



WEEK BEGINNING 23RD MARCH

Events this week:

Monday 23 rd March	Year 4 Rock Out performance
Wednesday 25 th March	Easter Service (in school)
Thursday 26 th March	Year 4 Family Learning SPaG
	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby festival
	School Disco (details below)
Friday 27 th March	Easter Bonnet Parade (details below)
	END OF TERM 1.30pm FINISH

Looking forwards:

Monday 13 th April	RETURN TO SCHOOL
Friday 17 th April	Y2 & 3 Family Learning English
Thursday 4 th June	Y5 Family Learning Maths
Wednesday 24 th June	Sports Day (weather permitting)
Wednesday 8 th July	Back up sports day



PE DAYS

- Acorns -Wednesday
- Year 1 – Tuesday and Friday
- Year 2 – Wednesday
- Year 3 – Thursday
- Year 4 – Monday and Friday
- Year 5 – Wednesday and Friday
- Year 6 – Monday and Tuesday

Message from Mr Riordan

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a joy to welcome the sunshine into school this week, bringing a real sense of awe and wonder in God's world. Across the school, there has been a lovely sense of positivity, with our children continuing to go above and beyond in all that they do.

A huge well done to our Year 6 pupils for completing their mock SATs with such resilience and determination this week; we are incredibly proud of them. Thank you also to the rest of the school for demonstrating our values of respect and kindness, helping to create a calm and supportive environment throughout the week.

We were delighted by the Rock Steady concert yesterday, where children performed with confidence and enthusiasm. It was wonderful to celebrate their talents!

As we come to the end of Ramadan, we send our warmest wishes to all families celebrating Eid al-Fitr. Eid Mubarak to you; I hope it is a joyful and peaceful time for you and your loved ones. You can learn more Eid al-Fitr and how it is celebrated here

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/articles/czx4e96qpr6o>

Wishing you all a restful and sunny weekend.

With love,

Mr Riordan, Headteacher



(UKHSA) Meningitis B outbreak: what you need to know

With significant disinformation and community concern over meningitis this week, we would like to draw attention to the UKHSA blog, which is updated regularly on the topic:

<https://ukhsa.blog.gov.uk/2026/03/18/meningitis-b-outbreak-what-you-need-to-know/>

To keep aware of any misinformation, parents may find the following service useful from FullFact.org:

<https://fullfact.org/health/menb-questions-answered/>

Safeguarding Update – “Red/Blue” Trend

You may be aware of reports nationally regarding an emerging “Red/Blue” trend among young people as per my letter on 3rd March 2026 to you all. While this has been identified in some areas, we would like to reassure parents that there is currently no evidence to suggest this is a known issue within Bracknell Forest or our school community. We are, however, monitoring the situation closely alongside Bracknell Forest Council and our safeguarding partners. As always, we ask for the support of our community in reinforcing positive, respectful behaviour and encouraging children to speak to a trusted adult if they have any concerns.

Maintain Vigilance: Please be alert to any unusual social media activity or tension between student groups that may reference "wars" or rivalries with neighbouring schools.

Remind: Ensure you remind children of the legal and safeguarding consequences of sharing content that incites violence.

Report Concerns: If you identify any local content related to this trend, please report it immediately to the school so that we can inform Bracknell Forest Safeguarding Board. You can also share any concerns directly with the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01344 352005

Our new website is live!

We are delighted to confirm that our new website, along with our refreshed branding including logo and font, has now gone live! The website address will remain the same: www.stmichaelseasthampstead.com

Remember to give us a follow on our socials: @stmicheast on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#).

