



Friday 18th September 2026

### **Busy Bee After School Clubs**

There are still spaces for some of the clubs, if you would like your child to take part please sign up via Parentmail

### **Photograph permissions**

Thank you to those of you that have completed the form on ParentMail already, if you have not already done so please can you complete it as soon as possible.

### **Oxford Schools Challenge**

Please check Parentmail if you would like to sign up to take part in the Oxford Schools Challenge on 11<sup>th</sup> Sunday. It's an early start but great fun!

### **Bikeability – year 5**

A form has been sent out via ParentMail, please do check and sign your child up by Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Flu vaccination consent form – Reception – year 6**

The School nursing team will be in school on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September, please can we remind you to sign your child up for the flu immunisation via the following link

<https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu?schoolcode=OX123040>

### **Guitar Orchestra**

We are pleased to announce the return of the guitar orchestra in September 2026 - a class brought to you by Ivor McGurk, Woodcote's local music teacher. These fun group sessions will teach students the rudiments of playing either the guitar in a group environment while they learn fun songs together. It is aimed at complete beginners. All students need is their own instrument and all learning materials will be provided. This opportunity is open to year children in years 2 to 6. Lessons are £15 per 30 minute session. Please see the attached flyer.

### **From Last week's newsletter**

#### **Lunch**

Please be aware that from Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September if your child does not have a home packed lunch or a lunch ordered, parents will be contacted to bring a lunch into school for their child.

### **Secondary School applications – current year 6 children**

The Oxfordshire County Council application portal opens for secondary school places on Friday 11th September for September 2027 intake. You can apply on line by clicking on the following link [Year 7 - secondary school applications | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

The closing date for applications is 31st October. Please get your applications in on time otherwise you will not get an offer on national offer day on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2027. It will also reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school in the 2<sup>nd</sup> allocation.

If you are having trouble with submitting an on-line application in the first few days, it will be down to volume of traffic.

If you are moving house or have recently moved, please make sure you upload proof of address – tenancy agreement or a contract of exchange document.

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| Acorns | <p>Thank you so much to everyone who came to see us at the Festival and helped on the day. It was lovely to see so many families enjoying the event. Our entries did very well, and we were delighted to receive at least one first prize and a couple of second prizes.</p> <p>This week, we have been investigating apples and celebrating Rosh Hashanah by trying apples dipped in honey. We also tasted lots of different varieties of apples, exploring their different sizes and colours. We cut each one open and discovered that they were all the same inside, with each one holding a little star at its centre. We thought this was a little bit like us: we may all look different on the outside, but we are the same on the inside.</p> <p>Next week, we will be reading <i>Goldilocks and the Three Bears</i>. We will be learning the letter sound <b>i</b>, exploring the colour <b>gold</b>, looking at <b>repeats</b> in Maths, and focusing on <b>Rhyme and Rhythm</b> in Phonics.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Oak    | <p>Oak class has had a happy and busy week. We continue to be so impressed with how well all the children are settling in. On Friday the Oak children will be paired up with a buddy or two from year 6. The buddies will join the Oak children in some shared activities during the year and will be a friendly face in the playground. In phonics the Oak children were very proud to be able to read their first words this week using the letters they have learnt so far; sat and pat! We have been busy writing s and a this week and learning letters t and p. Cherry children have been practising reading and writing words which include the ai, ve and tch sounds. In maths Oak have been looking at ways to sort objects by colour and shape and Cherries have been counting on and back, and identifying one more and one less. Please can Cherries practise number formation and recognising number words from zero to ten. We have all been enjoying the story of goldilocks this week. Oak class are enjoying re telling the story and Cherries have written some great sentences. Learning about and creating our own animal habitats outside has been lots of fun too. Please can all the children bring in a book bag each day or alternatively a back pack which has enough space for them to put their drawings in. The children don't have drawers in the classroom so are encouraged to put anything they want to take home in their book bag or school bag. Once the children start having weekly reading books it is also useful to have a bookbag to keep these safe. Coats and wellies need to be in school every day too. <b>Please can the children bring in a drawn picture or photo of their family on Monday 21st September so they can talk about their special people in PSHE that afternoon.</b> Have a lovely weekend.</p> |
| Beech  | <p>It has been another fantastic week in Beech Class. In Maths, Year 1 have been counting on and back, and identifying one more and one less. Please practise number formation if your child is reversing the digits and practise recognising number words from zero to ten. Year 2 have been continuing their learning on place value, partitioning numbers to 100 flexibly and writing numbers to 100 in words. In Phonics, Year 1 have been practising reading and writing words which include the ai, ve and tch graphemes. Year 2 have been learning the soft c and the kn (silent k) graphemes. In English, our learning has been based around the traditional tale, Goldilocks. The children have done some excellent retelling of the story and have written some super sentences. In science, everyone did some brilliant habitat building and sorting, thinking about the three key items necessary for survival: air, food and water. Please could all children bring their coats every day. Year 1 children will also need wellies for when they are playing outside. Have a lovely weekend everyone.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Ash    | <p>Ash class have been busy on their science work this week, thinking about healthy eating and making their own Eatwell Plates based on the 5 food groups. In Geography, they used their atlas skills to locate some of the</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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|        | world's greatest rivers. It was tricky remembering the continents and finding the rivers but the children all did really well. Please could we also send a reminder for children not to bring toys or fidget objects into class as we have had quite a lot this week. Thank you. We wish you a lovely weekend.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Rowan  | It's been another fantastic week here in Rowan Class. In English we've been continuing our work linked to the Fantastic Mr Fox. After having a debate about whether the farmers should be allowed to kill the foxes on their land or not, we then started writing letters to the council, attempting to persuade them of our decision. Maths has seen us continuing to work on place value, building up to Friday when we got the chance to play some place value and mental maths games using polyhedral dice (dice with more or less than 6 sides!). In Topic we continued to work on Geography, this time exploring human and physical features of geography while Computing this week saw us working on our two-player games. We also got the chance this week to start our swimming sessions. We were all blown away by your children, every single one of which spent time in the pool and overcame whatever nerves or worries they may have been feeling. Another great week! |
| Maple  | There has been a hive of activity in Maple class this week! We have been investigating Viking long boats and have taken on a DT project to create our own models. The children have shown great creativity and resilience, overcoming tricky moments along the way, and they should all be proud of what they have achieved. In English, we have used our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings and inspiration from texts we have shared to create a Norse myth. We also had an amazing gymnastics session mastering Teddy Bear rolls!                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Willow | In Maths, we have focussed on negative numbers and solving operations that involve a range of them. In our wider curriculum areas we have learnt all about Christian pilgrimage, the children researched Lourdes in France and why this is such an important site. Our science lessons have been looking at how scientists classify new animals using a classification key and on Thursday we created our own keys to classify a range of animals and insects.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

