

Issue 10  
Spring 2025



# Learning Partners Parent/Carer Newsletter



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## Leading schools where children thrive

As we head into the Easter break, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible work happening across our schools.

A huge thank you to our staff for their dedication and commitment. There is so much to be proud of in every school, every colleague, and, most importantly, every pupil. Together, as a group of schools and communities, we are shaping the future, preparing our children to take on the world. It's a shared responsibility, and our successes are built on working together.

Spring is a season of renewal, a time when bulbs push through the soil, and flowers begin to bloom, carefully, of course, avoiding the late frosts of March. While their arrival might seem effortless, it is, in fact, the result of months of preparation, nurturing, and care.

The same is true in education. The joyful learning, the thriving school days, and the confident young minds we see developing are not just the result of a single lesson or a well-planned day. They are the outcome of carefully built routines, consistent support, and an environment that fosters growth over months and years.

From those first steps in early years, the magic of learning to read, and the guidance of pastoral and SEND teams, to the challenges of secondary education and beyond. These are all part of a long-term journey that shapes every child's future.

At Learning Partners, we are proud of the dedication, care, and ambition that go into making our schools places where children flourish. It is easy to admire the blossoms of spring and forget the months of hard work that led to their arrival. The same is true for our children. Their achievements are rooted in the ongoing efforts of parents, teachers, and school staff who nurture them every step of the way.

So, as we enjoy the brighter days ahead, let's take a moment to appreciate the journey - because together, we are making a difference.

Wishing you all a wonderful Easter.

Watch Jack's end of term message to all colleagues across the trust.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)



Jack Mayhew, CEO



***Behaviour in lessons and around school is exemplary. Students in the sixth form exemplify this in their conscientious attitudes to their studies.***

Ofsted on George Abbot, February 2025

George Abbot celebrates successful Ofsted visit.

We are thrilled to celebrate the exceptional progress at George Abbot School, as highlighted in its recent Ofsted inspection. This recognition is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and ambition of students, staff, and leadership, supported by the wider trust. The school's strong sense of community, high expectations, and commitment to excellence shine through in every aspect, from high-quality teaching to an enriching curriculum and outstanding pastoral care. Congratulations to all who contribute daily to making George Abbot a place where students thrive, staff are valued, and the whole community works together for success!

Read the full report here.

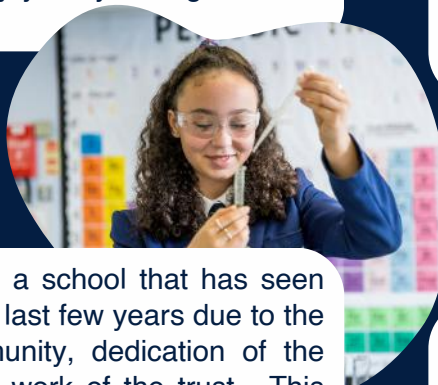


Remembering and celebrating Comet and Star, Loseley Fields residential rabbits.



School pets like rabbits bring joy and valuable learning experiences to pupils, teaching responsibility, empathy, and care. Their calming presence can reduce stress, boost wellbeing, and provide comfort, especially for children who struggle with confidence. We were very sad to hear of the passing of Comet and Star, the beloved rabbits at Loseley Fields. They brought so much happiness to the school and were clearly well loved and cared for. The pupils are creating a special memorial to remember them and the joy they brought to so many.

Kings College Guildford recognised as highest climbers in the region for improvement.



Kings College Guildford is a school that has seen vast improvement over the last few years due to the commitment of the community, dedication of the staff and the collaborative work of the trust. This improvement was recognised recently in the Fairer Schools Index for being the highest climber in the region, climbing a whopping 1410 places. The Index goes beyond exam results to measure which schools are having the most positive impacts on their students. This is an amazing achievement and we congratulate everyone involved.

Sandfield study shows Living Gate cuts pollution and noise for healthier learning.



Sandfield Primary School's Living Gate is making a real difference to children's health and wellbeing. The lush green entrance has helped cut harmful air pollution by nearly a third and reduced noisy traffic sounds, creating a calmer, cleaner environment for pupils and staff. This fantastic project, made possible by the school, parents, and local experts, shows how simple green changes can have a big impact. Sandfield's success is an inspiring example of how schools can work with their communities to create healthier spaces for children to learn and thrive.

