



— The Cooper School —

# Parent Bulletin

NO 22 - FRIDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

## Key Dates and Upcoming Events

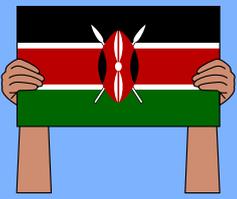
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Years 9, 10 &amp; 11 Individual Photos and Years 11 &amp; 13 Group Photos</li></ul>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• HPV Vaccinations (catch up, Y7-11)</li></ul>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• INSET DAY</li></ul>

## Next week w/c Monday 9th March 2026 - Week B

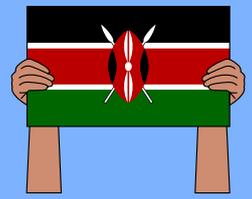
A reminder that yr 11s have their final mocks in their Option subject double lessons next week.. PE moderation is also taking place on Tuesday but this will not disrupt the plan for the mock happening P2 & 3. Option class codes tell you which option is which. eg ART10B is in Option B

In classrooms			
Week B	Option C Mon 9th March P1&2	Option D Tues 10th March P2&3	Option B Weds 11th March P1&2
	Option C	Option D	Option B

**DREAM BIG.WORK HARD.BE KIND.**



## AFRICAN ADVENTURES 2025



In June 2025, many of the school community parents and students made a contribution to the TCS students that were volunteering out in Kenya. While we were out there we bought many items like school exercise books, pencils, erasers, rice, cooking oil and some much needed cooking equipment for St Trizah's School in Nakuru. Mrs Post and I observed an IT lesson, with no computers, only a drawing on the board and on our return to the UK, we decided that if it was at all possible we would buy the school some laptops.

This is the update I have received through African Adventures today: I am delighted to confirm that your support has funded 7 laptops, which were delivered to the school last week. This is a truly meaningful contribution, and it will make a lasting difference to both the staff and the children.

The teachers and students are overjoyed to have received such essential equipment. Access to technology will greatly enhance learning opportunities, support digital skills development, and open up new possibilities for the students.

On behalf of everyone at St Trizah's School, thank you again for your kindness and commitment to improving educational opportunities in Africa.

Many thanks to you all for your support, a very caring and generous community.

