



Friday 4th October 2024

Socks

Could we ask that all children have a spare pair of socks in their bag / PE kit please? The weather has been so wet recently we are concerned that with PE on the field or running out on the recreation ground, they will have wet and muddy socks for the rest of the day. A spare pair available at all times would make children more comfortable. Thank you for your help with this.

Braiswicks

As you are aware Braiswicks, the school photographer, came in to school this week, once received we will send the proofs out.

Harvest

Next Wednesday we will be heading to church for our harvest assembly. We will take any harvest offerings to the church to be blessed and then return them to school. The year 6 children will make up the harvest boxes and they will be distributed around the village. Please would you send in a tin or packet of dried food to contribute to the boxes. We have 50 to fill! Each box will also contain a handwritten personal letter to the recipient. Many of those who receive a box write back to the children and remain in contact with the school throughout the year. It would be wonderful to present them with a full box of gifts from the children. Please help if you can.

Student Update forms

Over the next few days, the children will be bringing a Student Update Form home. This contains the information held on our School records. Please check the information, note any changes on the form and return the form to Class Teachers by Weds 16th October, thank you

Class Updates

Oak	We hope that everyone who could make it enjoyed seeing the children in their classroom today. They were so excited to have their families visit. They also enjoyed a surprise visit from Mrs Hunt as the secret reader earlier in the week. Please let us know if you or any other family member would like to volunteer to be a secret reader. The secret reader comes into school for the last fifteen minutes of the day to read a story to the children. It is always a highlight of their week. We have had lots of fun this week, making bread, testing out materials that we could use to build boats, modelling with clay, learning the letters M, G and D and starting our maths mastery sessions. We have been really impressed by the children's confidence with counting. We have sent home a phonics information sheet. This shows you the letters that we have learnt so far and some rhymes to help the children to write the letters. Any practice that you can do at home recognising the letters, hearing them in words and having a go at writing them would be brilliant. Next Thursday is Come Together in Yellow for World Mental Health day so we will be doing lots of activities to do with the colour yellow. If children want to wear a yellow hair bow, yellow socks or similar they are welcome to. Also, on Thursday 24 th October. the last day before half term, the children are welcome to come to school dressed as their favourite monster, or they might want to wear some clothes that are the same colour as one of the monsters. We hope you all have a lovely weekend!
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Hornbeam	<p>This week we have been learning all about comparing numbers, recognising when one number is greater than another or when the numbers are the same. The children have begun to use comparison symbols (hungry crocodiles) to write their own number sentences. In English we have learnt what a noun is and how there are different types of nouns, in addition to this we have learnt all about questions and how to form a question marks. Also we have written to the Big Bad Wolf (from Little Red Riding Hood) to ask why he wanted to eat her!</p> <p>In our foundation subjects we have continued learning different types of playground games - this week we have focussed on using hoops and created a range of different games. In RE we have been looking at belonging - how we all belong to different groups and communities and what it means to belong.</p> <p>Finally, in Phonics we are very excited to have learnt our first split digraph (a_e, as in cake). We have been writing different words with this sound as well as a few alien words too!</p>
Beech	<p>Beech class enjoyed a live session with the author and illustrator Petr Horáček as part of the Henley Literacy Festival this week. We enjoyed listening to his hilarious stories and learnt how to draw a bear with lots of different expressions. In R.E, we have been reflecting on the Christian festival of harvest. We created some fruit and vegetable artwork using pastels and wrote some lovely poems. We have also been practising our shading techniques in Art using charcoal. In science, we used craft materials to create information posters about the life cycle of a butterfly. We have been looking at the properties of 3D shapes as part of our Maths this week. It was great fun to end the week celebrating our hard work in Beech class, with a pyjama day!</p>
Ash	<p>In Ash Class this week, we have been writing setting descriptions in our English lessons about our class book, Rhythm of the Rain, and looking at Harvest. In Geography we have been mapping the River Thames using Ordnance Survey maps and keys. And in maths, we have been using numbers lines to order numbers to 1,000 and counting in 50s.</p>
Rowan	<p>This week, we have been hard at work practicing our best handwriting by creating haikus and writing them out for display. These are Japanese poetry form, with 3 lines only, and a set amount of syllables to each line. At first it was tricky to keep the words down, but we have now mastered the art of not using words that waste our syllables. In maths, we have begun work on addition and subtraction with numbers up to 10,000. Please talk to your child about the methods that we use in school, their explanations should help them embed their understanding, and also you if you need to help at any time.</p> <p>Next week is harvest at the church. Please could you provide a tin or packet, or even fresh food for your child to carry down to the church for the service? The gifts are then boxed and shared around the village to the elderly.</p> <p>Please continue to listen to your child read regularly, and record this in the yellow reading diary? It is a key policy and will help build reading confidence and fluency. Also practice those times tables. We are currently revisiting those from year 3 in class.</p>
Maple	<p>Our week in Maple Class has been filled with finishing our Norse myths, diving into problem solving in Maths and wrapping it all up with an amazing ukulele performance for the rest of the school. First, our myths are finally complete and edited. We've been over mountains, under oceans, through strange realms and taken part in a variety of battles. We're hoping to share some with all of you very soon! Maths saw us diving into problem solving, this week using tables to help us solve complex problems. We've worked on clear pencil lines, well built tables and useful information that can be used to solve our problems. In Science we started prepping for an experiment next week that will see us building parachutes to save a small squadron of plastic dinosaurs while Topic saw us looking at the timeline of events that occurred during the Anglo-Saxon period in Britain. We wrapped up our week with another fine ukulele lesson that led to a wonderful performance in sharing assembly. We're keen to share some of our progress with you all so keep an eye on the website in the coming weeks!</p>

