



Friday 27th March

Happy Easter

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we head off for the Easter holidays, I would like to thank you all for your incredible support over the last term. It has been a busy term filled with school trips, a fantastic musical, Easter bonnet parade and lots of learning.

On behalf of the staff team, I wish you all a very Happy Easter and a well-deserved break! We look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 13th April.

Mrs Wornham

Thank you to our volunteer parent helpers who came in to spruce up our school grounds during our Spring clean week. What a difference this has made!



Facebook permissions & Code of Conduct

There are still a few families who have not completed the Facebook permission and Code of Conduct forms on ParentMail, please can the forms be completed as soon as possible. Thank you.

FOWPS news

Great news, Laura Groves from Oak Class has joined the PTA and kindly volunteered to take over as Secretary from September. Thank you Laura!

The PTA provides vital funding and enrichment opportunities for our school's children. We are currently trying to raise £9,000 for 18 classroom laptops, essential to everyday learning. There are lots of ways to get involved. Join the committee, volunteer for an hour at an event, contribute ideas or just offer help to a committee member carrying or tidying up for 5 minutes. It really does make a huge difference.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 13th April, 6pm in the school hall. All welcome

Thank you also to a parent that was able to fund match our last coffee shop, taking the total up to **£730!!!**

Beezee Families, a FREE heathy lifestyle programme that our nutritionists deliver across Oxfordshire. The 12-week programme supports families to build healthy habits around food, physical activity, and how to have fun while doing so!

Our current programmes are in full swing but you can secure your FREE spot now for April. Places fill up fast so make a booking soon! If you can't wait to get started on your healthy lifestyle journey, you can learn at your own pace over on our Academy website. [Visit our website for more details](#)



Footsteps

Please see the attached communication for ways to help teach your child road safety.

Before and After School Busy Bee clubs

Bookings will go live via ParentMail today at 18.00. Please book early to avoid any disappointment.

Breakfast & Chill club

This week the children at Breakfast/Chill club enjoyed taking part in an Easter colouring competition which was judged by Reverend Benskin. They also enjoyed an egg hunt in the front garden which caused high excitement.

There are spaces for both clubs which can be booked via ParentMail, Breakfast club starts at 7.15am and breakfast is served up until 7.45am. Chill club starts at 8.00am and the children join in with fun activities including craft, games, puzzles, table tennis and colouring. Now the finer weather is here we will be able to spend more time outside playing. The children are taken to their classes at the end of the sessions.




From Last week's 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

Acorns	<p>Acorns were enthralled by the performance of <i>Grimm</i> that they watched on Monday. They all sat beautifully, showing fantastic attention throughout. We loved hearing their comments about the costumes. The children enjoyed deciding which characters they might be in Year 4 based on the outfits — with the long, sparkly dress being a particular favourite!</p> <p>Our Easter Bonnet Parade was amazing, even though we experienced all types of weather. Luckily, we had the hall as a backup. We especially enjoyed welcoming Mrs Hunt, our special judge, who had the very difficult job of choosing the winners. The hats were judged particularly on the effort the children had put into creating them, and we were so impressed with everyone's creativity.</p> <p>Friday 17th</p> <p>The older children will be dressing up and raising money for the school. If Acorns would like to dress up as an athlete, they are very welcome to do so. We will also have the opportunity to go and see what the older children are getting up to.</p> <p>Thank you to everyone who contributed cakes for the sale on Thursday — they were very yummy and much enjoyed!</p> 
Oak	<p>Oak class have had a great week, playing outside and thinking about the Christian celebration of Easter. They have enjoyed making cards and Easter nests. In phonics we have been learning the 'th' sound and in maths continuing our work on doubles. The children have been given sheets to take home with the handwriting rhymes on for the letters we have learnt this term. They also have a sheet with some common high frequency words on for them to have a go at learning how to read and then spell. After the holiday we will be doing lots of planting. Please could each child bring in a jam jar in the first week back. We have been so proud of every child this term, they have listened beautifully and tried really hard with everything. We hope you all have a lovely Easter break.</p>
Hornbeam	<p>We have had a great end to the term this week in Hornbeam. The children have finished writing their acrostic poems based on Easter and are looking forward to bringing them home to share with you all. In DT, we completed our marble runs and are pleased that 100% of them worked when tested!!! In science, we learnt how scientists group and classify animals and had a go at doing this ourselves. Finally, in RE we learnt about the Easter story, Jesus heading into Jerusalem on a donkey, before being betrayed and crucified.</p>