The children in Acorns enjoyed learning all about Rosh Hashanah and sampling different apples.



### **Important dates**

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|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> September – Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December | Year 4 swimming lessons start, no lesson on Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> October |
| Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> September                                   | Flu immunisations – please see the parentmail for sign up information        |
| Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> October                                      | School photographer in school for individual photographs                     |

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| Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October                            | Harvest Service for all classes                                                                    |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October                           | Oak families invited for stay and Learn in Oak classroom<br>8.35 – 9.00am                          |
| Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> October                           | Acorns Harvest Service @ St Leonards Church @ 10.30                                                |
| Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October                           | Oxford Schools Challenge                                                                           |
| Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> October | Bikeability for year 5 children                                                                    |
| Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October                         | FOWPS School disco – more information to follow                                                    |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October                           | Parents evening – times tbc                                                                        |
| Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> October – Thursday 22 October     | Open Afternoons for Reception 2027 intake (1.30pm) If you wish to attend, please email the office. |
| Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October                         | Parents evening – times tbc                                                                        |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October                           | INSET day – school closed to all children                                                          |
| Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October                         | Closing date for secondary school applications                                                     |
| Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November                          | Primary School online and paper applications open via Oxfordshire County Council                   |
| Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> November                          | FOWPS – return of the jingle jog – more details to follow                                          |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December                           | FOWPS Festive candle making workshop – more details to follow                                      |
| Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December                         | FOWPS coffee shop                                                                                  |
| Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2027                      | Closing date for Primary School application for September 2027                                     |
| Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February                        | Young Voices – year 5 and 6 – save the date – more details will follow                             |

### **FOWPS news**

Thank you so much to everyone who volunteered their time to support FOWPS at the Woodcote Village Fete last Saturday. We had an excellent day, enjoyed the fete immensely and were delighted to raise funds towards helping our school.

Our next event is the FOWPS Community Coffee Shop at the Old School House this Saturday (19th September) from 9.30-12.30. Alongside a selection of delicious cakes (as well as tea and coffee!) there will also be a lucky dip, tombola and a second-hand uniform sale (perfect for replacing those missing jumpers!)

We hope to see you there.

### **Other News/Information**

None this week