Willow	This week we have been looking at Common Factors and Common Multiples in Maths (and trying not to confuse these) In Science, we were learning about the work completed by Carl Linnaeus, a Swedish biologist, who designed how we classify nature. We now know how to ask to see the lions in any country! We have also started to look at autobiographies and focused on the life of Nelson Mandela. There have been many interesting and in-depth discussions about apartheid and how we feel about this. Over the next few weeks we will start to create our own autobiographies to share with our Oakies. We will be asking your children to ask you about the day they were born and also for some photos of their childhood so far - keep an eye on Teams.
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Important dates

Sunday 13 th October	Oxford Half Marathon
Friday 18 th October	FOWPS Disco with DJ Ethan – tickets now on sale, see the link below
Monday 21 st October	Parents evening – more details to follow
Wednesday 23 rd October	Open Morning for September 2025 intake 9:30 & 11:00am. Bookings need to be made via the office.
Wednesday 23 rd October	Year 1 and 4 After School Cake Sale
Wednesday 23 rd October	FOWPS AGM 3:30pm
Wednesday 23 rd October	FOWPS Christmas Planning meeting 4:15pm
Thursday 24 th October	Parents evening – more details to follow
Thursday 24 th October	FOWPS shed tidy (volunteers please) – time to be confirmed
Friday 25 th October	INSET Day – no children in school
Thursday 31 st October	Applications close for secondary school places
Saturday 9 November	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop and Second Hand Uniform Sale
Tuesday 12 th November	Open Morning for September 2025 intake 9:30 & 11:00am. Bookings need to be made via the office.
Friday 6 th December	FOWPS Christmas Fair

FOWPS

JUST THREE MORE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

DJ Ethan is set to host our first **FOWPS Disco** of the year on **Friday 18 October**, but we can't do it without the support of our wonderful parent volunteers. Please sign up here: volunteersignup.org/JFAKJ Tickets can be purchased [HERE](#)

Asda Cashpot for Schools' initiative

Thank you we have got off to a great start and you have already helped to raise £65.49 If you haven't already joined all you have to do is - download the Asda Rewards app, opt in to Cashpot for Schools and choose Woodcote Primary School RG8 0QY. For each customer that registers Woodcote Primary School, FOWPS will receive £1. Plus, every time you shop online or instore using your Asda Rewards app before 30 November, FOWPS will receive further donations. Please encourage your friends and family to sign up too. Thank you!

FOWPS would like to hold a Christmas Raffle to support our fundraising for the term. We have raised up to £1,000 in previous raffles. However, we need some help to do it. Can you spare a

couple of hours emailing or popping into potential local sponsors? Perhaps you're a dab hand with cellophane and ribbon and can you help present our prizes? If you can help at all, please contact Caroline Tye on 07879676421. Thank you for your support!