



Newsletter

As we step into the festive season, Tillingbourne is full of song and good cheer. The children are busy rehearsing for our Scrooge performances, and we're looking forward to welcoming families to the Christmas Market on Thursday and the Christmas Fair on Friday. This time of year is a wonderful reminder of giving, togetherness and looking out for one another – values that sit at the heart of our school.

It's been a lively and uplifting few weeks! In this newsletter you'll read about our choir lighting up the Bramley Switch-On, our cross-country and Park Run successes, and the brilliant learning experiences enjoyed by Year 3 and Year 6. From Egyptian mummification to Diwali

celebrations, the children have truly embraced every opportunity. Last month we also welcomed visitors from the Trust School Improvement Team for a review focused on inclusion. Their feedback was incredibly positive: they praised the calm, purposeful atmosphere in classrooms, the way staff support individual needs, the strong sense children have that they can "be themselves", and the quality of our curriculum and wellbeing provision. It was wonderful recognition of our team's hard work.

A huge thank you as well to the 160+ parents who joined us for our Maths Open Morning. Your feedback has been fantastic, and we're delighted it was so useful. Thank you to Chloe and the Maths Team for leading such an inspiring event – and we'll certainly explore an English version in the future.

As we head into the final weeks of term, I'm looking forward to the whole Tillingbourne community coming together for our festive events. There is much to celebrate!

Warm wishes,

Ben Stevenson
Headteacher



Bringing local history to life!

This term, Year 6 were fortunate to welcome a special visitor, Tracey Heard, who brought local history to life with her fascinating knowledge of World War II in our area. Tracey shared incredible stories about what life was like during the war in Chilworth, Bramley, Womersley, and other nearby villages.

We learned about local evacuees, where bombs fell, how communities pulled together, and the brave soldiers who went off to fight. The stories were moving, eye-opening, and helped us connect our classroom learning to real lives and places we know.

A huge thank you to Tracey for such an inspiring and informative session!



Bramley lights event



Last Thursday, 27th November, our choir helped kick-start the Bramley Village Lights Switch-On with a joyful selection of Christmas songs. Their confident singing created a magical atmosphere and delighted the crowd ahead of the main countdown.

A big thank you to Mrs Baird, whose hard work and passion make these wonderful opportunities possible for our pupils. Well done to all the children who took part—you lit up the event brilliantly!

Tillingbourne Triumph at the CWIZZ!

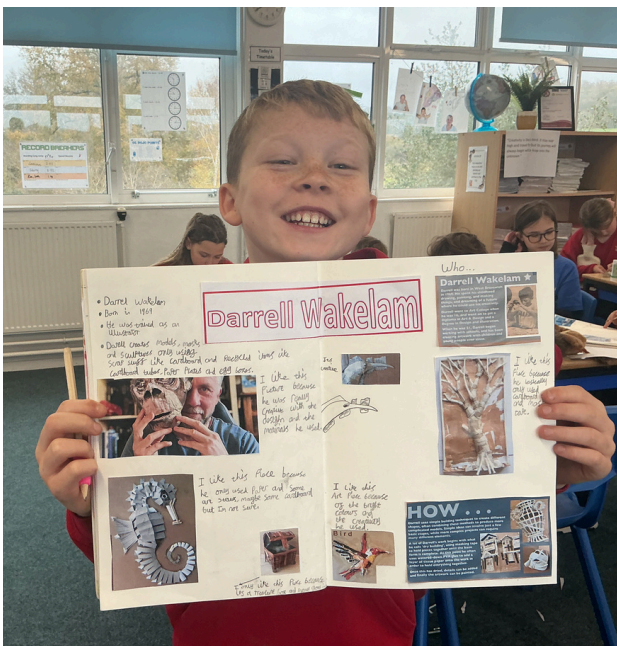
We are incredibly proud to share that Tillingbourne took the top prize at this year's CWIZZ competition – not once, but twice. Our winning team of Nina, Rory, Scarlet and Ellie not only came first in the Years 5 & 6 category, but also outscored all Year 7 & 8 entrants, making them the first team in CWIZZ history to win both awards on the same night. Competing against schools including RGS, Guildford High School, Tormead,



Kings College, Holy Trinity, Northmead and St Hilary's, their achievement is truly remarkable.

All three of our teams performed brilliantly, and we couldn't be prouder. Their success is a wonderful celebration of reading for pleasure and a testament to the enthusiasm and commitment they bring to quiz club each week.

Year 6 Art



This month, Year 6 began their exciting sculpture unit by learning about British artist Darrell Wakelam. They explored his life and career, watched videos showcasing his creative process, and discussed the distinctive features of his sculptural style.

To capture their discoveries, the children created eye-catching double-page spreads in their sketchbooks, filled with facts, images, and their own reflections on his work. Their pages look fantastic and show a great understanding of what makes Wakelam's art so inspiring.

