

Volume 4: March 2026

# IVINGSWOOD NEWS

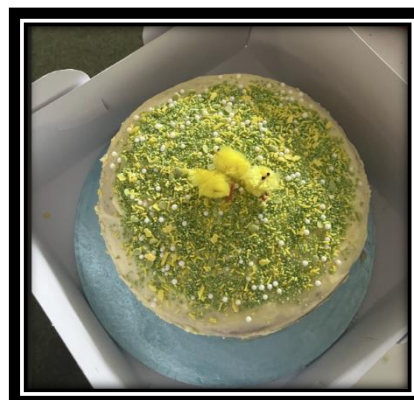
A round-up of recent events at Ivingswood Academy



Find out all about our learning over the last half term at Ivingswood Academy.

It was great to see so many of you at our Parents' Evening sessions last week. Keeping up-to-date with your child's learning behaviour and attainment is important. Our teachers shared resources and advice on how best to support your child with their learning at home. Remember to read every day and to practice some numbers skills. You can use White Rose free 1 minute maths app or their TimesTable Rockstar / Numbot accounts. The curriculum is always so jam packed, so additional number and reading skills at home are essential for your child to make good progress.

The staff celebrated the end of term with a delicious slice of cake!



Doesn't it look fantastic? A huge thank you to Mrs Evans for baking it. It has sparked many staff members, including myself to dust off the apron and mixing bowls and try baking again!

I wish you all a restful Easter break – I hope you enjoy time together and hopefully get outside to play.

I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.

**Mrs C Flynn**  
**Head of School**

## Catkin Class - Miss Rose, Mrs Woolnough, Mrs Richardson and Mrs Zain

Nursery have had a fun filled very busy term. We have celebrated birthday's, Eid, toilet training success stories, Eid and Easter... all in 5 weeks!

We have tried new foods; melon, porridge and poppadom's. We made some bracelets and cards to celebrate Mother's Day. Hedgehogs have been recognising numerals and counting items carefully, looking at shapes and colours and learning all about farm animals. Hoglets are learning to listen carefully, join in with rhymes and stories and practicing moving in a variety of ways in PE.

Our artist of the term was Andy Goldsworthy and the children spent time making their own art creations using natural materials. We enjoyed the Spring weather and planted some trees and shrubs in our garden.

We have revived our allotment plot and are very thankful to Arty's Mum for taking it on and making a great start, we look forward to a bountiful harvest of fruit and vegetables in future. We planted some new trees and shrubs in our garden and have loved playing on our new outside equipment, especially the rickshaw and are looking forward to our new Ben Hur chariot bike arriving soon.

This week we visited Hope Church with reception to celebrate Easter. All the children behaved beautifully and had a wonderful time playing with the parachute, making Easter crowns, singing, colouring, and listening to a special story about Jesus and forgiveness.

The weather has been kind to us and we even enjoyed our first ice pop of the year! Next term we will be practicing for sports day, learning about outer space and under the sea in our topic of Out of this World. We plan to be spending a lot more time outside so please remember suncream and sun hats every day. Wishing you all a very restful Easter break.



## Snowdrop – Mrs McKenzie and Miss Hayes

This half term, our learning has blossomed around the theme of growing and changing, and it has been a truly busy and exciting few weeks in Reception.

The children have loved becoming young gardeners and explorers. We collected a variety of seeds, observed them closely, and began to understand how something so small can grow into something big and full of life. Through our discussions and investigations, the children learned about the different parts of a plant and what plants need to grow, including sunlight, water, and care.

Our learning was enriched through beautiful stories such as *The Extraordinary Gardener* and *Handa's Surprise*. These books helped us explore not only plants and fruits, but also different parts of the world. We compared environments, talked about how plants grow in different climates, and thought about how nature can create calm, colourful, and inspiring spaces. Inspired by this, the children worked together to make our own outdoor area more inviting, thinking carefully about how we can create a space that feels alive, peaceful, and full of interest.

As part of our focus on growth, we explored healthy eating, learning about "five a day" and why fruits and vegetables are important for our bodies. The children enjoyed learning new vocabulary, describing different foods, and linking this to our stories and real-life experiences.

