



Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

It was wonderful to see so many parents and children here on Wednesday evening exploring and enjoying maths. The school was buzzing with enthusiasm. Many parents commented on how well the children spoke about their learning and how they had been challenged by the children to take part in a game or two and that, often, the children had won! The children acted as “experts” during the evening as parents moved around the rooms to see how maths can be investigated under the four operations of Adding, Subtracting, Multiplication and Division. If you need to brush up on a method used in school, don't forget that we have a Mathematics Policy for each part of the school, on our website <https://www.woodcote-primary.co.uk/policies/>

It was truly impressive to see the variety of maths resources used in school across the age ranges and as one parent said, “who knew that maths could be so much fun!”



### **KS1 Nativity ticket request**

Please see the ParentMail form which was sent out yesterday.

### **RAF Santa – presents donation**

Thank you very much for your kind gift donations which were handed over to Flt Lt Chris Northcote from RAF Benson today by a group of children. The gifts will be taken to the John Radcliffe hospital to be given to children that will spend Christmas in hospital.



### **Drum Lessons**

Peter Terry, our drum teacher here at Woodcote, has a few spaces for next term January 2025. An ex-professional session drummer having worked with: David Bowie; Robert Palmer; Shirley Bassey and many others, has the experience and knowledge to educate the children. He is offering a one-two-one 30 minute drum lesson for Primary school children. His aim is for the children to have fun and to learn a basic rock beat and by the end of the academic year the children are confident and eager to demonstrate their skills by way of a performance. Drumming has a great effect on anxiety, mental health and behavioural issues. Recent research has found that drumming has a positive impact on cognitive development. Whether it's listening skills, memory skills or fine motor skills, rhythm training comes with major benefits that can be applied in the classroom. You could say, drumming can be likened to learning a new language. If you are interested, please contact Peter at p.terry6@yahoo.co.u

### **Globefit Winter Extravaganza**

We are pleased to let you know that Globefit will again be running holiday clubs here at Woodcote Primary School during the second week of the Christmas Holidays. Please see the poster below for more details. Paid places are available to book now. If your child is pupil premium, please see the communication sent in ParentMail this week for further details on booking your free place.

### **From Last week**

#### **Reception class applications**

Applications are now open to apply for a primary school place for September 2025.  
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/reception-applications>

