybirds Classes for the best attendance in the last two weeks.

	23rd-27th March	13th-17th April
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>92.7%</b>	<b>92.6%</b>
Ladybirds	90.6%	98.2%
Butterflies	86.7%	91.2%
Grasshoppers	94.6%	93.3%
Falcons	93.9%	92.4%
Hawks	93.2%	91.5%
Owls	90.6%	87.9%
Kites	95.8%	93.0%

# PROUD CORNER

## Well done to:

- ◆ Dakota W, Year 3 - Gymnastics Certificate, Taekwondo Green Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Matthew F, Year 5 - Taekwondo Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Bradley F, Year 4 - Taekwondo Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Paige W, Year 5 - Taekwondo Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Georgia W, Year 5 - Taekwondo Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Bianca T, Year 4 - Taekwondo Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Ellie-May S, Year 4 - Karate Blue Belt & Certificate
- ◆ Penny T, Year 1 - Gymnastics Certificate Level 1 and Badge
- ◆ Isla-Rose S, Year 4 - Gymnastics Medals, Silver & Bronze
- ◆ Max P, Year 5 - Cubs World Challenge Badge
- ◆ Lucas G, Year 3 - Football Trophy Player of the Match
- ◆ Archie L, Year 4 - Sports Camp Medal

Thank you for sharing your success with the children at our Whole School Assembly.

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Well done to the following children who have been presented with Headteacher Awards:

- Phoebe H, Year 5
- Sapphire B, Year 1
- Olive BC, Year 1
- Finley C, Year 1
- Penny T, Year 1
- Layla W, Year 5 x 2
- Sienna H, Year 1
- Penelope K, Year 1
- Roman D, Year 1
- Molly F, Year 3
- Mia N, Year 3
- Alfie G, Year 3
- Marley H, Year 3
- Mason H, Year 3
- Ella C, Year 5
- Lilly B, Year 5
- Paige W, Year 5
- Lara C, Year 5
- Florence H, Year 5
- Georgia R, Year 5
- Olivia B, Year 1
- Falcons Class

## Year 5 Football Tournament

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March, our Year 5 football team took part in an exciting tournament hosted at Royal Holloway University. The mixed team of boys and girls faced two very strong opponents in the group stage and despite their best efforts, were unfortunately knocked out at this stage. However, we were able to organise some additional friendly matches against other schools and thoroughly enjoyed having some additional game time.

What stood out far more than the results, was the team's attitude. They represented our school brilliantly, showing determination, resilience and real bravery. For several children, this was their first ever tournament, and they rose to the challenge with confidence and enthusiasm.

We are incredibly proud of every player who took part. Their teamwork, sportsmanship and positive spirit made them fantastic ambassadors for our school.



Miss Aira and Mr Williams

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### Ladybirds Class Assembly

Last term, Ladybirds learnt all about the olden days. They learnt about what life was like many years ago - what transport existed, what houses and decoration were like, what clothes people wore and what toys children played with. As part of their topic, Ladybirds had a lovely visit to Chertsey Museum to see lots of olden day items, having the chance to play with old toys and dress up in some very old fashioned clothes. It was a lovely morning of learning and the children were absolutely amazing.



Well done Ladybirds!

### Sportability Festival Trip

On Thursday 16th April, our class enjoyed a fantastic trip to the Sportability Festival, organised by Runnymede Borough Council, at Royal Holloway University Sports Grounds. The children took part in six different activities. Inside the sports hall, they tried Boccia, Wheelchair Rugby, and Judo. After lunch, we moved outside for Tennis, Boxing, and Dance. Everyone had a brilliant time and really enjoyed having the chance to try sports they do not usually get to play. The wheelchair rugby, judo, and boxing were particular favourites. It was lovely to see the children taking part so enthusiastically in activities that they might not normally choose to try.

All of the coaches were amazing and did a wonderful job encouraging and supporting the children throughout the day. It was a fun-filled and memorable experience for everyone involved.



Our Value for this  
Half Term is



**Courage**

### BOOK FAIR



Thank you to all parents/carers who supported the Book Fair.

We raised a fantastic £136.96 40% of which will go towards books for the children.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

### **Tests Week!**

Please remember that the week commencing Monday 11th May Year 6 will be sitting their SATs tests. Assessments will also be taking place in all year groups in May.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we cannot authorise any absences during May. Please ensure your child is in school every day.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

### **Are you looking for a Nursery place for your child in September 2026?**

*We are now commencing the admission process for our Sunbeams Nursery for September 2026*

#### **If your child was born between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024**

If your child is under three years of age, we offer EITHER five morning sessions (9:00am to 12:00 noon) OR five afternoon sessions (12:30pm to 3:30pm). You may choose less than five sessions but we would recommend you choose at least two sessions per week.

For eligible parents we offer four 'Free Early Education for Two year olds' (FEET) places, for which a copy letter proving eligibility from Surrey County Council needs to be provided to secure this place. (For eligibility please see: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/childcare-professionals/providing-free-early-education/providing-free-early-education-for-two-year-olds#>)

#### **If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023**

We offer 15 hour funded places on a two and a half day split; either Monday full day, Tuesday full day and Wednesday morning OR Wednesday afternoon, Thursday full day and Friday full day.