Read the press release here.



Tillingbourne Junior School receive a staff choice award.

Staff Choice Award

AWARDED TO

Learning Partners  
Academy Trust  
Tillingbourne Junior School - Primary

edurio

January 2025

Tillingbourne Junior School has received a Staff Choice Award by Edurio, an educational setting survey provider. This award highlights schools where staff feel a deep sense of pride, community, and belonging, which is so evident when visiting the school. The warm, happy welcome from staff says it all! Happy, supported staff create the best learning environments for our children, and it's fantastic to see Tillingbourne recognised as an inspiring, supportive workplace.

Glebelands Schools receives recognition after 2024 GCSE results.



Glebelands School has also seen fabulous recognition for its achievements. It was the 15<sup>th</sup> most improved school for P8 in the country (P8 measures the progress of pupils from the end of primary school to GCSEs, compared to a government calculated expected level. It has also been listed in the top 10% of secondary schools in England and every subject exceeded expected progress. Fantastic results demonstrating their relentless pursuit of excellence.





Surrey Maths School raising the profile of STEM in Surrey.



Stoughton and Northmead continue to work together to ensure a smooth education journey for their pupils.

Stoughton Infants and Northmead Junior School, a stone's throw from each other are continuing their journey of working more closely together for the benefit of the children and the community. Already, great work has taken place to ensure that the curriculum is fluid from Reception up to Yr 6. One local governing body is serving both schools and the leadership teams meet regularly to ensure cohesion and consistency.

Surrey Maths School has now completed two terms. Staff and pupils have settled in well and the school is a great addition to the trust. Some amazing outreach has been taking place, with students volunteering at Guildford Grove, Yr 8 maths circles, Yr 12 problem solving at Guildford County and the Royal Institute Primary masterclass investigating the scale of the moon. The school is certainly playing a huge part in raising the profile of STEM in Surrey.

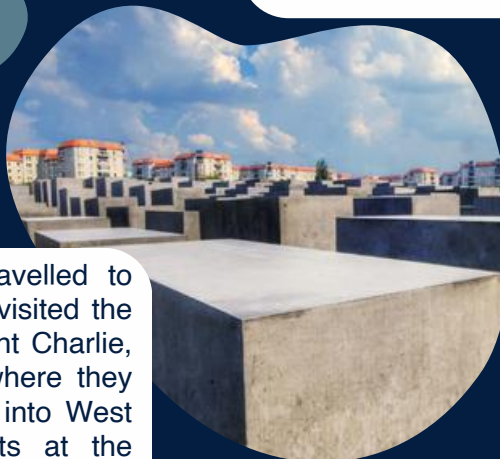
The team at SuMS are always keen to support any student that has a passion for maths and STEM subjects. They have a page on their website which signposts high quality learning opportunities.

Take a look.



Guildford County Yr11s experience Berlin.

Yr 11s at Guildford County School travelled to Berlin earlier on in the Spring term and visited the Reichstag, Brandenburg Gate, Checkpoint Charlie, and key locations from the Cold War where they learned about some incredible escapes into West Berlin. They also paid their respects at the Memorial to Murdered Jews, visited Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp, learning about life within the camp, its victims and its liberation. The students had an amazing experience enriching their learning beyond just GCSE History.



Yr 6 pupils at Guildford Grove participated in a football competition against other local Guildford schools. They represented their school superbly by not only showing great sportsmanship but by winning the entire tournament. We are incredibly proud of them and the team were celebrated in a school assembly. Congratulations on your sporting prowess!

Guildford Grove sporting excellence.

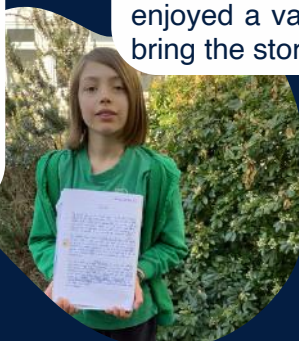
Incredible writing at Boxgrove Primary School.