We hope you enjoy the new look! Some information may take longer to migrate over/ be uploaded/ be updated, so please bear with us and we thank you for your patience. If there is anything you need and can't find, please feel free to contact the office: secretary@stmicheast.co.uk



Easter Service

Following an update in the Church Newsletter, there are some changes to services, which will mean our Easter service will now be held in school with children on Wednesday 25th March as an in-school service. Unfortunately, due to capacity restraints, it will not be possible for parents to be present. We will keep you updated should there be any other changes. We would encourage you to join in with the Church's journey through Holy Week:

 Easthampstead Parish Church			
JOURNEY THROUGH HOLY WEEK WITH US.			
 PALM SUNDAY (29/03) <small>Jesus, amid the cheering crowd, rides on a donkey to Jerusalem.</small>	8am Holy Communion 9:30am Palm Sunday Parish Eucharist		
 HOLY MONDAY <small>Jesus visits his friends in Bethany and Mary anoints the feet of Jesus.</small>	8pm Holy Communion and Stations of the Cross		
 HOLY TUESDAY <small>Jesus foretells the betrayal of Judas and the denial of Peter.</small>	6pm Holy Communion 8pm Holy Communion and Stations of the Cross		
 HOLY WEDNESDAY <small>Judas makes a deal with the high priests; he agrees to turn Jesus over for 30 silver coins.</small>	8pm Holy Communion and Stations of the Cross		
 MAUNDY THURSDAY <small>The Last Supper takes place. Jesus institutes the sacrament of the Eucharist.</small>	8pm The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday		
 GOOD FRIDAY <small>Jesus is sentenced to death by crucifixion. He dies on the cross and is buried in a tomb.</small>	12pm Good Friday Reflections 2pm The Liturgy of Good Friday 8pm Tenebrae		
 HOLY SATURDAY <small>The body of Jesus remains in the tomb. He has descended to the dead.</small>	Vigil CANCELLED		
 EASTER SUNDAY (05/04) <small>Jesus rises from the dead.</small>	5:30am Easter Vigil 8am Easter Holy Communion 9:30am Easter Parish Eucharist 6pm Evening Prayer		

www.easthampstead.org.uk/worship/easter

Buzz buzz!

You may have noticed some bees buzzing around the old School House building near the front gates. Our site manager, Tim, has carried out some interesting research which you can read below. We will make the trustees of School House aware, but what a lovely moment of awe and wonder of the natural world!

Mortar bees (or mason bees) are small, solitary bees, often mistaken for wasps or honeybees, that nest in soft, crumbling mortar joints, particularly on sunny south-facing walls in spring. They are harmless, non-aggressive, beneficial pollinators that do not cause structural damage, unlike social wasps that build large nests.

Key Differences and Information:

- Behaviour: Unlike wasps, mortar bees are solitary, meaning each female creates her own nest in a hole rather than living in a colony.
- Appearance: They are usually brownish-yellow, hairier, and look similar to honeybees, whereas wasps are bright yellow, black, and smooth.
- Damage: They do not eat or damage sound brickwork; they only occupy existing, weak mortar gaps.
- Activity Period: They are most active in April, May, and early June, which is generally too early for, and distinct from, peak wasp season.
- Sting: They are extremely unlikely to sting and, if they do, it is very weak.
- Treatment: No action is usually required as they are beneficial pollinators.

Year 6 SATs 2026

The DfE have today written a blog post with lots of information for Year 6 parents ahead of this year's SATs which you can read [here](#).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to us.



Head Teacher Award Winners

- Acorns - Eliezer – for settling into our school so well, working hard and showing kindness
- Year 1 - Kilian – for aiming high in his learning
- Year 2 - Madison – for always working hard in phonics
- Year 3 - Mckenzie – for showing resilience and working hard this week
- Year 4 - Parker – for working hard in lessons especially in his story writing
- Year 5 - Mia-Rose – for always thinking carefully about the descriptive writing features she adds to her writing
- Year 6 - ALL OF YEAR 6 – for their hard work and resilience this week

Well done to you all!



Thank you for your kind donations.

Donations can still be made via

<https://www.comicrelief.com/rednoseday/>



Guide to.....



THE EASTER HAT PARADE

When is it?

This year's Easter hat parade will be on Friday 27th March at 9.15am.

What's involved?

Children can make an Easter hat at home to bring in on the morning of Friday 27th March. All parents are welcome to wait in the playground after morning drop off to watch the parade. Children will take their hats into class as normal for registration. After a short while they will come back out onto the playground in their classes for the parade (weather dependant). After the parade they will return to their class to continue their learning.

Other things to know

School uniform is worn as usual.

If your child does not wish to make a hat, they can still walk around the parade with their class.

There is no charity donation for this day.

Please make sure all Easter hats are named.

