Friday 27th November

What a busy few weeks it has been! The children had a wonderful time on our trip to Ufton Court and came back full of stories about everything they had seen and done. A huge congratulations to all of our runners who took part in the cross country at Goring. You showed brilliant determination and represented Woodcote with real pride. We are now looking forward to the Jingle Jog on Sunday and hope to see lots of you there in your festive best.
A gentle reminder: please make sure your child's name is in their school jumper. We have built up quite a collection of lost property since September, and as the children rarely know one blue jumper from another, a name makes all the difference in getting them home again.

Look forward to seeing you on Sunday,

Mrs Smyth

Christmas present donations for the John Radcliffe
Flt Lt Ryan Johnson visited us from RAF Benson earlier this week to collect the presents that you kindly donated for the children who will be in hospital over Christmas. Ryan was amazed by the number of gifts that been donated. Santa will now be whisked off by helicopter to the John Radcliffe hospital to deliver the gifts. Thank you for your support.



Swimming – Year 4
Please can we remind you that Tuesday 1st December is the last swimming session for the children in year 4.

KS2 Cross country
On Wednesday 25th November 17 KS2 pupils participated in the partnership cross country event hosted by Goring Primary. There were different categories for each race. The year 3s and 4s ran a lap and a half of the field whilst year 5 and 6 ran two whole laps, which was approximately 2k. This course was particularly challenging because we ran up a big hill, yet everyone was resilient and kept on going, overall, we were placed 4th out of 5 schools.

Account by Teddy, Charlotte, Bayley & Sophia in year 6

Cool Milk – Lets get creative
Our Milk supplier would like you to join their Christmas Card colouring competition. Details on how to enter can be found on the attached flyer.

Christmas Lunch/jumpers
Please can we remind you that Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 16th December. Please sign your child up via ParentMail. This is always a wonderful time and enjoyed by the children who will be served lunch by the staff. There will be no other meal options on this day.

Children are also invited to wear a Christmas jumper in place of their school jumper/cardigan on Wednesday 16th, coincidently School council will be running a pre loved Christmas jumper sale after school on Monday 7th December so this is the ideal opportunity to grab a jumper in time for the Christmas lunch. All donations of Christmas jumpers must be handed in to Willow classroom by **Friday 4th December**. We can only take jumpers that are in good condition. All money raised will go back into the school.

Forest School
The children have been enjoying Forest School, if your child has not had a turn yet they will do next week. Please can we remind you to make sure that your child has suitable clothing for the weather conditions. Come rain or shine they will still go outside.

KS2 Carols – Monday 14th December @ 6.30pm
Children will need to arrive between 6.00 and 6.15 in their school uniform with a white t-shirt, no jumper or cardigan.
Parents will be able to access the hall from 6.20. The event is a standing-room only event in order to fit everyone in with fire regulations. It will be great fun and a terrific way to start your Christmas period. We look forward to seeing you there.

Beezee Families
Please see the attached flyer for more information.

From last week's newsletter

Amazon Wish Lists Relaunch
Our individual class and whole-school Amazon Wish Lists have now been refreshed for the new term!

Each list includes optional items that help teaching staff top up resources, enrich topic learning, and support day-to-day classroom activities.

Teachers have updated their lists this week, and you'll see them linked below. There is absolutely no expectation to purchase anything, the lists simply offer a way for families who wish to support the school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community.

WPS Acorns
WPS Oak
WPS Beech
WPS Ash
WPS Rowan
WPS Maple
WPS Willow
Whole School

Acorns	Acorns have enjoyed learning all about space over the past two weeks; We talked about gravity, planets, rockets, numbers, letter sounds to compliment a variety of activities. Including a moon fizzer experiment.

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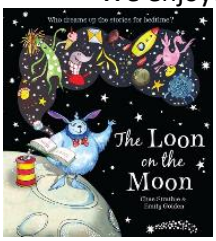
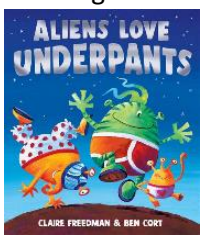
We enjoyed reading





Next week a cheeky Elf might arrive and lock us out of our classroom on Monday, but don't worry we will find a way in.
On Thursday we are off to St Lenoards for Christingle.
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<td>Oak</td>
<td>Another happy and busy week in Oak class. The Christmas nativity rehearsals are going well- we are so proud of all the children! This week we have been learning about the Diwali story of Rama and Sita and we have enjoyed learning about what the police do to help us and we have done lots of role play around this. We have also enjoyed finding out who the secret agent is in our classroom each day. The 'grown ups' watch and choose someone each day to share with the class all the great things they have been doing that day!
<table>
<tr><th>Reception phonics sounds of the week</th><th colspan="2">Year 1 phonics sounds of the Week</th></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2"></td><td>er</td><td>est</td></tr>
<tr><td>Down the rocket, up and over</td><td><u>As in:</u>
Slower
lower</td><td><u>As in:</u>
Slowest
lowest</td></tr>
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Please can each child bring in a large orange on Monday 30th November and remember to bring in your clothes for the Christmas plays.
Thank you.
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<td>Beech</td>
<td>Beech class enjoyed acting out the story of Rama and Sita with their friends in English. We included ambitious verbs during our drama and this helped us with our writing. In science, we predicted and investigated which drinks contain the most sugar. We talked about which drinks are healthy and unhealthy. Thank you to the families who have sent in costumes in named bags. Please can these be brought in by Monday.</td>
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<td>Ash</td>
<td>This week, Ash Class have used their descriptive river-writing skills from last term to write about the journey of a raindrop along the River Nile in their Geography work. We have heard some amazing descriptions of the surroundings, combined with great geographical facts, tracing the journey from the source in Burundi, through to Egypt, and ending up in the Mediterranean Sea. Some raindrops even returned to the water cycle to start a new adventure!</td>
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<td>Rowan</td>
<td>Another excellent week here in Maple Class. A big highlight happened on Monday when we went on the hunt for some invertebrates in the front garden! We found centipedes, millipedes, spiders a</td>
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</table>

