



Friday 21st November

South Oxfordshire Cross Country

This week we took 26 KS2 children to the South Oxfordshire Cross Country run. It was chilly but bright and the children ran amazingly. They were so supportive of each other. We were very proud of them all. In the team events the year 3 / 4 boys were placed 8th and the girls 9th. Well run year 3 and 4! The year 5 / 6 boys were placed 4th, a fantastic team result boys and the girls' team was 2nd! This means the girls team will go through to the Oxfordshire finals. In the individual categories, Will (year 6) was 3rd for the boys and Martha 2nd and will also go through to the Oxfordshire finals. This is fabulous and we are delighted for them all.

Earrings

A gentle reminder that children with pierced ears can wear small stud earrings in school. However, please do not allow your child to wear hoop or drop earrings to school. They are easily caught during playtimes or in the child's own hair. This is a Health and Safety risk. Earrings that are a risk will be removed for the day and the class teacher will hand them back to you at the end of the day. Please help us to keep your child safe.

Cauliflower Cards

Your orders from Cauliflower Cards will be coming home shortly so do please look out for them, they all look amazing. Thank you for supporting this fundraiser.

RAF Benson Santa Drop

Once again RAF Benson will be collecting donated gifts for Oxford's Children's Hospital, we would be grateful if you could support this event and drop off any gift donations to the school office/reception by Friday 28th November. For more details please see the attached flyer.

From Last weeks newsletter

Christmas Lunch

This year Christmas lunch will be held on Wednesday 17th December. This is a wonderful event where all the children come together to have a Christmas meal served by members of the school team. On this day there are no other lunch choices provided by ABM Catering other than a vegetarian option. Please sign your child up on ParentMail school lunches.

Parental Contributions to support the school

Thank you very much to those families who have kindly donated to the school it is very much appreciated. You can still donate via ParentMail.

Class Updates

Oak	Another busy week in Oak class. We have been learning the letter o and practising using all our letter knowledge to read and write 3 letter words. In maths we have carried on thinking about odd and even numbers and using different language to explain more than and less than. The children have loved learning about Diwali and making Diya's. Perhaps they can tell you the story. If you haven't handed in the reply slip for the Christmas Nativity please do so. For PSHE the children need a picture of their house(s) with their address on. Please could you send these into school. Also, we would be very grateful if you could
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	<p>send your children in with an orange on Monday 1st December so that they can use it to make a Christingle. The children are really loving junk modelling so we would be very grateful if you could bring in any junk modelling items, toilet rolls, egg boxes, yogurt pots etc. Also, if you have any old Christmas card pictures or scraps of wrapping paper you could donate, we would be very grateful as we will be creating a Santa's workshop in a few weeks' time! Apologies for the barrage of requests! Stay warm and have a lovely weekend.</p>
Hornbeam	<p>This week in Hornbeam we have been focussing on the different seasons. In English, we have been preparing a piece of non-fiction writing. We have discussed how the weather changes, what clothes people wear and what happens to the trees as the seasons change. Our grammar focus has been on including the word 'and' to join two clauses together in a sentence. In Science, we have continued looking at nature and using cotton buds we have painted a series of 4 trees to represent each season. Whilst our focus in maths has not included seasons, we have worked equally hard. Learning how to subtract numbers using resources such as tens frames and number lines to solve calculations. In addition to the above we have also begun our rehearsals for the Christmas nativity, which have been a great success.</p>
Beech	<p>In English this week, Beech class enjoyed writing rhyming poems about different animals. We then read The Tunnel by Anthony Browne and used drama to explore one of the characters. In maths, we have been working hard to learn our x2, x5, x10 times table, looking carefully at patterns as well as solving some tricky problems. We have also been counting in 10s to find number bonds to 100 and continuing our learning about money, finding totals of pounds and pence and choosing coins to make amounts. In phonics, we have been reading and spelling words including the spelling rule 'w-or' and 'w-a'. Please spend some time practising these in your orange spelling book. In science, we created a class pictogram of our favourite fruits. We then analysed the data and answered some questions about our findings. We have been working hard practising our nativity play this week. Well done to the children who have already learnt their lines. Please can you continue to help your child practise their lines so that they know them off by heart? Home support is vital for helping them to feel confident and ensuring the success of our performance. Whilst they are still learning their lines, please can children bring their script with them everyday. Thank you, and please let us know if your child loses their lines so we can provide another copy.</p>
Ash	<p>In Ash Class this week, we have been writing about the journey of a raindrop along the River Nile as part of our Geography topic, starting in Burundi and ending in the Mediterranean Sea. Our RE this term focuses on Christian beliefs and the Christmas story. This week, we learnt about the Annunciation; adding some key facts to paper angels, which we have displayed in our classroom window. Our PE lessons this term are netball and hockey, both outdoors. So please can we ask that children have joggers/leggings as part of their PE kit in school all week, a coat or spare jumper, and ideally gloves for hockey days, now that the weather has taken a chilly turn. Thank you.</p>
Rowan	<p>Year 4 have been busy this week. In English, the children have been crafting beautiful descriptive poems inspired by the colours and sounds of autumn and practising to use apostrophes correctly. In PSHE, we've been discussing what makes a healthy friendship and how to support one another. Our history lessons have taken us back to the Victorian era, where we discovered some incredible inventions that changed the world. In maths, we've been sharpening our times tables knowledge and working through column subtraction. We've enjoyed learning some Makaton signing to broaden our ways of expressing ourselves. PE has been full of energy as we've worked hard to improve our swimming techniques and develop our football skills.</p>
Maple	<p>It's been another fabulous week here in Maple Class. While we have obviously done some English (present / past tense and planning our non-chronological reports) and some Maths (squared and cubed numbers alongside some challenging problem solving), the highlight of our week was our trip to the Earth</p>