In phonics, the children continue to make strong progress within their groups. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they begin to apply their knowledge independently in their writing. Many children are now writing words and simple sentences, using their phonics skills with increasing independence and pride.

In maths, we have been focusing on number and composition. The children are developing a deeper understanding that numbers are made up of smaller numbers. They have been exploring this through practical activities, games, and problem solving in our environment, becoming more confident in recognising, building, and explaining numbers.

We have also spent time learning about different religions and celebrations, including Ramadan, Eid, and the Christian celebration of Easter. These experiences were made even more special by welcoming some of our parents into the classroom to share how they celebrate at home. The children showed great curiosity, asked thoughtful questions, and demonstrated respect and interest in learning about different cultures and traditions.

Next term, our learning will focus on "Creatures, great and small." We would love the children to take part in this topic by bringing in any pictures, facts, or information about their favourite animals. We will be using these to create our own favourite animal books, encouraging the children to draw, label, and write about animals in their own way. Any contributions, big or small, will be warmly welcomed and celebrated in class.

Have a restful holiday!



## Lavender Class - Mrs Bacon , Mrs Gomm, Mrs Evans, Miss Adams and Miss Pervaiz

WOW! What a half-term! We have been absolutely loving school this half-term — there has been so much going on, even since our assembly!

We began with learning about explorers in Geography — we now know all about Neil Armstrong, Christopher Columbus and Matthew Henson. More importantly, we have been using our skills as historians to study photographs and learn about the past. We've used timelines to see when these explorers lived and how differently the world looked back then. As scientists, we focused on everyday materials and their properties. We used our observation skills to watch how water is absorbed, our sense of touch to explore different textures, and our prediction skills to guess whether things would sink or float — and some of the results really surprised us!

Healthy Me has been our PSHE focus, where we've talked about keeping healthy through eating well, exercising and looking after our minds. In music, we've been exploring our *choice of voice* — which also linked beautifully to reading, where we think about how to use our voice to bring different events and characters to life.

Not to be forgotten — the big missing toy mystery! The children wrote recounts about how they lost (and found!) some much-loved soft toys who live in our classroom. We're pleased to report that all toys are safely back in their rightful places.

In maths, a big focus has been multiplication and division — thinking in real depth about the 2, 5 and 10 times tables and all their related facts. In RE, we've been exploring light and how different religions use it to represent their beliefs. You might have wondered why we had advent wreaths at Easter — now you know! Our visit to Hope Church was a wonderful opportunity to think further about what the Church means to Christians, and that it is so much more than just a building.

This week has been incredible! On Monday, we had some belated Eid celebrations — a huge thank you to Iqra and Zayna's mums for the lovely treats! We've also been immersing ourselves in learning and writing about bats. We now know a brilliant range of fascinating facts about them and have created some super information posters to share what we've learned. To finish the term in style, we sewed our very own puppets — first exploring what fabric is and how it's made, then designing our hand puppets, and finally sewing and decorating them. What a result!

To celebrate our excellent attendance, we also enjoyed a craft afternoon — which, I'm told, was *far* more fun than coming to school in pyjamas! 🎉

Please do follow Ivingswood Academy's Facebook page — we post our learning regularly, and the children love seeing their photos there!



## Rose Class - Mrs Liggins, Miss Daley and Miss Akhtar

With only 5 weeks this half term, we have had so much to fit in and therefore have been working extra hard. As always, it was a half term full of amazing learning opportunities and plenty of fun. The children have been fantastic and should be incredibly proud of themselves. I can't wait to see what the summer term brings.

In English this term, we have been reading 'The Boy Who Grew Dragons'. This is an exciting book and has really captured the children's, and my, imaginations. We started by writing our own dragon poems, which we then published, so we can share them with other people. We have explored a range of conjunctions to extend our sentences and help to engage the readers, along with using a range of adjectives and similes to help create pictures in our minds. We have practised using these skills when writing our own dragon stories.