Mrs Suzanne Kirkwood, Mrs Jen Post and all the class of 2025, yr 13 students



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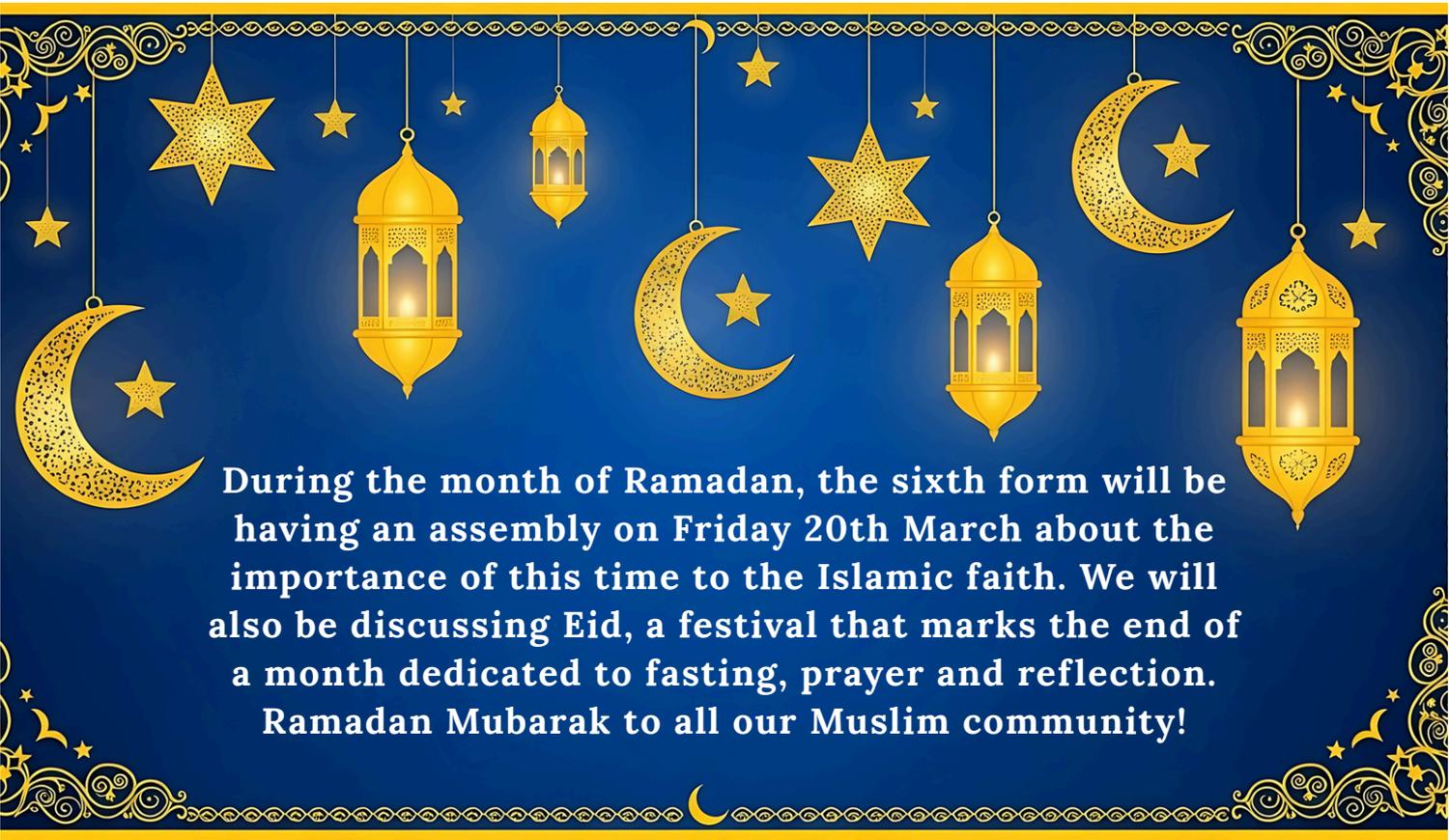
## Support Our Young Entrepreneurs in Oxford!

This Saturday, our Year 12 Young Enterprise teams will be stepping out of the classroom and into the real world as they compete in a regional pop-up market in Oxford city centre.

After months of product development, market research and boardroom debates, our students are ready to put their business plans to the ultimate test. This is a fantastic opportunity for them to develop grit, sales confidence, and teamwork under pressure.



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**During the month of Ramadan, the sixth form will be having an assembly on Friday 20th March about the importance of this time to the Islamic faith. We will also be discussing Eid, a festival that marks the end of a month dedicated to fasting, prayer and reflection. Ramadan Mubarak to all our Muslim community!**

**The PE department wish to say a massive well done to both our Year 8 girls Football squad and Year 11 Badminton squad who both worked hard and dreamt big to beat Heyford Park school this week in their fixtures! In both games the atmosphere was super competitive, with a great sense of teamwork that allowed both teams to work amazingly as a unit and be the best they could be! Well done teams!**

**To celebrate world book day our PE lessons on Friday 6th have all been themed on Harry Potter, with all our Key stage 3 core PE groups learning and playing Quidditch! It was an amazing environment, in which we definitely saw some Gryffindor and Slytherin rivalry, as well as lots of smiles, cheers and great Sportsmanship!**

**To all parents of GCSE PE year 11 students, this is a reminder that the internal grading day is this Tuesday 10th of March. The timetable for the day is outlined on student Google Classrooms, and I would ask for your support in ensuring they know where they should be at each part of the day.**

**Have a great active weekend  
Mr Cook**

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## NOTICES

Dear Parents and Carers,

We want to ensure all our students stay nourished, even when they aren't feeling well enough to be in the classroom.

