William Cobbett Bulletin 9th October 2026

Message from Mr Stear

Dear Parents/Carers,

For this week's bulletin, I wanted to share an article from a renowned educator, which I think has some really interesting points for us all to consider. I hope you enjoy it and have a wonderful weekend when you get there.

Mr Stear and all at WCPS

Big idea

In many ways, our modern world is a miracle. BUT... there's also a lot that isn't quite working. Much of which is the result of a mismatch between our evolved instincts and our modern environment. Let's explore one of the biggest of these...

For almost all of human history, nearly everything we needed to survive came with a cost attached. Calories had to be hunted and carried. Entertainment had to be made and remembered.

As a result, we evolved to conserve effort wherever we could. When food was scarce, every bit of energy mattered, and spending it unnecessarily was a real risk.

Today, that effort has been almost entirely stripped away. Calories arrive at our door, cars ferry us around, and entertainment lives in our pockets.

But our instincts haven't changed, and so we find ourselves taking the easy option, over and over again.

This can feel good (because of our programming), BUT the problem is... *effort is how we grow*. Our bodies get stronger from stressing our muscles. Our minds become more resilient when we're pushed to do hard things. We've seen this in classrooms. Children remember far more after testing themselves than after rereading... despite rereading *feeling* more effective.

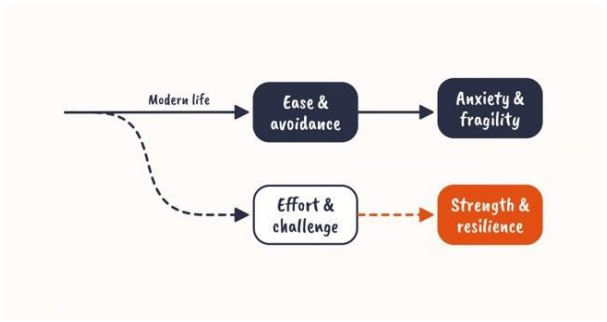
AND, the cost of all this is easy to miss. Nobody notices the strength or skill they never built... or the confidence they never grew.

Easy calories, easy dopamine... these are the ultimate fruits of modern civilisation. But in delivering them, we have inadvertently removed the very thing that made us so powerful: effort and challenge.

And so, collectively, it may well be time to start putting some of this back, on purpose (in a very careful way obviously). Which is not going to be easy... but that's kind of the point. I firmly believe this should be a central part of both my parenting and teaching, and therefore will try to remember this with my own children. Appropriately pushing them to achieve something that requires effort and maybe they didn't think was possible.

Summary

- **Modern life has removed much of the effort required to meet our survival needs, making taking the easy option the default.**
- **Unfortunately, choosing the easy option means missing out on the effort and challenge we need to grow and become resilient.**
- **Across society, we must correct for this by deliberately pushing youngsters to do hard things.**



Attendance



Curriculum Overviews

Every term, we create an overview of each year group's curriculum for the term which outlines what the children will be learning in each curriculum area.

These can be found on the website by going to 'Year Group Information' under 'Learning', selecting the relevant year group and then choosing 'Termly Curriculum Overviews' or following the links below:

Year R

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

Kite

Buzzard

(Fox class follow the relevant year group R/1/2. Junior Woodlands have a two year cycle)

Harvest Festival Donations

William Cobbett is very pleased to be working with Farnham Foodbank again and giving our Harvest Festival donations to this local charity. If you can donate any in date non-perishable food items or toiletries, please send them in with your child between Monday 12th and Friday 16th October.

The donations go a long way to ensure the food bank can support people in the local community.

All items are gratefully received but the food bank has asked for the following if possible:

- **Tinned tomatoes**
- **Tinned vegetables such as peas and sweetcorn**
- **Jams and spreads including marmite. No Peanut Butter please**
- **Squash**

Thank you

Y6 Secondary School Applications for September 2027

Important Reminder

If you have a child in Year 6, please remember that you need to apply for their secondary school place by 31 October 2026. We strongly encourage families to complete and submit their application as soon as possible rather than leaving it until the deadline.

