



Friday 28th November

We have had another very busy week in school and it certainly feels like Christmas is in full swing with carol singing and rehearsals taking place.

New Road Sign

Please look out for our new 20mph road sign on The Reading Road outside of our school. Will N won the 'design a road sign' competition held last year. His sign was made into a legal sign for road use and has now been installed! We are very proud of Will's striking design and hope that drivers will pay more attention to the speed limit as a result.



KS1 Christmas Performance

Please see the ParentMail form sent out today to enable you to book tickets for the Christmas performance taking place on Wednesday 10th December.

Football Tournament

On Wednesday a group of boys from years 5 and 6 attended the Langtree Partnership football tournament. The boys from both teams played some superb football in very poor weather conditions. Team A finished a close second behind Goring by winning two matches, drawing against the winners and losing one game. Team B finished a respectable third, winning one match, drawing one and sadly losing one in the final seconds of the last game. Winners of the Olympic value medals for Team A were Ben for encouraging and supporting team mates and being so polite to opposition coaches and Carter for determination and excellent goals scored and saved. For Team B, Alex and Ollie, who showed superb leadership skills and encouragement for their team mates. Both teams really gave it their all and should be very proud of themselves.



Christmas Post Box

The post box will be in the front entrance from Monday if the children would like to post their Christmas cards.

Christmas Presents for the Santa drop at Oxford Children's hospital

Thank you to everyone that has donated a gift we have had a great response, if you would still like to donate please ensure that all gifts are in school by latest Monday. Thank you for your support.

Reminder to order 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.

Primary Times

The winter edition of the Primary times magazine is now available in the school entrance, please do help yourself to a copy.

Cancer Reaearch

Thank you to everyone who purchased school photos via Braiswick Photographic, this helped raise £49.50 which goes to Cancer Research.

From Last weeks newsletter

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

<p>Oak</p>	<p>This week we have been learning the letter c, and using it to write simple words- cat, can, cot and cap. See if the children can write them for you at home. In maths we have been thinking about whole numbers and what parts they can be made up from eg 5 can be made from 3 and 2.</p> <p>Next Tuesday Mrs Heath will be in instead of Mrs Proctor. On Thursday we are walking up to the church with Acorns to take part in a Christingle. If any parents would like to walk up with us, you are welcome-please let Mrs Heath or Mrs Proctor know. We will meet you outside the blue gate at the school entrance at 10.10. We may have a couple of spare tickets for the nativity so please let us know if you need one. Things to remember:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please bring in an orange on Monday • Please return Nativity slips and bring in clothes • If you can please send in a picture of your house and address. If you can't print one out just the address and whether it is a flat or a bungalow etc so the children can tell their friends. <p>We hope you have a lovely weekend.</p>
<p>Hornbeam</p>	<p>This week in Hornbeam we have continued our English work on seasons, writing a sentence (or two) about what each season is and its features. On Thursday we even completed independent writing tasks describing our favourite season. In Maths, we have concluded our work on addition and subtraction (within 10) by answering a variation of word problems. Reading the problem and highlighting the key words, numbers and phrases to help us answer the question. Our afternoons have been taken up with play rehearsals, the children speak very eloquently and mostly remember the words to the songs however we are still working on our timings and volume at the minute!</p>
<p>Beech</p>	<p>Beech class have been working hard to find number bonds to 10 and 20 using real objects and we have continued to learn our number bonds to 100. We have also been learning about money. There are some great games on Top Marks (online game) if your child would like to practise at home. In English, we wrote character descriptions, remembering to include adjectives and exciting verbs. In phonics, we have been learning how to read and spell words including the 'w-ar' sound. Please spend some time practising these in your orange spelling books. The stage is up, and we are working hard during the Nativity practice. Please remember to send in your child's costume as soon as possible.</p>
<p>Ash</p>	<p>This week in Ash, we have carried out a science investigation to see if the length of our femurs affects the distance we can jump. In maths, we have used estimating and inverse operations to check our answers. And in Computing, as part of E-Safety, we have discussed advertising. Wishing you all a good weekend.</p>
<p>Rowan</p>	<p>In English, the children have explored visual poetry, practised possessive plurals, and continued writing their Victorian Christmas stories inspired by <i>A Christmas Carol</i>. In maths, we focused on efficient methods, including estimating before solving, using number lines for close numbers, and revisiting the nine times table. Our Victorian topic has been hands-on and fun—we made thaumatropes and spinning tops, and played traditional games such as marbles, skipping ropes, dollhouses, and hoops. We've also been practising our Christmas carols, ready for the festive season.</p> <p>Reminder: Please send in long-sleeved clothes for the upcoming lifesaving swimming lesson.</p> <p>Please continue to support homework, including daily reading, spellings, and times tables practice.</p>

