



**Friday 19th April**

Welcome back after the Easter break, we hope that you all had an enjoyable time. We captured a photograph of the beautiful blossom tree in the front garden earlier this week which is now once again being battered by rain. Please ensure that your child comes to school with named suitable clothing for the weather conditions. Hopefully, the blue skies will return soon!



Good luck to Mrs Hunt and Mr Elsome and anyone else taking part in the London Marathon on Sunday.

### **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.

### **Class Updates**

<b>Oak</b>	Oakies have had a really good first week back but they are all feeling a bit tired now! Thank you for returning the 'Easter Traditions' sheet. We had a super class discussion about all the different Easter activities that you do as a family. Thank you too to Arthur's dad, Mr Grepne, for coming in to show the children his guitars. They really enjoyed his visit! Our topic this term is 'The Wider World'; exploring hot and cold environments and comparing them to our own temperate one. We have linked cold environments to the story of 'Lost and Found' by Oliver Jeffers. The children have been using their phonics to write some lovely sentences describing the penguin character from the story. They have been also busy making sandwiches this week and learning to use the 'bridge hold' to slice cucumber. In handwriting, they have been forming letters 'f', 's' and 'e'. If you are able to practice these letters at home that would be great!
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<b>Hornbeam</b>	<p>The children have enjoyed a seamless return to school after the Easter Holidays and we have enjoyed listening to the very many stories that they have to tell. Within school we have been progressing into looking at counting in twos and tens and organising objects into groups to make this easier. In English we have been looking at the book 'Where the wild things are' and have written some sentences describing the wild things as well as some questions we would like to ask them. Finally, we enjoyed learning about a healthy diet on Monday and the children enjoyed making fruit kebabs as a healthy snack alternative.</p>
<b>Beech</b>	<p>Beech class had a wonderful week back after the Easter holidays. We started a new unit of work all about castles and dragons and used the beautiful book 'Tell me a dragon' to inspire our writing. We created some fabulous sentences including expanded noun phrases. We started learning about the timeline of the history of castles and begun planning our DT project. In maths, we are continuing to develop our understanding of fractions and have been using real objects to find a quarter of a shape and different amounts. This runs alongside our continued learning about money calculations.</p> <p>We had such a great trip to Rushall farm on Wednesday. It was a jam-packed day including pond dipping where the children found tadpoles, pond skaters, dragon fly larvae and even some leaches! We then learnt all about bees and played a fun pollination game. After that, we went on a nature walk in the woods for a colour search activity. To finish the day, we enjoyed a bumpy tractor ride to visit the farm animals and feed the chickens. Honestly, it was a real privilege to see the delight on the children's faces. A great day had by all!</p>
<b>Ash</b>	<p>In Ash class this week, we launched our new 'Stone Age to Iron Age' topic with a history lesson looking at timelines. We set up a timeline in the playground, with 2024 CE just outside the Year 4 classroom. Travelling over 2,000 years back in time to the year 0001 CE took only 2 steps. Another small step back took us into the Iron Age, before taking 79 more steps to travel back through the prehistoric periods to the Early Stone Age in Britain in 80,000 BCE. This took us all the way across the school field! We were surprised at how far back the Stone Age went and how long it lasted!</p> <p>Linked to this, we created some cave art for our topic working wall using handprints, after looking at images of the Cueva de las Manos in Argentina. We also started our Science topic on 'Rocks and Soils', exploring the difference between natural and man-made rocks. Hopefully, Ash class can spot some natural and man-made rocks whilst they are out and about over the weekend.</p>
<b>Rowan</b>	<p>Welcome back to what should be a busy but fun term. We are now practicing our times tables daily ready for the Government test in June. Please ensure you support your child with this, it is essential that they are fluent across all tables in the coming few weeks.</p> <p>We have started our history topic for this half term, so be prepared for Roman everything! Numbers, Gladiators, slaves...all will be covered at some point. We also continue to have Miss Young with us, please make yourself known at pick up and drop off. The children have helped make her feel welcome in the class.</p>
<b>Maple</b>	<p>Week one of the Summer term has seen Maple Class diving right back into their learning. First we welcomed back Miss Downes, who is going to be working with us for the next six weeks. She taught two exciting lessons this week, both engaging our drama and roleplay skills. We were fascinated to start our new Topic, World War 2, and discovered how events following the end of WW1 ultimately led to the beginning of the second. In English we started looking at time slip stories, taking advantage of AI to generate images of the characters and using them in our writing. Maths has also seen us starting something new by beginning to explore line graphs and statistics. We've been hard at work drawing our own line graphs that showcase multiple sets of data. Finally, we also began to explore ourselves in Science, learning about prenatal development of humans. Did you know you were 6mm long at 6 weeks old! We're going to continue to explore human development, including in our homework where we've been tasked to find a picture of our younger selves and see</p>