Please make sure you apply through your local authority and submit your application by the closing date. If you are unsure about the process, or need any help or advice, please contact your local authority's admissions team as soon as possible.

Please don't leave it until the last minute. Late applications can cause unnecessary uncertainty and stress for children and their families and may affect the way an application is considered.

Submitting your application on time will help to ensure that the transition to secondary school is as smooth as possible and will give you and your child greater peace of mind as you prepare for this important next step.

COBWEB- Spooktacular Disco! 🎃🎃🎃🎃🎃

The PTFA is delighted to announce the William Cobbett Spooktacular Disco 2026, and tickets are now on sale.

Dance if you dare! Expect spooky games, Halloween lights, and all your favourite monster hits. Snacks are included.

📅 **Date: Thursday 22nd October**

🎟️ **Entry: £3.50 per child, snacks included**

⏰ **Times:**

- **Years 1 & 2: Infant Hall, 3.30-4.15pm**
- **Years 3 & 4: Junior Hall, 3.30-4.30pm no**
- **Years 5 & 6: Junior Hall, 4.45-5.45pm**
- **Reception: please look out for separate communication**

👻 **Book your tickets here : DISCO**

⚠️ **Booking deadline: Wednesday 21st October @ 4pm**

We respectfully ask that all bookings are made by this date. This allows us to plan numbers, snacks and volunteer help, and we are unable to accept late bookings.

Please note we are using a new booking system this year, which we hope you find very simple to use. If you have any trouble, please get in touch with us.

🧙 **Fancy dress: friendly fancy dress only, please! To keep the evening fun for everyone, we ask that scary masks (including scream masks) are left at home.**

We can't wait to see all the creative costumes. Please book early so we can plan the snacks and make sure no one misses out.

Many thanks for your support,

COBWEB



Consultation on admission arrangements for Surrey's community and voluntary controlled schools for 2028

Surrey County Council is consulting on proposed changes to admission arrangements for its community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2028 entry.

Full details of the consultation and the changes being proposed are available at [Consultation on admission arrangements for Surrey's community and voluntary controlled schools for 2028]

Admissions 2027

Year R

We are trying to estimate the likely number of siblings who may be applying for a place in YR next year. It would be most helpful if current parents could let Mrs Stickland know if they have a child who will be starting with us in YR next September. Please email her at:

infants@william-cobbett.surrey.sch.uk

Thank you.

Free Online Learning Courses

[Online Courses in Adult Learning - Surrey County Council]

[Find an adult learning course - Surrey County Council]



Fundraising

🛍️ Did you know you could be raising money for William Cobbett PTFA just by doing your normal online or in-store shopping?

It's called **easyfundraising and it genuinely costs you nothing extra – no catch!**

✅ Sign up free at easyfundraising.org.uk (or grab the app)✅ Select William Cobbett PTFA as your cause✅ Link your bank card (this lets in-store purchases count too, not just online!)✅ Shop as normal at 7,000+ retailers – Amazon, Tesco, John Lewis, Argos, ASOS and loads more

That's it! The retailer donates a small % to us automatically – you don't pay a penny more, and you don't even need to remember to do anything once your card's linked. It just works in the background 🎉

Every little helps add up over the year, and it's honestly the easiest way to support the PTFA. If everyone signed up, it could make a real difference to what we can do for the kids 💜

Click here to join William Cobbett PTFA Easy Fundraising today.

Thank you!

COBWEB

Message from the Children's Commissioner

I am getting in touch personally, as Children's Commissioner, to ask for your help in making sure the children and young people at William Cobbett Primary School have the opportunity to take part in my national survey, *The Big Future*.

So far, I have heard from 18 children at your school. With hundreds of thousands of children and young people already taking part across England, I would like to make sure as many of your pupils as possible have the opportunity to add their voices.

