



Dear Parents and Carers

There has been lots of excitement across Year 6, as children made their pitches to become the next House Captain for their respective houses. It was fantastic to see the children showing confidence, enthusiasm and a willingness to take on this important leadership role. The results will be announced in Monday's assembly; I wish everyone who presented their pitch the very best of luck.

This excitement continues, as we look ahead to Potted Sports this Friday! It promises to be a fantastic afternoon of fun, teamwork and activity for the children. It will also be a wonderful opportunity for our new House Captains, who will be announced in Monday's assembly, to take on their first leadership responsibility. Working alongside Ms Jackson and members of staff, they will help to run the afternoon and make it an enjoyable and active event for everyone — including our parents and carers who come along to support.

As we settle into the new school year, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone to be considerate, patient and polite when driving and parking around our school. I am regularly contacted by local residents who ask me to remind families about a few important points. Firstly, the access road next to the Tennis Club car park is a private access road. It is not intended to be used as a parking or manoeuvring strip. Keeping this area clear helps to minimise traffic and, most importantly, helps us to keep our children safe. Secondly, please help us to reduce pollution for everyone by turning off engines when stationary rather than leaving vehicles idling.

Finally, please do not:

- Park on the double yellow lines.
- Park on the zigzag lines.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us to maintain a safe and pleasant environment for our children, families and local community.

In other news, I would like to say a very big thank you to Miss Cass for her service as one of our Staff Governors. Miss Cass will now be stepping down from this role, while Miss Todd will continue as a Staff Governor. We are very grateful for the time, commitment and support Miss Cass has given to the school in this capacity. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to Ray Dhirani, our Parent Governor, who is standing down after 3 years of service. Ray has made a valuable contribution to the school, supporting us with both curriculum development and strategic planning, helping us to identify opportunities for improvement and to continue moving the school forward. We are extremely grateful for his commitment and support over the years.

We will now be looking for a new parent governor to step up to the role. See below for information from our Chair of Governors, Julia Douetil, on what it means to be a parent governor and how you can apply for the role.

Kind regards,

Pete

Pete Wright

Head Teacher

Coming Up SEPTEMBER

25th - 1:15pm – KS2
Potted Sports
(Parents Invited)

2:15pm – KS1
Potted Sports
(Parents Invited)

29th - 3:30pm –
7:00pm – Parents'
Consultation Evening

OCTOBER

1st – 4:00pm –
6:00pm – Parents'
Consultation Evening

6th - 3:30pm –
7:00pm – Parents'
Consultation Evening
(5RG)

8th – Tempest School
Photos (Portraits)

8th - 3:30pm –
7:00pm – Parents'
Consultation Evening
(5RG)

9th - Year 5 Visit to
Winchester Science
Centre

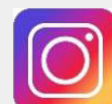
15th – Year 4 Present

**Add our calendar
to your electronic
calendar!**

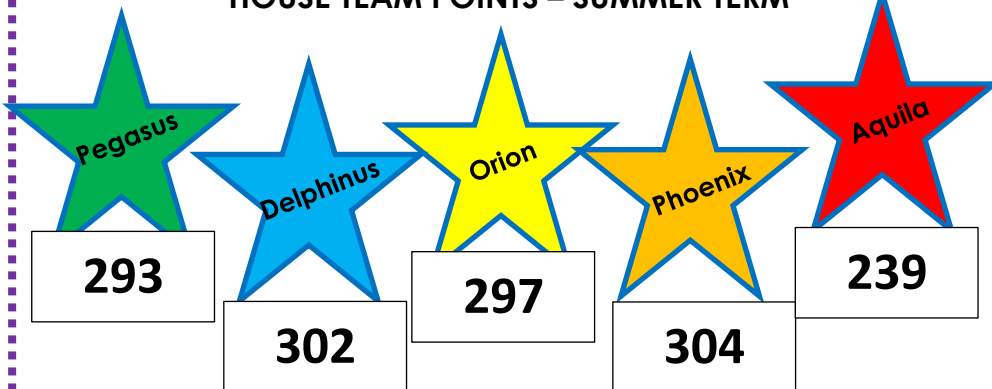
Head [here](#) and
click on he
+Google link at
the bottom of the
calendar.



School Photos!