***His skeletal fingers leapt gracefully over the keys, like figure skaters on ice. Each note unearthed more and more of his past...***

Thomas, Yr 6, Boxgrove Primary School

Yr 6s at Boxgrove watched the short film The Piano by Aidan Gibbons. They were tasked with writing a narrative of the story and produced some incredible writing. We were blown away by Thomas's quote above.

Watch the film that inspired the words above here.



Shalford celebrates World Book Day.



Pupils at Shalford Infants immersed themselves into the imaginative world of My Island by Stephanie Demasse-Pottier, a heart-warming story about a young girl who creates her dream island, filled with everything she loves. The day began with the teachers introducing the story. Together with the children, they explored the watercolour illustrations, learned new vocabulary, and gained a deeper understanding of the narrative. The children then enjoyed a variety of fun, island-themed activities to bring the story to life!



Fullbrook, one of only five schools in the country to win the title Eco School of the Year.

The Eco Schools programme awarded Fullbrook the title of Eco School of the Year making particular reference to the school's dedicated Eco-Club and their outstanding efforts in enhancing the school's sustainability and integrating environmental awareness into curriculum learning.

Their recent achievements noted include significant reductions in year-on-year energy and gas consumption, over 65% of students regularly engaging in active travel, frequent litter-picks, on-site energy generation, a successful uniform redistribution initiative, and a very popular gardening club.

However, it was the Eco-Club students' petitioning of staff members that truly embodied the student-led ethos of the Eco-Schools programme. They conducted a CPD meeting for over 80 staff members, where they taught the basics of climate change, shared their personal concerns, and urged staff to incorporate environmental issues into all curriculum areas.

Their inspirational efforts brought climate change to the forefront of the school's agenda, motivating every teacher to explore innovative ways to integrate these crucial topics into their teaching. Already, their hard work is making a noticeable impact, with increased environmental learning and awareness among students.



Have a read of the Trust Impact Report 2023-2024.



Pirbright Village Primary School focus on inclusion and empathy.

Everyone at Pirbright has been focussing on empathy and inclusion. Governors and staff as part of their training watched a short video about empathy which really demonstrated what Pirbright are keen to instill into their young people.

The team at Pirbright have recommended that we all watch it, either alone or with your children. It is only 3 minutes in length but in that short time demonstrates brilliantly how important it is to sit with our feelings and acknowledge the hard parts of life.

Watch the film here.



Burpham Primary School love to celebrate!

Burpham Primary School love to celebrate and have a fabulous tradition of being invited by the headteacher, Mrs White to join her for a hot chocolate. Once a month, children from Reception up to Yr 6 are nominated by any adult in the school for any reason as long as they have demonstrated something brilliant.

Some of March's hot chocolate nominees were Yousuf in Yr 6 for consistently demonstrating a mature attitude to learning and for always trying his best, Lula in Yr 5 for producing exemplary work in lessons, helping others and consistently being ready, respectful and safe. Olly in Yr R for always trying his best during their daily phonics session.

Another tradition is their whole school reward afternoon, where children join in in activities across the school as a reward for all the Burpham points earned in the previous term.

We think this is a fabulous way to encourage great school engagement and collaboration.

Well done to all Burpham pupils for their fantastic work.



## **Supporting primary and secondary aged children during SATS and exam season.**

Exam periods can be stressful for children and young people, and parental support plays a crucial role in helping them navigate this time with confidence and ease. General well-being should always be the priority, and ensuring that children maintain a balanced routine of sleep, exercise, and relaxation alongside their studies. Regular breaks should be encouraged, as well as healthy meals and time away from screens to reduce stress.

Open communication is key, let your child know they can talk to you about their worries and reassure them that exams are just one part of their journey, not a measure of their worth.

For Yr 6 pupils facing SATs and their first foray into examinations, the pressure can feel overwhelming as they prepare for secondary school. However, please do emphasise to them that these tests do not define their intelligence or future success. It is best to keep a relaxed atmosphere at home, avoiding excessive focus on results. Encourage fun learning activities, like quizzes or games, to make revision enjoyable. Remind them that SATs are simply a way to show what they know and that their school will support them no matter what.

If you are particularly worried about your child, see if a trusted adult at school can speak to them and appease their fears.

