



Friday 24th May

As we draw to the end of another half term we would just like to remind you that Monday 3rd June is an Inset Day so all children will return to school on Tuesday 4th June. School photographs are also being taken that day so please remember to send your child to school wearing full school uniform. We also have an INSET day on Wednesday 3rd July.

On Monday a group of year 4s went to The Oratory School to play in a tennis tournament. They were shown the format of the game, how to serve and score, and then played short games against each other through the afternoon. Despite not being at all familiar with grass courts or the type of ball, our children did us well, showed sportsmanship, determination and resilience.



Year 6 Residential

The Year 6 children are currently heading back from their residential trip to Devon. It sounds like they all had a super time and we look forward to hearing more after half term. Have a look at the Willow Class page on the website to see what they have been doing.

Guitar Lessons

Thank you to Will and Alex who played their guitars for us on Wednesday afternoon, the children and adults were all very impressed with what they had learnt so far.

We understand that some children have expressed an interest in starting guitar lessons, a sign up form is attached.

Busy Bee Clubs

After School and Before School club booking information will go live on ParentMail on Saturday 24th May 2024 @ 18:30. We are delighted to be now offering a cookery club on Tuesdays and Wednesdays after school. The children will be able to learn different cooking techniques and then take what they have made home. We are also running an early morning chill club which will start at 8:00am on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning. The children can take part in Lego, colouring or maybe just watch some tv to ease them into the day in a chilled way. As with all clubs there are limited spaces so please do book early to avoid disappointment.

Lunch Time Supervisor Vacancies

We currently have positions available for working as a Lunchtime Supervisor, both full-time and part-time, as the usual Lunchtime Supervisory Role and also 1:1 support positions across lunchtime. If you are interested in any of these, please get in touch via email, phone or speak to the School office.

Coffee Shop

Mrs Hunt will be running the coffee shop tomorrow, please support her by popping down for coffee and cake. All money raised will be going to the OUH. Thank you for your support.

Class Updates

Oak	<p>Well it's been a busy buzzy week in Oak class; the children finished the final touches to their wild flower paintings for the 'Daisy and Forget-me-not' Exhibition to their special guests on Thursday. The rest of the school got to see their creations in a whole school assembly. Mid-week saw the children step on board Oak Airlines Flight 100 to Mexico (!). Check-in and security went smoothly with all 'passengers' having their passports stamped before being shown to their seat by the cabin crew. They had a full safety briefing and were, as always advised to keep seatbelts fastened for the duration of the flight. They received a refreshment service and snack and were told how the wonderful wings work. We nearly had a 'wing-walker' moment until crew advised that passenger to stay on-board until we'd crossed the Atlantic! All children really enjoyed the experience. They've each written a postcard home (for English) from the country they ended up in, it turns out some had an onward flight to the Arctic!</p> <p>In handwriting this week, the number 5 and 6 have been formed...please practice these at home. We've given children a fish with some of the 100 high frequency words on that they will need to know as they go through school. They can always colour these in when they can read them. Have a wonderful half term break and thank you for all your support this term.</p>
Hornbeam	<p>We are definitely ready for half term in Hornbeam class, the children have worked incredibly hard and deserve a well-earned rest! This final week we have been focussing on 'colour poems' and hopefully (at the time of writing) these poems will have made their ways home for you all to enjoy. In addition to this we finished our sculpture project, we imprinted leaves into clay previously and this week we spoke about how colour can evoke different emotions. The children then decided to paint the sculpture to reflect their moods. We have also had a 'shop' set up for some of our independent learning times which has complemented our maths where we have been learning to recognise and count different coins in our money topic. Finally, on Monday the children carried out a science investigation. We were researching the best material to make an umbrella out of. We tested wood, rock, rubber, fabric and plastic and concluded that rubber was the best material as it was light, waterproof and strong. I hope you all have a fantastic half term and return from the holidays ready to finish the year in style.</p>
Beech	<p>Beech class have had a great week in English writing information texts all about castles. We included historical vocabulary, ambitious vocabulary and some impressive sentence starters. These are all proudly displayed in Beech classroom. In maths, we started learning about statistics and started the week off by reading and creating tally charts. We also finished off our measures unit looking at capacity and temperature. In science, we wrote conclusions to our science experiment investigating what plants need to stay healthy. We hope the children enjoyed eating the cress they grew. During DT this week we evaluated our Castle projects and reflected on what we would improve next time. We are saying a sad farewell to one of our class members this week and wish him well as he moves to a new school.</p>
Ash	<p>This week in Ash Class, we have been learning about money; adding, subtracting and thinking about change. Any opportunities over half term to look at using money, recognising coins and thinking about change, would be great practice. We have also been writing our own versions of The First Drawing story, in our English</p>