	<p>Trust on Wednesday. The day was off to a fine start with snow collecting all over the pirate ship before we hopped in the minibus down to Wittenham Clumps and the Earth Trust. Your children showed immense resilience climbing a hill and standing in the frigid winds gusting across the top, acting out the roles of King Ethelred and Bishop Birinus. We then headed back down to the warmth of the Earth Trust classroom to continue our learning. After an eventful lunch (two separate teeth from two separate mouths fell out) we then had a go at turning a sheep fleece into thread using carding tools and drop-spinning before grinding our own flour and having a go at baking Anglo-Saxon flatbreads on an open fire. They were delicious covered in some slightly frozen honey! Your children carried themselves perfectly and proved how good our Woodcote children can be. Photos are already up on the website (including the poppies I promised last week) so please do go and take a look!</p>
<p>Willow</p>	<p>This week we have been getting Christmas ready! Yes already! We have looked at nets, reminding ourselves of what we learnt whilst doing our Harvest boxes, and used this knowledge to create 3-D shapes which will become our advent calendar. These nets will come home next week for decorating and sticking together so we can then fill them in school. In English, we have looked at script writing and how to use both colons and semi-colons to help make our writing less ambiguous. We start writing our scripts for our own myths next week, watch this space! PE - as long as it's not pouring with rain - we will be outside throughout this term. We have spoken to the children about having layers of clothing so that they keep warm and don't mind getting muddy as we are doing football and will be on the field. We've also talked to them about having trainers and spare socks in school as many of them had soaking wet feet when we had the snow earlier this week. These items could be kept in their PE kits too.</p>

Despite being a very cold day the children in year 5 had a great day at the Earthtrust.



Important dates

Friday 28 th November	All gift donations for the RAF Benson Santa drop to Oxford Children Hospitals need to be in school by today please
Friday 5 th December	FOWPS Non uniform day in exchange for a donation of chocolate, sweet treats or a bottle for the Xmas Fair
Friday 5 th December	FOWPS wreath making workshop in school from 6:30pm - 8:30pm
Wednesday 10 th December	Years 1&2 Christmas performance @ 2:00pm
Thursday 11 th December	Cabin & Oak class performance @ 2:00pm
Friday 12 th December	FOWPS Christmas Fair & Grotto
Monday 15 th December	KS2 Carol concert – 6:30pm
Tuesday 16 th December	Year 6 Greek Museum open afternoon for parents – time tbc
Wednesday 17 th December	Wear your Christmas jumper to school day
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18 th December	Year 1 & 4 Cake sale
Friday 19 th December	Last day of term – 1:00pm finish
Thursday 15 th January	Deadline for September 2026 reception class applications
Friday 23 rd January 2026	Young Voices – Years 5 & 6
Monday 2 nd March	National Offer Day for Secondary school places
Thursday 16 th April	National offer day for reception class September 2026
Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th June	Year 6 Residential to Liddington

FOWPS News

Thank you to those of you who supported the FOWPS Coffee shop last weekend.

On Friday 5th December the children are invited to wear non-school uniform in exchange for either a sweet treat, a bottle or chocolate which will go to the FOWPS Christmas Fair.