



Newsletter June 2026

Dear Families,

Following my four terms as Acting Headteacher, I am delighted I have been appointed permanent headteacher of our wonderful Catholic primary school. It has been a privilege to have been given the opportunity to work closely with the staff, pupils, parents and the Parish community and I am grateful for the support you have shown me since I took the role in February 2025.

Going forward, my plan is to continue leading the school with kindness and integrity, keeping the children at the centre of everything I do and the decisions I make with the senior leadership team.

My hope is to ensure we keep Christ at the centre of our school and are continually striving for the best for every individual in our care - creating a deep sense of belonging for everyone in the community and I look forward to working together as we keep expectations high, learning fun and where every child is seen, heard, and given the opportunity to flourish.

Warmest regards,

N Philpott



Year 2 are leading the way this month!

A reminder that regular attendance at school is vital for children's learning, confidence, and wellbeing.

YR – 95.7%

Y1 – 96.7%

Y2 – 97.2%

Y3 – 97.1%

Y4 – 97.1%

Y5 – 97%

Y6 – 96.1%



Whole School – 96.7%

National Average – 94.9%

Bracknell Forest – 95.5%



A Prayer to the Sacred Heart.

*O Heart of love, we put all our trust in Thee; for we fear all things from our own weakness, but we hope for all things from Thy goodness.
Amen.*

Celebrating the Eucharist



On Friday, the Year 3/4 children led a thoughtful and joyful **First Holy Communion assembly**, sharing their experiences with a confidence that lit up garden space.

They spoke beautifully about the meaning of the sacrament, read with clarity, and sang with real heart, creating a warm sense of celebration for us all.

It was a moment that highlighted their growing faith, maturity, and pride in reaching such an important milestone. Huge congratulations to them all.



COMPUTING WIZARDS



A huge congratulations to our brilliant group of Year 5 pupils who travelled to London last week to take part in a Purple Mash National Competition - **and came home winners!** Their creativity, teamwork, and confidence shone throughout the day, and they represented St Joseph's with pride. We are incredibly proud of their achievement and the fantastic way they showcased their digital skills on a national stage - they even got to tour the Amazon headquarters and came away with some fabulous prizes. A huge thanks must go to Mr O'Connor for giving them this amazing opportunity.



SPORTS CERTIFICATES



Well done to the children who took part in the year 5 Cup Stacking Challenge and Year 2 Multi sports. They had a great time and learnt lots of new skills at both events.



A huge congratulations to our amazing football team who finished the season with...

After a fantastic Sports Day, **St Francis House** claimed the House Trophy with an impressive **3,439** points. Congratulations to St Francis - our brilliant yellow team! With this being the *Year of St Francis*, their victory feels especially meaningful.



Year R Trip to Chertsey Museum



Year R had a wonderful time on their visit to Chertsey Museum, where they learned all about seaside holidays in the past. The children enjoyed dressing up in traditional seaside clothing, making beautiful shell pictures, creating their own Mr Punch puppets, and performing a fun Punch and Judy show. They also had the chance to play traditional seaside games, including coconut shy and quoits, making it a memorable and exciting day of hands-on learning.

CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to the children who have made their Holy Communion – what a special memory for you all!



Well done to our football stars who have been awarded trophies!!

This Year R swimmer recently achieved the Improver Plus award at swimming and our Year 3 swimming star won the overall silver medal in her age category in the mini meet Amazing!



V in year 2 has been busy! He has achieved a Swimming class certificate and a medal from a recent Football tournament. Wow!



JUNIOR MUSIC FESTIVAL

Huge congratulations to our wonderful school choir for their spectacular performance at The Junior Music Festival on Monday 15th June!

For months, these dedicated pupils have worked incredibly hard during rehearsals. They put in countless hours learning songs, mastering harmonies, and preparing for this big performance and all their dedication truly paid off because on stage, their performance was outstanding.

On the Hexagon stage, every child sang beautifully, followed every cue, and represented our school with immense pride and outstanding behaviour. We are so proud of every child who took part and made the evening so magical.

Thank you to all the parents and staff who supported the children on their musical journey!



ATHLETICS FINALS!



Huge congratulations to our athletics team who took part in the Bracknell Forest athletics event at Palmers Park, Reading. They performed well on the day and took away an overall **4th place** out of 20 schools.

We are very proud!