***The Big Future* is asking children and young people about their lives, their experiences and their hopes for the future. I will be using what they tell me to build a national picture of what matters to children today and to ensure their views are heard by Government.**

The survey takes just a few minutes to complete and can be accessed here: https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture

Useful Information

space2grow
www.space2grow.space

Nurturing Parenting Course
8 week course
Starting Mon 28th Sept 2026

How to get the best out of family life
The course helps deal with day to day challenges, encouraging and supporting parents & carers so that you can have a calmer, happier family life. Lots of strategies are shared which help create a more calm, positive and peaceful homelife

What does it cover?
- understanding why children behave as they do
- Recognising the feelings behind behaviour (ours & theirs)
- Exploring different approaches to discipline
- Finding ways to develop co-operation & self awareness in children

When?
Monday Evenings 6.30pm-8.30pm

Wk 1 - Mon 28 Sept	**Wk 5 - Mon 2 Nov**
Wk 2 - Mon 5 Oct	**Wk 6 - Mon 9 Nov**
Wk 3 - Mon 12 Oct	**Wk 7 - Mon 16 Nov**
Wk 4 - Mon 19 Oct	**Wk 8 - Mon 23 Nov**



Where?
Hosted at **space2grow**, a community project in a beautiful setting, thesessions are informal, fun and a great confidence booster

How to book?
To find out more about the course or to book a place please email us at
info@theparentingspace.space

Want to know more about parenting courses at space2grow?
Visit our website www.space2grow.space/parenting-courses
Charity Registration Number: 1189248

space2grow

Talking Teens Parenting Course

5 week course. Starting Thur 24th Sept 2026

What does it cover?
- understanding why teenagers behave as they do
- teenage development and the influence of brain development on behaviour
- recognising the importance of listening, verbal, and non-verbal communication
- positive approaches to boundary setting and problem-solving

Can I do anything to help them argue less?...

How can I get them to talk to me more?

When?
Weekly on Thursday Evenings 6.30-8.30pm

Wk 1 - Thur 24 Sept	**Wk 4 - Thur 15 Oct**
Wk 2 - Thur 1 Oct	**Wk 5 - Thurs 22 Oct**
Wk 3 - Thur 8 Oct	



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Want to know more?
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Charity Registration Number: 1189248



ADHD Awareness Month

Some ADHD support you may find useful :

https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/community/news/categories/families-and-young-people/adhd-awareness-month,-support-in-surrey

Dads Matter

Dad Matters | Home-Start Surrey

Farnham Glow

We are hoping to show that cycling is popular if safe off road cycle tracks are provide such as along Weybourne Road. There is a very poor cycle track there now and it needs upgrading to make it safe and attractive. Then more people are likely to cycle to school with their children, reducing carbon usage, pollution and carbon emissions. Research has shown that children who take exercise before school are more able to sit down and learn in the classroom.

So if we hope to persuade local councillors to accelerate the work to upgrade this cycle track to a good standard eg width.

To achieve this, Farnham Cycle Campaign is organising a short Glow Ride on the evening of 22nd of October to champion cycling issues for women and children at night. It is part of a national campaign by Cycling UK.

https://www.cyclinguk.org/my-ride-our-right/mass-rides

We would like to start the ride at your school and travel to Potters Gate along the largely off-road route through Farnham Park and then turn around to Potters Gate and cycle back again. It should be a fun event and we would encourage children and parents to dress up their bikes with lights.

Upcoming Dates

October

- Monday 12th -Friday 16th - Harvest Donations Welcome
- Thursday 15th - Badger class- Mastering Math Workshop- 8.50am
- Friday 16th - Otter class - Mastering Math Workshop - 8.50am
- Friday 16th - Y4 Harvest Assembly-10am
- Friday 16th- COBWEB-Sponsored Bounce- Infants- PM
- **Wednesday 21st- DEADLINE TO APPLY FOR TICKETS FOR THE DISCO-4PM & XMAS ARTWORK MUST BE RETURNED TODAY PLEASE**
- Thursday 22nd - COBWEB Disco (Times on Poster above)
- Friday 23rd- Year R Mastering Number Workshop- 8.50am
- Monday 26- Friday 30th - Half Term

November

- Thursday 19th- Whole School Flu Vaccinations and Year R & Y6 National Child Measurement Programme
- Thursday 26th and Friday 27th- School Closed- WMAT Wellbeing Weekend

