



# **GREAT KINGSHILL**

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Church of England Combined School

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# Great Kingshill CE Combined School

## 20th May 2025

*Aspiring to be our best with kindness, respect and faith*

The half term seems to have gone by in the blink of an eye!

Whilst it has been a short one, we have certainly packed plenty in! We've had trips to support our learning in RE: Year 5 visited the Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Year 3 visited Neasden Temple and Year 1 visited Maidenhead Synagogue. There have also been sporting activities to celebrate too, with Year 2 and Year 4 taking part in athletics at Holmer Green.

The school drama club have been rehearsing for many weeks now, and we were amazed by their performances of 'The Lion King' to both the school and the parents yesterday. You looked fantastic, and spoke and sang your lines beautifully. Break a leg for the final performance tonight, and a massive thank you and well done to Mrs Scott, Miss Phillips and Mr O'Callaghan for all of your hard work.

A big well done as well to the children in Year 6 who sat their SATs tests last week. You took everything in your stride, and we couldn't be prouder of how you handled the week.

Attached lower down the newsletter, you will find the dates for events next half term, including class assemblies. We are still finalising some of the details and timings, so please check back once these have been confirmed.

Finally, a reminder that school closes for half term at 15:15 on Thursday - there is no school on Friday! Have a relaxing and enjoyable break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 2nd June.

With my very best wishes as always,

Mrs Best

### Walk to school week

I hope lots of you are walking to school as part of the PTA's walk to school week! Remember - if you can't walk the whole way, try to convince your grown-ups to park and stride!

I will be walking to school from Great Kingshill common on Thursday morning - please join me!

Mrs Best

## Medical appointments

Unless in the case of an emergency, medical appointments such as GP visits or dental check-ups should be booked outside of school hours wherever possible.

In exceptional circumstances, a leave of absence form will need to be completed, accompanied by evidence of the medical visit.

Thank you.

## PTA News

**PTA NEWSLETTER** GKCS PTA  
MAY 2025

# GK FUNFEST

**SATURDAY 21<sup>st</sup> JUNE 12pm - 3pm**  
Games & Crafts - Raffle & Tombola - Giant Inflatables - Live Entertainment - Food Trucks - Bar & Refreshments

**GK FUNFEST is the biggest fundraiser for our school and we need your help to make it a huge success. Here's how you can get involved:**

**STALL VOLUNTEERS**  
Class reps have been in touch to see if you can run your year group stall for half an hour. We hope you can help!

**SET UP / CLEAR DOWN**  
Can you help set up the event on either Friday 20<sup>th</sup> 8pm - 3pm or Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> 8am - 12pm, or clear down on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> 3pm - 7pm? Email us and let us know.

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May**  
Remember to confirm what time you can help on your class stall via your WhatsApp class chat by 21<sup>st</sup> May.

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June**  
Lucky bag drop off (empty bags being sent home this week). Ideas of items to include: stickers, keyrings, books, stationery, bubbles etc.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June**  
Drop off a children's tombola prize. Ideas include: books, games and toys.

**To say thank you, children can wear mufti on 8<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> June**

**CONTACT US:** ✉ [pta@gkcs.school](mailto:pta@gkcs.school) Instagram: [gkcs\\_pta](https://www.instagram.com/gkcs_pta)

**GKCS PTA**

**GK FUNFEST: CALL FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES**

Do you have a product you would like to sell or a business to promote?

We are looking for local businesses to have a stall at GK FunFest. If you are interested, email us today!

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR GK FUNFEST**

We would love to hear from you if you can provide any of the following:

- Sweets - Plants & Soil -
- Decorations - Balloons & Bunting
- Gazebos - Bedding plants

Thank you!

**UPCOMING EVENTS - JUNE & JULY**

**WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK: 19<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May**  
 It's Walk to School Week and while we're not running a PTA event due to the focus on GK FunFest, we would like to encourage everyone to walk to school this week. Look out for more information on Class Dojo about how you can get involved.

**GET FIT THIS SUMMER**  
 We want to make exercise easier for our school community, fill in the form and tell us if you would be interested in joining a GKCS PTA run sporting club - <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/RZN6zCOMBc>

**DONUT DAY: Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June** - donuts on sale after school  
**SUMMER DISCO: Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July** - more details to follow

**EASTER COLOURING COMPETITION**

Thank you to everyone who entered our Easter colouring competition. A big well done to our winners - there were some egg-celent entries!

