



Friday 3rd November

We hope that you all had an enjoyable half term break, it is wonderful to see all of the children back in school. As the weather is certainly getting colder please can we remind you to send your child in with a named coat, hat and gloves etc not forgetting that Woodcote Primary beanie hats can be purchased via the ParentMail shop.

Royal British Legion

Remembrance Poppies, wrist bands and other items are available for a donation to the Royal British Legion on the playground at drop off and pick up. Please support this very worthy cause.

Phone lines

We have been notified by our telecoms provider that there is a fault in the area so if you can bear with us whilst our phones are fixed. In the meantime, if you need to contact the school, please ring 07468 593476. Thank you for your understanding.

Children In Need fund raising event

Please can your child wear yellow to school on Friday 17th November for a minimum donation of £1.00 towards Children In Need. The School Council will also be holding a cake sale during the day, cakes will be sold for a minimum donation of 50p each, if there are any left-over cakes these will be available to buy at the end of the school day. Your cake donations are very much appreciated to make this a successful event. Please remember that we are a NUT free school.

From the last newsletter

Christmas Card competition

Sent on behalf of Cllr Felix Bloomfield, Chair of Oxfordshire County Council

Dear Colleagues,

As Chair of Oxfordshire County Council, I would be delighted if you would take part in this year's Christmas Card Competition 2023.

I appreciate this may be a little short notice, I would love all primary age children to send their designs to me and I hope this half term allows them enough time to do this.

This year's theme is "The Nativity", the winner will have their design printed on the front of my Christmas card which is sent to over 200 people in the constituency and beyond.

Please send all entries to Chair of the Council, County Hall, New Road, Oxford. OX1 1ND no later than 6th November. Alternatively, entries can be emailed to chair@oxfordshire.gov.uk

With kindest regards,

Cllr Felix Bloomfield
Chair of Oxfordshire County Council



Class Updates

<p>Oak</p>	<p>A big thank you for all the reading over the holidays as we have seen a big improvement in the children's blending - please keep reading every day. We have been learning about the gunpowder plot, discussing firework safety and singing about fireworks. It would be great if you can see if your children can write some firework noises such as pop, bang and weee.</p> <p>Thank you for the birthday pictures, we are talking about these next week. If your child has not yet done this, please see if they can do this and bring in their picture. As the weather is very changeable it would be great to have a puddle suit for outdoor play. Please do bring this in if you have one for your child.</p> <p>Have fun and stay safe this weekend. The children know of great ways to do this, see if they can tell you!</p>
<p>Hornbeam</p>	<p>The Hornbeams have had a great start to term. Our new topic is Celebrations and we have begun with a bang by learning about the Gunpowder Plot. We have written firework poems, have been learning new vocabulary about fireworks and have made some firework art. In maths we have been recapping number bonds whilst in PE we have started gymnastics and in Science we have started to learn about materials. Well done on a fantastic week Hornbeam class.</p>
<p>Beech</p>	<p>Beech class have been working so hard to learn their 2, 5 and 10 times tables and they have been using real objects to help them solve some tricky problems in maths. We have also been looking at how we can accurately use centimetres and metres to measure objects. The children have been discussing what makes them and their classmates special. They have also been reflecting on one of our school values of 'respect' and what it means to be respectful to others and ourselves. In art, we have been making secondary colours and evaluated our still life painting using artistic vocabulary. In our topic time we have been finding out about transport in the past. We have enjoyed using different sources to help us with our research.</p>