For eligible parents we offer 30 hour free childcare places, for which a code from HMRC's Childcare Choices Website needs to be provided to secure this place. For eligibility please see: <https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

For further information and/or an Application Form, please contact:

Mrs C Purkiss. Business Manager  
Telephone: 01932 563022 / Email: [admin@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk)

# DATES - 2025/2026

## UPCOMING EVENTS - SUMMER TERM 2026

**DURING MAY ASSESSMENTS FOR ALL CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE.  
NO AUTHORISED ABSENCES WILL BE GRANTED DURING THIS TIME**

Friday 1st May	Owls (Year 5) Class Assembly
Friday 1st May	FOSS Uniform Sale (after school)
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Thursday 7th May	FOSS Meeting 6pm
Friday 8th May	Falcons (Year 3) Class Assembly
Mon 11th - Thurs 14th May	SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) Week
Wednesday 20th May	Class Photographs
Thursday 21st May	Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
Thursday 21st May	Children finish at normal time for half term
Friday 22nd May	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 25th to Fri 29th May	Half Term
Monday 1st June	Children return to school
Mon 1st - Fri 5th June	Year 6 Residential Trip
Monday 8th June	INSET Day - School closed
Friday 19th June	Ladybirds (Reception) Class Assembly
Friday 26th June	Grasshoppers (Year 2) Class Assembly
Tuesday 30th June and Wednesday 1st July	Secondary School Induction Days - <b>(Please check with individual school for further details)</b>
Friday 3rd July	Butterflies (Year 1) Class Assembly
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

**MONDAY 4TH MAY IS BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY  
SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED**



### INSET DAY

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL  
WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY  
22ND MAY 2026 FOR AN  
INSET DAY**



### INSET DAY

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL  
WILL BE CLOSED ON  
MONDAY 8TH JUNE 2026 FOR  
AN INSET DAY**

## **TERM DATES ACADEMIC YEAR - 2026/2027**

**PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE 5 INSET DAYS WHEN THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TO CHILDREN. THESE ARE:**

- Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026
- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2027
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2027
- Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2027
- **There will be one further INSET Day to add, which will be in June. This will be advised as soon as possible**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2026**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 - INSET Day - School closed

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026 - Children in Years 1-6 start school

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2026 - Children finish at normal time for half term

(Half Term - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2026 ) - **Two weeks**

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2026 - Children return to school

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2026 - Last day of Autumn term - Children finish at 1pm

(Christmas holidays - Monday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2026 to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2027)

### **SPRING TERM 2027**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2027 - Children return to school

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2027 - Children finish at normal time for half term

(Half Term - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2027)

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2027 - Children return to school

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2027 - Last day of Spring term - Children finish at 1pm

(Easter holidays - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2027)

### **SUMMER TERM 2027**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2027 - Children return to school

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2027 - Bank Holiday - School closed

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2027 - Children finish at normal time for half term

(Half Term - Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2027)

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2027 - Children return to school

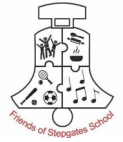
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2027 - Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2027 - INSET Day - School closed

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2027 - INSET Day - School closed

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2027 - INSET Day - School closed

# FOSS NEWS AND EVENTS



## Next FOSS meeting

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May  
@ 6:00pm,  
Shared area at school

Everyone and anyone welcome!

# ADVERTISEMENTS

We are regularly asked if we can advertise a variety of external organisations in the form of flyers/posters etc. The following page(s) contain advertisement requests we have received from external organisations.

*Please note - The advertisements are provided for your information only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Step gates Community School of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organisation or individual. Step gates Community School bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site, or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.*

## BOYS FOOTBALL 2 Day May Camp 2026




**WHAT?**  
 Technical development/1st touch/receiving the ball.  
 Team games / combinations / 3v3, Defensive techniques and understanding.  
 Finishing & 4 aside transitions – attacking and defending.

**WHERE?**  
 3G Pitch  
**ABBEY RANGERS FC**  
 Addlestone  
 KT15 2QH

**WHEN?**  
 Wednesday 27th May  
 Thursday 28th May  
 (8.30am – 4.00pm)

**AGE?**  
 Under 5 (Reception)  
 Under 6 (Year 1)  
 Under 7 (Year 2)  
 Under 8 (Year 3)  
 Under 9 (Year 4)  
 Under 10 (Year 5)

**DAILY COST?**  
 £35.00

**M:07825 089500**      **E: tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk**






## GIRLS FOOTBALL COURSE MAY HALF TERM 2026

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

**Venue:- Abbey Rangers Football Club (KT15 2QH)**  
**Times:- 8.30am – 4.00pm**  
**£35.00 Daily**

Designed for girls of *all abilities* aged between 5yrs to 13yrs!

- Playing in a fun, challenging & safe environment.
- Meeting new friends that have an interest in football.
- Develop technique, speed, tactics & improve skills & confidence.
- Professional FA qualified coaching.
- 3G Pitch and use of clubhouse.

If you would like further information or would like to book a place for your daughter to attend please kindly contact Tom on 07825 089500 or email tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk




**M:07825 089500**      **E: tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk**