



Friday 24th October

The last newsletter for this half term, we do hope that you all have a lovely well deserved break and we look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 3rd November.

Cross Country

It was a beautiful Sunny afternoon for the Cross Country at Stoke Row on Wednesday. We had a group of 42 runners from Year 3 to Year 6. All of our pupils were extremely well behaved, supportive of each other and ran with great enthusiasm. Congratulations to Will Nicholson who gained 1st Place in the Year 5 / Year 6 Boys race; Ada Butterfield who came 3rd and Martha Sudbury who came 1st in the Year 5 / Year 6 Girls race. The Olympic Value medals were presented to Isla Durrant and William Bartlett for displaying great determination and to Emily Hawley for showing wonderful sportsmanship. The whole team was awarded a medal for respect - they had cheered and clapped every single runner that took part, we were very proud of all of our Woodcote Primary School runners.



Ordering Lunches

Lunches are now available to order on ParentMail for the week commencing Monday 3rd November until Friday 12th December. Updated menus are attached.

Before and After School clubs

Club bookings will go live on ParentMail @ 18:00 today. Many of the clubs have limited spaces so do please book early to avoid disappointment. Thank you.

Royal British Legion Poppy appeal

Poppies etc. will be sold in the playground at drop off and pick up from Monday 3rd November. Your kind donations help the British Legion to provide invaluable support to the Armed Forces community.

Parents evening

Thank you for coming in to meet with the teachers this week. If you were unable to attend and wish to arrange a meeting please speak directly with the class teacher.

Cake Sale

Thank you to those of you that supported the cake sale by baking or buying cakes, we raised £54.00 which goes towards funding school trips and class resources.

Free and low cost activities for families over October half term – posters attached

There are still spaces available. Families can find information and book via the website below:

[South and Vale Holiday Activities](#)

Lost Property

We have a large amount of lost property. Please do come in and have a look through it if you are missing anything. Please remember to label your child/rens items so we can easily identify who they belong to.

From Last weeks' newsletter

School Photographs

We hope that you are pleased with the school photographs that were sent home earlier this week. All orders must be placed online or returned to the school office by no later than Tuesday 4th November.

Year 6

A reminder that the closing date for applying for your child's secondary school place is Friday 31st October. Oxfordshire County Council recommend putting more than one choice so please do follow their advice.

Please click on the link below:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications>

Scooter

There has been a scooter left outside the school for several days. Does it belong to your child? If so please can you collect it? If not claimed we will have to find it a new home. Thank you

Class Updates

Oak	<p>Oak class have been busy this week learning the letter m and doing lots of counting and making patterns. They have enjoyed playing schools, exploring pumpkins and making magic potions. On Tuesday we enjoyed a visit from Amy the tooth lady, a dental nurse who showed us how to brush our teeth properly and explained how to look after our teeth. You can find out more on the following link https://www.youtube.com/@amythetoothlady.</p> <p>We are all so proud of how well the children have done both at settling into school and engaging with their learning over the past 8 weeks. They have been fantastic and all have great listening skills which are key for being able to learn and progress. Thanks also for all the help and support you have given the children at home and to everyone who has come in to be secret readers. Over half term the children might like to show you the letters they can write (s, a, t, p, l, n, and m) and any name writing would be great too. We are going to be thinking about our local community next term so if you are out and about it would be great to point out things like the shops, library and doctors surgery. We hope you all have a lovely and restful half term.</p>
Hornbeam	<p>The children in Hornbeam have been writing sentences about little Red Riding Hood in English using nouns, adjectives and verbs. In Maths they have been adding two numbers up to 10 using stories and number lines. In Geography they have drawn their own maps and symbols of the local area. What a great week we have all had.</p>