	what has changed. To start the embarrassment, you have been given the pleasure of seeing Mr Langley's four-year-old self in the homework. He's even got hair! Enjoy!
<b>Willow</b>	Welcome back everyone! It was fabulous to hear about every bodies adventures during the holiday. This week we've begun our new topic of Early Islamic Civilisation and started revising the topics the pupils feel they would like to go over ready for their SATs. Whilst this is aimed at helping the pupils feel more confident about their upcoming tests, we are aware that some of the pupils may feel nervous/excited or worried about this and that some of them feel pressure from their peers and the amount of work they see their classmates doing. As a class, we discuss how we are all different and that some pupils will want to revise whilst others may not. We also talk about how we are feeling and what we can control to make us feel more at ease. It is important to remember that everyone is different and that a test does not define us. As parents, we would encourage you to talk to your child about how they are feeling too and please get in touch if you need support. We were also visited by PC Dix this week who spoke to us about keeping safe whilst we're out and about in our community and also the importance of talking through problems, if they arise. It was a fabulous talk and we all learned a lot. Remember, we have our Residential meeting on Wednesday evening at 5.30pm and pupils will need a lunch provided on Tuesday for their trip to Oxford for their Junior Citizen experience.

Year 6 children had a very imformative chat from PC Dix



The year 2 children enjoyed pond-dipping amongst other activities at Rushall Farm.



The children enjoyed making St. George's day dragons at our Busy Bee's Craft club this week. They also made wooden spoon dragons and split pin knights.



### **Important dates**

Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Year 6 – Junior Citizens trip
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Bank holiday – no children in school
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 1 and 6 After school cake sale
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	SATS Week – Year 6
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	FOWPS dress in home clothes (for a donation of a bottle for tombola)
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Residential trip
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	Summer half term
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	FOWPS dress in home clothes (for donation of sweets for tombola)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	4.30pm - 7.30pm Big Summer Bounce
Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	9.30am - 12.30pm FOWPS Coffee Shop and Second hand uniform sale

### **FOWPS**

#### **Woodcote Village Fete BBQ run by FOWPS: Can you help?**

FOWPS have been offered an opportunity to run the BBQ at the Village Fete on Saturday 14th September.

This could be an excellent opportunity to raise funds for our children's school but we will need a firm commitment from parent/family volunteers by the end of April.

If you can help for an hour please sign up here: <https://volunteersignup.org/7ATEP> by Tuesday 30th April.

If you have any queries, please ask your FOWPS rep or a committee member. You can email us on [fowps-pta@googlegroups.com](mailto:fowps-pta@googlegroups.com) or comment on our FB page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/FOWPSpta>

**March 100 Club Winner** - Congratulations to Vicky Rice, who won the monthly prize of £30.

## Other News

**The Oratory School Open Morning** – flyer attached

**Face Family Advice** – please see the attached flyer

## Bannister Community Mile

Join us for a one-mile road run open to the general public, as we celebrate Roger Bannister's historic achievement of breaking the mile world record in Oxford on May 6th, 1954.

Open to participants of all ages and abilities. Participants will be able to run down the High Street on an England Athletics certified course with electronic chip timing.

Finishers will collect their bespoke 70th Anniversary Medal on the iconic Iffley Road track before viewing the displays and pop-up museum.

With entries limited, participants are encouraged to sign up ASAP via this [link](#).

**The Great School Run** is back again this year. It is taking place on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024 at Stonor Park from 9.30am. It is a cross-country event for children aged 3 to 18 (and their parents) from across Henley-on-Thames and the surrounding areas. I was wondering whether you may be able to help promote the event to your pupils, parents or members please. It is free to enter, organised by Education Henley and hosted by Stonor Park.

**Booking is now open.** We encourage people to book in advance so that we can plan the event effectively. The event website is: [The Great School Run of Henley - Home](#)

The Great School Run is free to enter, but we are encouraging a suggested donation of £2 per participant for [Be Free Young Carers](#), a local charity which is devoted to improving young carers' wellbeing and opportunities.

