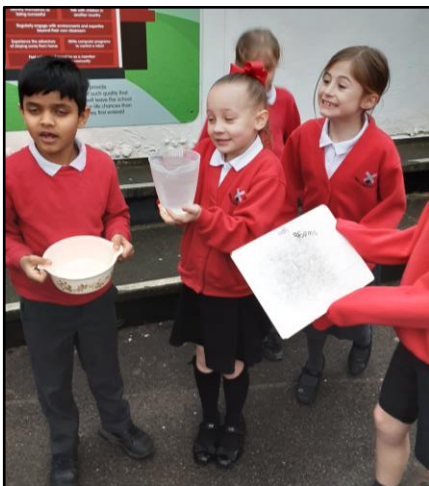
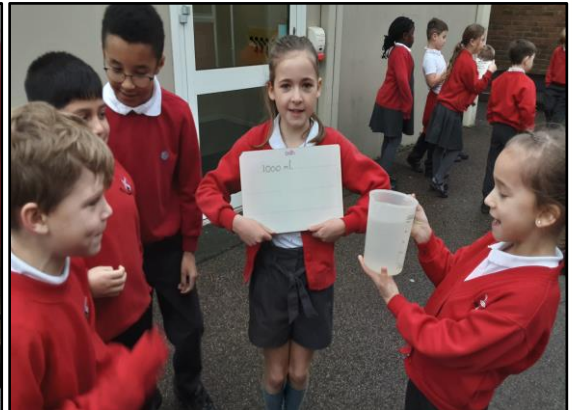




## THIS WEEK...

### MATHS

Year 3 have been learning the difference between capacity and volume in our maths this week. We explored by working out the capacity of different containers using water and measuring jugs. We even checked the capacity of our water bottles!



## ALGEBRA

Year 6 have started to explore their new maths unit all about Algebra. Some children had heard that Algebra was really difficult and there were some scared silences around the room so we decided to take this learning outside into the Nature Hub to explore different patterns. The children used natural materials to create a pattern sequence (e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> sequence using 2 leaves and 1 stone; 2<sup>nd</sup> pattern 3 leaves and 2 stones; 3<sup>rd</sup> pattern 4 leaves and 3 stones). The children then recorded this into their table they created on a whiteboard and worked out what the pattern was and what rule they have created where 'n' was an unknown pattern number (e.g. Pattern number is n using n+1 leaves and n stones).

The children then took this learning back to the classroom to complete their workbook and felt more confident with algebra being a letter or a shape to represent an unknown number. Great work, Year 6!



## CHARITY FUNDRAISING - MIND

This half term, we have decided to raise money for Mind, a mental health charity. Mind is a charity that provides information and support for mental health, including for young people. They offer resources to help people understand their mental health and the options available to them.



The Charity Champions did some research around the school, gathering ideas from all classes about how to raise money. The children creatively decided on 'DRESS AS A TEACHER DAY!'

We are inviting children to come into school dressed as a teacher on Wednesday 12th February in exchange for a 3-coin donation of their choosing. If you have any questions, please speak to Miss Palmer or the School Office.

Thank you in anticipation of your support.



## EXCELLENCE IN ACTION - YOUR SUPPORT ESSENTIAL

Swimming is a vital life skill that ensures children's safety in and around water. By supporting our school's swimming provision, you are helping to give students access to high-quality lessons that build confidence, improve fitness, and instil an essential ability that could one day save their life.

Most of you will know Miss Alice, our dedicated PE teacher, but did you know that she also teaches swimming at Wray Common? In September, Miss Alice extended her role by taking on the in-school swimming lessons. As a passionate open-water swimmer and an experienced swimming teacher of over 20 years, she brings incredible enthusiasm and expertise to our program.



It's fantastic to hear how much of an impact Miss Alice is having at Wray Common! Her love for swimming and teaching really shines through, and it's clear she is helping students build confidence and improve their skills. The feedback from children and parents has been overwhelmingly positive:

👤 "Since having swimming lessons with Miss Alice, our son in Year 3 has made enormous progress in both his swimming ability and his water confidence. He even asked to go swimming at the weekend to show us his progress! We were blown away by his newfound confidence and ability to swim further without any aids." - Parent of a Year 3 student.

👤 "All lessons were engaging and challenging enough to keep students motivated." - Parent of a Year 6 student.

👤 "It's clear that Miss Alice connects well with the swimmers, and they seem to be enjoying themselves. Her positive attitude and encouragement help to keep them motivated."