### **Class Updates**

<p><b>Oak</b></p>	<p>This term is whizzing by so fast. The children are all still full of smiles and enthusiasm for their learning! It was great to see some of you at the maths evening seeing how we teach maths to the children. In phonics this week we have been learning the letters y, z, zz and qu and we have introduced upper case letters too. It is lovely to see the children applying their phonic knowledge to their writing. They have been making cafe menus and doing lots of writing on post it notes. Just a reminder that on Wednesday (4th of December) we will be learning about First Aid. Please could the children bring in a teddy bear with an address label with the children's home address on and, if possible, a small first aid kit for their teddy eg with a plaster and bandage or similar. Also, next Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December Oak class are going to join the Cabin children for a Christingle celebration at the church. If any parents would like to come along with us we would love to have you. If you</p>
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	would like to, please meet outside the school's blue entrance gates at 10.15 to walk up to the church with the children. If you could let us know if you are coming that would be great so that we can check that we have enough adults. Christmas play rehearsals are in full swing, please read the ParentMail regarding ticket options.
<b>Hornbeam</b>	This week has seen the start of the Christmas preparations in Hornbeam with the start of our nativity rehearsals - the children have worked so hard to learn all the songs and stage directions! In addition to this the children worked hard on Monday and Tuesday eagerly preparing resources for our maths evening (party) on Wednesday. I am sure you will all agree what an excellent job they did. It was fantastic to see so many children smiling and talking with enjoyment about what they have achieved and understood from maths lessons, as well as explain a variety of different strategies they can use to answer calculations. In English, we have written a letter to PCSO Haynes to thank her for her visit last week and inform her of all the valuable information we learnt from her. We have even challenged ourselves to link two ideas together in a sentence using the conjunction 'and'. Finally in DT we have continued creating moving pictures - adding a turning wheel mechanism to a picture to show fireworks bursting in the sky.
<b>Beech</b>	Beech class have been busy this week creating games and making resources for our maths evening. So, thank you to all the families who came along. We hope it was useful. The children have been doing a great job practicing for our Christmas Nativity. Well done to those who have learnt their lines. We are still on the hunt for two more star costumes. Please let us know if you can help. In English this week, we have continued to use drama and role-play to explore characters in 'The Tunnel' by Anthony Browne. This really helped the children when it came to writing about Jack from the story. In PSHE, we have been reflecting on what makes us and our families special and unique. During maths we have compared amounts of money and begun calculating with money. We are still enjoying your class shop. In our history sessions we have used primary and secondary sources to find out about the Wright brothers and the first aeroplanes. We discussed the reliability of different types of sources which got us thinking and debating!
<b>Ash</b>	In Ash Class this week, we have been busy writing our own fairy tales in our independent writing and looking at column addition in maths lessons. We have designed healthy sandwiches in D.T, in readiness to make them next week, and have started to learn about Ancient Egypt in History; making a timeline in class to look at the start of the Ancient Egyptian civilisation and the importance of the Nile.
<b>Rowan</b>	This week has been all about maths! The children were all very enthusiastic about the maths evening on Wednesday and worked hard to prepare their resources. It was fabulous to see so many of you there. We have been working on times tables in class, playing games to help us develop our quick recall of facts. We were all very excited about our trip today! An update on this, as well as photographs, will follow in next week's newsletter. A request from Mrs Thorne - Please can all children bring in an orange next week, as they will be making Christingles in class. Thank you.
<b>Maple</b>	First, a huge thank you to everyone that joined us for our Maths Evening this week. The event felt like a real success, and it was great seeing so many of you taking on the 'monster' that is maths. Your children were fantastic and did a great job of demonstrating all the skills we now use in our day to day learning. While much of our week has been taken up with Maths Evening work and preparation, we've managed to squeeze in a few other lessons too. In English we've been hard at work writing our non-chronological reports about our Lost Things. We're hoping to create a fully finished version complete with pictures and captions which we'll share with you all soon. In PSHE this week we took on the internet, discussing all the things that make it great, and all the things we might want to be careful of. We're going to continue working on it to ensure we're safe exploring the world online. Computing has seen us starting to print things using our 3D printer and we've now created detailed models of our boats that we're going to use to test our understanding of buoyancy! Finally, we wrapped up our week with some more

	ukulele practice. We've been focussing on Christmas songs and feel pretty good about our rendition of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer! Maybe you'll see us on the stage at the Christmas Fair next week!
<b>Willow</b>	<p>It was fabulous to see so many of you at the Maths evening on Wednesday and to see how well your children could show people how the skills they are learning fit into everyday life. There was a request for practise questions for parents to support their child at home so please check your child's bag for these. Please remember we asked, at Meet the Teacher, back in September for parents to avoid using previous SATs papers as we use these as a form of assessment for the children. This then informs us of gaps in their learning so we can target support. As well as the Maths, this week we have been planning and writing our scripts for our movies - watch this space as we begin to code/animate and film these.</p> <p>A couple of reminders:  Our Greek Museum will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December and will be open to parents from 2.30pm.  Homework expectations - pupils read for 20 minutes a night, do 5 minutes times table practise each night and complete other tasks set on time as this supports their learning in class. Pupils can ask for support with homework within school hours, they just need to ask.</p>

### **Important dates**

Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Nut free cake donations for the FOWPS Christmas Fair
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Oak children joining the Cabin for Christingle at the Church.
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	FOWPS Christmas Fair 4:30 – 7:00pm. Please sign up to help at the event if you can using this link <a href="#">here</a>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity Dress rehearsal
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity performance 2:00pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity performance 2:00pm
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 6 Greek Museum – parents are invited to attend @ 2:30pm
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas lunch – more details to follow
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 & 5 After school cake sale
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term 13:00 finish
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	First day of the Spring term
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Closing date for reception 2025 intake

### **All things Christmas at FOWPS**

Thank you to all of the children that dressed in non-school uniform today in exchange for a FOWPS donation.

