



Friday 25th September 2026

Parents Evening

Please keep an eye on parentmail at the end next week as we'll be sending out the Parents Evening bookings.

Oxford Schools Challenge

Bookings for this have now closed. A huge thank you to those who have volunteered to help, we literally couldn't run without you.

Open afternoon for Reception 2027

This will be taking place on Tuesday 20th, Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd October. It will be a drop in session from 1.30pm to 3.00pm.

Bikes and scooters on school premises

Bikes and scooters are not be ridden once children are inside the school grounds. Thank you for your cooperation.

Arriving on time

Please can we remind you that the school gate opens at 8.35 and closes promptly at 8.45am.

School photographer

Braiswicks the school photographer will be in school on Thursday 1st October for individual school photographs. If you would also like a photograph taken with siblings please arrive at school at 8.15am. A reminder that all children should be full school uniform including our school sweatshirt or cardigan.

Harvest

Thank you to those who have already donated but we would still be very grateful for any more donations for the harvest boxes.

From Last weeks newsletter

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.

Bikeability – year 5

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

Acorns	We have introduced the monsters to the children. Have you heard them talking about Tricky Witch and Cool Blue? These are the monsters that we use to
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	introduce phonics. They all have a special job to do and introduce sounds using a colour code. They will all help the children when they transition to Oak Class. We have visited the library and joined in with Rhyme Time. It was lovely to meet up with some new friends. In PE, we had so much fun throwing, chasing, kicking and stopping rugby balls. Dough Disco is a great way to get our hands and fingers working. We all joined in together, rolling, splatting, pinching, making balls, squeezing and passing the dough around. Monday Mingle is changing to Wheelie Wednesday to give others a turn, which means PE will now be on a Monday. Please make sure the children have a good pair of shoes or trainers. We will not be getting changed for PE until the summer term. Let's master shoes and socks first! <i>Goldilocks and the Three Bears</i> has helped us so much with our maths. Numbers 1 to 3 are very secure, and we are becoming confident with mathematical language such as <i>big, enormous, little, small</i> and <i>tiny</i>. Great language development all round! Next week our focus book is <i>Three Little Pigs</i>, our colour is pink and yes you might have guessed the sound p, in maths we will focus on hearing and saying number. Don't forget to bring in wellies for outdoor play and waterproof coats and if you have any over trousers.
Oak	Another lovely busy week in Oak class. The children are making the most of the nice weather and are especially enjoying playing in the garden. Thank you for all the photos of when the children were small. They have loved sharing them and drawing pictures of themselves and their families. In phonics Oak children have been busy practising reading and writing our letter sounds and we have learnt the new sound i. So we now know s, a, t, p and i! Next week we will start sending home some simple words for the children to read to you. Cherry children have been learning the 'oi', 'ay' and 'oy' graphemes. In literacy we have enjoyed writing letters or making cards for the three bears. In maths Oak class have been getting very quick at subitising (recognising without counting) numbers up to 5 and cherries have been learning one more and one less, comparing numbers and learning the 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to' symbols. Oak children will be changing into PE kits from next Monday so please make sure that they have their PE kits in school. Thank you for all the kind harvest donations. Have a lovely weekend.
Beech	Thank you to the families who sent in photos of the children and pets. We all loved talking about what we were like when we were babies. There was lots of chatter about all the things we can do now and what we would like to learn. In maths, the Year 2 children have already learnt how to count in 10s and have started learning their 10x table. The Year 1 children have been learning one more and one less, comparing numbers and learning the 'greater than', 'less than' and 'equal to' symbols. Number words to ten have been sent home; please help your child learn to read these words. In phonics, the Year 2s have been learning the 'gn' and 'wr' graphemes at the start of a word, where the 'g' and the 'w' are silent. The Year 1s have been learning the 'oi', 'ay' and 'oy' graphemes. In P.E, we enjoyed playing some team games using some brand-new hoops, bean bags and cones. In art, we drew kiwi fruit using colouring pencils, making careful observations about the colour, texture, shape and size of our drawings. Thank you to everyone for the harvest donations we have received so far.
Ash	This week, Ash Class have been looking at nutritional information on food packaging, using the traffic light system, to help decide on food choices as part of our Science learning. In Art, the children have been learning about Claude Monet, and started their own versions of some of his water themed paintings. Finally, to help celebrate European Day of Languages (26th September), we swapped our usual French lesson to share some familiar Disney film songs in