December

- Friday 18th- End of Term-Early Finish- 1.15pm-Infants and 1.20pm-Juniors

January

Monday 4th-Start of Spring Term

Term Dates 2026-27

Autumn term

Start of term	Half term	End of term
Tuesday 1st September *(Children start Thursday 3rd September)*	26th-30th October	Friday 18th December
INSET DAYS	Tuesday 1st September & Wednesday 2nd September	
WMAT Wellbeing Weekend (school closed)	Thursday 26th November & Friday 27th November	

Spring term

Start of term	Half term	End of term
Monday 4th January 2027	15th-19th February	Thursday 25th March
INSET DAY	Friday 19th March	

Summer term

Start of term	Half term	End of term
Monday 12th April	31st May-4th June	Friday 16th July
INSET DAY	Friday 28th May Friday 25th June	

Inset Days 2026-27

- **Friday 19th March 2027**
- **Friday 28th May 2027**
- **Friday 25th June 2027**

WMAT Wellbeing Weekend (school closed) - Thursday 26th & Friday 27th November

Events Locally



I have a **communal painting workshop at Alice Holt Forest on Sunday 18th October**, which children are very welcome to join, as well as an **autumnal embroidery workshop in the afternoon, suitable for children aged 7+**.

I wondered if you might be happy to share the attached flyer with your parent community — perhaps in your newsletter or on your Facebook/Instagram page? I'd be so grateful for any help getting the word out!

I'm also offering **15% off for your families** with the code **FRIENDS15**. (Booking available on my website)

Thank you so much for supporting a local small business — I'd love to see some local families there! ♡


TAP DANCE CLASS
MONDAY NIGHTS
8-8.45pm
Beginners welcome
free taster session
£11 per class
ALL HALLOWS SCHOOL
For more details please contact Martina on 07814 576583


JEF
JUNIOR ELYSIAN FARMERS
More than a club. A childhood worth investing in.
Junior Elysian Farmers (JEF) is a brand-new membership community for children aged 6–12 who love animals, nature and the great outdoors.
Through hands-on experiences, practical skills and countryside adventures, children build confidence, friendships and a sense of responsibility – while becoming part of our welcoming farm community.
ANIMALS
Care for horses and farm animals.
NATURE
Explore, discover and respect the natural world.
SKILLS
Learn practical countryside skills for life.
FRIENDSHIPS
Make memories and build lasting friendships.
ACHIEVEMENTS
Earn badges and celebrate your progress.
COMMUNITY
Be part of a kind, inclusive and welcoming community.
Weekly clubs, holiday activities, family events, camping weekends, seasonal celebrations, awards and so much more.
A year of adventure. A lifetime of memories.
ELYSIAN EVENTS
elysianukevents.org
events@elysianuk.org
Westland Farm, Lordshill Road, Shamley Green, Surrey, GU5 0TL



Half Term Activities





MIND AND MOTION HOLIDAY CAMP

OUTDOOR GAMES | ARTS & CRAFTS | BRAIN GROWTH | FUN WITH FREINDS

BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Dates: 26-27th October
Where: All Saints School, Tilford
Times: 9:00AM - 3:30PM (5PM option)
Ages: Years R-6
Cost: 1 day: £36
2 days:£66

BOOK HERE

360 sports education

October Half Term Holiday Camps

Sports, Games and Activities for 4-12yr olds!

We also run 360 Camps at Waverley Abbey Junior School Tilford, Farnham



Multi-Activity HYPE Camps

Outdoor and indoor sports, games and a wide range of activities for every child!



Football Camps

Loads of football fun, skills building sessions and daily World Cup matches for all age groups!

Mon 26th to Fri 30th October

William Cobbett Primary School (Infant Site), Farnham, GU9 9DA

DISCOUNTED RATES FOR WILLIAM COBBETT PUPILS

We're here every holiday!

Standard Day	Extended Day	Full Week Special
9:30am - 4:30pm	8:15am - 5:45pm	Standard Days £140
£31	£36	Extended Days £158

Special Features included! | All Childcare Vouchers accepted | Secure online booking

BOOK TODAY!