Yr 11 students sitting their GCSEs face a much longer and more intense exam period and managing stress is vital, so help them create a realistic revision timetable that includes breaks and downtime. Encourage them to talk about their worries, whether with you, teachers, or friends. Small acts, such as providing healthy snacks, helping them stay organised, or offering words of encouragement, can make a big difference.

If they feel overwhelmed, remind them that each exam is just one step in their journey, and there are always options, regardless of results.

For A-level students, the pressure can be even greater, with university places or career pathways on the line. The key here is to remind them that they are more than their grades. While hard work is essential, they must also look after their mental health.

Encourage mindfulness techniques, relaxation exercises, or a walk outside to clear their mind. If results don't go as expected, reassure them that there are always alternative routes such as gap years, the clearing process, apprenticeships, or different career paths.

It is important for young people to know that their future is not determined by one set of results, and that resilience and adaptability matter just as much as academic success.

## **Useful resources to help over the coming weeks.**

**How to deal with exam stress**  
[youngminds.org.uk](https://www.youngminds.org.uk)

**Helping children deal with SATs stress**  
[mindmoose.co.uk](https://www.mindmoose.co.uk)

**Exam stress and pressure**  
[childline.co.uk](https://www.childline.co.uk)

**Tips for SATs week**  
**Downloadable pdf to print**

**Exam stress for 11 - 18 year olds**  
[mind.org.uk](https://www.mind.org.uk)

**Staying well during revision & exams**  
**Downloadable pdf to print**

**Tips on preparing for exams**  
[nhs.co.uk](https://www.nhs.co.uk)

**Supporting your child with exams**  
[charliewaller.org](https://www.charliewaller.org)

**Wishing everyone the best of luck during the upcoming exam period.**

**This is a small moment in time and summertime fun will follow!**

# OUR



## **Ambition For All**

We are proud of our staff who strive for excellence and instil ambition



## **Better Together**

We work in partnership with others, so that outcomes are improved for all - pupils and staff



## **Learning That Inspires**

We provide learning that inspires and develops a lifelong love of learning



## **Brave Innovators**

Young people deserve an enriched education, one that is born from creativity and innovation



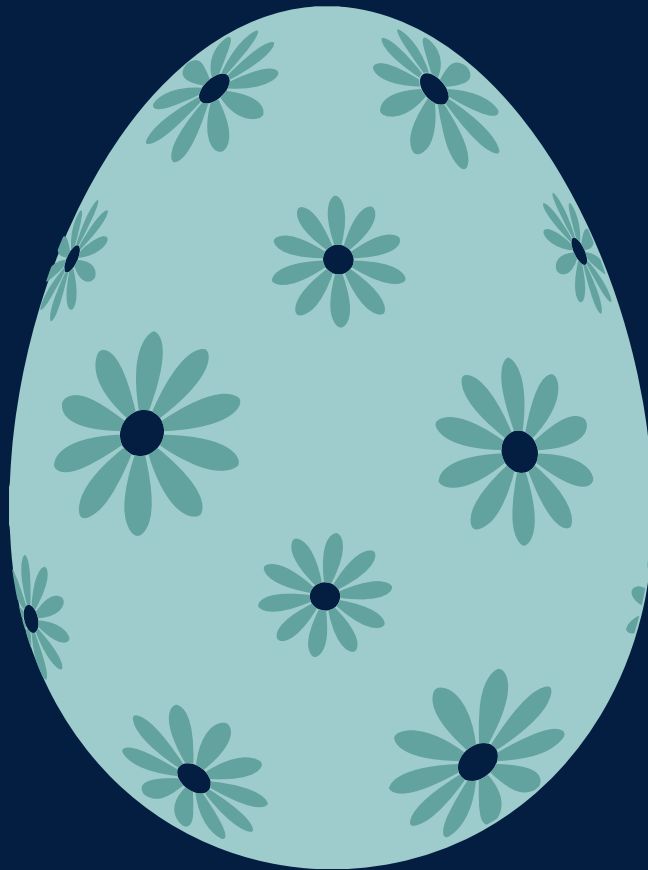
## **Guided By Integrity**

We know that we must act with integrity, because as a body of staff we are role models



# VALUES

Happy Easter!



Learning Partners  
academy trust