



Issue 3, February 2025

### Message from the Headteacher



We've had such a busy half term packed with amazing learning experiences and visits across the school. From trips and workshops to themed days and celebrations, we continue to provide great curriculum opportunities for all our pupils. Also please do read the notices about school uniform in this publication. I am proud of how well presented our children are, and it saddens me when a child looks poorly presented, it never helps their wellbeing at school. So please do keep up these high standards that we have.



I would like to ask for some help from you all during the half term break. Could you please all have a **really good look at home for any school reading books** that may have been brought home and not found their way back. We don't mind how long they have been away; we just really do need them to come back into school. Please do have a look in cupboards, bedrooms, toyboxes and bags and return any books you can find. With money being really tight in schools I would rather buy new and exciting reading books for the children to enjoy, rather than having to replace ones that have been lost! So please help... in our BOOK AMNESTY!

I hope you have a relaxing half term break and look forward to welcoming you all back to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February.

**Richard Ferris**  
Headteacher

### Considerate Parking in the Local Area

We have again been hearing about how a small number of our parents are continually parking inconsiderately in local residential areas.

Please show consideration for our neighbours who are often unable to get out of their parking spaces or who cannot park after taking their own children to and from school, due to inconsiderate parking.

Unlike a lot of schools, we do have two large public car parks that should be used when dropping off and collecting children.

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who respect our neighbours and local area and uses the public car parks. We really do appreciate you helping the school's hard fought good reputation.



### Save the Date!

The FROGS will be hosting a School Disco Party on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February, please pencil the date in your diaries - tickets will go on sale on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February!

## School Lunches – New Menu!

Our new menu for lunches begins when we return on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February. Don't forget to order your child's school lunches in advance (you could even do it now so you don't have to remember!)

The menus are all available on our website: [Parents > School Meals](#)

The school office team are always on hand to help if you are having any problems using ParentPay.



## School Uniform – Important Reminder

We would like to remind you all that if you are purchasing new school uniform over the break, please make sure to check that you buy the correct items, particularly footwear. Children should be wearing flat, black school shoes and not boots or trainers. All the guidelines can be found on our website – [School Uniform](#).

## Competition Time Again!

We are delighted to share that once again our pupils are invited to participate in Ascot Racecourse Supports, Local Schools Art Competition. There is a template included with this newsletter – copies are also available from the school office.

Each entry must be completed on the template in landscape only. Pupils must add their Age and School Name at the bottom of the template which will be initially published for voting. Pupils can add their full name on the back of the template (or added to any email submission). Contact will then be made via the school in the event they have been selected to seek permission to publish their name.

All entries need to be received by Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024 via email, post or dropped off to:

CSR Manager, Ascot Racecourse Ltd, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 7JX

or via email: [CSR@ascot.com](mailto:CSR@ascot.com)

Young artists are encouraged to create pieces of work that represent Royal Ascot / HM The King & his family / Pageantry / Royal Procession at Royal Ascot/Fashion/Picnicking. The winning pieces will be displayed in the Ascot Heath Tunnel for the local community to view and enjoy during Royal Ascot and beyond.

- £1,000 will be awarded to the winning school, per age group category
- £50 Amazon voucher will be awarded to each winning artist per age group category
- £25 Amazon Voucher will be awarded to each runner up per age group

After the deadline, a shortlist will be selected by Ascot's CSR team. These entries will be displayed at the Spring Family Raceday on Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025 where racegoers can vote for their favourite. We will also upload the shortlisted entries onto our website for online voting by the public. Winners will be announced at the end of April.

# Our GREAT Learning

## Year 1&2

Children in Year 1&2 have been using logical reasoning to predict outcomes. They have given commands in different orders to investigate how the order affects the outcome. They have designed their own artwork and tested it for use in a program. They have also designed algorithms and then tested those algorithms as programs.



## Year 3&4

Children in Years 3&4 have enjoyed an Egyptian themed day this week which saw them making cartouches and pyramids, baking Egyptian cookies and lots of other fabulous learning activities.



## Year 5&6

This week in Year 5 and 6 we have been learning about appropriate use of the internet for Safer Internet Day. The children explored scams and what to look out for as well as phishing emails and alerts. They also spent time identifying ways to keep themselves safe online. We made some posters and mock scams to test our partners.