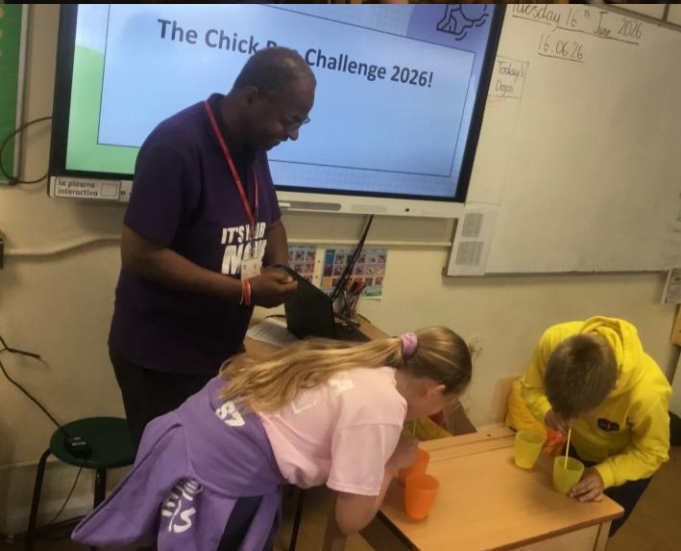
Year 6 Transition Workshop



Year 6 were delighted to welcome Wayne Dixon from the Christian Connections in Schools Group – part of Scripture Union - for their 'It's Your Move' Transition Workshop.

The children discussed challenges, change and connecting, what they were looking forward to and who they could talk to if they are feeling worried. Every child received an 'It's Your Move Secondary Survival Guide' book.

They particularly enjoyed taking part in the Chickpea Challenge and Zach's Rap) based on the Bible story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-9).



THE HEATWAVE



Surviving the recent heat wave showcased the resilience of both staff and children, even as a two-day Ofsted inspection took place in soaring temperatures. Despite the heat, everyone remained focused, supportive, and calm, and the school stayed open for those who needed a safe place. We even managed to bring some fun to the week with a cheerful “splash zone” in Sean’s garden, giving pupils and staff a chance to cool off and enjoy a moment of relief. Big smiles all round!

PLASTIC FREE JULY

What is 'Plastic free July'?



Plastic Free July is a worldwide event where people avoid using plastic in large amounts. And instead, using sustainable alternatives.



Our year 6 pupils are urging our community to take on a Plastic Free July.

Why should our school help?



When we discard plastic on the ground or in the incorrect bins, the plastic can end up in our oceans, causing harm to all the marine life in the sea.



If we reduce our plastic; we can slowly help stop this from growing into an even larger problem.

Did you know...

The kitchen produces 6kg of plastic every week.



8 million tonnes of plastic ends up in our ocean every year.



All the plastic in our oceans can fill up 100 Boeing 747 planes.



The amount of plastic in our ocean will out way all the worlds' fish.

**Are you
on
board?**

Our school can help by:



Putting plastic in the right bins.



Not putting single use items in your lunch boxes.



Putting empty glue sticks or pens into the recycling bins for our stationary.



Don't use bottles made from soft plastics.

Pope Francis once said...

“Throwing away plastic in the sea is criminal. This kills biodiversity, kills everything.”





Diary Dates	Class	Event
Monday 29 th June	Year 6	Year 6 Performance 1 @ 2pm Year 6 Performance 2 @ 6.30pm
JULY	ALL	We are having a Plastic-Free July
Wednesday 1 st July	All	Transition Day – visit new classes
Thursday 2 nd July		
Friday 3 rd July	All	Science Day
Monday 6 th July	Years 4,5 and 6	SHP Wilde Day
Monday 6 th July	Year R, 1,2,3	In school prayer space session with the Kerrith Centre
Week of 6 th July -10 th	All	SPORTS WEEK
Tuesday 14 th July	Year 6	Class retreat at Church – all day
Thursday 16 th July	Year 5 & 6	Candle Service @ 2pm - Parents welcome
Wednesday 22 nd July	All	Leavers Mass @ Church am Time TBC
Wednesday 22 nd July	All	END OF TERM – NORMAL TIME



DISCOVER BRAKENHALE THIS SUMMER

Three great opportunities to experience our calm yet vibrant learning environment and envision your child's future at Brakenhale.



SUMMER OPEN MORNINGS

An informative and engaging morning for parents & students.

 **THURSDAY 18TH & FRIDAY 19TH JUNE**

 **9.10AM-11.00AM**



SCHOOL IN ACTION TOURS

See our school in action during a typical school day.

