



Friday 29th September 2023

We would like to extend our very best wishes to Mrs Girvan as she leaves the school today. She has been with us as a Lunchtime Supervisor for four years and we are sad to say farewell. Mrs Girvan is taking up a new role with the Woodcote After School Club and currently also works with Woodcote Breakfast Club so, pleasingly, we will still see her. We would like to thank her for the support she has given the staff and the children over her time working here and wish her the very best of luck in her new venture.

Year 7 visitors

Thank you so much to all the year 7 pupils who have come back to see our year 6 children over the last few days. They have told our current year 6 how well prepared they were for Langtree and how much fun they are having. It was a wonderful opportunity for the year 6 children to hear what life is like as a Langtree pupil and for them to be able to ask questions. It is also lovely to hear how fond our ex-pupils are of their primary school! We are very proud of them all.



Cross Country

Yesterday we took 20 children to Stoke Row for the first of the Partnership Sports' events this year. They ran a very hard course across rough, undulating terrain, through woods and long grass. They all ran extremely well and represented Woodcote with pride. Thank you to all our runners. Particular congratulations to Angus who was placed 3rd in the year 5/6 boys' race and to Martha who placed 1st in the girls' year 5/6 race. Both the year 5/6 boys and the Year 5/6 girls were awarded 3rd place in the team event. Josephine and Teddy (Year 3 /4) along with Tilly and Rory (Year 5/6) were awarded a medal for their positivity, determination and team work. Well done to you all!

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. Each box will also contain a hand written 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.

Job Vacancies

We currently have two job vacancies within school, please see our website for more information under the vacancies section. Please note the closing date is Wednesday 4th October

Chew Toys

We allow sensory oral chews into school for those who have diagnosed requirements for sensory relief. We have noticed however, that more are coming into school with children who do not have a diagnosed need. We are concerned that these are becoming more of popular toy or craze. If you feel your child needs one, please speak with our SENDCo, Mrs Welsh, who will put the appropriate management plan in place.

Permission to use photographs reminder

Please can we remind you to complete the annual form for photography permissions. Please fill this in so we know your preferences for the use of your child's photograph. Please note, if a special use is required for a photograph i.e. it differs in use from those listed on the form, we will seek permission for this at the time.

Cauliflower Cards

The children have had lots of fun creating their Christmas artwork to bring home and show you. A reminder that if you would like to order any of the cauliflower cards items, please place your order online and return the artwork to your child's Class Teacher.

Please note that orders need to be placed and artwork returned by 3:15pm next Wednesday, 4th October, thank you for your support.

Class Updates

Oak	Oakies have been learning about different Harvest Festivals from around the world this week; from the Homowo Festival in Ghana to the Dozynki Festival in Poland. They know that they will be going to St Leonard's church next Wednesday for our Harvest assembly. It would be great if you can show your child where the church is when you are going past it and talk about what we could be thankful for. Also, talking about road safety as we will be walking across the road to the church next week. The children got changed for PE this week and they all did very well, with just a few needing help to get jumpers on and off and undo buttons. They loved playing 'traffic lights' where they had to listen and look at what Felix asked them to do. They were practicing jumping, balancing and bunny hopping! We have an assortment of fabulous fruit and vegetables that the children have been exploring, drawing and painting. Any more nature table items would be appreciated. The children have also been treated to a 'Secret Reader' ...ask them which parent came in!
Hornbeam	This week the children in Hornbeam have been learning how to be scientists. They have been investigating their senses and recording what they have found out. They learnt the word observe and went on a senses walk to observe as scientists, they did brilliantly. In English, they have been continuing their work on Little Red Riding Hood – you could ask them to tell you the story! They are also looking forward to singing some Harvest songs next week. If you would like your own Harvest celebration, ask them to sing Big Red Combine Harvester.
Beech	Beech class have been learning about Harvest festival this week and reflecting on what this time of year means to Christians. The children have been working hard to learn and perform a poem. They then wrote their own version including adjectives. In maths this week, the children have been making different numbers using real objects and solving problems involving 2-digit numbers. In science, we were investigating which exercise increased our heart rate the most. Beech class used stopwatches to test and measure the results. We are going to learn more about why exercise is important to keep us healthy next week. Our caterpillars are still hungry but soon they will be ready to form a chrysalis. We are observing them carefully to learn about their life cycle.