HOUSE TEAM POINTS – SUMMER TERM



Weekly Attendance Update

Reception & KS1 Winners	KS2 Winners
2CD – 99%	3SC – 99%
Whole School Year to Date	
96.6%	

Valentino Schoolwear

Click here to order!

Keeping Children Safe Online

Toxic Gaming Communities

Online games can be a great way for children to have fun, make friends and develop new skills. However, some gaming communities can expose young players to harmful behaviour such as bullying, abusive language, scams and inappropriate content. This week's #WakeUpWednesday guide highlights the signs of toxic gaming environments and shares practical tips to help parents keep children safe, support positive online experiences and encourage open conversations about gaming. Please take a few minutes to explore the guide and learn how to help your child enjoy gaming safely.



CLICK HERE

The Daily Mile!

Just to manage expectations, this will start in a few weeks' time once we have a team assembled and fully trained. Thank you!



Reception Intake SIBLINGS 2027

It is essential that you apply for a school place for your children coming into Reception in 2027 – even if you already have children at Pirbright; you must still apply! Please apply! Someone gets caught out every year – don't let it be you!

Dear Parents & Carers,

At the end of the summer term Ray Dhirani stepped down as a Parent Governor after three years of service to our Board of Governors. Ray made a very positive contribution to the life of our school with his perceptive challenges and thoughtful suggestions and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his support.

Ray's departure means that we have a vacancy for a Parent Governor to join Pirbright Village Primary School's Governing Body, so we are now seeking nominations from parents to stand for election. A school's governing body is most effective when it reflects the wide range of our school community, with different backgrounds and a mix of skills. If you would like to have an insight into how the school is run and to make a contribution to leadership decisions then you might be just the person that we are looking for to join our very supportive governing body. In particular we would welcome applications from someone with some knowledge of computing and, if possible, artificial intelligence. More information about the role of school governors can be found here (<https://www.learningpartners.org/1886/local-governing-bodies>) or from the school office, to give you a clearer idea of what the role entails.

Full details on how to nominate and the process are included in the three documents attached to the newsletter bundle. We look forward to hearing from you!

Julie Douetil, Chair of Governors

All Things Clubs!

Thanks to everyone who has already booked on. Clubs start on Tuesday 22nd. All information can also be found on the website – click on the picture below. There is still time to get involved so check them out with your children!



Parents' Consultation Evenings

This term, we will be holding our Parents' Consultation Evenings on **Tuesday 29th September (3.30pm–7pm)** and **Thursday 1st October (3.30pm–6pm)**. These evenings are a valuable opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher(s), talk about their progress and celebrate their achievements, as well as discuss any next steps for their learning. Appointments can be booked in advance using the **MCAS App**. **Booking will go live on Monday 21st September at 10:00am and will close at 6:00pm on Friday 25th September.** If you have any difficulties accessing MCAS, booking an appointment, or miss the booking window, please contact the school office or speak to your child's class teacher, who will be happy to help.

Potted Sports - Years 1-6 (not Reception!)

Pirbright's sporting calendar kicks off with Potted Sports on Friday 25th September where the children have the chance to work in their House Teams and complete a number of small sports activities to earn team points. It is great fun and the first chance for the new Year 6 House Captains to get going with their leadership roles. This year, if you would like to come and watch, you would be welcome at 1:15pm for Key Stage 2 and 2:15pm for Key Stage 1. Please note, we will be locking the gates in between these times so we really appreciate you being prompt - the school office is very busy!

***** PE KITS AND HOUSE T-SHIRTS ALL DAY PLEASE! *****

Parents' Evenings & Pirbucks

Pirbucks is much like Starbucks only run by children and better for the world! Year 6 host and ensure tea & coffee alongside cakes and sweet treats are on hand for parents (and children if parents choose to share). All money goes towards their residential at the end of the year. Pirbucks is available for all but it sometimes misses out on KS1 and Reception parents if they don't quite make it over to the hall. The Year 6 children will have baked and bought goodies to go with hot drinks so head on over to celebrate your child's achievements, donate to the good people of Year 6 and generally have a merry old time! Please note, you may have bagged yourself an earlier appointment with a class teacher but this does not mean Pirbucks will be open – they have very strict opening hours to match the official Parents' Evening timings so if they are not open then apologies. **All purchases are a donation**, so if you don't bring change, the children will happily relieve you of notes – please plan ahead as they are hard to resist!

