



Learn together. Grow together. Succeed together.

Edition 7: Friday 24th October 2025

Dates for your Diary

Fri 24 th Oct	INSET Day-school closed for all pupils
Fri 24 th Oct to Mon 3 rd Nov	Half Term Holiday
Tues 4 th Nov	Back to school
Weds 5 th to Tues 11 th Nov	School Council selling poppies
Fri 7 th Nov	PDSA School disco
Mon 10 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Mon 10 th Nov	Odd Socks Day
Mon 10 th Nov	School Councillors attend launch of Toy Appeal
Weds 12 th Nov	U9 Boys' football match 3.30pm
Mon 17 th Nov	Rhos Y Gwaliau meeting for Year 5 parents
Weds 19 th Nov	PDSA meeting at The Spotted Dog 7.30pm

**more info coming soon*

This week at Parsons Down...

- ✓ It was lovely to see so many of you at **parents' evening this week**. The children have been working really hard this half term and we're all ready for a break. We hope that you have a lovely half term and we look forward to welcoming all of the children back on Tuesday 4th November rested and ready to learn.
- ✓ This week's **attendance** for EYFS and Key Stage 1 was 97.6% and for Key Stage 2 it was 94.8%. Illnesses are doing the rounds. Not sure if your child is well enough for school? <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>
- ✓ It was a pleasure to welcome back some of our **past students on Tuesday evening**. We really enjoyed catching up over a drink and a biscuit and hearing all about Year 7 and life at secondary school.
- ✓ I am delighted to let you know that our **Harvest Festival** collection for West Berks Foodbank weighed in at 106.8kgs. More importantly, it represents the equivalent of 224 meals that Parsons Down Partnership has provided for local people who are currently experiencing extreme hardship. It was so kind of you and our support was very much appreciated by the team at West Berks Foodbank.
- ✓ On Tuesday the **Eco Council** met and they talked about our eco ideas for this year. Mrs Hoskins had a really good idea to litter pick on the way to swimming. We can't wait to get started on this! We are going to write a recipe book with Mrs B and plant some trees and flowers. <https://www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk/post/eco-committee-meeting-2>
- ✓ The **School Council** also met and planned the Royal British Legion poppy sale which will begin after half term. I also shared the exciting news that we have once again been invited to the launch of this year's Swift Couriers Christmas Toy Appeal. They launched the Christmas Toy Appeal in 2006 to help children in West Berkshire who, in many cases may not have a very Merry Christmas and we have been regular supporters.
- ✓ In this week's assemblies, we have been learning about **Diwali**. It was perfect timing for our RE work this week and it was a privilege to hear some Year 5 pupils sharing their religions with their peers.
- ✓ Thank you for your support with Thursday's **non-school uniform day** in exchange for donations for the PDSA Christmas fayre.
- ✓ Is your child due to **start school in September 2026?** Do you have a child in Year 2 or Year 6? Don't forget to apply for a school place via West Berks admissions. **The deadline for Year 6 parents is 31st October** <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/school-admissions-places>

Finally, be kind, be safe, be respectful, Mrs Bull



The Week in Pictures

This week's Play Detective photos, No Outsiders, RE, Poppy Appeal, welcome back to year 7, school disco, Scarecrow Trail and West Berks library half term events



A FUN AUTUMN ADVENTURE FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

THATCHAM Scarecrow Trail

OUR SCARECROWS ARE
DOTTED AROUND THE LOCAL
AREA FOR YOU TO FIND

MAPS
£3



Saturday 25th October -
Sunday 2nd November 2025



Maps available from
Nature Discovery Centre
(Cash only - no change given)

FUNDRAISING FOR:



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire
Wildlife Trust**



COME AND ENJOY SOME HALF TERM FUN FOLLOWING
THE MAP TO FIND SCARECROWS!

**NO OUT
SIDERS**
'All different, All welcome'



West Berkshire
LIBRARIES

Spooky Halloween Craft Fun

Friday 31 October, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Thatcham Library

Get creative this Halloween with a fun craft session, perfect for children aged 3 years and up.

Make your own spooky creations to take home!

£1 per child. No need to book – just drop in!

For more information: 01635 866049
thatchamlibrary@westberks.gov.uk
www.westberks.gov.uk/libraries

West Berkshire
COUNCIL

West Berkshire
LIBRARIES

**PETS AS
THERAPY**

Read with Ruby

Saturday 25 October, 10am-12pm
Thatcham Library

Come along to Thatcham Library to meet Ruby, the Pets As Therapy dog. She would love to listen to you read her a book, or you can just say hello!

Children will be able to make their own 'Ruby' to take away as a memento in our craft session.

For more information: 01635 866049
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West Berkshire
COUNCIL

Charity Reg no: 279717

PARSONS DOWN
PARTNERSHIP

School DISCO

FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

RECEPTION, YEAR 1/2/3

4:30pm - 5:30pm
£5
Includes: Entry, Foam
glow stick and tattoo

YEAR 4/5/6

5:45pm - 6:45pm
£3.50
Items available to purchase
from the PDSA Tuck shop

Children will need to bring inhalers/epipens/medication if
needed due to not having access to these on the night

All children must be picked up by a
parent/guardian at the end of the session