



# Ewell Grove Newsletter



## National Year of Reading 2026



Welcome to the Spring Term. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and enjoyed time to relax with your family. A special thank you to our generous parents and carers for their thoughtful gifts for the staff; your kindness is truly appreciated.

It has been a cold start to the year! Thank you for adapting to the various safety measures we have put in place throughout the week during drop off and collection times. The children have settled back into school and during these first few weeks the staff are focusing on re-establishing class routines and expectations.

Our whole school assembly this week focused on 'The National Year of Reading 2026'. The DFE and the National Literacy Trust are working in collaboration to address the steep decline in reading amongst children, young people and adults. You can find more information on the campaign if you follow this [link](#).

We are currently working on a project with the Friends of Ewell Grove to revamp the studio in the KS2 building. A focus for this area is to develop a space that further promotes the love of reading and supports group activities. This week the children have been set a task to design an inspirational mural to represent reading. The children will have the opportunity to do this at school but if you would like to follow this up at home please do. I am looking forward to seeing the children's ideas as these will help us to create a mural in the studio!

*Miss Paula Rising*



Try reading in a new place this week.

Where will you choose?

**Pick, Predict, Wonder!**

**Pick** a place you like.

**Predict** what kind of story you might enjoy reading there.

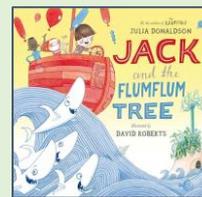
**Wonder** how reading in that place could change how the story feels!

Miss Childs loves reading while relaxing on the sofa with her dog!

Miss Barnett enjoys reading just before bedtime as it helps her to feel calm and sleepy!

## A Love of Reading

This week Mrs Cox has recommended two stories you may like to share at home.



Jack and The Flumflum Tree, by author Julia Donaldson, is a story that I love reading to my children! It includes all the wonderful themes of adventure, being resourceful and working as a team and, of course, it's just a bit silly!

Tilda Tries Again, by author Tom Percival, is a great story to read, which I feel helps to teach children how to build resilience and have a "can do" attitude!



Parents Information Booklet



Calendar of Events



## Subject of the Week - Geography

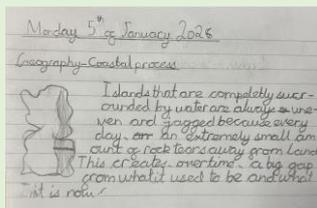
Year 2 have been finding different places in the UK. They have made a map to plot different UK attractions including Stone Henge and the cliffs in Dover.



Year 3 have been learning about different settlements. They have been comparing settlements in different countries and they have been identifying the different names of these.



Year 4 have learnt about different coastal processes and how erosion changes the shape of the coast.



## Admissions for September 2026

### FINAL REMINDER

**Reception** – visit [surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](https://surreycc.gov.uk/admissions) to access the application form and more information on the application process. Your online application must be completed by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**. Reception outcomes will be sent by post or email on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2026.

**Nursery** – full details of the Ewell Grove offer can be found on our website under “virtual office / admissions” where you will find the [Nursery Application Form](#). Your application form must be with the School Office by **15<sup>th</sup> January 2026**.

If you have any questions regarding the admissions process, please contact the school office.

## Pied Piper Theatre Company



On **Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> January**, [The Pied Piper Company](#) will be performing 'Zoom'. Nursery will be joining Reception, Years 1 and 2 for this event.

This is funded by the Children's Activity Fund.

## Tucasi / ParentMail

**Reminder:** from January 2026, Ewell Grove will no longer be using ParentMail to communicate with parents and carers. In its place, we will be using the communication module within Tucasi.

All communication will be sent from [ewell-grove@scopay.com](mailto:ewell-grove@scopay.com) to the parent / carer email address held by the school.

## Parents Evening Meetings

Parent Evening meetings will take place on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**.

Further details will follow next week on how you will be able to book your appointment.

## Academic Year 2025-2026

## INSET Days

### Spring Term 2026

5<sup>th</sup> January – 27<sup>th</sup> March  
Half term 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> February

### Summer Term 2026

13<sup>th</sup> April – 22<sup>nd</sup> July  
(children's last day is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July)  
Half Term 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> May

20<sup>th</sup> July  
21<sup>st</sup> July

## Children's Commissioner

Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner, has recently published a new guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives - "[What I wish my parents or carers knew](#)".

## LAMDA and Screen Acting

There are spaces in the weekly LAMDA classes on Wednesday after school. This club is open to children in Years 3 – 6. Please find details on how to sign up on the poster below.