All children need to be supervised and whilst Pirbucks is happening in the hall; it is not for childcare, so please make arrangements to ensure someone is watching your children whilst you are in with class teachers. Reception and KS1 parents head to the classrooms and KS2 parents head to the school hall to be collected by the class teachers; please don't use the outer doors as the teachers will be in meetings and you don't want to interrupt. There will be opportunities to see any learning that has happened in the first few weeks.

Swimming Lessons – KS2

We've been looking at how we deliver swimming lessons, and we're making a small change to help pupils get the most out of their time in the pool. From now on, swimming will move from Year 3/4 to Year 5. This means children will have longer lessons – 60 minutes instead of 30 – giving them more time to practise skills and build confidence in the water. We believe that older pupils will benefit more from the extended lesson time, as they typically have greater physical strength and endurance. The increased session length allows for more intensive instruction.

Each child will still receive 3 hours of swimming lessons, now spread across 3 weeks rather than 6. Extra "top-up" sessions will be available for any pupils who need a little more support to reach the national standard.

Swimming will begin in January 2027.
Thank you, as always, for your support.

Photo Sharing – Moving Forward

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our recent photo-sharing survey. We received 43 responses, and your feedback has helped us think carefully about how we can continue sharing the wonderful experiences our children have at school while keeping their privacy at the heart of what we do.

- ✓ **86%** said seeing photographs of their child's experiences at school is quite or very important to them.
- ✓ **81%** said photographs help them feel connected to their child's school life.
- ✓ Families particularly value seeing trips, assemblies, sporting events and special experiences that they cannot always attend.
- ✓ **76%** of parents look at the photos within a couple of weeks of them being posted.
- ✓ **65%** said they would feel more comfortable with a password-protected space for photographs, even recognising that passwords can potentially be shared.
- ✓ **Several parents** specifically highlighted that they are comfortable with photographs being shared on Instagram when children's faces are not identifiable.

What happens next?

We are now looking at how we can keep the things families value about our current approach while strengthening privacy and security. We have also had support from The Learning Partners Safeguarding Team to ensure we are keeping a sensible balance between sharing what is important to parents and trying to mitigate risks.

Platform	Current Practice	New Practice	Rationale
Instagram	No faces	No faces	We will not change how we Instagram children's images as we don't show faces anyway.
Instagram	School trip pictures on the day	School trip pictures after the event	Identifying where children are on a school trip is a risk. We will post following the visit, not whilst on it.
Newsletter	Head Teacher's Awards Photos	Head Teacher's Award synopsis	The newsletter is available freely on the school website, so we won't put a head teacher award photo on there anymore. We will change this to a table where you can read all about the awards awarded.
Newsletter	Very irregular photos of children	No photos of children	The newsletter is available freely on the school website, so we won't put photos of children on there anymore.
Website	Photo albums for a whole year	Photo albums for a term	Most parents access photos within a few weeks so they don't need to be available for so long.
Website	Photo albums free for anyone to click on	Photo albums with a password (termly)	We cannot have a specific "parent area" of our website as we don't have that functionality. We can password protect each photo album as we use a secure photo storage site. We can change the password termly in order for this to be manageable and communicate this to you at the start of each term. All the photo albums for the term will have the same password. 65% of our parents said this would make them feel better, even with the risk of password sharing and our Trust thought this was an appropriate level of security to minimise risk for those who choose to have their children in photos.
Website	Photos in other areas of the website	We will start to reduce these down over the year	There are areas of the website such as School Council and House Captains where we used to put photos of the children. We will still have these in the hall, but not put them on the website as they are open to anyone.
Website	The "advertising" ones	We will check for permission over the next few weeks for them to remain. We will check in the future before posting new ones.	There are a few pictures on the scrolling banner at the top of the website of children which bring the website to life. They are open to anyone so we will double check parents are still happy with this and check in the future for news ones. If you know your child is on there and want to let Mrs Dow know now (she is in charge of the website and the photos!) this would save her a job in emailing you 😊... cdow@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk

Thank you for sharing what was important to you; hopefully we have made some changes which will help lots of you feel more comfortable. Please remember – you can withdraw consent at any time and we will not take your child's photo. We will move forward with the changes in the table below and use this to update our Photographs and Social Media Policy this term.

HEAD TEACHER AWARDS



Head Teacher Awards are given out on a Monday during assembly where we have the opportunity to hear about the children's successes of the previous week and celebrate how they embodied the Pirbright Values.

Year	Name	Awarded...
1	Felicity	For enthusiasm and concentration during Number Sense sessions, demonstrating excellent counting and subitising skills.
1	Ben	For showing fantastic teamwork and determination when helping to build a den, supporting friends, sharing ideas and demonstrating the school values of pride and respect.
2	Reggie	For showing a fantastic understanding of place value, working hard to understand tens and ones, and enthusiastically explaining his mathematical thinking.
2	Archie	For making a wonderful start to Year 2, showing enthusiasm for learning, working hard and impressing staff with his partitioning of numbers to 100.
3	William	For an amazing start to Year 3, showing strong understanding across subjects and taking great pride in presentation and handwriting.
3	Edie	For an incredible start to Year 3 showing enthusiasm and resilience when you found things tricky and giving everything a go!
4	Owen	For an enthusiastic start to Year 4, showing excellent understanding of electrical circuits, conductors and insulators, and using technical vocabulary confidently.
4	Kacey	For settling brilliantly into Year 4, working hard in maths and achieving a first 40/40 score in Number Sense.
5	Milan	For starting Year 5 like a superstar, putting 100% effort into learning, being an excellent talk partner and being voted as an Eco Councillor.
5	Max	For a fantastic start to Year 5, demonstrating school values, helping others and showing thoughtful engagement in English lessons.
6	Parker	For an excellent start to Year 6, maintaining focus and pace in lessons and showing strong understanding of place value to 1 million.
6	Farley	For an excellent start to Year 6, being engaged and motivated in class, and showing great collaboration and support for others on the Sayers Croft trip.

Pirbright Village Primary School
GUIDE TO REPORTING ABSENCE

We will no longer be using Studybugs to report daily absence from September 2026, so please follow these instructions...

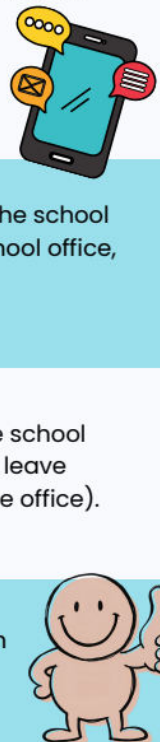
- 1 • Log into your MCAS (My Child At School) account.
• You can log in on a browser or download the app.
- 2 • Head to your child's dashboard that sits on the left hand side of their home screen.
• Click on ATTENDANCE.
- 3 • Click on Report Absence
- 4 • This takes you to an absence notification for you to complete. You will receive an acknowledgment email and there is nothing more for you to do. You will receive an acceptance email once the office have noted your request later in the morning.



Pirbright Village Primary School
CHILDREN'S GUIDE TO MOBILE PHONES AT SCHOOL

We know that some children have a mobile phone because they walk to or from school, or because their grown-ups need to be able to contact them outside of school.

- 1 Turn your phone off when you arrive at the school gate.
- 2 Hand it in to the adult on duty at the school gate as you come in OR to the school office, if you come in that way.
- 3 You can collect it at the end of the school day from the school office. Please leave through the front door (right by the office).
- 4 You can turn your phone back on when you are out of the school gates.



The children have all been told about the rules around mobile phones and we appreciate your support with this. Please remind your children to hand them straight in to the member of staff on the gate with the red bag!

CLICK HERE



SEND & Pastoral Support Padlet

Just a reminder that Miss Woods and Miss Egelton have a Padlet which is jam packed full of information and resources which you might need as a parent. Whilst they primarily have SEND parents in mind, the wealth of pastoral, learning and parenting based resources is absolutely incredible and will certainly benefit all of our families so please take a look. They will continue to add to it so please let them know if there is anything in particular you would like them to cover.