 **WEEKDAYS FROM 22ND JUNE TO 10TH JULY**

 **9.30AM**



SUMMER OPEN EVENING

A special event designed for you to view our school and meet our dedicated staff.

 **TUESDAY 14TH JULY 2026**

 **5-7PM**



**AIM HIGH**

We have high aspirations for every student

**BE KIND**

We are a respectful and supportive community

**TAKE RESPONSIBILITY**

We encourage students to take ownership of their learning and their future

BOOKING REQUIRED VIA WWW.BRAKENHALE.CO.UK



**Sebastian's
Action Trust**

Supporting families navigating
life-limiting childhood illness

Christmas in July

The most magical event
of the summer season!



Sunday 12 July, 2-5pm | Ascot Racecourse
Tickets: £10 per adult | £5 per child | Under 2s free

sebastiansactiontrust.org

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self-esteem



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FOCUS**

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in school & life



**LEARN REAL
SELF-DEFENCE**

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real-life situations



**MAKE FRIENDS
& HAVE FUN!**

A positive, supportive
environment

CLASSES FOR EVERY AGE

4 - 6 YEARS

5.15PM - 6.00PM

7 - 9 YEARS

6.00PM - 6.45PM

10 - 12 YEARS

6.45PM - 7.30PM

TEENS & ADULTS

7.30PM - 8.15PM

SPECIAL OFFER

2-FOR-1 FAMILY TRAINING!

Join today and a
second family member
trains **FREE!***

*Terms & conditions apply.

FIND US HERE!



St Joseph's Primary School
Gypsy Lane
Bracknell
RG12 9AP



Parking available on site



Please enter via the
main school entrance.



JOIN TODAY AND KICKSTART YOUR MARTIAL ARTS JOURNEY!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE &
BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL

BLAZEMARTIALARTS.COM



QUESTIONS?

Message us on Facebook



or call **07551 195384**



Upcoming Events



GEMS

Autism & ADHD Support Service
East Berkshire

Please visit our website to book your space - www.Gems4Health.com

MAY
05

7 PM TO 9 PM

3 Part Autism Course

MAY
13

10 AM TO 12 NOON

Empowering Calm

MAY
18

7 PM TO 9 PM

**Understanding
Emotional Regulation**

JUNE
03

10 AM TO 12 NOON

**PDA - Demand
Avoidance**

JUNE
09

7 PM TO 9 PM

**Sleep - Autism and
ADHD**

JUNE
10

10 AM TO 12 NOON

Managing Anxiety

JUNE
10

7 PM TO 9 PM

3 Part ADHD Course

JULY
01

10 AM TO 12 NOON

**Barriers to School,
Can't go, Not won't go!**

TBC
00

7 PM - 9 PM

**AuDHD & Interoception
workshop coming soon**



Parenting
Special
Children

NHS

Frimley





DANCE WORKSHOP



WITH **KJW** DANCE AND FITNESS



THURSDAY

23RD JULY



11 TO 3 P.M.



£28



FOR AGES

5 TO 12



**ST. JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC SCHOOL
GIPSY LANE,
BRACKNELL,
RG12 9AP**



**PLEASE BOOK
BY MESSAGING** →



077 252 69 138

OR



kellywilkins@hotmail.co.uk



Summer Creative Writing Workshops

CREATE YOUR OWN STORIES AND SHARE YOUR IDEAS WITH OTHER YOUNG WRITERS AT WOKINGHAM LIBRARY'S ACTION-PACKED TEEN CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS, OPEN FOR AGES 11-18.

SELECT YOUR CHARACTER

SATURDAY 25 JULY 10:30AM - 3:00PM

WOKINGHAM LIBRARY

ANY GOOD STORY NEEDS A PROTAGONIST THAT THE READER ROOTS FOR, BUT IT CAN BE OVERWHELMING FOR WRITERS TRYING TO SHOW THEIR PERSONALITY, MOTIVATION, BACKSTORY AND MORE. JOIN US TO CRAFT YOUR OWN CHARACTER, CAPTURE WHAT MAKES THEM UNIQUE AND TELL THEIR STORY THROUGH THEIR PERSPECTIVE!