## Attendance Policy

### Please find below important information regarding Penalty Notices.

Just to remind parents/carers that if they take their children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per parent/carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per parent/carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

### Friends of Ewell Grove Events

#### January

Monday: 5 <sup>th</sup> January – Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January	Nearly New Uniform donations accepted (office foyer)
Wednesday: 7 <sup>th</sup> January – from 7:30pm	Donation Sorting Evening – Orchard Room (volunteers needed)
Thursday: 8 <sup>th</sup> January	Nearly New Uniform orders – home in bookbags
Monday: 12 <sup>th</sup> January – 3:05pm	Nearly New Uniform – playground sale

# MEAT-FREE MONDAYS

Come and join us for our Meat-Free Mondays where we'll be serving a delicious range of tasty alternatives.

## 70% LESS GREENHOUSE GASES

That's how much a meat-free meal produces in greenhouse gases compared to a meat based option.

The average meat eater requires...

## 16 OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOLS

of water to produce all of the meat that they will eat in their life.

You could help save...

## 1.3 TENNIS COURTS

worth of forest with just one meat-free day a week for a year.

## 100 FOOTBALL PITCHES

That's the equivalent to the amount of rainforest that's cut down every hour to create room for grazing cattle.

Accent Catering Newsletter  
January 2026

Accent



### Seasonally Fresh, Perfectly Picked

January feels like the perfect moment to spotlight one of winter's quiet superstars, the leek! With its gentle sweetness and ability to turn any dish into pure comfort, the leek is right at home in our early-year kitchen. This month, we're weaving it into warming favourites like our Cheesy Leek Welsh Cakes and a Leek and Pea Couscous that brings a little brightness to the season.

Leeks are also full of goodness, offering Vitamin K, foliate, fibre and antioxidants to help you start the year feeling nourished.

**Fun fact:** Leeks are rich in insulin, a prebiotic fibre that feeds good gut bacteria, helping keep your digestive system healthy



### Lunar New Year coming soon!

#### JOIN US IN FEBRUARY

You won't want to miss our Lunar New Year celebration in February where we'll be serving a festive menu full of lucky flavours – it's going to be a lunchtime for good fortune and great food!

Did you know? Lunar New Year is celebrated according to the lunar calendar, which is why the date changes every year and each year is represented by a zodiac animal bringing its own traits and luck.



### Regrow Leeks!

January is the perfect time to give your leftover vegetables a new lease of life, and leeks are a winter hero for regrowing.

#### How to:

1. Snip off the leafy tops, leaving 1 inch of the white root.
2. Pop the root end in a shallow dish of water, roots down.
3. Sit it somewhere bright, but out of direct sun
4. Refresh the water every few days.
5. Watch green shoots appear in 1-2 weeks, then plant in soil to keep them growing!

Tip: Once shoots appear, pinch off any yellowing leaves to keep your leek healthy and encourage fresh growth.

## Emerging Needs Offer at Epsom & Ewell Family Centre Spring 2026



### PARENTING WORKSHOPS

#### Building your Child's Resilience (with Surrey Family Learning)



9:30-11:30am, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
@ Ewell Family Centre (KT19 OJP)

Two-hour workshop exploring ways to help support and rebuild your child's resilience and wellbeing. For parents of children aged 5-11.

#### Navigate the Options after Year 11 (with Surrey Family Learning)



12:45-2:45pm, Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February  
@ Ewell Family Centre (KT19 OJP)

Two-hour workshop to help understand the options available to young people in Year 11, including college, apprenticeships and work.

### EBSNA

#### Stepping Stones

(for 11-18 year olds with EBSNA)

Wednesdays, 1:00-2:30pm  
25<sup>th</sup> Feb, 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> March  
@ Epsom Library

Five-week course for young people with long-term emotionally-based school non-attendance (EBSNA). Sessions will help young people rebuild their confidence and emotional wellbeing to support school reintegration.

### OTHER SERVICES

#### Breast Pump Hire



Hire an electric breast pump for up to three weeks for a small fee.  
Contact the Centre to enquire.

#### Parenting PowerPoint

Selection of PowerPoint presentations offering an introduction to managing children's behaviour positively. Email us for further info.

## Emerging Needs Offer at Epsom & Ewell Family Centre Spring 2026



### PARENTING COURSES

#### Parenting Puzzle 4-week course



Thursdays, 12:30-2:30pm  
26<sup>th</sup> Feb, 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> March  
@ Epsom Family Centre (KT19 8RY)

Four-week course offering practical strategies to help parents navigate common parenting challenges. Each session focuses on a different area of parenting.

#### First Steps to Understanding my Neurodivergent Child (with Surrey Family Learning)



Wednesdays, 9:30-11:30am  
11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> March  
@ Ewell Family Centre (KT19 OJP)

Three-week course designed to help develop an understanding of neurodiversity (including ADHD/Autism). A great introduction to the topic for parents/carers who are supporting a neurodiverse child.