Next up, they'll be putting this knowledge into practice as they begin creating their very own sculptures!

forest School

It has been a busy time in the woodland. 5VP were lucky enough to be out through our mini snow storm one Wednesday. They made a snow person - Bobbina, who survived through all of Wednesday and Thursday watching life on the playground from the woodland. 5J, meanwhile, have enjoyed making damper bread on the fire and banana fritters too. Year 3 have all had several sessions in the woodland and 3NL have been making lovely decorations for Christmas.



Cookery



Children have been busy in the cookery with Year 3 getting to design a couscous salad recipe to look like bright ancient Egyptian jewellery by using colourful ingredients such as pomegranate seeds, dates, sweetcorn, different coloured peppers, cucumber and more. The Year 4 children have been learning about how the weather and climate effect what is traditionally eaten and have been making food from central America - most recently Quesadilla, which smell amazing as they are being cooked. Tiropita, Greek cheese pasties made with puff pastry, have been made by Year 5 as part of their work on the ancient history and geography of Greece - another recipe which smells delicious! Year 6 have completed their learning about wartime impacts on food and diet during World War 2 and were very creative with their designs for cheese biscuits for a VE day celebration. Designs included shovels to indicate the Dig for Victory campaign, bombs to represent the Blitz, buttons to show "Make do and mend" and steam trains to remember the evacuation of children to name just a few! Great job Year 6!



Tillingbourne at Park Run

Earlier this month, lots of children proudly took part in the Cranleigh Park Run, completing the 2km course alongside enthusiastic teachers and supportive parents. It was a fantastic morning full of fun, energy and incredible determination from everyone involved. The smiles at the finish line said it all!

We're thrilled to share that this is just the beginning. We plan to run more of these events in conjunction with Park Run throughout the year, giving even more children the opportunity to get active, build confidence and enjoy being part of our wider community.

Come along and join us next time—everyone is welcome!

A huge well done to all who participated!



Cross Country

We enjoyed a brilliant Saturday afternoon of cross country at Glebelands, where 31 enthusiastic runners proudly represented Tillingbourne across all four year groups. From the starting line to the final sprint, their determination, teamwork and positive attitude were clear for all to see.

Their fantastic efforts earned an impressive seven medals for the school—a tremendous achievement! But just as importantly, every single runner demonstrated outstanding resilience and gave their all.

Well done to everyone who took part—you did Tillingbourne proud!



Diwali

Year 6 have had a fantastic three days celebrating the Hindu Festival of Diwali through a rich and immersive programme of activities. Pupils threw themselves into designing traditional Rangoli patterns, crafting their own clay diwa lamps, learning and performing Indian dance routines, and taking part in an energetic drumming workshop. The experience culminated in the children creating a dramatic interpretation of a traditional Indian story—an impressive achievement in just three days! We hope this celebration not only broadened their creative horizons but also deepened their understanding of the rich cultural diversity within modern Britain.



Big Sing

The annual Big Sing at St Catherine's School was a resounding success again this year. A group of Year 3 attended, learning lots of new songs during morning workshops and then watching St Catherine's choirs after lunch before performing themselves in the afternoon. They were the stars of the show!



Haslemere Museum

Year 3 had a fantastic time on their recent trip to Haslemere Museum, diving deep into the wonders of Ancient Egypt. The highlight of the day was a hands-on mummification workshop, where the children learned all about the fascinating process the Egyptians used to prepare their mummies. It was an unforgettable way to bring their history learning to life!

Pupils also explored a wide range of artefacts and enjoyed a guided tour of the museum's galleries—complete with the chance to see a real Egyptian mummy. The children were absolutely captivated, and their curiosity and enthusiasm shone throughout the day.

Their behaviour was impeccable from start to finish, and they were wonderful ambassadors for Tillingbourne. We're incredibly proud of them!



Tomb of Tutankhamun

As part of our Writing in Year 3, class 3B was recently transformed into the lost tomb of Tutankhamun. The whole of year 3 was given the opportunity to explore the dark and twisting labyrinth to discover the lavish treasures hidden beneath the sands since the time of the Pharaohs. There was much anticipation and excitement as they played the role of the archaeologist, Howard Carter, and they entered the mysterious tomb for the first time!



Upcoming Events

Autumn term 2025

- ~~13th October - Year 4 parent consultations~~
- ~~14th October - Year 6 Parent consultations~~
- ~~20th October - Year 3 parent consultations~~
- ~~21st October - Year 5 Parent consultations~~
- ~~23rd October - Maths open morning - Parents invited into school~~
- ~~23rd October - PTA event - Halloween disco~~
- ~~24th October - INSET day - School closed~~
- ~~27th October - 31st October - Half term~~
- ~~7th November - Year 6 Diwali performance~~
- 4th December - PTA event - Christmas Market
- 5th December - PTA event - Christmas fair
- 16th December - Christmas play - Years 5 and 3
- 17th December - Christmas play - Years 6 and 4
- 19th December - Last day of term - start of the Christmas holidays

