



Newsletter

April 2026

Speldhurst CE Primary
School

Newsletter Date
Thursday 2nd April 2026

The Easter break is upon us and with the good weather we have enjoyed recently, we're hoping that the next few weeks will remain warm and sunny. Our KS2 pupils have got us off to the perfect start with this afternoon's wonderful Easter Service— thank you to everyone who was able to join us for this event.

We hope that all our families enjoy a great Easter holiday— we're back in school on Monday 20th April.

Mr B Holiday Football Club



Mr Bowyer is delighted to be able to offer an Easter Holiday Football Club for children in Years 5 and 6 which will take place on Monday 13th April. There will be a session for girls in the morning between 9am and 12pm, and a session for boys in the afternoon between 12.30pm and 3.30pm. If you haven't booked your place yet, please contact:

mrbowyercoaching@gmail.com

Educational Psychologist Visit

Our link Educational Psychologist (EP), **Rhea Powell**, was unfortunately unable to make the drop in on the 11th March so is joining us on **Wednesday 29th April** instead. An Educational Psychologist works with schools, families and local authorities to support children and young people with their development, learning and overall wellbeing.

Rhea will have a table **at pick-up on Wednesday 29th April** and is keen to hear from parents about any areas where they would welcome further support. This is a great opportunity to find out more about the role of an EP and to have an informal chat, so please do stop by if you can.

Dragonfly Farm Parking

Although Dragonfly Farm is closed on Mondays, they are very happy for parents to use their car park for which we are very grateful. However, they have asked if whoever is last out of the carpark could please close the gates behind them.

Thank you for your ongoing support in ensuring our valued link with Dragonfly Farm is able to work successfully.

Supervision at Pickup

May we please remind parents to supervise children at pickup time to ensure a safe end to the day for all. Children should NOT play on the trim-trail equipment, and younger siblings should remain with parents at all times. Members of staff are not responsible for your children once they have been passed over to you so please ensure they remain with you and that their behaviour is in line with our expectations.

April

Monday 20th April

Start of Term 5

Tuesday 21st April

Bramley & Empire - Cooking lessons

Empire— Recorder Festival

Friday 24th April

PTA—Mini Marathon

Tuesday 28th April

Bramley & Empire - Cooking lessons

Galaxy Gala —Penshurst Place trip

Thursday 30th April

Girls football v St James' - away

May

Monday 4th May

BANK HOLIDAY

Tuesday 5th May

Bramley & Empire - Cooking lessons

Saturday 9th May

PTA—Family Fun Day

Friday 15th May

Crispin & Russet Football Tournament

Tuesday 19th May

Bramley & Empire - Cooking lessons

Friday 22nd May

Russet—Cake Sale

End of Term 5

June

Monday 1st June

Start of Term 6



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Family Fun Day - Organisers Needed Urgently!

Our annual Family Fun Day is fast approaching (Sat 9th May) and we are in **urgent** need of new team members to help run the event this year. We ideally need people who can 'shadow' the current team with a view to then taking over the organisation from next year. We particularly need help with the following areas:

- * **Ticket Sales/Front Desk organisation**
- * **Planning the bar stock/price list**
- * **Planning the BBQ**
- * **Organising decorations**
- * **Planning arts & crafts activities**
- * **Planning field games and activities**

If you think you could help with any of the areas above, please drop Becky a message asap on 07939 124435. Without more helpers on board, it's unlikely we will be able to run this much-loved event this year (and in years to come!) so please do consider helping if you can. It's a lot of fun and really brings our whole school community together!



GIVE US THE GIFT OF ★ GIFT AID ★



GIFT AID MATTERS!



Not familiar with Gift Aid?

Gift Aid is a UK government scheme allowing charities to reclaim **25p** in tax for every **£1** donated by a **UK taxpayer**, increasing the donations value by 25%, at no extra cost to the donor.

Now that sounds like a good deal!

WHO CAN ADD GIFT AID?



It's simple!



ANY UK taxpayer can claim Gift Aid.

We therefore ask parents to consider submitting any donations raised by you or your family, under the name of a UK taxpayer, so that the school can benefit from the government's commitment to support charities.

The same applies to **Just Giving**, so please always tick that you are a UK taxpayer!



GIFT AID CAN MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE



In 2025, the school missed out on a possible additional **£350** through Gift Aid not being applied by donors. Since 2022, this totals almost **£1250** of missed Gift Aid, for the Mini Marathon event alone.

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are a higher rate taxpayer (40%), you are entitled to a further 25% tax relief. Simply keep a record of your annual charitable donations and add to your Self Assessment form. If you do not submit a Self Assessment form, it can be applied for by a simple online Personal Tax Account form.

**25p for
every £1
donated,
for free!**



If you still have questions on how you can play your part in supporting our school with gift aid, then please speak to any of our friendly PTA members, or email

speldhurstpta@gmail.com
Alternatively, we have our own resident tax adviser, **Mr Steibelt**, who is always happy to advise.

Give us the Gift of Gift Aid!

We need your help to support our fundraising efforts. With the Mini Marathon coming up and donations starting to come in, please do make sure Gift Aid is added to your donation if possible!

If after reading this, you also think you're eligible to claim for past donations, please contact Becky, Elaine, or Mr Steibelt, and they can check for you.

All we need is evidence of payment – whether via a sponsorship form (where the Gift Aid was not ticked) or an individual payment into the PTA bank account.

MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) is our new global charity partner. It is a Christian organisation that uses planes to reach remote communities around the world, bringing help, hope and practical support to people who are often hard to access.

We know that many of the children are excited to hold small fundraising events for MAF, which is lovely to see. We will be sending out information about a Just-Giving page after the Easter holidays.