

This week

- Wed 9 Mar: Visit by author NS Blackman to Years 3 and 4

Dates further ahead

- Mon 14 Mar & Thurs 17 Mar: Consultation evenings
- Tue 15 Mar: Visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum by 3HG and 3RD
- Wed 16 Mar: Visit to Chiltern Open Air Museum by 3TG
- Wed 16 Mar: Year 6 Tudor Day
- Fri 18 Mar: Sport Relief - Sport Relief Mile
- Tue 22 Mar: Visit by author Julia Golding to Years 5 and 6
- Tue 22 Mar: Lisa MacGovern, School Family Worker, 9.00am-2.00pm
- Wed 30 Mar: Years 4 and 5 Performance
- Thu 31 Mar: Years 4 and 5 Performance
- Fri 1 Apr: End of term, 1.00pm

[A full calendar is available on our website](#)

Notices and reminders

[As this weekend celebrates Mothering Sunday](#), your child will be bringing home a decorated biscuit, baked by the Herts Catering staff at Thomas Coram, to give to a special parent or carer in their life.

[Wednesday 16 March will be 'Tudor Day' for Year 6](#). A theatre company will be visiting and pupils are encouraged to come to school dressed as a Tudor.

[On Friday 18 March, the whole school will be getting into the Sport Relief](#) spirit by walking/running/skipping/jogging a mile in aid of Sport Relief. In exchange for a £1 donation, children may come to school in non-uniform in a sporty style.

There will be [an opportunity to meet our School Family Worker](#) on Tuesday 22 March from 9.00am and 2.00pm. Please see the attached flyer for details on how to make an appointment.

Years 4 and 5. Pupils and staff in [Years 4 and 5 are currently working hard on their performance for the end of term](#). Details of the performance and how to request tickets will follow. There will be a performance in the afternoon of Wednesday 30 March and another on the evening of Thursday 31 March. If you are able to make arrangements for your son/daughter in Year 4 or Year 5 to attend school on the evening of Thursday 31 March, this would be greatly appreciated.

Recent letters

Last week we sent out these letters which are also available on our website:

- None

This week's attachments

Today we're attaching:

- Meet your School Family Worker
- Supermarket Vouchers
- Love Your Land Litter Pick and Activity Day
- Battle of Berkhamsted Common

A reminder that the [Easter weekend break](#) (Friday 25 March – Monday 28 March) does not fall within our Easter school holidays this year and that term ends on Friday 1 April at 1.00pm.

Looking for something to do, with family/friends, over the Easter Holidays? Look no further! [Saracens will play Harlequins](#), in a Derby Day Premiership Rugby Union Match, on Saturday 16 April at Wembley Stadium. Saracens have invited us to sell tickets for this match through the school. Please see order form on the school website. For every ticket sold the school will receive £5.00 per adult ticket and £1.50 per under 16 ticket.

A reminder that [Supermarket Vouchers order forms](#) should be returned to school by Monday 7 March.

Are you a parent or carer who could use



about family life?



Why not book an appointment to
meet your

School Family Worker

Lisa MacGovern

on Tuesday

the 22nd of March at your
school from 9am-2pm.

If interested please contact

Lisa at 07780114079 to

book a time.



Supermarket Vouchers Orders – March

Orders to be returned no later than Monday 7 March

February's voucher order raised just £120.10, a little disappointing. I know we can do better!! **Please, please keep ordering.** It really is a worthwhile scheme to participate in as it is at no extra cost to you. Amazingly all funds raised through the voucher scheme does not come out of the pockets of our parents but from the supermarkets!!

WisePay Payments – you can pay for your vouchers, using your debit/credit card, through WisePay, Donations Manager (please follow the WisePay link via our school website. WisePay payments will be charged to your account on the day you process your transaction. You will still need to send in the completed form below to advise which vouchers you will require. Should you have any problems using Wise Pay please contact the school office. Cheques are still very much welcome, if that suits you. These will be banked on or after 30 March.

Voucher collection date is Wednesday 30 March.

REMEMBER, you have to purchase food/clothes so why not help your school at the same time?!!

Please indicate the number of vouchers you wish to order for **March**.
To be returned to school by Monday 7 March.