# Diary Dates

FEBRUARY 2025	
Mon 17 <sup>th</sup> to Fri 21 <sup>st</sup>	HALF TERM BREAK
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	SEN Coffee Morning with MHST (Anxiety) – 9.00-10.00am
	<b>Year 1:</b> Walk around Great Hollands – letter to follow
	<b>FRoGS PTA:</b> School Disco – Years 1 & 2: 4.30-5.30pm Years 3-6: 6.00-7.00pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	INSET DAY – Pupils not in school
MARCH 2025	
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	PINS Project Parent Participation Session – 1.30-2.45pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Reception:</b> NCMP Height, Weight, Vision and Hearing Checks by School Nursing Team
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nursery:</b> Family Learning Maths 'Washing Lines' Workshop – 9.00-10.30am
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Year 3:</b> Family Learning English 'SPaG' Workshop – 9.00-10.30am
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Year 4:</b> Family Learning English 'SPaG' Workshop – 9.00-10.30am
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Panthers:</b> Easter Experience Workshop – letter to follow
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Lions:</b> Easter Experience Workshop – letter to follow

Partnerships  
for Inclusion of  
Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS)




**Participation session (2)**

**For parent carers of children with neurodivergent needs**

**JOIN US AT YOUR SCHOOL**

Wednesday 5 March 13:30 - 14:45  
Great Hollands Primary School



[Click here to book](#)

**Connect - Share - Make a difference**

PINS is a national project funded by NHS England in partnership with the Department for Education, Department of Health & Social Care & the National Network of Parent Carer Forums

## Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools (PINS) Project

We would like to invite you to attend the PINS Project Cycle 2 parent and carer event at Great Hollands School, taking place after the February half-term. Please book using the information on our flyer.

This event will focus on:

- ✓ Reviewing your school's progress on actions from last term
- ✓ Providing parents with an update on the wider PINS project including the next parent/carers survey
- ✓ Opportunities for parents to engage with Bracknell Parent Carer Forum

20 Years of Celebrating Bracknell Forest's Heroes!

# Who is your LOCAL HERO?

PRIDE OF BRACKNELL FOREST AWARDS 2025

The Pride of Bracknell Forest Awards celebrate the achievements of outstanding individuals and organisations in our community. We showcase those local heroes who make life in the Bracknell Forest better.

## Show your support by nominating someone today:

- Business of the Year
- Charity of the Year
- The John Nike Pride of Bracknell Forest Award (Adult & Young)
- Long-Standing Service to the Community Award
- School of the Year
- Sport & Achievement Award (Adult & Young)
- Teacher of the Year
- Team of the Year
- Young Person in Business

 [prideofbracknell.com/nominate](http://prideofbracknell.com/nominate)

 [contact@prideofbracknell.com](mailto:contact@prideofbracknell.com)

 Pride of Bracknell Forest Awards

 @PoBFA



Please submit all nominations by Friday 21st February

# Onisere and the Ballet Queen

for children age 4 to 10 years  
Friday 21 February 10.30am to 11.30am  
at Bracknell Library



## Fun filled session of dance and storytelling

'So what you're saying is that there have been loads of black ballet dancers...'

Onisere wants to be a ballet dancer but there's just one problem.... join us on a fantastical journey through the history of black British ballet.

Find out more about the black dancers who blazed a trail through British ballet!



Price: free Booking: essential

To book: use the QR code to book on Eventbrite, ask at the desk at Bracknell Library or call 01344 423149

# Lego maths with your child

Tuesday 18 February,

9.30am – 10.30am

If you are a parent of a child aged 2-4 years, increase your confidence introducing mathematical concepts to them using Lego DUPLO! Building bricks make learning together exciting, engaging and most importantly fun! The sessions are **free** and take place at **The Alders Family Hub** – find out more and book at: <https://tinyurl.com/legoduploatAlders>



## Bracknell Gospel Hall

Invites you to learn from God's word

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**  


Sundays 12:15pm - 1:30pm  
Children from 3+ years welcome

**CHILDREN'S SPECIAL**  


Wednesdays 6pm - 7pm  
Primary aged children welcome

Adults welcome too!  
Opposite Wildridings Primary School  
Netherton, Bracknell, RG12 7DX  
Phone: 07818517310, 07743411994  
[www.bracknellgospelhall.org](http://www.bracknellgospelhall.org)

We love Him, because He first loved us. 1 John 4:19