In maths, we have learnt about fractions, what the denominator and numerator mean and how to add and subtract these accurately. We have also been learning about mass and capacity. We have explored using scales to weigh objects and compare these, finding which is heavier and which is lighter.

In history, we have been learning all about the ancient Egyptians and their beliefs. It has been fascinating to travel so far back in history and find out some amazing facts and why things happened the way they did. We learnt about the mummification process and how the ancient Egyptians believed people continued their journey in the afterlife. We even got to mummify a tomato to really understand how the ancient Egyptians preserved the bodies. Ask the children to tell you how the ancient Egyptians mummified their dead.

In science, we have been learning about forces and magnetism. We explored different materials, discovering that although all magnetic objects are made of metal, only some metals are actually magnetic! I wonder if any of the class can remember which ones those are? We had great fun using compasses to give directions to our friends, with one group managing to direct us back into the classroom at the end of the activity! We also had an exciting workshop along with Year 4 and created fairground rides from k'nex, led by Oxford Science.

In music, we have been using percussion instruments to create soundscapes to tell stories. In DT, we have been learning about wearable technology and using a design brief, designing our own device to fulfil the criteria. Luckily, the sun has shine for us a few times this half term, and we have been able to get outside and continue learning skills based around hockey.

Another great half term and I cannot wait to see what we will get up to next half term. The children should be proud of all their achievements. They deserve a restful Easter break, and I look forward to welcoming them back after Easter.



## Maple Class – Miss Race and Mrs Weedon

As always, this half term has been incredibly busy and full of exciting learning opportunities for Year 4. The children have worked so hard across all subjects and should feel very proud of their efforts. We encourage them to continue showing the same determination and enthusiasm as we move through the rest of the year.

In English, we have been focusing on writing a narrative based on *The Butterfly Lion*. The children have worked hard to develop their storytelling skills, thinking carefully about how to engage the reader. We have explored the use of a range of conjunctions to extend sentences, used pronouns to improve cohesion across our writing, and practised punctuating direct speech accurately using inverted commas. It has been fantastic to see the children's confidence grow as they apply these skills independently.

In Maths, we have been working on our fractions topic. The children have been developing their understanding of what fractions represent, as well as learning how to compare, order and work with different fractions. They have shown great resilience when tackling challenging problems and have continued to build their confidence in this important area.

In Science, we have been learning all about states of matter. We have explored the properties of solids, liquids and gases, and discussed how materials can change state through processes such as heating and cooling. The children have really enjoyed investigating and discussing how the world around them works.

In Geography, we have been learning about volcanoes, earthquakes and mountains. The children have been fascinated by these powerful natural features and have developed their understanding of how they are formed and the impact they can have on people and the environment.

In Music, we had a fantastic half term learning to play the recorder. The children worked extremely hard to practise their pieces and showed great enthusiasm throughout. We thoroughly enjoyed performing and were so pleased to see so many parents and carers come along to support us—it made the experience even more special.

In Art, we have been focusing on our Artist of the Half Term, Hokusai. The children have explored a range of painting techniques and learnt about his famous style. They then created their own Hokusai-inspired artwork, showing great creativity and attention to detail.

Overall, it has been a wonderful half term filled with hard work, creativity and enthusiasm.

We are very proud of everything the children have achieved and look forward to seeing them continue to thrive next term.



## Cherry Class – Mrs Twyman and Miss Walker

Another amazing (if not shorter) half term in Year 5 with all our learning packed into 5 weeks.

Our History topic has seen us venture back in time to the Vikings to answer the question were they raiders, traders or something else. We investigated why and when they came to Britain, their roots on trading and trading routes and the impact their achievements had on the world.

Our scientific enquiries took us down the path of Animals including humans this half term and learning to describe the changes as humans develop to old age. We have had fun looking at the gestation periods of different mammals and the similarities and differences to that of humans. We also created a line graph on the foetal development of humans looking at the length of the foetus and the gestational week. We have also investigated whether hand spans change depending on our age.