There is just one week to go to our Christmas Fair, so please do volunteer [here](#) to help on the night. You can also book your Christmas Raffle, Christmas Fair and Christmas Grotto tickets online [here](#).

We are delighted to announce that the Woodcote Rally Charitable donation totalled £600 this year. We have used this money to purchase wooden construction blocks for our EYFS children and Coding Bots for KS1.

Our Bag2School collection helped to raise £19.00.

**Christmas Raffle**

**Tickets £1.50 each**

**2x £100 cash prizes!**

**Online Draw: 6/12/24, 18:30**

**Thank you to all our wonderful sponsors!**

**WINTER WONDERLAND READING**

**CHURCH FARM BUSINESS UNITS & SELF STORAGE**

**THE RED LION woodcote**

**Rowse**

**THE HENLEY CLINIC**

**AM**

**THE CHERRY TREE INN - STONE ROW**

**THE FAMILY Warnings BAKERY**

**MONDAY'S MOON Handcrafted manifestation candles**

**WALTERS TURKEYS**

**zappas est. 1989**

**THE ORATORY**

**BOUCHIER BOUCHIER FENCING LIMITED**

**MAPLEDURHAM BY THE CLUB COMPANY**

**TICKETS**

**HERE!**

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events>



THE RED LION  
WOODCOTE

**Christmas wreath  
making & dinner**

Thursday 5th December  
Dinner at 6pm,  
Wreath making at 6:30pm

**£70 pp including, dinner & mulled wine**

Booking is essential please email Nat:  
[enquiries@redlionwoodcote.uk](mailto:enquiries@redlionwoodcote.uk) or call  
01491 680483

A percentage of profits will be donated to FOWPS

## Other News

### Globefit Winter Kids Club Extravaganza



**Winter**  
KIDS CLUB  
EXTRAVAGANZA  
**BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!**

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**8.30am-4pm**  
30th Dec  
31st Dec NYE PARTY (finish  
2pm)  
2nd Jan  
3rd Jan

**Woodcote primary school**

[www.bookwhen.com/globefitkidsclubs](http://www.bookwhen.com/globefitkidsclubs)  
**HAF SPACES**  
[coordinate.cloud/haf-oxfordshire-county-council](http://coordinate.cloud/haf-oxfordshire-county-council)

- Lunch Included
- Childcare vouchers accepted
- 5-11 Years

**Our Staff:**  
All staff have relevant experience and hold an enhanced DBS check, paediatric first aid, food hygiene safeguarding

**HAF Spaces Available!**

**'Travel' with us around the world & celebrate new year this winter!**

**WWW.GLOBEFIT.CO.UK**



## Reading FC

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Schools and Grassroots fixture of 2024-25 Season!

This is a reminder that we have just under 3 weeks to go until our 2<sup>nd</sup> Schools and Grassroots fixture of the season v Blackpool on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 3pm Kick off.

We're thrilled to welcome all our local schools and grassroots clubs! Your support truly enhances the atmosphere, and the players genuinely appreciate it. So, let's do it all over again!

Full details of how to get involved can be found below so please share with all your children, friends, family and staff and let me know if you require any further information.

### You have been invited to Reading Football Club's 2<sup>nd</sup> Schools and Grassroots Fixture of 2024-25!

#### When?

Reading vs Blackpool

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December, 3pm kick off

#### Where?

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

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 which will be discounted to the below prices:

13 and Under: £1  
17 and Under: £4  
18 to 24: £7  
65 and over: £7  
Adult: £10

## How many tickets can we purchase?

There is no limit on the number of tickets you can buy using your unique code.

**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.

## 6 great prizes to be won for your School!

Select your School [here](#) to cast your vote and be in with a chance to win one of 6 great prizes!

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

## The Oratory School Christmas Fair