Pirbright Village Primary School

Meet our SEND & Pastoral Team  Miss April Woods Our School SEND Contact email: woodap@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk Usual Working days: Monday - Tuesday and Wednesday Miss Jo Egelton Our School SEND Administrator	Local Authority Information for Families - Surrey  Surrey Local Offer Family Voice Surrey familyvoicesurrey.org Surrey advice sheets 	Resources For Home Emotion and Behaviour Scales  Freemantles  SEN resources 	Training & events for parents/carers Surrey Paediatrics Parenting Service  Range of introductory workshops for parents 	Family Support Barnardo's  Families First Guildford  Guildford Wellbeing Team 	Parenting / Co-parenting / Relationships Reite  Reite  Reite 
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Let's Celebrate Pirbright

If your child "achieves" or takes part in something special outside of school (local football team, village show, scouts award, sporting event and the like) then please send a photo and a short description to Mrs Dow either at her email address or at celebrate@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk and she will pop it up on the display board in the hall for all to admire.

Hello parents, hello friends, hello newbies (how are you settling in?),

Welcome back to the newsletter. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce us as your local, friendly, school community fundraising team – Friends of Pirbright School. I hope you enjoyed last week's tribute to much loved Dolly Parton – that's the sort of thing you can expect here in this section of the newsletter and honestly, if you enjoy reading it then that's just a nice bonus because the joy I get from writing it is nothing short of top tier. This is the highlight of my week. It really is. The only thing that might top it would be dinner with Andrew Scott, ideally dressed as a priest. If you know, you know. If you don't know... get to know. You're welcome.

Let's get down to business. THE CHRISTMAS FAIR. Every year, we have a lovely Christmas Fair at school – it's taken all sorts of shapes and sizes over the years, we've had laser shows (can't do fireworks because of our lovely therapy farm animals but the laser show was fab and was served with a side of fake snow which made me emotional. I love snow.) and we've had Santa's grotto, and we've had stalls and games, and choirs performing carols, and there's always a drunk elf on the bar serving mulled wine. It's usually me. The task is simple; it's coordinating a few fun activities which will keep the attendees entertained – adult tombola (all parents donate a bottle of their favourite beverage in the lead up) – toy tombola (all kids donate a preloved toy) – and then a craft stall, the local choir singing a few songs, maybe a fire pit for toasting marshmallows (can feel everyone getting twitchy about kids and fire) and then we often set up little stalls for kids to make their own reindeer food, or buy some sweets, or maybe you could even hook a duck or catch a donut – who knows what you'll come up with! You'll have financial support to run the event from our treasurer, Thorsten (he's German – and a solid blend of handsome and efficient) as well as communications support from me (help or hinderance, you decide.) and then there's our wonderful Emma Cameron (Head of the PTA, incredibly organised and all round thoroughly good human) and there's the school and they are marvellous, they really are. You can do your own thing, put your own spin on it – but make no mistake, someone must do it... and if no one does then there's no Christmas fair... which would be a shame. If you think you could take the lead – maybe you and a mate; drop us a line at pirbrightfops@yahoo.co.uk

The rest is bullet points as I sense I'm losing you....

- **UNIFORM SALE** – preloved uniform on sale at school drop off – 24th September.
- You can also **BRING your uniform donations** in on this date and we'll sell them!
- **HAPPY SCHOOL BAG** – you'll be sent a bag to fill with unwanted/old clothes or textiles and return it on 2nd October at school drop off in the morning.
- **WOKING PANTO TICKETS** coming soon. It's usually £200 a pop for a family of four but our tickets are almost half price and they're the crème de la crème of seats – front stalls. This December. Date and time TBC so come back next week. Ok we're done here byeeee.

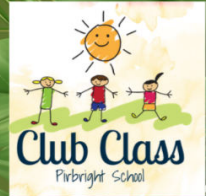
See details in the attached letter!



Bringing Christmas to your door!

PREMIUM CHRISTMAS TREES 2026

Luxury Nordmann Firs • Beautifully Fresh • Delivered to Your Door



CLUB CLASS HOLIDAY CLUB

**£30 PER
DAY
9:00 AM –
4:00 PM**

Holiday	Dates	Booking Closes
October Half Term Week 1	19 th - 23 rd October 2026	15 th October
Spring Half-Term	15 th -19 th February 2027	11 th February
Easter Holidays Week 2	5 th - 9 th April 2027	24 th March
Summer Half-Term	31 st May - 4 th June 2027	27 th May
Summer Holidays Weeks 1-4	26 th July - 20 th August	22 nd July