English has seen us become newspaper reporters after finding out there had been sightings of a new species in the outdoor area. Many were worried, many feared for their lives but Year 5 did a fabulous job making sure the real facts were published and key eyewitnesses were spoken to thoroughly. The sightings have since stopped making us believe that this new creature has moved on to another area.

World book day was once again a massive success and the children looked amazing. We took part in our annual assembly/fashion show and got to admire everyone's efforts. A high light was Mrs Flynn coming to the classroom after having transformed from the hungry caterpillar to a beautiful butterfly.

We also had the opportunity to learn the ukulele this half term and had fun learning the different chords ready for our concert for parents and carers last week. We also had fun sharing some of our favourite songs from Young Voices with Power in Me being our favourite.....OF COURSE!

We also had a very special visit from Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service to teach us all about fire safety and what we need to do in an emergency. We even got to see the inner workings of the engine itself.

Once again, thank you for all your continued support in regards to your children's learning. Summer term will bring Mrs Twyman and Mrs Dunning into the Year 5 team and they are both very excited to work alongside you and ensure that your child continues to thrive until the end of the academic year.

Have a fantastic Easter holiday and we will see you back on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 😊



## Oak Class – Mr O’Callaghan and Miss Sample

It has been a brilliant term in Year 6! In Reading and Writing, we have been reading the *Orphans of the Tide* by Louis Sachar. The children have been engrossed in this book and tackled the writing units head on. The term started with a Diary Entry from a character’s perspective about finding the Whale on the roof of the Chapel and it was interesting to read the different entries. We ended the term, by writing a Setting Description about Ellie’s, the main character from *Orphans of the Tide*, workshop. The children’s vocabulary, figurative language techniques and sentence structure was outstanding, and they should be very proud of themselves for the work they have created.

In Maths, we have been learning about length, area, perimeter and volume and then we have started our statistic topic and this will conclude after the Easter Break. After Easter, we will continue with consolidating our learning from this year, in preparation for the SATS next half term.

In Science this half term, we have been finding out about Light; looking at how light travels, creating and measuring shadows and building our own periscopes. We also had a fun lesson exploring light phenomena, creating rainbows and seeing how objects look different when you look at them through water. This is because light travels more slowly through liquids and therefore seems to bend! Sadly, the sunshine did not appear for this lesson (although rain, snow and hail did!) so we did not manage to create our human sundials or play shadow tag- perhaps an activity for the holidays!

Our music unit of work linked closely with our history topic this half term. We heard songs from World Wars One and Two and thought about their similarities and differences, before focusing on Vera Lynn and the impact of her songs during the Second World War, varying our pitch to sing along with *The White Cliffs of Dover*!

### **Important dates:**

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 17<sup>th</sup> April – Residential

W.C. 11<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATS week

Today, the children were sent home with a Spelling Bee pack which follows on from the letter you received this week, please learn the words in preparation for the Bee in the upcoming weeks. I have also sent home a SATS pack for the children to complete over Easter. This will really support them in their learning for the end of Year 6. I look forward to the Summer Term, which will be their last term at Ivingswood. I know that we will nurture and prepare them as they enter the next step of their educational journey.



# Other News

## Social Media

Please follow us on social media @ivingswood on Twitter/X and Ivingswood Academy on Facebook. We post regular updates on the children's learning throughout the school!

## Office

Please book lunches via parent pay by Thursday for the next week. If you do not book lunch, your child cannot be fed.

## PTA News

Thank you to everyone who bought a raffle ticket for our Easter Hampers! We raised over £100! Thank you to our staff for donations towards the hampers!

Congratulations to our two winners – we hope you enjoy your treats!

If you are interested in joining the PTA, please speak to Miss Adams or Miss Sample on the playground, or email [pta@ivingswoodacademy.org](mailto:pta@ivingswoodacademy.org)

We are looking forward to a busy Summer Term!



## World Book Day

World Book Day is always a highlight of the Spring Term. We love taking time to enjoy reading new stories, books, magazines, newspapers and poems. Thank you to all our parents and carers who came to read with us in the morning. Sharing a book is special time.