👤 "The way she balances fun with technique is fantastic!" - Parent of a Year 5 student.



Your payment ensures we can maintain professional coaching, well-equipped facilities, and a structured program that ensures every child progresses at their own pace. By investing in this provision, we are working together to give our children the best possible foundation for a lifelong love of swimming and water safety. Payments can be made online via Scopay.

💡 **Did you know?** Miss Alice can swim a mile in under 30 minutes! 🗣️ How far could you swim in 30 minutes?

### CHOIR

Wray Common Choir are excited to be performing in the Surrey Primary Schools Music Festival 2025 on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February. The primary festivals are a great opportunity for Key Stage 2 pupils to come together with children from different schools and experience performing with an experienced vocal conductor and alongside a live band. The 2025 festival concerts will feature songs from around the world with a folk music theme and Wray Common Choir will be performing a solo.

**SURREY**  
**MUSIC HUB**

The choir are learning a wonderful mixture of songs for the performance and we would really appreciate you helping your children to practise these songs at home. This is the link, user name and password to access the songs. We can also share with you a teaching video for each song - please contact the Office if you would like these.

<https://www.surreymusicHub.com/schools/school-resources/primary-music-festivals-2025>

Username: primaryfestivals25

Password: RM7S8G9R3NT4

Tickets are available to purchase now, please purchase via this link [Date Results - Dorking Halls](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Thursday - Y6 Junior Citizen

Thursday - Volunteer Safeguarding/Induction training (in school at 9am, or online via Teams at 5:30pm)

### REMINDER

Parents Evenings are taking place on 11th and 13th February. Please book your appointment via Scopay or via the School Office

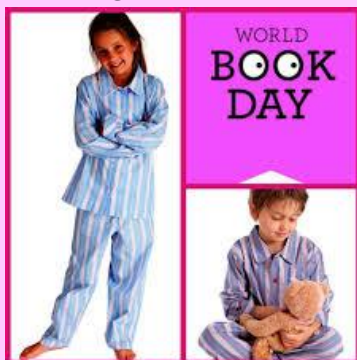
### REGISTRATION

Just a reminder that registration takes place at 8:50am. To avoid being marked late, your child should be in class, settled, and ready to learn by this time. Arriving at the gate or into class at 8:50am will still result in a late mark, even if they use the classroom door.

### WORLD BOOK DAY - THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

On World Book Day we would like children to come in to school in their pyjamas and to bring their favourite bedtime story.

Parents are invited to come in to school from 9am to 9:30am to read with their children.



## VOLUNTEER TRAINING - HELP CHILDREN THRIVE

On the 6<sup>th</sup> February, we will be holding our last opportunities to attend the Volunteering training for the remainder of this academic year. To volunteer in school (with reading or swimming for example), adults must hold a valid DBS through the school and have attended a training session. The sessions will be held at 9am in school and online via Teams at 5.30pm. Due to the nature of the sessions, these are not suitable for children of any age to attend. Please complete [this form](#) if you would like to attend the training.

If you need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us. We can help you source information about support through the right agencies, and make referrals ourselves to local support groups. Here are some of the things we have supported families with recently:

- School uniform, school bags, P.E. trainers and school shoes
- Pre-loved clothes for children
- Foodbank referrals
- Housing applications and letters of support
- Seasonal gifts for children

If you have any questions or would like to talk about how we can help, please contact Miss Kober on 01737 761254 or email [familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:familysupport@wray-common.surrey.sch.uk)

## HONOUR BOOK

1EL	Ronnie	For persevering with his phonics and applying it to his reading!
1B	Isaac	For challenging himself in all lessons and listening to feedback to improve his work.
2T	Jo	For showing great courage in the face of adversity and diving back into school life with enthusiasm.
2P	Jackson	For his excellent collaboration working in a team to build their circus tent.
3S	Noah	For always being a fun and caring friend.
3F	Hattie	For excellent comprehension of a text and using her inference skills to help her answer.
4BR	Sofia	For excellent focus and concentration this week in her fractions learning.
4BE	Bismillah	For excellent use of thinking aloud strategies to support others understand their learning in maths this week.
5E	Florence	For demonstrating great collaboration when supporting her learning partner in maths
5J	David	For reflecting on his answer in Maths and correcting a mistake that he had made.
6C	Lewis	For using thinking when solving maths problems involving ratio.
6F	Ava	For caring for the environment by happily accepting a second-hand booklet rather than printing a new one.