	<p>lessons. Thinking about sequencing the main events and changing the story from 2nd person to 1st person narrative. And in science, we have been learning about fossils. After half term, we will be making our own fossils, so if you have an opportunity to collect any shells over your half term (to fit in the bottom of a plastic cup), that would be really helpful. We'll have supplies in school to use too. Have a lovely half term!</p>
Rowan	<p>There has been a lot of work going on in Rowan class this week. In English, we have been using the skills we learnt when writing our Macavity newspaper reports and applied them to the mystery of Mrs Hunt's missing fan. In Science, following on from creating our models of the digestive system last week, we have consolidated our knowledge by writing about what happens to our food once it enters the mouth. And for our PE lesson, we played a fun game of rounders. It was great to see the children working together in their teams. Today we said farewell to Miss Young, whose teaching placement at Woodcote ends today. The children have really enjoyed having Miss Young in the class and we wish her well in her future career. Finally, please do keep practising times tables over half term, particularly the 6, 7, 8 and 9 times tables. Have a wonderful half term everyone.</p>
Maple	<p>What a week Year 5 have had! Despite it being our final week of the half term, and our final week with Miss Downes helping us out, we've crammed a huge amount of learning in! In Maths we polished off some of our learning linked to measuring angles, before having a one off lesson linked to making line graphs using computers. English has seen us learning about Romeo and Juliet, we even performed the build up to the fight scene! Meanwhile, in Science we learned a little more about the solar system and our place in it while PE found us continuing to practice our tennis skills. However, we wrapped up our week with two big events, World War 2 day and a visit from some of our parents who taught us all about money and what they do at Nationwide bank! Everyone looked amazing in the costumes for World War 2 day and we had the chance to do some amazing things. We experienced an air raid siren, explored what being evacuated might have felt like, completed a spelling test under 1940s conditions and spent a big chunk of time working on our propaganda posters. Finally, Friday saw us learning about how we can look after our money and the options we'll have as we grow up. Altogether it was an amazing week and we're hugely thankful to Miss Downes, Mr Tye and Mrs Compton who have been teaching us this week. Hope you all have a great break!</p>

Year 5 children dressed up for World War II day, don't they look great!



The children in Oak class thoroughly enjoyed their flight to Mexico and they managed to get there and back in a school day!



Important dates

Monday 26 th May – Friday 30 th May	Summer half term
Monday 3 rd June	INSET day – no children in school
Thursday 6 th June	School Photographs –
Friday 7 th June	FOWPS dress in home clothes (for donation of sweets for tombola)
Wednesday 12 th June	Year 4 trip to the Earth trust
Wednesday 19 th June	Reception intake 2024 – Welcome meeting @ 6:00pm
Friday 21 st June	4.30pm - 7.30pm Big Summer Bounce Summer Bounce Volunteer sign up here
Monday 24 th June	New starters Sept 2024/ children in class & coffee morning for new parents 9:15 – 10:15am
Tuesday 25 th June	Sports Day – KS2 – AM & KS1 - PM
Thursday 27 th June	Back up Sports Day
Saturday 29 th June	9.30am - 12.30pm FOWPS Coffee Shop and Second hand uniform sale
Tuesday 2 nd July	Reception intake 2024 in class 9:30 – 1:05
Wednesday 3 rd July	Inset Day – no children in school
Tuesday 9 th July	UKS2 performance dress rehearsal
Wednesday 10 th July	UKS2 Performance – pm – further details to follow nearer to the time
Thursday 11 th July	UKS2 Performance – pm - further details to follow nearer to the time