### ONLINE PARENTING COURSES (with Families Thriving Together)



#### Parenting Puzzle 10-week course

Thursdays, 9:30-11:15am  
22<sup>nd</sup> January - 2<sup>nd</sup> April  
Online course

Ten-week online course offering a supportive space for parents/carers to explore a range of different parenting topics, learn new strategies and grow their confidence.

#### Keeping Your Child in Mind

Dates to be confirmed

Four-week online course focusing on how parents/carers can work together to support their growing children and develop a calmer family life.

#### Talking Teens

Dates to be confirmed

Four-week online course designed to give parents a better understanding of teenage development and maintain a healthy relationship with their teen.

Contact us to register your interest in these courses.

## Emerging Needs Offer at Epsom & Ewell Family Centre Spring 2026



At Epsom & Ewell Family Centre, we provide a welcoming space for families access a range of support, including drop-ins, courses and supportive groups. To book a place on one of our free courses or to learn more, please contact us.

### PARENTING DROP-INS - no need to book, just drop in!

#### Parenting Drop-In @ Ewell

Thursdays, 9:00am-1:00pm  
@ Ewell Family Centre (KT19 OJP)



Drop in with questions about family life, including behaviour, SEND, family conflict, domestic abuse, housing, benefits, energy and more. Family Centre staff and Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) advisors will be there to help answer your questions. CAB Energy Advice will join us every other week.

#### SEND Drop-In @ Epsom

Mondays, 9:00am-12:00pm  
@ Epsom Family Centre (KT19 8RY)

Drop in for information and signposting about SEND support in the local area, such as services, local support groups, courses and activities for children.

### GROUPS

#### CAN DO!

10:00-11:30am, Thursday  
19<sup>th</sup> February @ Ewell Family Centre\*  
9<sup>th</sup> April @ Epsom Family Centre

Supportive playgroup for families of children aged 0-11 with additional needs. Booking is essential.

\*19<sup>th</sup> Feb session will take place at Ewell Family Centre due to essential maintenance work at Epsom Family Centre

#### Baby Group & Rhymetime

Mondays, 9:30-11:00am  
@ Epsom Library

Start date to be confirmed

Weekly baby group at Epsom Library - come to the group and then join us for Rhymetime the library.



#### The Freedom Programme

Ten-week programme supporting women to understand and recover from domestic abuse through education and empowerment.

Please contact the Family Centre about our next course starting January 2026. Enquiries will be treated with discretion.

## Emerging Needs Offer at Epsom & Ewell Family Centre Spring 2026



### WEEKLY SCHEDULE

	Ewell Family Centre	Epsom Family Centre
MON		SEND Drop-In - 9:00-12:00 Occupational Therapy Every 3-4 weeks, booked appointments only
TUES	ASQ Developmental Checks Booked appointments only	Midwife Clinic - booked appointments only Breastfeeding Café - 10:00-11:30 Booked appointments, call to book - 0300 247 0025 (Option 1, Option 1) CBT Counselling Booked appointments only - www.wearewithyou.org.uk/local-hubs
WED		Circle of Security perinatal group Referrals only
THURS	Parenting Drop-In with CAB - 9:00-1:00	
FRI		

### CONTACT US

Telephone: 01372 571 178

Email: [epsomewellfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk](mailto:epsomewellfamilycentre@barnardos.org.uk)

Addresses:

Ewell Family Centre, Riverview Road, West Ewell, KT19 OJP  
Epsom Family Centre, Pound Lane, Epsom, KT19 8RY

Website:

[www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk](http://www.barnardosfamilycentressurrey.org.uk)

Social media:

Facebook - Epsom & Ewell Family Centre  
Instagram - @epsomewellfamily

Scan to visit our website:



# DRAMA SINGING DANCE

Delivering fun and engaging performing arts classes led by professional tutors since 1995

## JIGSAW EPSOM

**TWO WEEK TRIAL AVAILABLE BOOK NOW!**

Glyn School  
The Kingsway  
Epsom, KT17 1NB

Saturday mornings  
3-18 years

EST. 1995 T: 0203 8118636 W: [jigsaw-arts.co.uk/epsom](http://jigsaw-arts.co.uk/epsom)



# DRAMA SINGING DANCE



Jigsaw has been providing high quality performing arts classes for more than 25 years, giving your child a place to belong!

- Drama, singing and dance
- Learn social skills, build self-esteem
- Two week trial available to all new customers
- 90 minute sessions for children aged 3 to 6
- Three-hour sessions for children aged 7 to 18
- Students are taught by specialist performing arts tutors
- End of term shows, presentations, certificates and awards

The safety of our students is a priority, whilst maintaining a fun and engaging environment. All teachers are DBS checked.