	Tesco (Gift Card)	Sainsbury	Waitrose (Gift Card)	
	£10 £	£10 £	£10 £	
	£20 £	£20 £	£25 £	
	N/A	N/A	£50 £	
	£50 £	N/A	£100 £	
Total	£	£	£	Total £

Cheques should be made payable to **The Thomas Coram CE School**

* I will personally collect the vouchers/I authorise my son/daughter to collect the vouchers

Please delete as applicable

Signed.....Parent/Carer

Child's Name.....Class.....



Love Your Land Litter Pick and Activity Day

Saturday March 5th 2016

**Blackbirds Moor 11am- 3 pm
Come along for a litter pick
and some fun activities.**

**All ages welcome!
(No need to book just come along!)**

**For further details , tel. 01442 253300
Email: education@boxmoortrust.org.uk**





National Trust Press Release
Issue date: 15th March 2016

Celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Berkhamsted Common

Guided walk and BBQ on 6 March on Berkhamsted Common at National Trust's Ashridge Estate

150 years ago this March the unlawful iron fences on Berkhamsted Common were torn down in a daring nighttime raid. This put a stop to Lord Brownlow's attempt to enclose the common for his own private use and restored the rights of local people to continue their traditional use of the land for ever.

Local common-right holders, acting with the Commons Preservation Society (now the Open Spaces Society), organised for the fences to be torn down by a trainload of labourers from London.

'This event marks an important anniversary in the historic struggle to protect commons from being taken over by private interests,' says Emily Smith, National Trust ranger. 'The actions taken by these men in 1866 have ensured that Berkhamsted Common remains as a wonderful open space today. It truly embodies the spirit of Ashridge and has the National Trust's cause at its heart.'

Adds Kate Ashbrook, general secretary of the Open Spaces Society: 'This was one of the more dramatic events in the 150-year history of the Society, and we are delighted that we helped to protect this magnificent common for ever.'

Celebratory Guided Walk:

Walkers will cross the common which was saved and follow the story of the battle to protect it from theft by a private owner.

- Guided walk led by Emily Smith (ranger) and Gary Marshall (archaeologist) from the National Trust and Kate Ashbrook, general secretary of the Open Spaces Society.
- 4 – 6pm on Sunday 6 March, Berkhamsted Common, Ashridge Estate.
- Followed by a celebratory BBQ with mulled wine on the site where the fences once stood.
- Booking essential Tel 01442 851227
- Tickets £15 adults, £10 for under 16s
- Hosted by the National Trust and Open Spaces Society.
- Starts from Dick's Camp (rural car park on the B4506, just south of the Aldbury turning).

Circumstances leading up to the Battle of Berkhamsted Common

- For decades leading up to the Battle of Berkhamsted Common, successive earls had been surreptitiously enclosing small patches of woodland around the edge of Berkhamsted Common to expand their estate. It was the 2nd Earl Brownlow, encouraged by his domineering mother, Lady Marian Alford, who took the bold step in 1866 of enclosing a large swathe of the common. Three miles of iron fencing, six feet high, were erected.
- Augustus Smith, a wealthy MP and local philanthropist born in Berkhamsted, took up the cause to save the common from enclosure. It was he who chartered the night train from London which brought a gang of labourers to the common on the night of 6th March. Around 120 men loosened joints with crowbars, hammers and chisels and tore down the railings enclosing the common.
- The Buckingham Advertiser reported the reaction of local people: *'In carriages, gigs, dogcarts and on foot, gentry, shopkeepers, husbandmen, women and children at once tested the reality of what they saw by strolling over and squatting on the Common and taking away morsels of gorse to prove (as they said) the place was their own again.'*

Further information about the celebrations:

An exhibition telling the story of the common from ancient times to the present day is on display in the Ashridge Estate Visitor Centre until 31 March. It focusses on the traditional uses of common land by local people in the 19th century and reveals the struggles between the sickly young Lord Brownlow and his domineering mother, Lady Marian Alford.

About the National Trust:

The National Trust looks after more than 250,000 hectares of countryside, 775 miles of coastline and hundreds of special places across England, Wales and Northern Ireland. For more information and ideas for great value family days out go to: www.nationaltrust.org.uk

About The Open Spaces Society:

The Open Spaces Society is Britain's oldest conservation charity, and continues to campaign for the protection of commons, greens and footpaths today: www.oss.org.uk

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