360sportseducation.com

SPECIAL FEATURES AT NO EXTRA COST!

360 sports education | @360sportseducation | @360sportsedu


NORMANDY TENNIS CLUB
OCTOBER HALF TERM
CAMPS
PLAY • LEARN • IMPROVE • HAVE FUN
A fantastic opportunity for all young players to stay active, develop their skills and enjoy their time on court during the October half term!
WEEK 1: 19TH – 23RD OCTOBER
WEEK 2: 26TH – 30TH OCTOBER
2.30PM – 5.30PM
(3 HOURS PER DAY)
£36
PER DAY
ALL AGE CATEGORIES WELCOME
FOR THE FULL 3 HOURS PER DAY
3 AGE CATEGORIES
8-10 YEARS OLD
11-13 YEARS OLD
14-16 YEARS OLD
(These can merge depending on numbers)
QUALITY COACHING
Develop skills & technique
FUN GAMES & DRILLS
Keep active and engaged
ALL ABILITIES WELCOME
From beginners to more experienced
NORMANDY TENNIS CLUB
CONTACT US:
egperformancetennis@gmail.com
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE!


Autumn & Halloween
Nature Mask
Creative Craft Hour
Decorate your own autumn nature mask using dried flowers, feathers, leaves & Halloween & autumn treasures.
Keep it wild and woodland, or add a spooky twist if you dare!
Monday 26th October
Brightwells, Farnham
1.00pm – 2.00pm
2.30pm – 3.30pm
£12 per child
Ages 4+ | All materials included
Booking essential
www.kerryscreativecorner.com
KCC
Kerry's Creative Corner



october half term

Mon 19 October - Sun 01 November

Calling little ghosts and ghouls - check out our thrilling workshops and events this half term and Halloween.

live events & screenings

Mon 26 Oct	Holmes and Watson and the Curious Case of the Masked Magician
Wed 28 & Thu 29 Oct	Crafty Kids at the Museum
Wed 28 Oct	Toy Story 5
Fri 30 Oct	Silent Disco: Trick or Treat
Sat 31 Oct	Halloween at the Museum

workshops

farnham maltings

museum of farnham

Tue 20 Oct
3D Design & Make - Autumn (8+yrs)

Wed 21 Oct
Ghost Stories - Drama Workshops (5-7yrs or 7-11yrs)
Beaded Halloween Jewellery (6+yrs)

Thu 22 Oct
Rustic Autumn Paint and Draw Workshop (6+yrs)

Fri 23 Oct
Demon Dancers (7-11yrs)
Cupcake Decorating: Out of this World (5-12yrs)
Mythical Creatures in Watercolour (12+yrs)
Whimsical Watercolour Cat (8+yrs)

Mon 26 Oct
Print your own Halloween T-shirt (6+yrs)
Screen Print a Halloween Trick or Treat bag (6+yrs)

Tue 27 Oct
Family Watercolours Autumn Leaves (7+yrs)
Special Effects Stage Make-Up (7-11yrs or 11-16yrs)

Wed 28 Oct
Crystal Stars (8+yrs)

Thu 29 Oct
Cupcake Decorating Halloween (5-12yrs)

Fri 30 Oct
Halloween Soap-Making (5+yrs)

farnhammaltings.com/halfterm
Bridge Square, Surrey, GU9 7QR

Garden Explorers

A nature based holiday club





Inspiring curiosity, creativity, and a love of nature

October Half Term Holiday Club

Ages: 6-11 years

Monday 19th, Friday 23rd & Friday 30th October

Time: 9am - 3.15pm
Venue: The Therapy Garden, Normandy near Guildford
Price: £40 per day
Run by qualified, DBS checked nature lovers



Join us in our secure garden for exploring, crafting, bug hunting, planting, den building.. and so much more





"I loved being outside, getting dirty and finding all the bugs hidden in the gardens"

"The best bit was making and taking home our bird feeders"

Book now
www.thetherapygarden.org
admin@thetherapygarden.org
01483 813846