	multiple languages and learn greetings from around Europe. Wishing you all a good weekend.
Rowan	In English, we have been writing our letters to the council. We've written up a version 'in best' using line guides and plain paper, and we were blown away by the care your children took in their presentation. We wrapped up the week by beginning to explore poetry in Roald Dahl's style, and we'll be writing some of our own in the coming weeks! Maths has seen us continuing to look at number, this week comparing and ordering them before taking a brief detour into Roman Numerals. We ended our week by exploring capital cities in Geography, designing Christmas cards in Art, continuing our work on fitness in PE and diving into PSHE with some work on friends and friendships!
Maple	It's been another fantastic week in Year 5! In Science, we have been investigating friction and discovering how this force can be both helpful and unhelpful in our everyday lives. In Maths, the children have been working incredibly hard on rounding numbers, showing great determination as they tackled some tricky challenges. We have also had lots of fun in English writing our very first Kenning-style riddles! The children enjoyed getting creative with their descriptions before challenging their classmates to see if they could crack the clues and guess the answers!
Willow	This week in Willow class the children have been learning about harvest poems. We have focused on 'the Harvest moon' written by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, we have explored the language used and the poetic techniques required to create a strong visual image in the readers mind. In Maths we have been working with a variety of different numbers to determine; factors, multiples and whether they are prime numbers. After initially recapping each word meant the children have worked diligently using their reasoning and problem solving skills to demonstrate their understanding. In the wider curriculum area, we have been looking at a timeline of ancient Greece identifying key events during the civilisational period and plotting them on a timeline. We also looked at how the ancient Greek civilisation ran concurrently alongside the Mayans, the Romans, as well as Ancient Egypt. In Science, we have continued with our classification this week looking at leaves and their features in order to classify which type of tree/plant they have come from. Asking classification questions about the shape size and structure of the leaf and identify how it is unique to different plants.

Important dates

Tuesday 15 th September – Tuesday 1 st December	Year 4 swimming lessons start, no lesson on Tuesday 20 th October
Thursday 1 st October	School photographer in school for individual photographs, siblings invited from 8.15am
Friday 2 nd October	Harvest Service for all classes
Tuesday 6 th October	Oak & Beech families invited for stay and Learn 8.35 – 9.00am
Tuesday 6 th October	Acorns Harvest Service @ St Leonards Church @ 10.30
Sunday 11 th October	Oxford Schools Challenge
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th October	Bikeability for year 5 children
Thursday 16 th October	FOWPS School disco – more information to follow

Monday 19 th October	Parents evening – times tbc
Tuesday 20 th October – Thursday 22 October	Open Afternoons for Reception 2027 intake (1.30pm) If you wish to attend, please email the office.
Thursday 22 nd October	Parents evening – times tbc
Friday 23 rd October	INSET day – school closed to all children
Saturday 31 st October	Closing date for secondary school applications
Tuesday 3 rd November	Primary School online and paper applications open via Oxfordshire County Council
Sunday 29 th November	FOWPS – return of the jingle jog – more details to follow
Friday 4 th December	FOWPS Festive candle making workshop – more details to follow
Saturday 5 th December	FOWPS coffee shop
Friday 15 th January 2027	Closing date for Primary School application for September 2027
Wednesday 3 rd February	Young Voices – year 5 and 6 – save the date – more details will follow

FOWPS news

Thank you so much to everyone who rallied at short notice for our community coffee shop event last Saturday. It was a brilliant to see such strong support from our community and raise another £285 towards enriching the school.

Other News/Information

Exciting news!



junior parkrun

will soon be launching at

 **THE ORATORY
PREP SCHOOL**

For a successful launch, we need a group of volunteers who are happy to help out on some Sundays.

If you're interested, we would love to hear from you via this form →



<https://forms.gle/BvJiC5oeE953UEtN8>

Woodcote Scarecrow Trail "Celebrity Cats" Take Over the Village!

This October half term, the **1st Goring Heath Scouts** are launching their very first **Woodcote Scarecrow Trail**.

We're asking residents of Woodcote and local businesses to create a **cat-themed scarecrow** to display outside their home/business during the trail week.

Each entry costs **£5**, and there's a **cash prize** for the best scarecrow — so grab your hay sacks, dust off your hats, and start crafting your star-studded cat!

Prize money kindly donated by:



1st Prize - £50

2nd Prize - £20

3rd Prize - £10

To enter, simply email your ideas to goringheathscouts@gmail.com or go to www.tinyurl.com/1GHCCT.

Closing date for entries:
17th October 2026.



Scouts
1st Goring Heath