Our whole school fashion show was enjoyed by all. An opportunity to show off costumes and guess the book character. It was a lot of fun! Please check out our X or Facebook pages for more information.

Mrs Flynn took the opportunity to be 'The Hungry Caterpillar' for the morning. This consisted of visiting each class for a snack before transforming into a butterfly for the afternoon and revisiting each class.

Ivingswood Academy hosted a Scholastics Book Fair for a week as a chance for pupils to purchase books and fundraise for school books. Thank you to Miss Race for organising.



## Chiltern League

Our focus for the Chiltern League this half term has been girls' football. We have a fantastic, albeit small, group of girls who have been training with Chesham United on Mondays after school and have grown in confidence week on week. Their first match against Brushwood was a tough one, but they did not give up and kept fighting for the ball. They were exhausted by the end of the match, but full of the adrenaline that sport brings. Their second match was against Ley Hill and was just as tough, but the girls attacked and defended with more confidence and strength than the previous week. Last week we played Chartridge and the girls started strongly with great defending and amazing goalkeeping. We had a great game, and finally got that elusive goal. The girls rounded off the season with a final's afternoon at Amersham Town Football Club. I am so proud of all their efforts this term and have loved seeing them growing and develop over the last few weeks.



## Science Workshop

The week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> March was Science Week. As a school we enjoyed taking part in the BBC live lesson alongside our regular science lesson from the week. The highlight was Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March when Oxford University visited us for the day. Each class got to take part in a science workshop and a special mission. Thank you to Miss Daley for organizing this experience for our pupils.



## Diary Dates

### Summer Term

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term starts 8.45am
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	PGL Liddington – Year 6 Residential
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Chiltern Ranger Day – By invitation
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 – Cricket afternoon at Chiltern Hills Academy
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Non-uniform day. Please bring a bottle.
WB 10 <sup>th</sup> May	YEAR 4 CHA EVENT - Date to be confirmed.
WB 11 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 and Year 2 Art Exhibition 2.30pm
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 – Tennis at Chiltern Hills Academy
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Provisional Year 5 trip date
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Sports Day Morning, whole school picnic and open afternoon
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half term
WB Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
WB Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Assessments
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Non-uniform – bottles and sweets for the Summer Fayre
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Chesham Carnival
WB 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Assessment Week
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 4 Farm Visit
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Fayre
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Music Concert
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 – Athletics at Chiltern Hills Academy
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Week
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Day
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	School reports out
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> July	School Closed INSET DAY
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Year 6 Party Day!
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9am Nursery Stay and Play End of term – Finish 1.15pm



## PARKPLAY

ParkPlay is a *free*, two-hour organised play session held every Sunday morning in the local park. The sessions offer active, inclusive games designed for all ages, providing a safe and welcoming environment where people can connect, be active, and have fun together.

Since launching in 2025, we have seen steady attendance; however, we are keen to ensure that even more children and families in the local area are aware of and able to benefit from these sessions.

ParkPlay is delivered by fully trained volunteers who are passionate about their communities, helping to ensure the sessions are engaging and enjoyable every week. To take part, families simply need to [register](#) in advance, which generates a unique barcode used to confirm attendance at each session.

In Chesham:

- Windsor Road Park, Every Sunday 11:00am - 1:00pm

For ParkPlay to run and continue to be a success they are always on the lookout for more volunteers eager to support. Therefore, should you or someone you know wish to become a volunteer, please do find out more here: [PlayLeaders - ParkPlay](#)



The poster features a yellow top section with the ParkPlay logo and the title 'Windsor Road ParkPlay'. Below the title is a photograph of a diverse group of people of various ages posing in a park. The bottom section is green and contains two columns of text with QR codes. The left column is for registration, and the right column is for volunteering. Logos for Buckinghamshire Council and STEALTH are at the bottom left, and the hashtag #MeetMovePlay and website are at the bottom right.

**ParkPlay**

# Windsor Road ParkPlay

Meet your neighbours and have fun together playing games in the park. Free, every week, for all ages.

