



Friday 2nd October 2026

Harvest

The whole school enjoyed going to St.Leonard's church for our Harvest Festival today. Dingle Dangle Scarecrow was a popular song sung by Oak and Beech class but we all enjoyed joining in the dance moves! Year 3 shared the beautiful Harvest loaf they had made with Mrs Thorne, who had volunteered to come in and bake it with them.

A huge thank you for all of the donations for the Harvest boxes, these will be delivered on Tuesday afternoon next week by our Year 6 pupils.



First Class photographs

A class photo of the children in Reception class can be seen in the Henley Standard which is out today.

Bikeability – year 5 children

Please read the ParentMail sent out earlier today to ensure that your children are ready for Bikeability training from Monday 12th October

Breakfast club

Congratulations to the staff team at Breakfast Club who achieved a 5 star rating at their recent Food & Safety inspection.

Cauliflower cards

The children will have brought home their Christmas card artwork this week. For full information see the ParentMail sent on Monday. Please order directly with Cauliflower cards and return the artwork to the class teacher no later than 3.15pm Monday 12th October. On the subject of Christmas there is a **Christmas card competition** which is supported by the Police and Crime

Commissioner, Matthew Barber. Please see the attached form for more information on how your child can enter.

Braiswick Photographs

Photo proof cards have been sent home this week, all ***orders must be placed online*** with Braiswicks by Monday 12th October. We can no longer take cash orders.

Missed flu vaccinations at school – Information from the Nursing team

If you have already submitted a consent form, and your child has missed the main school session, we will offer this vaccination at either an in school catch up session or a community catch-up session. If you have missed the main school session, you will automatically receive an email asking you to book into a community catch up clinic. Please search your emails for correspondence from school.immunisations@nhs.net

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.

Acorns	Each cohort is always so different, and this year I am delighted to report how well everyone is eating. It is lovely to see the children enjoying their lunches, with the majority happily tucking into the delicious meals provided by the Langtree team. In fact, at around 12 noon, our usually busy classroom becomes wonderfully quiet as everyone concentrates on their food! Marshmallow, our resident guinea pig, continues to be a huge hit with the children. They certainly miss him on a Monday, and when I arrive on Tuesday, I am often greeted with questions such as, <i>"Is Marshmallow here?"</i> and <i>"Can we feed him?"</i> He has played a big part in helping the children settle and feel at home. They love stroking and holding him, as well as taking him out to his run on the field. This week, we enjoyed a village walk to collect leaves to decorate our <i>"Conker people"</i>. Along the way, we discovered leaves of all shapes, sizes and colours, which sparked lots of discussion about the changing season. The children made up a rhyme to match Brown bear story - it goes like this "Conker man, conker man what do you see, I see normal conkers looking at me." Monday Mingle has now become Wheelie Wednesday, which meant it was time to get our bikes and scooters ready for action. The children worked brilliantly together, helping to clean and tidy our wonderful collection of ride-ons. They are all looking forward to enjoying their wheelie fun each Wednesday!
Oak	Another super busy week. In phonics Oak children have been learning the letter sounds n and m and Cherries have been busy learning how to add s and es to words to make plurals and have been learning how to make a long a sound using a split digraph as in cake. In Maths, Cherries have been learning how to use number lines and Oak have been using their counting skills. We sent some words home for cherries to practise reading this week. Encourage the children to say each sound and then say them quickly so that they can blend the sounds together to read the word. Once the children can read the word with the picture they can try just reading the word. Please bring reading folders in every day. New words to read will be sent home on a Monday or Tuesday. This week we have enjoyed getting out and about. We all walked up to the church for a harvest celebration on Friday and Cherries found it helpful using their map skills on a walk around Woodcote. We have all enjoyed reading The Very Hungry Caterpillar and learning about the life cycle of a butterfly. Have a lovely weekend.

Beech	Beech class learnt about the life-cycle of a butterfly this week in science. We enjoyed making a life-cycle craft poster with our partners and some of us added some scientific vocabulary to our diagrams. In maths, we have been comparing numbers using real objects and symbols. In English, we wrote Harvest poems inspired by the Harvest Festival poem by Simon Fletcher. We looked at different fruits and vegetables and described them using adjectives. In geography, we enjoyed going on a walk around the village, following a map and adding symbols as we went.
Ash	Ash class have had a busy week of learning. In preparation for Harvest, the children have been making bread and writing about the production process, tracking the journey from planting wheat seeds to milling flour and baking a loaf. Mrs Thorne kindly spent an afternoon helping the class bake a beautiful wheatsheaf loaf to take to the church service. In Geography, the children have been studying the effects of river flooding on humans. After learning about the 2007 Tewkesbury floods, the class applied their knowledge by acting out their own BBC reporter interviews, with residents and business owners. There are some budding future media stars in Year 3! Wishing you all a happy weekend.
Rowan	We've had yet another busy week here in Rowan Class. English has seen us exploring some of the poetry of Roald Dahl. We learned about limericks and even started writing some of our own. We're planning to write limericks about our favourite foods next week so keep an eye out for that! In Maths, we've focussed on rounding to 10, 100 and 1'000. We spent our afternoons exploring cat and mouse games in Computing, learning about the letters of the alphabet in French and even got to finish off our friendship posters we started last week. We wrapped up the week with a visit to church where your children read and shared prayers very carefully.
Maple	This week in Maple, our focus has been on using our knowledge and understanding of Kennings to create riddles associated with harvest. We also revisited the meaning of harvest, the work involved in growing and collecting food, and why it is an important time to be thankful for the food we have. We discussed the importance of sharing and supporting others within our community, exploring how harvest can encourage a spirit of kindness and generosity. In grammar, we have been learning about suffixes, investigating how they can change both the meaning and the word class of a word, and putting our dictionary skills to the test.
Willow	This week Year 6 have shifted into a Harvest focus! In English, we have been writing and publishing our harvest poetry. I have been very impressed by the way the children have used the skills we have learnt over the past few weeks and applied them to our poems. In Maths, we have focussed on multiplying 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. We focussed a lot on laying out the calculations correctly and understanding how this helps us to solve them. We then continued with that focus and tried to apply those skills to some reasoning and problem-solving questions. In the afternoons this week we have continued with the harvest theme, learning about how harvest is celebrated all over the world. This included a lot of map work to locate the countries, understanding the climate there (and how it is different to the UK) and what impact this has on the crops that are grown. We have also been preparing and decorating the harvest boxes ready to deliver into the local community. The children worked incredibly hard to first design some small motifs and then to use water colours to decorate them.

The children in Acorns have had a wonderful time this week collecting leaves to add to their conker people, getting the bikes ready for action and petting “Marshmallow” the guinea pig which is always a big hit.



Important dates

Tuesday 15 th September – Tuesday 1 st December	Year 4 swimming lessons start, no lesson on Tuesday 20 th October
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
Saturday 17 th October	FOWPS Coffee shop 9.30 – 12.30
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.
Tuesday 20 th October	Year 3 Parents eve – times tbc
Thursday 22 nd October	Parents evening – times tbc
Friday 23 rd October	INSET day – school closed to all children
Monday 26 th – Friday 30 th October	Half term
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



Community Coffee Shop

9:30am to 12:30pm

Saturday

17th October

The Old School House

Proceeds go to Friends of Woodcote Primary School PTA (FOWPS)

Lucky Dip & Tombola

If you are free to lend a hand on the day
or would like to bake or donate a cake, please
email fowps-pta@googlegroups.com
or let a member of FOWPS know.

Thank you.