Maple	English this week has seen us continuing to work on our non-chronological reports about our Lost Thing designs. We have planned and written an introduction, thinking about rhetorical questions and writing in 2 nd person then started to consider what other information we are keen to share. Maths has seen us looking at multiplying and dividing by 10s, 100s and 1,000s before beginning to think about multiplying by multiples of 10. In Science we got the chance to learn about prenatal development, exploring the different stages we go through before we are born. Our favourite fact was learned that your heart can beat 54 million times before you're even born! We've also spent much of this week starting to get into the Christmas spirit by taking part in a number of Christmas Carol practices. We're really looking forward to our carol concert in the last week of term and hope many of you can attend! Finally we wrapped up our week by seeing if we can play Rudolph on our ukuleles (we can!) and starting to see if we can play the D chord (we can't...yet!). Please feel free to hop on the website and check out some of the chords and songs we've been practising and see if you can have a go at home!
Willow	This week, as well as decorating the classroom ready for next week, we have planned our scripts for Ancient Greece and begun to write them. We aim to then start filming these next week. In Maths, we were delighted with the nets that have been converted into Advent boxes for our calendar and can't wait to start opening them on Monday! We also began our work on Fractions this week, looking at ordering them and adding Fractions with the same and then different denominators. In History, we began planning our Museum and the information that we want to share with the rest of the school.

Reports from the recent Parkrun from children in Year 6

Prospect Park Junior Park Run 16th November

Our teacher Mrs Wornham is a parkrun fan and parkrunner so we were very excited when she told us all about parkrun as lots of us like running too. She signed us up to be a parkrun primary school.

When we first were told I didn't know what a junior parkrun was but we organised a big practise parkrun on the fields in front of our school. Some of the children signed up for the parkrun jobs - Ollie & Alex were our tailwalkers and had to make sure they finished last. They said this was a fun job but at points they had wanted to run. Will helped time keep with Mrs Peates and I became the Run Director (helped by Mrs Wornham) some children marshalled with the teachers and everyone else were runners. They ran 4 laps of our field which was the equivalent to a junior parkrun. It was great fun as we also blasted music from a speaker.

That weekend, on the 16th November, 26 children from Woodcote Primary School trooped off to Prospect Junior parkrun. Everyone in school was given the opportunity but not everyone could make it. 19 of us were first timers to parkrun!

It was very exciting and everyone was very supportive and, because we'd done a practise, we knew what we had to do with things like tokens and making sure our parents had our barcodes! You didn't have to run either, some people skipped, some people walked the entire way and it was so much fun. Some of our parents had volunteered to help and Mrs Wornham and Mrs Hunt (our Headteacher) even led the warm-up.

Afterwards we had free cake as it was the Run Directors birthday and about half an hour after we'd finished our results came through on an email. I can't wait to go again.

By Emily H

Jr Prospect parkrun

I really loved the experience of this parkrun even though this was my first ever parkrun and I was a little nervous. I have a suspicion it will be my favourite one forever as the course is fun. It's a two lap course that is on grass and has some up slopes and down slopes.

I went with my school and, if you're not quick or just don't want to run, you don't have to run! Some of my friends skipped and some of them walked, well talked and walked really!

Have I even mentioned that it's free?! It's totally run by amazing volunteers who make sure you have a great time and don't get lost on the course.

When I'd finished there was cake as it was Karen (the RDs) birthday, apparently there's not always cake but there is a park that you can play in afterwards whilst your parents get a coffee and have a chat.

I rate this experience at parkrun 10/10

By William B



A Parkrunner by Mya

Important dates

Monday 1 st December	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 4:30pm – 7:30pm
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

Other News

The Oratory Cross Country event on Saturday 29th November is cancelled

Due to the heavy rain that has been forecast for Saturday this event has been cancelled as the course will be too slippery and won't be safe. A flyer is attached for information on other events coming up in the future.

THE ORATORY

Upcoming Cross Country Events

November 2025

SATURDAY 29

- Boys & Girls races for Years 1 – 8
- First race at 1.00pm
- Refreshments available from The Butterfly Café

March 2026

TUESDAY 3

- Boys & Girls races for Years 3 – 6
- First race at 2.00pm
- Team of 6 runners per race, 4 to score

TUESDAY 24

- Boys & Girls races for Years 3 – 6
- First race from 12.30pm
- Relay format, 4 runners per team, maximum of 2 teams per race

To sign up, or for more information, please email
reservations@oratory.co.uk