Visit [www.jigsaw-arts.co.uk/epsom](http://www.jigsaw-arts.co.uk/epsom) for more information, or call **0203 8118636** to speak with a member of our team and book a two week trial today!

Like us on Facebook @jigsawepsom  
Follow us on Instagram @jigsawepsom  
Contact us via WhatsApp 0203 8118636

T: 0203 8118636 E: [epsom@jigsaw-arts.co.uk](mailto:epsom@jigsaw-arts.co.uk) W: [jigsaw-arts.co.uk](http://jigsaw-arts.co.uk)

EST. 1995

WE ACCEPT CHILD CARE VOUCHERS & OFFER TAX-FREE CHILD CARE!

# MEGA CAMPS

KIDS DAY ACTIVITY CAMPS

CRIDGARE FROM 8am - 6pm

AGES 4-14

## FEBRUARY CAMP 2026

SAVE ££'s - EARLY BIRD OFFERS END 31<sup>st</sup> JAN  
MULTIPLE LOCATIONS THROUGHOUT ESSEX, SURREY & KENT

WALL CLIMBING  
ANIMAL WORKSHOP  
FENCING  
ARCHERY & AXE THROWING

DIFFERENT MEGA ACTIVITIES, ARTS & CRAFTS AND SPORTS AVAILABLE EACH DAY

MEGA FUN AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU!  
CHECK WEBSITE FOR LOCATIONS AND DATES

BOOK ONLINE NOW!  
www.MEGACAMPS.NET  
OR CALL 0333 012 4376

ALL OUR STAFF ARE DBS CHECKED

# MEGA CAMPS

## 2026 CAMP DATES

FEBRUARY 16<sup>th</sup> FEB - 20<sup>th</sup> FEB  
EASTER\* 30<sup>th</sup> MAR - 17<sup>th</sup> APR  
MAY 26<sup>th</sup> MAY - 29<sup>th</sup> MAY  
SUMMER 21<sup>st</sup> JUL - 28<sup>th</sup> AUG

OCTOBER & CHRISTMAS DATES TBC

Visit: [www.megacamps.net](http://www.megacamps.net)  
for your locations exact dates & more details

NERF GAMES & LASER TAG  
CAMP HOURS 9am-4pm  
EXTENDED HOURS 8am-6pm

NEW EXCITING ACTIVITIES & STRUCTURE TO BE ANNOUNCED IN 2026

ARTS & CRAFTS  
INFLATABLE FUN  
MAKING MEMORIES

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR PRICE FREEZE\*\* AND EARLY BIRD OFFERS!  
[WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET](http://WWW.MEGACAMPS.NET)

\*DATES VARY DEPENDING ON LOCATION  
\*\*PRICE FREEZE UNTIL JAN 31<sup>st</sup> 2026

# NEW AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

## LAMDA & SCREEN ACTING (Y3-Y6)

Wednesdays | 3:15 PM – 4:15 PM  
Starting 10th September 2025

Calling all young performers in Years 3 to 6!  
Does your child enjoy drama, storytelling, or being in front of the camera? Our exciting LAMDA & Screen Acting Club is the perfect place for them to grow in confidence, creativity, and communication – all while having fun after school!

★ **Speech & Drama (LAMDA)**  
Develops speaking skills, vocal clarity, expression, and self-assurance through fun, structured performance work. LAMDA exams are a great way to build confidence and gain recognised qualifications.

★ **Screen Acting**  
Teaches techniques for acting on camera, including expression, timing, listening skills, and how to connect naturally with an audience through the lens.

[ewellgrovelamda@gmail.com](mailto:ewellgrovelamda@gmail.com)  
Spaces are limited, so book early to secure your place.

Let your child step into the spotlight and shine! ★

# RR: Reigate Redhill & Festival

Celebrating Performance in Music and Drama

[www.rrfestival.org](http://www.rrfestival.org)  
Registered charity no 120978

Enter now!

Join us for Reigate and Redhill Festival: a fun and friendly celebration of music, speech and drama.

- For children and adult amateur musicians:
  - Brass, Chords, Classical Guitar, Group Music, Harp & Clarsach, Piano & Organ, Strings, Vocal, Woodwind (Inc. Recorders)
- Concerto Competition for musicians aged 20 and under
- Rock, Pop and Urban for soloists and groups, aged 10 to 19
- Speech and Drama for Reception to Year 13

See our online syllabus for details of over 250 competitive and non-competitive entry categories.

Festival dates: 28 April-22 May 2026

Entries from £5



Entries close: 25 February 2026