



**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

Happy New Year to everyone, we do hope that you all had a peaceful break!. We would like to thank you for the lovely gifts that the staff received, they are very much appreciated. It is lovely to see the children back in school raring to go again with their learning.

We would also like to welcome our new teachers Mr Neal and Mrs Harbord who seem to be settling in well.

**Young Voices on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

Please look out for the Parent Mail letter which has been sent out today summarising all of the information for this event. Please contact the office by Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> if you have any issues with your tickets. If anyone has any audience tickets that they no longer want please contact the office as we have some parents that would like some.

**Headlice**

It seems these little visitors stayed for Christmas and have returned to school with the children. Please can all parents check children’s hair thoroughly and regularly. We would really like to see these gone and children comfortable.

**Class Updates**

<p><b>Oak</b></p>	<p>Thank you so much to all the Oakies and Oak parents for your very generous Christmas gifts! We deeply appreciate it. Thank you!          The children have settled back into school very well. The topic this term is 'Where I live' and we will be looking at the location of key places in Woodcote such as the library, garden centre, church and shop.          We will be holding a Sharing Time in class on 9<sup>th</sup> February at 3pm. Please do join us in class if you can! If any parent would like to be a Secret Reader this term or perhaps come and tell the children about your job or talent then that would be wonderful. Thank you again for all your support.</p>
<p><b>Hornbeam</b></p>	<p>WOW! What an incredible first week back! The children have all worked so hard this week and I am sure they're all exhausted after a full week of learning. In Maths, we have been investigating numbers up to 20 and looking at how we can work out 1 more/less than a number. In English, we have been using the book lost and found as a stimulus for our writing and have been looking at using a variety of adjectives and adverbials to retell the story. In Science, we are have been working scientifically to conduct an investigation, using ice and how different objects can impact the amount of time it takes to melt an ice cube. Maybe there is something at home that can also impact the melting time.          Finally, can I say a big thank you to all the children’s parents and staff for making me feel so welcome in the school. I already feel like I have been here far longer than a week!</p>

<b>Beech</b>	Beech class have had a great week. We have been learning about contractions in phonics this week and made a game using paper to help us to remember. In maths, we have continued to add and subtract using a range of methods. In addition, we have started to learn to tell the time using an analogue clock. If any children have an analogue watch they would like to wear to school, that would be great! In science this term, Beech class are learning about animals, plants and their habitats. The children are very excited to now have stick insect eggs! In English next week, we are going to research how to look after the stick insects and then write an information poster about it.
<b>Ash</b>	Welcome back to a new term! This week, we have enjoyed beginning to explore Europe! We started by reminding ourselves of the different continents and oceans on a world map and locating where to find Europe. Then, we investigated which countries are in Europe, we were amazed to see so many countries included! In English, we have been focusing on how to spell and use the long A phoneme with our spelling superhero's Jade and Spray. In Science, we have explored what a light source is and how we can describe it, we are looking forward to learning more about light and shadows this term. We have also really enjoyed welcoming Mrs Harbord to our class and sharing our learning with her this week.
<b>Rowan</b>	Happy New Year and welcome back to you all. We hope you had a lovely Christmas break. We would like to say thank you for the Christmas wishes, cards, and gifts you gave us. This week, we have begun our new topic for the term, Rainforests. Whist being part of our Geography curriculum, we will also be doing lots of linked work in our English lessons, based on the book 'The Explorer', by Katherine Rundell. We are already hooked into the story and keen to find out if the children, who have been stranded in the Amazon rainforest after their plane crashed, will manage to survive. In Maths, we are learning about multiplication and division. We have been learning about factor pairs and how, when you multiply a number by ten, all the digits get ten times greater, moving one space to the left. We have also learnt that we must remember to include the Place Holder in the Ones column! Have a lovely weekend everyone.
<b>Maple</b>	What a busy first week back! In English we've started to dive into our new class text, 'The Longest Night of Charlie Noon.' It's a fantastic book by Christopher Edge full of mystery and intrigue. We've made our predictions about what we think is coming next and can't wait to dive into it more next week. Maths has seen us dip into fractions, and we have started by reminding ourselves about equivalent fractions and how you can go about finding them. Meanwhile, our afternoons have been filled with singing rehearsals in preparation for our trip to the O2 next week. We're really looking forward to going and can't wait to show off our singing and dance moves!
<b>Willow</b>	Welcome back everyone! It was lovely to see everyone back and hear about their fantastic Christmas! Thank you for all of your fabulous cards and presents to our staff team, they were very much appreciated. We have begun this term by introducing our new topic of 'Restless Earth' for Geography, this will build throughout this term and next. We look at everything from Biomes to volcanoes and will have presentations of project work at the end of March - keep an eye out in the next couple of weeks for a letter about presentations. In Maths, we are focusing on fractions - adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing these (not all at once). In English, we have looked at Ted Hughes' 'The Darkling Thrush' and used this as a starting point for writing our own poems which we will complete next week. Please ensure PE kits are in school all week.