<p>Beech</p>	<p>Beech Class have worked so hard and written fantastic descriptions of a witch during their English lessons. We have been developing our throwing and catching skills this week and enjoyed a game of fireball. We were delighted to be visited by some representatives from the Sikh Gurdwara in Reading. We learnt so much about Sikhism and were truly inspired by all the charity work they do for the local community in Reading as well as cooking a hot meal for over 100 people each week in their langar for free! We wrote thank you cards which will be posted off this week.</p> <p>Well done everyone for all your hard work this term!</p>
<p>Rowan</p>	<p>This week, we have been exploring how celebrations and events were enjoyed by Victorian children — and whether they celebrated Halloween! We read about their customs and compared them to our own traditions. In art, we experimented with different materials to colour in a pumpkin, using pens, felt tips, crayons, chalk, and pastels. The children also enjoyed some <i>spooky addition and subtraction</i> in maths and had great fun playing Victorian party games.</p> <p>Reminder: After half term, PE will no longer be on Fridays. It will now take place on Thursdays and the focus will be football. Please ensure your child has the appropriate footwear (football boots if your child has them but no need to buy them if not) and pe kit for outdoors.</p>
<p>Maple</p>	<p>It's been a fantastic final week of our first half term here in Maple Class. English has seen us wrapping up our Norse Myths, ready to share them with you all via the website. They'll hopefully all be going up today so keep an eye out for them! In Maths we have been working on our subtraction skills and we are looking forward to putting them to use after the break. We've ramped up our singing practices in preparation for Young Voices in January - it turns out the Wicked Medley is a tricky one! and we have spent some time in PSHE reflecting on how our home and school lives are different. The Year 5 team have been truly impressed with how your children have carried themselves over this first half term and you should all be very proud of them.</p> <p>We hope you have a great half term break and we'll see you in November!</p>
<p>Willow</p>	<p>This week our main focus has been to write our conclusions for our autobiographies. We had fun thinking back to what we wanted to be when we were younger and how much we've changed, we then used this to consider past tense, present tense and future tense. This then meant that our autobiographies are finished and we look forward to sharing them with our Oak class buddies. In Maths, we have looked at multiplying digits - we have started by looking at 3 digit numbers by 2 digit numbers. Our times table knowledge came in really handy here. We enjoyed our visit from PC Dix today and learnt all about how the Police work to help us in our communities.</p> <p>It was great seeing so many of you at parents evening. Here is the link to the Maths Dictionary I spoke to a number of you about https://usborne.com/gb/usborne-illustrated-dictionary-of-maths-9781409546962 It is currently unavailable from Usborne but is available elsewhere!</p>

This week Year 2 and 3 were visited by some representatives from the Sikh Gurdwara in Reading.



Important dates

Friday 24 th October	INSET Day – School closed
Monday 27 th October – Friday 31 st October	Autumn Half term
Friday 31 st October	Closing date for Year 7 secondary school places closes
Monday 3 rd November	Residential trip year 6 – deposit payment due by today
Week of 3 rd November	Poppies etc being sold in school for the Royal British Legion
Tuesday 4 th November	Open Morning 9:30am & 11:00am for Reception children September 2026
Thursday 6 th November	FOWPS AGM @ 7:30pm in the school hall
Saturday 15 th November	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop
Wednesday 19 th November	Year 5 trip to Earth Trust – details sent via ParentMail
Friday 5 th December	FOWPS wreath making workshop in school from 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Year 1&2 Christmas performance – pm, exact time to be confirmed
Thursday 11 th December	Cabin & Oak class performance @ 2:00pm
Friday 12 th December	FOWPS Christmas Fair & Grotto
Thursday 18 th December	Year 1 & 4 Cake sale
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term – 1:00pm finish
Friday 23 rd January 2026	Young Voices – Years 5 & 6
Monday 2 nd March	National Offer Day for Secondary school places
Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th June	Year 6 Residential to Liddington

FOWPS News

Thank you to everyone who helped and attended the school disco on Friday 17th. The children had a great night and we raised enough money to support one of our class trips/visits.

Coming up next term we have:

PTA Annual General Meeting: Thursday 6th November at 7:30pm in the school hall. Join us to find out what we have achieved in the last year and what we are planning for the year to come. It's also a great way to meet new people and become more involved in the school community.

A **NEW Christmas wreath making event** for parents! **Friday 5th December from 8:30pm.** Join us for a social evening sipping mulled wine and trying your hand at Christmas wreath making. See attached document for more details.

The Christmas Fair and Grotto is on **Friday the 12th December.** Please support your class activity. Volunteers can sign up here: <https://volunteersignup.org/F4AR3>

Full details and tickets for all of our events can be found here: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/index.cfm>

Thank you, have a great half term.

Other News

An unmissable event for the whole family on [Monday 27 October](#) at 6.30pm – an owl talk with live owls!

As one of our members said:

"If you haven't seen Lu Barton from OCP speak before, I really recommend going to this. She is so knowledgeable & speaks very well & having live examples of the 5 British owls enhances the learning experience. A treat for adults & children alike!"

Monday 27 October at 6.30pm : family event - Owl Talk

The [Owl Conservation Project](#) are coming to Woodcote with their Barn, Tawny, Long Eared and Little owls to talk about owl ecology. As this is the Monday in half term, we hope our younger members can come!

Advance booking is essential - [book tickets here](#)

This event is **FREE for Woodcote Conservation Group members** and their families. Non-members will be asked to pay £10 for a family or £5 for an individual (cash on the door).

Do please help spread the word about what promises to be a great evening.