BOOKING OPEN NOW!



pcc@pirbright.surrey.sch.uk



pirbrightvillageprimaryschool.com/clubclass

Dates for the Diary 2026/2027

September 2026	25 th - 1:15pm – KS2 Potted Sports (Parents Invited) 2:15pm – KS1 Potted Sports (Parents Invited) 29 th - 3:30pm – 7:00pm – Parents' Consultation Evening	October 2026	1 st – 4:00pm – 6:00pm – Parents' Consultation Evening 6 th - 3:30pm – 7:00pm – Parents' Consultation Evening (5RG) 8 th – Tempest School Photos (Portraits) 8 th - 3:30pm – 7:00pm – Parents' Consultation Evening (5RG) 9 th - Year 5 Visit to Winchester Science Centre 15 th – Year 4 Present - Harvest Festival (No parents) 15 th – Family Lunch (11:30 Onwards) 15 th – WASPS Football Tournament (Y5/6 Girls/Boys – Woking) 16 th – INSET DAY 19 th – 30 th – HALF TERM
November 2026	2 nd – Start of second half term 4 th - Year 3 Visit to Butser Farm 6 th – Remembrance Service – Whole School (10am - TBC) 8 th - Remembrance Service at Brookwood Cemetery 9 th Flu Immunisations 11 th – Year 6 WWII Day (Dress Up) 13 th – Whole School Cross Country (1:40pm KS2/2:20pm YR&KS1) Parents Invited 16 th – 20 th Anti-Bullying Week 27 th – Learning Look - AM	December 2026	7 th – 11 th SHOWS WEEK 8 th - KS2 Christmas Performance PM 1:30pm – <u>Pre-School Siblings Welcome</u> 9 th - KS1 Christmas Performance PM 1:30pm – <u>Pre-School Siblings Welcome</u> 9 th - KS2 Christmas Performance EVENING 7pm – <u>Adults and School Aged Siblings Only</u> 10 th - 10:00am Reception Nativity Performance - <u>Pre-School Siblings Welcome</u> 10 th - KS1 Christmas Performance PM 1:30pm - <u>Adults and School Aged Siblings Only</u> 10 th - KS2 Christmas Performance EVENING 7pm - <u>Adults and School Aged Siblings Only</u> 11 th - PJ Day & Movie Afternoon 15 th – Christmas Quiz 16 th - Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day 18 th - 10am - Festive Carol Service – School (No Parents) 18 th - 1:30pm – End of Term

Class Assemblies 2026/2027

Friday 15 th January 2026 at 10am	1RE
Friday 22 nd January 2027 at 10am	1DG
Friday 29 th January 2027 at 10am	5RG
Friday 5 th February 2027 at 10am	2CD
Friday 12 th February 2027 at 10am	5SD
Friday 12 th March 2027 at 10am	RGD
Friday 19 th March 2027 at 10am	4CR
Friday 23 rd April 2027 at 10am	3SC
Friday 30 th April 2027 at 10am	4LB
Friday 7 th May 2027 at 10am	2BT
Friday 14 th May 2027 at 10am	3WS
Friday 21 st May 2027 at 10am	RJL
Friday 2 nd July 2027 in the AFTERNOON (Time TBC)	Y6

Term Dates 2026/2027

Term	Start	End
AUTUMN 2026	01 September 2026	16 October 2026
<i>Half term</i>	<i>19 October 2026</i>	<i>30 October 2026</i>
	02 November 2026	18 December 2026
<i>Christmas</i>	<i>21 December 2026</i>	<i>01 January 2027</i>
SPRING 2024	04 January 2027	12 February 2027
<i>Half term</i>	<i>15 February 2027</i>	<i>19 February 2027</i>
	22 February 2027	25 March 2027
<i>Easter</i>	<i>26 March 2027</i>	<i>09 April 2027</i>
SUMMER 2024	12 April 2027	22 May 2026
<i>Half term</i>	<i>28 May 2027</i>	<i>04 June 2027</i>
	07 June 2027	23 July 2027

INSET DAYS 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026
 Wednesday 2nd September 2026
 Friday 16th October 2026
 Thursday 25th March 2027
 Monday 28th June 2027
 Monday 26th July 2027
 Tuesday 27th July 2027
 Wednesday 28th July 2027