Ash	This week, we have continued to improve our magic box poems and focus on improving our word choices and punctuation. We have also learnt to apply the prefixes 'dis' and 'un' to some different root words. We really enjoyed learning about the different reasons why the River Nile was so important for the Ancient Egyptians. Did you know the river was home to hippos and crocodiles? In Science, we have worked hard on investigating what the different colours mean on food labels and we discussed which foods are important for growth and energy. In Maths, we have been working hard on comparing and ordering 3 digit numbers, we have learnt the difference between ascending and descending and we have been counting in multiples of 50. Please continue to practise counting in multiples of 50 and 100 at home.
Rowan	We have been working hard on our English work, investigating and writing fronted adverbials using our text, Fox as inspiration. If in doubt, ask your child for more information! We have also looked at sound in a bit more detail, in preparation for some practical investigations in the coming weeks. There is a grammar sheet for a part of the homework this week, to help children recall previously learnt objectives and to reinforce those that are being currently covered. Please support this. Also it is evident that some children are not completing any Times Tables Rockstars at home. Logins were sent at the start of term, so everyone should be doing up to 10 games a week to help improve the speed of recall. It is vital to practise this. It is a skill that is tested by the Government in June for all year 4 pupils.
Maple	This week we've been linguists, riddle solvers, computer scientists and myth writers! In English we've been continuing with our Norse myths, working out how we can incorporate speech into our stories. Maths has seen us continuing to build our place value knowledge through solving complex number riddles while in Topic we learned that many place names today were named by the Anglo-Saxons including Oxford, Henley and Wallingford. Computing saw us working on our mazes which now have characters we can move, that also reset when they touch the walls of their labyrinth! Finally, in our music lessons we've been working on a very strange song involving a bumblebee. Feel free to hop onto the Maple page of the website to try what we've been learning at home.
Willow	This week we have made final preparations for our Harvest celebrations next week, completing our poems, painting the boxes and learning about Harvest festivals around the world. In Maths, we have used our knowledge of Place Value to solve addition and subtraction problems. We performed 'If' in Sharing Assembly and were very proud of ourselves for learning such a long poem. Next week we will be delivering the Harvest boxes so please make sure that your child has a coat in school. In Science, we spent time in the school garden looking at classifying all the living and non-living things and learning that this was called Taxonomy. Please check Homework/Spelling books and Teams for Homework.

This week Year 6 children enjoyed classifying living/non-living things in the front garden



Important dates

Saturday 30 th September	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop and Second Hand Uniform Sale
Wednesday 4 th October	Return Christmas artwork to classes by 3:15
Wednesday 4 th October	Harvest service @ St Leonard's Church
Monday 9 th October	FOWPS AGM @ 3:30pm – all welcome including children
Tuesday 10 th October	Individual School photographs
Wednesday 11 th October	Storytime @ 2:45pm – details to follow
Wednesday 11 th October	Woodcote Primary Open morning for reception children 2024 9:30 – 11:30
Monday 16 th October	Parents Evening – more info to follow
Thursday 19 th October	Parents Evening – more info to follow
Thursday 19 th October	Y1 & Y4 After School Cake sale
Friday 20 th October	INSET Day – No children in school
Tuesday 31 st October	Closing date for Secondary school applications.
Wednesday 1 st November	Woodcote Primary Open morning for reception children 2024 9:30 – 11:30am
Friday 10 th November	FOWPS Disco with DJ Ethan
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

FOWPS NEWS

We raised an amazing £242.00 at the Red Lion Quiz that was held last week. Thank you to everyone that supported the event.

Our bakers and helpers are ready and we are looking forward to our first Community Coffee Shop of the year, which will be taking place next Saturday 30 September along with a second hand uniform sale. See you there!



Other News

You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 1st Schools and Grassroots Fixtures of 2023-24!

When?

Reading vs Burton Albion
Saturday 30th September, 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 1st 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. You also have the chance of winning your School some fantastic prizes by entering [here](#).

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.

You can also use the same coupon code to join us for the below women's fixture:

When?

Reading Women v Sheffield United Women
Sunday 22nd October, 12pm

Where?

Select Car Leasing Stadium

Prices

12 and Under: £1

17 and Under: £2

18 to 24: £3

65 and over: £3

Adult: £5

Important! This offer applies to tickets in blocks G9 and G10 of the West Lower Stand only. 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 or call 0118 968 1313.

Come on URRRZZ!!

Monster Science Holiday Camp for the October Half Term – see the attached flyer.