Friday 19 th July	Disco with DJ Ethan – more details to follow nearer to the time Volunteer sign up here
Wednesday 24 th July	Last day of Term – 1:00pm finish

FOWPS

Thank you for all of your generous bottle donations last week. FOWPS really appreciates your support and we will have a wonderful Bottle Tombola at the Summer Bounce on Friday 21st June.

We will be having a further dress down day on **Friday 7 June**. This time we will be requesting **'sweet treats'** in exchange for your child wearing their own clothes to school. Please ensure that the donations are in date and do not contain nuts. Please avoid donating chocolate where possible (as it will melt).

Other News

Art in the Park competition

As part of its 30th anniversary celebrations, Howbery Business Park in Crowmarsh is inviting entries for its 'Art in the Park' competition. Prizes are up for grabs for 2D artwork relating to the theme of 'Water in our world'.

The winner in the ages 4-11 category will receive a £50 prize each, plus £250 for their nominated school or youth group to spend on art supplies. Entrants must create their artwork on a postcard measuring 148 x 105mm, which they can post or hand in at the business park.

Participants in the competition are free to interpret 'water in our world' as they wish, but are encouraged to visit Howbery Park for inspiration. There is much to inspire, including the historic manor house with its sweeping lawn and café terrace, the riverbank, tree-lined avenues, wildflower patches, rose beds among the former stable buildings, a plethora of butterflies, bee hives, and a solar park.

The park is open to the public on working weekdays, including Tuesday 28th to Friday 31st May during half term week when children will be able to pick up a blank postcard from the Manor Café to create their masterpieces.

Helping everyone live and work sustainably with water is the aim of Howbery Park's owners, HR Wallingford. By choosing 'water in our world' as the competition theme, the company wishes to encourage people to think about the role and importance of water in our lives.

The deadline for entries is 31 July 2024.

Full details, and terms and conditions are on the Howbery park website: www.howberypark.com/art

May Half Term Fun

25 - 31 May 2024

Join us as we celebrate national Bee and Biscuit days, step back in time to Roman Bucks and make your own wildflower seed-bomb or puppet plus lots more!

Discover more at discoverbucksmuseum.org
or scan the QR code



FREE

Saturday 25 May – Spring Into Summer – Family Day

FREE with standard admission charges, drop in 10am - 4pm.
Suitable for ages 3+.

We're springing into summer at Discover Bucks Museum: play outdoor games, learn about historic May Day traditions, try out our summer gallery trail and more!

Monday 27 May – Seeds, Seeds Everywhere

£3.50, drop in 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm. Suitable for ages 3+.

Celebrate bee day by making a wildflower seed-bomb from recycled paper.

Tuesday 28 May – Bucks Back in Time: The Romans

£3.50, 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm. Suitable for ages 4+.

Step back into Roman Bucks and experience hands-on crafts and activities in this drop-in workshop: make a Roman mosaic, see how you look in a toga, discover Roman meal time & handle real Roman artefacts!

Wednesday 29 May – Biscuit Day at Discover Bucks

£3.50, drop in 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm. Suitable for ages 3+.

Celebrate National Biscuit Day at Discover Bucks Museum with biscuit decorating, edible playdough, a sensory dig pit and more!

Thursday 30 May – Let's Get Creative

£3, 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm. Suitable for ages 3+.

Join us to make your very own collage to take home.

Friday 31 May – Nature Puppets

£4.50, 10am – 12pm & 1pm – 3pm. Suitable for ages 4+

Create your very own nature-inspired, moveable puppet.

For more
event details,
charges and to
book please scan
the QR code
or visit
discoverbucksmuseum.org

Make a day of it and visit the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery and the rest of the Museum while you're here. We're now open Sundays 12pm - 4pm as well.