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HEALTH & FITNESS APPS

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Physical wellbeing apps are useful tools for monitoring and improving our health. They allow us to balance nutrition, set goals, track our activities and sleep patterns, and motivate us to exercise. Nonetheless, there have been some reported drawbacks; this guide outlines some of these concerns and explains how to use fitness apps safely.

### LACK OF PERSONALISATION

Many apps take a one-size-fits-all approach, failing to account for the varying ages and abilities of children: a 16-year-old, for example, will have different physical needs to a child of 10. This can create unrealistic expectations and set exercises which may be too advanced for younger children or too simple for older ones.

### NOT DEVELOPED BY EXPERTS

Some fitness and wellbeing apps are developed by experts in the field – but a concerning number of them aren't. As such, these platforms may contain inaccurate information. They may present safety concerns by giving incorrect advice regarding physical activities or might include age-inappropriate content which would clearly cause more harm than good.

### REDUCED INTERACTION WITH OTHERS

Physical wellbeing apps can remove the social and interactive elements which physical exercise can offer – for instance, meeting people at fitness classes, at the gym or during any other such activities. Research has found that young people generally dislike this aspect of fitness apps, suggesting that they would rather exercise in the company of friends or other like-minded individuals.

### DATA AND PRIVACY CONCERNS

Fitness and wellbeing apps tend to collect a lot of personal information from their users, including name, location, date of birth, details of their physical health and more. It's worth keeping in mind that some of these apps may sell this data to third parties. We'd advise that any apps young people download should have the correct legislation in place to protect their safety and privacy while using the service.

### ADDITIONAL COSTS

While many fitness apps are free to download, the initial content is quite basic. Users will only receive more helpful content (such as new workouts, nutrition advice or a personalised plan) by signing up to a subscription or paying for extra features. This can incentivise users to spend money on the service – a cost which can quickly mount up.

### DEPENDENCY ON THE APP

While physical wellbeing apps can help motivate young users to manage their fitness, there's a possibility that – without being sent frequent rewards and reminders – children could start to lose their natural drive to be active. Young people may also become obsessed with tracking their exercise, health and eating habits: this can have negative effects on their mental and emotional wellbeing.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### EXERCISE AND SOCIALISE

Highlight the importance of children enjoying fitness activities with family and friends, rather than always exercising alone. Emphasise the fun they can have by interacting with others rather than solely relying on an app to maintain their regime. Remind them of the importance of staying active, as well as the benefits of doing so with company.

### PROMOTE POSITIVE BODY IMAGE

While we want children to be active and healthy, we must also ensure they don't become fixated on how they look and begin take things too far. During childhood and adolescence, the body is still growing and changing. It's vitally important for young people's wellbeing that we promote a positive body image and a healthy relationship with food, empowering them to make informed decisions about their diet and lifestyle.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



### REVIEW THE APP FIRST

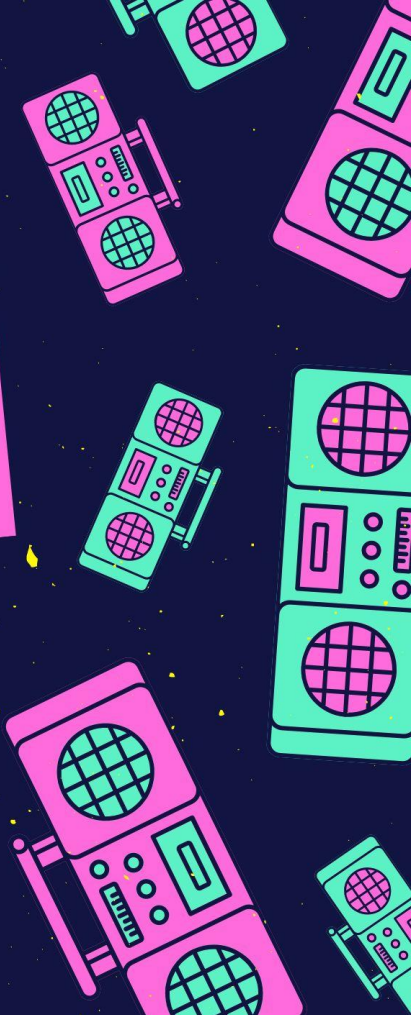
Before allowing someone under 18 to install a fitness and wellbeing app, check its age rating, read its reviews and scroll through its data policy, to ensure its suitability for younger users. You could also try it yourself, to see if it's appropriate for the child's particular needs and decide if you're comfortable with them using it. Ensure that any privacy-compromising features – such as location tracking – are disabled.

### USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

As with all apps, it's important for parents to familiarise themselves with any controls on the app and to use these on a child's account. The specific settings vary between platforms but – most commonly – these will relate to screen-time limits, disabling or capping in-app purchases, and managing social aspects or features which aren't age appropriate. By utilising these controls, you can help to ensure a child is getting a safe experience.



The National College®



WRAY

COMMON

EASTER

# DISCO

£3 PER CHILD - INCLUDES DISCO,  
F3 BEER & BAG OF CRISPS CARD  
PAY ON THE DOOR - CASH OR CARD

THURSDAY MARCH 20

KS1 4:45-5:30 & KS2 5:45-6:30

PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO WAIT IN THE SMALL HALL WHERE REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

CALLING ALL MITCHES AND WIZARDS



## Wray Common

### School of

# Witchcraft & Wizardry



DON'T MISS OUT!

Friday  
28th Feb



Time  
5:00pm

JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED EVENING OF:

- POTION MAKING    SORTING HAT    LIVE OWL SHOW
- GROW-YOUR-BONES BACK    QUIDDITCH PRACTICE
- SCAVANGER HUNT    HEDWIG BALLOON MAKING

TICKETS INCLUDE: ACTIVITIES, CHOCOLATE FROG, DRINK, AND YOUR OWN WAND!

Tickets £10

Scan the QR Code for tickets:

OR VISIT: [BIT.LY/WRAYCOMMONWIZARDS](http://BIT.LY/WRAYCOMMONWIZARDS)



# We are hiring!

## Teacher of English

**Perm, full time  
From 1 Sept 2025**

Closes: 24 February 2025



## Teacher of Science

**Perm, full time  
From 1 Sept 2025**

Closes: 24 February 2025



## English Intervention Tutor

**Perm, term time, 35 hrs /wk**

Closes: 24 February 2025



**View vacancies at:**  
**[greensandacademytrust.co.uk](https://greensandacademytrust.co.uk)**

Internal candidate application form can be found on Edupay (via Doc store).



# DRAMA \*KIDS\*

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**£10 PER  
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**And most importantly... have fun!**



**FIND OUT MORE!**

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Chipstead, Croydon (Park  
Hill), Crystal Palace,  
Norbury, Purley, Reigate,  
Sanderstead, Selsdon,  
Thornton Heath,  
Waddon, Wallington and  
West Wickham.



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**[croydon@dramakids.co.uk](mailto:croydon@dramakids.co.uk) 020 8667 9812**

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**FOR GIRLS IN SCHOOL YEARS 3 - 6**

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- No cost – come and try it out!
- Top-tier facilities – train in a professional environment.
- Coached by professionals – learn from expert coaches dedicated to your progress.
- Come and join us #girlpower ⚽

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**[info@learnplayachieve.com](mailto:info@learnplayachieve.com)**

**whatsapp – 07983 142916**



# PARENTING PUZZLE



Raising children can be puzzling at times, but puzzles have solutions – and the Parenting Puzzle course provides them. This 4 week informal course gives you tips and advice on how to get the best out of family life.

Wednesday 5 March - Wednesday 26 March 2025

09:30-11:30

YMCA Epsom Downs Family Centre,  
St Leonards Road, Epsom Downs, KT18 5RJ

Run by YMCA Family Support Workers and is open to all parents and carers.

Course costs £15 payable on booking (includes refreshments).

A reduced rate is available for any family on income related benefits.

To book a place on this course please call **01737 851079** or email [reigatebansteadfamilycentre@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk](mailto:reigatebansteadfamilycentre@ymcaeast Surrey.org.uk)



# YMCA

Here for young people  
Here for communities  
Here for you



# Price & Buckland SCHOOL WEAR SINCE 1888

## NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM WEBSITE LAUNCH



On the **11th** of February  
we will launch our  
**NEW** website.

The URL remains:  
[www.price-buckland.co.uk](http://www.price-buckland.co.uk)



Website QR code.  
This will take you  
to the homepage  
to search for your  
school



If you have ordered  
from our website  
before, go to the  
**Account Section** and  
**re-set** your password.  
You can use the same  
password that you  
have currently.



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manage your  
account.

Any Questions? Call us on 01159 640827