Beech	<p>Beech class loved making chapattis last week and everyone worked really hard on writing their recipes this week, remembering to include imperative verbs and the correct punctuation. In maths, we have been multiplying and dividing and solving some tricky problems. We love playing 'Hit the Button' in teams and battling it out to see who can win the most points. We have also begun learning about temperature and that it is measured in degrees Celsius. In science, we used drama to show our understanding of food chains. We then created diagrams of food chains from different habitats. In computing, we created art work 'all about me'. Please note, after the holidays our PE days will be Tuesday and Friday. We hope you all have a lovely and restful break and look forward to seeing you all after the holidays.</p>
Ash	<p>We loved sharing our Year 3/4 production of Grimm in our dress rehearsal to the school on Monday and in our two evening performances this week. We were so proud of the children and hope they enjoyed taking part. They did such a fantastic job.</p> <p>Alongside our play, Ash Class have been writing their own narrative story endings to Ted Hugh's Iron Man, before reading the final chapter of the book together. The children have also been creating seascapes on fabric, with paint and stitching, in the style of the artists Alice Kettle and Hannah Rae. And in Geography, we learnt about European Capital Cities. We hope you all enjoy the Easter break.</p>
Rowan	<p>A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent performance. From sourcing creative costumes and props to helping the children master their songs and lines, your effort paid off. The children did a spectacular job—in fact, they were so into character that many were quite disappointed when the final curtain fell.</p> <p>In English, we took inspiration from a curious, old-fashioned brown suitcase. This sparked a range of independent writing, where the children were encouraged to imagine who it belonged to, what was inside, and where it had been. The results were fantastic, ranging from imaginative fiction and heartfelt diary entries to vivid descriptive pieces.</p> <p>In Maths, we took time to revisit and solidify our skills from across the term with a mixed review, as well as sharpening our times tables. Meanwhile, in Music, we have continued learning about pitch, dynamics, and the power of brass and string instruments. We looked at how legendary composer John Williams used these to create iconic scores for E.T. and Star Wars. The children watched scenes on mute and then re-watched them with the sound, realising just how much the music impacted their experience of the film. Finally, we read the story of the Death and Resurrection of Jesus. This served as a thoughtful transition from our topic on Judaism, which will move into our study of Christianity after the break. Have a relaxing and safe break.</p> <p>Reminder that PE is on Fridays when we return.</p>
Maple	<p>Well, it's been another fantastic term here in Year 5. We've finished off our newspaper articles (going on the website today!), polished off our work on angles in Maths (we're total masters now) and wrapped up our amazing flags in D&T! We also got a chance this week to learn water polo during our swimming lesson, play netballs games during our PE lesson and learn about a visit we're getting from an athlete after the Easter break! We're looking forward to the next term as we'll be beginning our work on WW2, diving into some new topics in Science and continuing our excellent progress in all our other subjects. All of us here in Maple Class hope you have a fantastic Easter break and we're looking forward to all the new things we'll experience next term!</p>

Willow	<p>The final week before the Easter break and we've been working hard. Our English unit has wound up with a description of the first meeting between Gandalf and Bilbo, we've been trying to write using a 'show not tell' technique and it has produced some amazing turns of phrase – 'his braces stretched with panic' being a particular favourite. The use of speech punctuation has been particularly skilful. In Maths, we've worked through fractions, decimals and percentages – building the links and connections between the three. The week culminated in working out percentages of amounts – the pupils have worked terrifically hard with some amazing learning taking place and it's great to see confidence growing. In Science, we built parallel circuits in order to control traffic lights using diodes – great fun and lots of excitement when they could switch lights on and off independently. In RE, we have finished looking at the Easter story and how Jesus may have felt travelling to Jerusalem in the final days. The pupils were tasked with writing a question that they would like to ask Jesus about that time and how he felt. Some amazingly perceptive questions! Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you for allowing me to get to know and teach your children – they are a wonderful bunch of young people and you should be immensely proud of them. I wish them every success with their SAT's, I am sure they will rise to the challenge. May I wish each and every one of them every success at Secondary School.</p> <p>Thank you, and I wish you all a very Happy Easter</p>
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Important dates

Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April	Easter Holiday – School closed
Tuesday 7 th – Friday 10 th April	Globefit Easter Holiday Club – places need to be pre booked.
Monday 13 th April	FOWPs meeting 6pm – at school
Tuesday 14 th April	Year 3 swimming starts
Thursday 16 th April	National offer day for Reception class September 2026
Friday 17 th April	Great Athletes – Paralympic visit – children are invited to wear sporty clothes to school
Wednesday 22 nd April	Coffee morning – SEND Focus - After School drop off
Monday 4 th May	Bank holiday – school closed
Monday 11 th – Friday 15 th May	SATS week
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Summer Half Term
Monday 1 st – Friday 5 th June	Year 6 Residential to Liddington
Wednesday 10 th June	Braiswick School Photography (Class photos)
Tuesday 23 rd June	Sports Day
Thursday 25 th June	Back up Sports Day
Wednesday 1 st July	INSET day – School closed
Tuesday 14 th July	Acorns Sports Day
Monday 20 th July	INSET day – School closed

Tuesday 21 st July	School summer holidays begin – school closed
Tuesday 1st September	INSET day
Wednesday 2 nd September	INSET day
Thursday 3 rd September	All children return to school for the Autumn term

FOWPS

Eggcellent Easter Fun! At 1:30 today there will be an Easter trail on the rec. £2 each to participate including a small prize. Card payments only please ;)

FOWPS Quiz Night: Red Lion. Thursday 16th April, 7:45pm. £2 per person. To book call 01491 680483 or email: enquiries@redlionwoodcote.uk

A very successful Term! Between Bingo on Friday and two Coffee Shops and fund matching together we have raised around **£2,100!** To put that in perspective, that's 4 class laptops or a year's worth of contributions to classrooms to subsidise trips and equipment.

Thank you to our volunteers, organisers, bakers and participators!


Other News



GOOD FRIDAY WORKSHOP
 Join us in the church for a retelling of the Good Friday story, followed by Easter craft activities. Suitable for children and adults. Refreshments provided.

Friday 3rd April
 10:30 to 11:30am
 St Leonard's Church





Free Easter park trail at Howbery Park

Our popular park trail will be returning this year starting with an Easter theme. All our trail animals and birds will have a new look and will be joined by the Easter Bunny.

The Easter Trail will be on the park from Monday 30 March to Friday 10 April. Free trail maps can be picked up from the Manor Café (between 8.30am-4pm) on working weekdays.

Please note, the café will be closed over the Easter bank holiday weekend: Friday 3 – Monday 6 April.

This free event is open to all. We invite you to visit us to explore our fantastic park and find the Howbery Park Easter Bunny.

Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre



A journey of learning and discovery

Family Event 'Find the Fox Cubs'

30- 31 March; 1-2 April; 10am- 2pm

A springtime adventure - follow the trail and help mother fox find her missing cubs to earn an Easter treat! Including a craft activity and live storytelling. Suitable for 4-11 years.
£10 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Day Camp, Unbelievable Birds

Wednesday 8 April; 9:30am-3pm

A day camp for 8-12 year olds at Sutton Courtenay learning about the incredible features of birds.
£37 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Pond Dipping Workshops

Thursday 7 April; 10am- 11:30am and 1-2:30pm

Easter pond dipping fun for families with children 4-11 years - come and be amazed at what lurks below the surface!
£10 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Night Safari

Friday 22 May; 7:30-10pm

Bring your children aged 8+ and discover what amazing animals come out at night on the nature reserve. We'll be checking the small mammal traps, listening for bats with the bat detectors, shining a light on the newts in the pond and more.
£10 per person. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Plus monthly Saturday wildlife clubs – **Nature Tots** (18 months to 4 years with an adult); **Nature Explorers** (4-7 years with an adult); **Young Rangers** (8-11 years unaccompanied); **Teen Rangers** (11-17 years unaccompanied). Visit the website for upcoming dates and booking.

Visit our website to book or for more info:



bbowt.org.uk/events

01235 862024 or sceec@bbowt.org.uk

bbowt.org.uk



More nature everywhere

Pangbourne College Open Morning - Saturday 25 April

*Our next Whole School Open Morning will be on **Saturday 25 April 2026, 10:00 - 13:00**, with arrivals from **09:30**.*

Our Open Mornings are an ideal opportunity to learn more about our welcoming community. During your visit you will:

- Hear from our Head and pupils during a Welcome talk*
- Learn all about our vision for the future of Pangbourne.*
- Have a guided tour of the College by a current student*
- Join in with lots of fun activities in our subject departments*
- Meet our friendly teachers, pupils and parents*
- Explore our beautiful 230 acre campus*
- Speak with our Admissions team*

Please click [here](#) to book your place.

The Oratory School Open Morning – Saturday 9th May

Please see the attached flyer for more information.