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

[HTTPS://WOKINGHAM.SPYDUS.CO.UK/CGI-BIN/SPYDUS.EXE/ENQ/WPAC/EVSE/ENQ?SETLVL=&RNI=740027](https://wokingham.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/enq/wpac/evse/enq?setlvl=&rni=740027)

CHILLING WITH THE VILLAINS

SATURDAY 1 AUGUST 10:30AM - 3:00PM

WOKINGHAM LIBRARY

FROM THE ROGUE'S GALLERY OF THE BATMAN COMICS TO THE MANIACAL CRUELLA DE VIL, ANTAGONISTS ARE SOME OF THE MOST ICONIC CHARACTERS IN FICTION. BUT WHAT DRIVES THEM TO COMMIT CRIMES? AND HOW DO THEY JUSTIFY THE LENGTHS THEY GO TO? JOIN US TO CREATE YOUR OWN VILLAIN CHARACTERS, EXPLORE WHAT MAKES A MEMORABLE BAD GUY AND WRITE THEIR VILLAINOUS SCHEMES!

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL

[HTTPS://WOKINGHAM.SPYDUS.CO.UK/CGI-BIN/SPYDUS.EXE/ENQ/WPAC/EVSE/ENQ?SETLVL=&RNI=740028](https://wokingham.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/enq/wpac/evse/enq?setlvl=&rni=740028)

EACH SESSION COSTS £5 (PAY ON THE DAY, CASH ONLY).
PLEASE BRING A PACKED LUNCH.



Create Hope are offering adult sessions for £20 a session ...



Equipping lives 4 Good

Therapeutic Support for adults

Create Hope is a Christian charity
working within the Berkshire & Wiltshire area.

We provide one-to-one therapy for adults, with a particular focus on parents, carers and guardians. Our integrative creative (and play) therapy approach is grounded in person-centred practice and draws from Gestalt, transactional analysis and somatic/embodiment psychotherapy.

Sessions are client-led and offer space to explore thoughts and feelings through art and creative materials, supporting you to express yourself and find your voice.

Click here
for further
information:



01344 566295



www.createhopeuk.org



mail@createhope.co.uk



[@createhopeuk](https://www.facebook.com/createhopeuk)

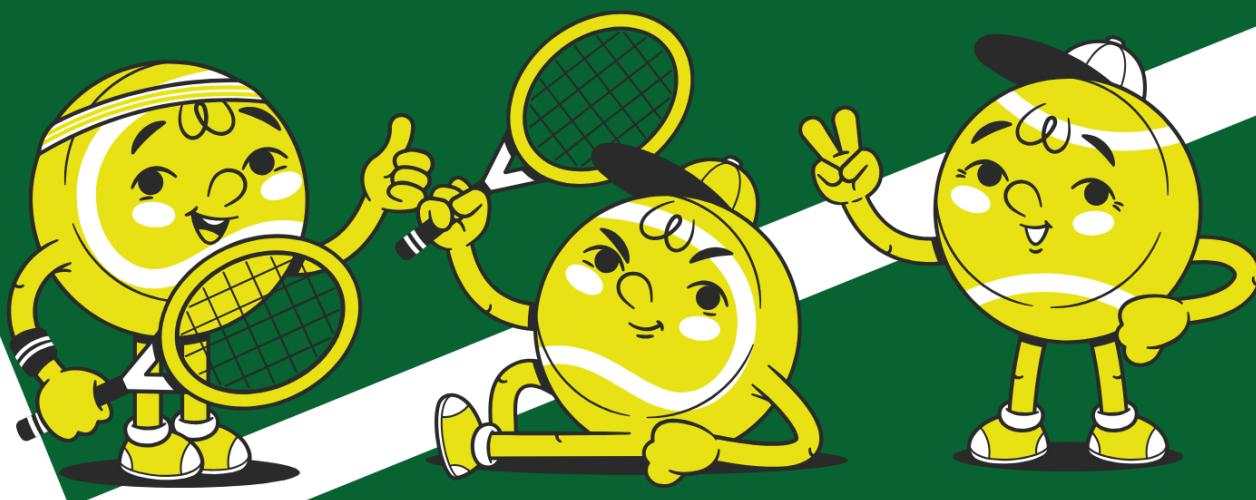
Registered charity no. 1162501



SUMMER TENNIS CAMPS

**4-16
YEARS**

28TH JULY- 13TH AUGUST, 2026



**PROFESSIONAL LTA ACCREDITED COACHING
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/ SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT**

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office.mattreidprocoaching.co.uk

HAF SPACES AVAILABLE