	woodlouse and a few other creepy crawlies. We then had the chance to identify what each creature was before doing some detailed drawings of them. A fantastic job all round!
Maple	Maple class had a wonderful day at Ufton Court, and the children were a real credit to the school throughout the trip. They behaved impeccably, joined in with enthusiasm and embraced every activity with energy and curiosity. Although it was chilly, we were lucky to enjoy a dry and sunny day, which made the whole experience even more enjoyable. The children loved taking part in a brilliant range of hands-on activities that brought Anglo-Saxon life to life. They learned about weapons and fight training, and had a go at carding wool, making string, milling wheat and weaving wattle fences. A particular highlight was our Crime and Punishment session, where the children took on different roles in a re-enacted trial. We had some impressive judges and priests, along with witnesses trying to defend those accused of crimes. The rowdy mob certainly brought the scene to life, throwing rotten fruit and vegetables at a prisoner in the stocks! Overall, the trip was a fabulous experience that helped bring our history learning to life.   
Willow	In Willow class this week, the children have written some wonderful stories. We have created an alternative ending to the video clip 'Heroes of Bronze' with the grammar focus being to build tension and use sub-ordinating conjunctions. We hope to share some of them with you when we host our Greek Museum. In Maths, our focus has been to find fractions of an amount and using the fraction to find the whole, although this was a challenging topic the children worked diligently and have come through with flying colours. The real highlight of this week was science. Having learned about Charles Darwin and his theory of natural selection we put it to the test. We arrange for groups of finches (the children) and equipped each group with a different beak (chopsticks, peg, spoon and tweezers). Each group then competed to acquire the most food, the winning group would breed and multiply whilst the loosing group would become extinct. This practical method really helped the children to understand the theory and to see them smiling and laughing about learning was great to see!

Important dates

Sunday 29th November	FOWPS – return of the Jingle Jog https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=124270
Tuesday 1st December	Last year 4 swimming session today
Thursday 3rd December	Acorns and Oak – Christingle service in Church
Friday 4th December	All preloved Christmas jumpers in school by today
Friday 4th December	FOWPS Festive candle making workshop
Saturday 5th December	FOWPS Coffee Shop & second hand uniform sale
Monday 7th December	KS1 Dress Rehearsal
Monday 7th December	Pre loved Christmas jumper sale @ 3.15pm
Tuesday 8th December	EYFS Dress Rehearsal

Wednesday 9th December	KS1 (Years 1 &2) Christmas play @ 2.00pm
Thursday 10th December	Acorns & Early Years (Reception) Christmas play @ 2.00pm
Friday 11th December	Whole School visit to St.Leonard's Church for Christmas Carols.
Monday 14th December	Christmas Carols in school @ 6.30pm
Monday 14th December	IRock Concert – 2.30 – 3.00pm – parents invited
Wednesday 16th December	School Christmas lunch & wear your Christmas jumper with your school uniform
Friday 18th December	Last day of term – 1.00pm finish
Friday 15th January 2027	Closing date for Primary School application for September 2027
Wednesday 3rd February	Young Voices – year 5 and 6 – please see the ParentMail sent out today for more information
Monday 21st June – Friday 25th June	Monday 21st – Wednesday 23rd June Year 5 Residential PGL Liddington Monday 21st – Friday 25th June – Year 6 Residential PGL Liddington

FOWPS

Thank you so much to EVERYONE who has volunteered their time to the Jingle Jog on Sunday! We really appreciate it. Your time means we can provide fun, social activities for the children and our community. All the funds raised at our events contribute towards class trips and equipment, in school experiential events and workshops, whole school trips, year 6 leavers hoodies and much more.

It will also contribute to our next big ticket item, the **playground climbing frame**. Last year we helped replace all the aging **laptops**, in recent years we've contributed to the **trim trail** and **Oak class covered garden**.

There are still a few kitchen spots we desperately need to fill, so if you are able to contribute for any time at all please contact your class rep!

Discounted ticket sales are no longer available online, however **you will be able to register and buy tickets on the day!**

We hope to see you there - your friendly FOWPS team

Other News



Christmas Jumper Swap

If you would like to get a different, larger size or new design, Christmas jumper …just drop in to Woodcote Village Hall on Sunday 29th November in the morning during FOWPS Jingle jog with your Christmas jumpers ready to swap!! No cost… just the fun of choosing a different jumper and clearing out your pre used ones!! We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. Happy Sustainable Christmas!!