**Come and play**  
Details & register



**Volunteer to help out**  
Find out more & email us



 Buckinghamshire Council 

#MeetMovePlay  
[park-play.com](http://park-play.com)

# NEW MENU FOR THE SUMMER – Available on our website. Make sure you book weekly. Your child cannot be fed if not ordered. Thank you.

WEEK 1 - 27/04, 18/05, 15/06, 06/07, 14/09, 05/10					
	MAIN MEAL 1	MAIN MEAL 2	PASTA	SIDES	PUDDING
Monday	Baked macaroni cheese with garlic bread (V)	Mediterranean vegetable bake (V)	Tomato and basil pasta (Ve)	Garlic bread, Peas, Sweetcorn	Vanilla cookie (V)
Tuesday	Creamy chicken tikka with steamed rice	Creamy vegetable tikka with steamed rice (V)	Penne pesto pasta (V)	Green beans, Carrots	Chocolate Krispie cake (V)
Wednesday	Roast turkey with stuffing and gravy	Vegetable wellington with gravy (Ve)	Creamy tomato and vegetable pasta (V)	Roast potatoes, Mixed vegetables	Vanilla sponge (V)
Thursday	Cheese and tomato pizza	Roasted vegetable pizza (V)	Tomato and basil pasta (Ve)	Baked wedges, Mixed salad	Chocolate orange brownie (V)
Friday	Fish cakes	Quorn nuggets (Ve)	Broccoli and cheddar bake (V)	Chips, Baked beans, Peas	Sprinkle sponge (V)

WEEK 2 -					
	MAIN MEAL 1	MAIN MEAL 2	PASTA	SIDES	PUDDING
Monday	Turkey and cheese tortilla wrap	Roasted vegetable, tomato and cheese wrap (Ve)	Tomato and basil pasta (Ve)	Baked wedges, Mixed salad	Vanilla cookie (V)
Tuesday	Traditional beef lasgane	Baked macaroni cheese with garlic bread (V)	Creamy tomato and vegetable pasta (V)	Sweetcorn, Peas	Lemon flapjack (Ve)
Wednesday	Chicken Sausage and mash with gravy	Quorn sausage and mash with gravy (Ve)	Penne pesto pasta (V)	Mixed vegetables	Toffee sponge (V)
Thursday	Sticky BBQ glazed chicken	Vegetable chilli (V)	Macaroni cheese (V)	Steamed rice, Broccoli, Carrots	Vanilla Shortbread (Ve)
Friday	Chicken nuggets	Green veggie burger (Ve)	Tomato and vegetable pasta (Ve)	Chips, Baked beans, Peas	Chocolate brownie (V)

WEEK 3 -					
	MAIN MEAL 1	MAIN MEAL 2	PASTA	SIDES	PUDDING
Monday	Creamy garlic chicken penne	Tomato and pesto penne (V)	Tomato pasta (Ve)	Garlic bread, Mixed salad	Carrot cake (V)
Tuesday	Beef taco with steamed rice	Vegetable chilli taco with rice (V)	Penne pesto pasta (V)	Peas, Sweetcorn	Chocolate chip cookie (V)
Wednesday	Roast chicken with Yorkshire pudding and gravy	Cheesy vegetable bake (Ve)	Macaroni cheese (V)	Roast potatoes, Mixed vegetables	Sprinkle sponge (V)
Thursday	Breaded chicken burger	Quorn burger (Ve)	Tomato and basil pasta (Ve)	Baked wedges, Carrots, Broccoli	Chocolate brownie (V)
Friday	Fish fingers	Quorn nuggets (Ve)	Tomato and roasted vegetable pasta (Ve)	Chips, Baked beans, Peas	Oaty biscuit (V)

<b>Menu Key:</b>	(Ve) - Vegan	(V) - Vegetarian	(APP) - Added Plant Power
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Available everyday:



FILLED JACKET POTATO



JELLY



FRESH FRUIT

**culinera**  
feeding the future

**ALLERGY INFORMATION** - We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of cross contamination. If your child has an allergy or intolerance, please speak to your child's school or the Cook Manager on site before ordering your meal for more information. **Forms are available through our website or via the school.**