Rowan	<p>Yesterday, Rowan went on a visit to St. Leonard's Church to learn all about the different features in a church. Thank you very much to Reverend Benksin for taking the time to show us around and share his knowledge. We all really enjoyed it and learnt lots. By the time you read this, we will also have been on our trip to Reading Museum. We look forward to sharing this next week. We hope you enjoy reading Nancy's poem, completed as part of our English work this week.</p>
Maple	<p>Welcome back! We've had a great first week in Year 5, diving into lots of new learning. In English we started looking at 'The Lost Thing' by Shaun Tan, a fantastic author and artist. We explored his world full of dreary and dull humans, but fascinating and magical 'lost things.' We've designed our own lost things and we'll be writing all about them over the coming weeks. In Maths we continued to build our problem solving skills, exploring how sometimes we have to complete two or even three calculations in order to find a correct answer. Science saw us using Newton Meters to measure mass and weight and attempting to find links between the two while in Topic we learned all about Viking longships. We wrapped up the week with our ukuleles, learning some more nursery rhymes and continuing to build our skills while in Computing we started coding some 'Chase Me' games where we attempt to avoid being caught by the evil computer!</p> <p>Finally, we were especially proud of your children this week when we sat down to talk about growing up and the changes their bodies are going to go through in the coming years. They were extremely grown up and asked lots of insightful questions with very few giggles to be heard! Please do take the opportunity to check in with them when you can. Thank you!</p>
Willow	<p>Welcome back everyone, it was lovely to hear about the children's exploits during half term and listening to excitement about Halloween and upcoming events for Fireworks night. This week we have begun the term reading both 'In Flanders Fields' and 'Exposure'. We used these WWI poems to look at narrative poems and how authors choose specific language for effect. We are learning Flanders Fields off-by-heart to recite at the War Memorial next friday. It was fabulous to see that some pupils bring in research that they had done into their own family members who fought in wars. We will include this in our remembrance work. Next week we turn our attention to script writing for English. In Science, we began to look at the different systems of the body, starting with our magnificent brains and how important they are. For PE this term we will be doing football skills. Can we recommend joggers as the weather is colder and, if the pupils have football boots and shin pads, can they bring them in? If they don't have any, we have some at school that can be borrowed - just let us know.</p>

Poppy

A life so empty fills with light.
Once a meadow, now battle ground.
But then something changed!
The first poppy grew.
The poppies started spreading!

Till fields that were once wasteland
Now have their true beauty back!

But if not for the poppies,
Where would we be?
If not for the poppies,
What would become of the world?



By Nancy

Important dates

Friday 10 th November	Oak Class – shared class singing
Friday 10 th November	FOWPS Disco with DJ Ethan poster attached for more info.
Friday 17 th November	Children In Need – wear yellow for a £1.00 donation and cake sale
Saturday 18 th November	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop & second hand uniform
Wednesday 29 th November	FOWPS & The Cherry Tree Inn Wreath Making workshop and dinner.
Friday 1 st December	FOWPS Christmas Fair http://www.volunteersignup.org/F4AR3
Sunday 3 rd December	FOWPS Christmas Grotto and Santa at the Woodcote Christmas Market (tickets coming soon)
Wednesday 13 th December	Reception & KS1 Nativity performance - tbc
Thursday 14 th December	Reception & KS1 Nativity performance - tbc
Friday 15 th December	Y3 & Y6 After School Cake Sale
Friday 15 th December	Bag2School Fundraising Textiles Collection

FOWPS NEWS

Thank you to everyone for volunteering for the Disco, we have a full rota, so please do buy your children's tickets here: www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events

Natalie (Bryher and Ada's Mum) organises coffee shops in the Old School House each term to help raise money for our school. Our next coffee shop is on Saturday 18 November. To run coffee shops, we need donations of cakes (homemade or bought). We would be very grateful if anyone would be able to contribute, please message Natalie on 07733356314, as we need more cakes!

We are still looking for a parent representative from Reception. The role will include liaising between the FOWPS committee and your class about school fundraising events and volunteering opportunities. We hope to encourage a two-way dialogue to enable parents to feedback ideas and comments. We need your help to support our children's education and the school community. Please sign up here: www.volunteersignup.org/TXPE3

Other News

St Leonard's Church is holding a fundraising fair on Saturday 4th November in Woodcote Village Hall from 2:00pm to 4:00pm and admission is free. All the traditional stalls will be there, if you have any donations please contact Janet Casson on 681483. Many thanks.