There are lots of ideas for Easter hats on Pinterest!



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EASTER SPORTS CAMP

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THUR 2ND APRIL**

**WEEK 2: TUE 7TH APRIL -
FRI 10TH APRIL**

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Prestige also offer wrap around care

Wrap around care is a vital service that we provide at Prestige Sports Coaching which enables you, as parents / carers, to not worry about meeting the expectation of dropping your children off before school or picking them up at the end of the day. Our wrap around service is the perfect opportunity for your children to prepare for or wind down from their busy school days while also participate in highly engaging activities.

At Breakfast Club your children can enjoy a healthy breakfast with the choice of toast with a range of spreads or a choice of cereals accompanied with a drink of water.

Breakfast club offers a relaxed, slow start to the morning so your child is ready for a fun filled day of learning at school.

At Wrap Around Club your children can enjoy a healthy snack with the choice of cheese or ham wrap / crackers, toast with a range of spreads or a piece of fruit.

Wrap Around club offers a relaxed, slow wind down to the day.

You are also welcome to provide your own NUT FREE snack for wrap around.

What the children say:

“I think ASC and BC are good because they have good food which you can have and the supervisors are really nice.

There is lots of entertainment like colouring and kinetic sand. It's run by PE teachers and they are fun. When it's warm we go outside on the equipment.

It is not very expensive and it is open every day!”




EH – Year 6

Bracknell Forest Library Events: Easter holidays 2026

Drop into your [local library](#) these school holidays for a variety of free Lego and craft sessions and the chance to find your next favourite book.

Make sure you have signed up for your very own children's [library card](#) so you can borrow some books for the holidays and are ready to enter the Summer Reading Challenge in July!



<p style="text-align: center;">Scavenger Hunt at every branch!</p> <p>Drop into your local library during the school holidays to collect a scavenger hunt challenge sheet from one of our staff, complete it and enter the prize draw.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 1 Mario Lego Challenge and Easter Craft Sessions</p> <p>Have a go at our Mario-themed Lego challenge and get your crafting creativity flowing. Sessions are free. No bookings required.</p> <p>Monday 30 March at Binfield Library 3pm to 5pm</p> <p>Tuesday 31 March at Bracknell Library 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Wednesday 1 April at Crowthorne Library 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Wednesday 1 April at Whitegrove Library 10am to 12pm</p> <p>Thursday 2 April at Sandhurst Library 2pm to 4pm</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Week 1 Easter Craft Sessions</p> <p>Get your crafting creativity flowing. Sessions are free. No bookings required.</p> <p>Monday 30 March at Harmans Water Library 3pm to 4pm</p> <p>Tuesday 31 March at Ascot Heath Library 3pm to 4pm</p> <p>Wednesday 1 April at Great Hollands Library 3pm to 4pm</p> <p>Thursday 2 April at Birch Hill Library 3pm to 4pm</p>	



 No dogs except assistance dogs

St Michael's School & Church
Easthampstead

SUMMER FETE

27th June 12-3 pm

FREE ENTRY **GAMES** **BBQ**
RAFFLE **CAKE**



**END OF TERM
SCHOOL DISCO**

**THURSDAY 26TH
MARCH**

**ACORNS, YEARS 1, 2 & 3
4.30-5.15PM**

**YEARS 4, 5 & 6
5.30-6.15PM**

TICKETS ARE £3 EACH AND INCLUDE A DRINK AND A SNACK



**ROCK
STEADY**

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TAKES PLACE AT SCHOOL



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- 🎸 Fun and inclusive in-school band lessons. No music theory involved.
- 🌟 Follow their musical journey in your Backstage account.
- 📄 Exam-free, Ofqual-regulated Trinity music qualification.
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Children work their way through a curriculum of up to 300 musical skills.

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Improves wellbeing, confidence, social skills and academic achievement.

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£44.68 per month (no payment in August). Money back guarantee for the first month. Cancel at any time.



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92%

of children report greater confidence and self-belief from being in Rocksteady.

Insights from 1,738 children

99%

of parents say their child loves or enjoys their Rocksteady band lessons.

Insights from 3,737 parents

"It makes me feel like I'm part of something, and happy!"
Rocksteady pupil

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