## **Important dates**


Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	Oxfordshire county Council deadline for receipt of completed Reception 2024 applications
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Young Voices (Yr5 & Yr6)
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January	Year 5 Bikeability – please ensure that all bikes have been checked and are in a safe working order and your child’s helmet fits
Saturday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	FOWPS Coffee Shop & Uniform sales @ The Old School House
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evening – times tbc
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evening – times tbc
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024	Children’s Mental Health week
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day in School
Saturday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	FOWPS Coffee Shop & Uniform sales @ The Old School House

## **FOWPS News**

Happy New Year! Our first FOWPS fundraising event for school is the Community Coffee Shop and Second Hand Uniform Sale on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January from 9.30-12.30. In order for it to run we are in need of helpers on the day and donations of cakes (bought or home made). Please let Natalie know if you might be able to help: 07733 356314. Thanks so much

## **Continued**

## OTHER NEWS




# PARENT WEBINAR

Parents are the most important part of young people's lives and hold the key to helping them. Let us help you, to help them.

**CAMHS**  
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



**SUBJECTS INCLUDE**

- TEEN ANXIETY
- SELF HARM
- LOW MOOD
- HOW TO TALK TO YOUR DISTRESSED CHILD

[WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/OXON/SIR/WEBINARS](http://WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/OXON/SIR/WEBINARS)

### **Shiplake College Schools Cross-Country**

Boys and girls in Years 1 to 6 from any primary or prep school are invited to the Shiplake College Schools' Cross-Country Competition on Saturday 3 February 2024. No pre-registration required (please arrive 15 minutes before race time). The first race (Year 1 boys) is at 9.00am, with the final race (Year 6 girls) at 10.15am. A full break down of race times and distances is at [www.shiplake.org.uk/schoolscrosscountry](http://www.shiplake.org.uk/schoolscrosscountry). Hot drinks and refreshments available to purchase from 8.30am. See you there!

**The Oratory School Open Morning on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** – details as per the attached flyer

**To any Reading FC fans out there!!**

**You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 3<sup>rd</sup> Schools and Grassroots Fixtures of 2023-24!**

**When?**

Reading vs Leyton Orient  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024, 3pm

### **Where?**

Select Car Leasing Stadium

### **How to qualify for the discount and confirm your attendance?**

We would be delighted if you could join us for our 3<sup>rd</sup> schools and grassroots fixture of 2023-24. And as part of our special invitation, we would like to offer the below discounted prices:

**12 and Under: £1**

**17 and Under: £3**

**18 to 24: £5**

**65 and over: £5**

**Adult: £10**

To redeem, please visit <https://ticketing.readingfc.co.uk> and enter the following unique coupon code: **#WoodcotePrimary** in the basket once you have logged in and selected your tickets.

### **How many tickets can we purchase?**

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code. And, for every ticket which is purchased you will receive one entry in a prize draw for a chance to win a series of 'money can't buy experience' prizes!

**Important!** This offer applies to tickets in the Eamonn Dolan Stand blocks and Y19/Y20 of the Sir John Madejski Stand. Coupon codes are valid up until 4 hours before kick-off.

If you have any questions about either offer, please email [sales@readingfc.co.uk](mailto:sales@readingfc.co.uk) or call 0118 968 1313.