If your child is currently eligible for Free School Meals and is at home unwell, you are welcome to arrange a packed lunch for collection from the school office.

Please call the main office by 12:00 PM.

Lunches will be ready for pickup at a designated time (usually during the standard lunch break).

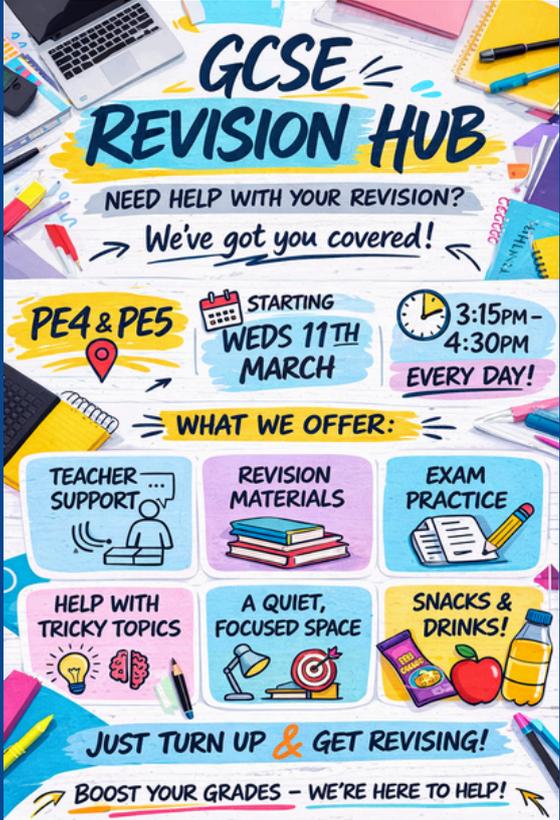


**The Oxfordshire School Aged Immunisation Team will be visiting your child's school next week.**

Don't forget to complete the consent form for your child.



For more information including how to contact the team please visit the [Oxfordshire School Aged Immunisation Team's webpage](#).



**GCSE REVISION HUB**

NEED HELP WITH YOUR REVISION?  
We've got you covered!

PE4 & PES STARTING WEDS 11TH MARCH 3:15PM - 4:30PM EVERY DAY!

WHAT WE OFFER:

- TEACHER SUPPORT
- REVISION MATERIALS
- EXAM PRACTICE
- HELP WITH TRICKY TOPICS
- A QUIET, FOCUSED SPACE
- SNACKS & DRINKS!

JUST TURN UP & GET REVISIONING!

BOOST YOUR GRADES - WE'RE HERE TO HELP!



Please be advised that "squidgy" fidgets, slime-filled objects, or similar tactile items are not permitted in school. While we understand these are popular, they can cause significant disruption and mess in the classroom.

The only exception to this rule is if such an item is expressly permitted as part of a student's formal learning plan. In these specific cases, we ask that the fidgets remain small, discreet, and used only as directed.

Thank you for your support in maintaining a focused learning environment.



# 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

## CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

### 1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a fictional novel; however, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand, why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary? Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we turn to reading.

### 2 WIDEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

### 3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or pick one you know they will enjoy. You could also include a personal note inside.

### 4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in a school/bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using free resources such as Authorly and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

### 5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Access training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of this topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better placed you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

### 6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our book; however, we know that reading is a social experience, so we must also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the connection.

### 7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. How often have you watched a film or series because someone else has recommended it? It's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

### 8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives; however, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, translate, and track their reading goals with resources like Polylingo and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

### 9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever; it generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next piece of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading focus of 'Go All In' captures this well as it is their key theme. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

### 10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Share why you enjoy it. Is it to relax, escape the world, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of everyday life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

### Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy adviser and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to enhance reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large academy trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English Hub and Literacy Excellence Centre.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

See full reference list on our website

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IF YOU HAVE ANY SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS OUT OF SCHOOL

HOURS PLEASE CONTACT MASH TEAM ON 0345 050 7666

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