**CONTACT US:** [pta@gkcs.school](mailto:pta@gkcs.school)  [Instagram: gkcs\\_pta](https://www.instagram.com/gkcs_pta)

## PTA Calendar

**GKCS PTA**

**PTA Event Dates For Your Diary...**

<b>February</b>	
Crazy Hair Don't Care Disco	Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February (After School)
<b>March</b>	
Festival of Holi	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March (After School)
Adults Quiz Night (School)	Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>April</b>	
Eid al-Fitr Festival	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April (After school)
Easter Competition	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> - Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April
PTA General Meeting	Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April
<b>May</b>	
Walk To School Week	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> - Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May
<b>June</b>	
National Doughnut Day	Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
School Sports Day Refreshments	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June
National Thank A Teacher Day	Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June
Summer Fair	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June
Weekly Sports Sessions (MUGA)	More information coming soon
Weekly Running Club	More information coming soon
<b>July</b>	
Summer Disco	Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July
PTA General Meeting	Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July

More information on these upcoming events will be shared in due course

[https://www.instagram.com/gkcs\\_pta](https://www.instagram.com/gkcs_pta)

## Forest School News

What a lovely dry and warm term so far, touch wood, and the children have been busy in our forest school learning and rediscovering the joys of whittling.

We have been learning how to use a sharp knife to create wands and wooden flowers. They have kept safe by always cutting away from the body, wearing a glove on their helper hand and making sure they grip the handle, and not the blade! The flowers have been a bit more tricky than the wands, as they need strength from the weaker hand to give control. All good for coordination, resilience and concentration.



We have also had a look at some of the wildflowers that we are growing in seed trays ready to help the pollinators. It was an experiment really to test the different types of compost and whether it had an effect on the growth. As you can see, the tray on the left seems to have the best growth. This was particularly amazing as the tray in the middle was the shop bought

compost, the tray on the right was a mix, and the best one was the compost we make on site with sawdust from the composting toilet (we wore gloves and washed our hands!) So, if you are out of compost and need some, you know where to come!

After the half term break, we will be having Reception’s first Campfire (as long as the weather holds) and we will conduct each class on separate weeks, otherwise we will not be able to cook enough marshmallows.

We will be roasting the Haribo Chamallows and we also have Vegan Marshmallows for those that require them. We will be sandwiching them between digestive biscuits, but again we have gluten free and lactose free options. Please ensure that any medical information is up to date, especially in terms of allergies and intolerances. Email [office@gkcs.school](mailto:office@gkcs.school) for any updates.

Week	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
4 - 12 <sup>th</sup> May - 16 <sup>th</sup> May	PS	5H	Reception	3S		2G	1F	4P		6H
5 - 19 <sup>th</sup> May - 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	PS	5H	6H	3S		2G	1F	4P		

The timetable for the rest of the half term is as above, and due to the difference in length of the half terms in summer, we have decided to start the other class a week later after the half term break.

So, for the first week back, Preschool, Reception, 1F, 2G, 3S, 4P, 5H and 6H will still have Forest School and then we will swap over to the other class from week 2.

I hope this helps to clarify the weeks ahead, but, as in any school, it is subject to change. Please keep your eye out on Dojo for any further changes that may have to happen.

Mr Smith

## Preschool admissions - September 2025

Places are rapidly filling up for Preschool admissions starting September 2025. If you would like to apply for a place, please email [preschool@gkcs.school](mailto:preschool@gkcs.school) as soon as possible to ensure we can offer you the session(s) you require.

Thank you.

## St Michael's and All Angels Church - Nature Quest



## Chiltern Music Academy - free instrument trials

## Dates - Summer Term

Below are the current dates for the Summer Term. Please note that these may be edited, and more dates added, as the term progresses.

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> April 2025		PTA Easter Competition
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025	08:30	School opens for Summer Term 1
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2025		5H swimming begins
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2025		PTA General Meeting
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2025		Year 5 trip to Sri Singh Sabha Gurdwara
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2025		BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY – NO SCHOOL
w/c Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025		Year 6 SATS Week
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> May 2025		Year 1 trip to Maidenhead Synagogue
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	pm	Year 2 athletics at Holmer Green
w/c Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May 2025		Walk to school week
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2025	15:15	School closes for half term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June 2025	08:30	School opens for Summer Term 2
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2025		Class photographs
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2025		Year 2 trip to High Wycombe Mosque
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2025		Year 5 class assembly (time tbc)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2015		5L start swimming
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2015		Year 4 class assembly (time tbc)
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	14:00	New Reception children Teddy Bears Picnic
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	09:30	KS2 Sports Day (gates open 09:15)
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	13:45	Reception & KS1 Sports day (gates open 13:30)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	13:45	Preschool Sports Day (gates open 13:30)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2025		Y2 trip to Whipsnade Zoo
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2025	12:00	GKCS Funfest
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025		Year 3 class assembly (time tbc)
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July 2025		Transition Day
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025		Y4 residential to Longridge
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025		INSET DAY – NO SCHOOL
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025		Year 2 class assembly (time tbc)
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	18:00	Year 6 play to parents
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2025		PTA Discos
Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2025		Year 6 trip to Littlehampton
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2025		Year 1 class assembly (time tbc)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025		PTA General Meeting
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025		Colour Run (time tbc)
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	12:30	Year 6 Leavers' Service
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2025	13:30	School closes for Summer Holidays