



Newsletter

No 4 – 17th October 2025



*Succeed ~
with perseverance*

Happy ~

with respect & honesty ~

Independent ~

and courageous ~

Nurtured ~

with compassion~

Excited

with teamwork



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have just finished this week's 'be the best' assembly - it is always lovely to share achievements and successes as a school family, the children always look so proud of themselves and others. I would like to say a big well done to the children who have played their musical instrument in front of the whole school during assembly; this shows such courage and makes me very proud! ☺

This week the children enjoyed a special art workshop delivered by the Cotswold Arts through Schools programme where they were able to explore the use of charcoal. The art created was incredible.

Mrs Veeder, Executive Headteacher

EVERY. MINUTE. MATTERS.

Attendance Matters!



Every Student, Every School, Every Day

For our pupils to gain the greatest benefit from their education it is vital that they attend regularly and on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable.

Absences may be investigated by the Education Welfare Officer. The Absence Policy is available on the school website. [odst-attendance-policy-2025.pdf](#)

PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ANY ABSENCE BEFORE 9AM BY TELEPHONING SCHOOL ON 01367 860318 AND SELECTING OPTION 1 OR 4 TO LEAVE A MESSAGE. PLEASE DO NOT DOJO OR EMAIL.

WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: 97.3%



★ **Friday 31st October** – deadline for applying for secondary school places. If you submit a late application you are far less likely to obtain a place for your child at one of your preferred schools. Please contact the Admissions Team at Oxfordshire County Council if you have a query.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications>

★ **Monday 3rd November** – ODST INSET Day

★ **Tuesday 4th November** – back to school! Don't forget to bring back PE Kit!

★ Please see details attached of clubs starting next term. Please make a note of the dates.



Succeed with perseverance



"To be the best we can be for ourselves and others"

This is illustrated by the parable the Good Samaritan, Luke 10:25-27



Time to **SHINE** at St Christopher's



"To Be the Best we can be for ourselves and others"

The awards last week went to:



Ayda for always trying her best and being respectful and kind.



Maxi for working hard in all areas and succeeding with perseverance.



Amber for a brilliant attitude towards her learning.



Mason for hard work and effort in all lessons.



Ilse for going above and beyond in her learning.



Leah for being caring and nurturing in Breakfast Club.

The awards this week went to:



Woody for great reading and writing



Fred for challenging himself with his learning and showing 'be the best' at all times.



Blake for always focusing and persevering with his learning.



Arlo for amazing and very impressive writing.



Harley for amazing writing and hard work in English

WHOLE SCHOOL LEARNING HERO is awarded to one child in the whole school who has gone above and beyond in their learning, reaching high expectations with huge achievement!



ALEX & BLAKE, HARLEY & LOTTIE



SHINE STARS – each week children and staff can award individuals for showing our vision. The names are written on a star and displayed in the entrance hall on our vision display.

Our "SHINE STARS" are:

Charlie, Albie, Sammy

For

Being a really kind and supportive friend with courage and compassion and honesty

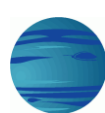
For being good friends



House Points



JUPITER



MERCURY



NEPTUNE



SATURN

WE WILL BE ANNOUNCING THE HOUSE WINNERS AT THE END OF TERM









WHOLE SCHOOL LEARNING HERO

Alex was the WHOLE School Learning Hero for ALWAYS being a great Oak class role model and Being the Best both for himself and others and Blake, Harley and Lottie for having a great attitude to learning.

Well done 😊 Mrs Veeder



Diary Dates

| 20 th October | 21 st October | 22 nd October | 23 rd October | 24 th October |
|---|--|--|--|-------------------------------|
| 3.15pm Nature Club 3.15pm Young Voices Club 3.15pm Sports Club |  Oak Class Swimming | Whole School Hinduism Workshop  3.15pm Hartist Club | Hartist Lunchtime Club Footykids Lunchtime Club | Girls Football Lunchtime Club |
| 27 th – 31 st October - Half Term | | | | |
| 3 rd November | 4 th November | 5 th November | 6 th November | 7 th November |
|  | Back to School | Year 6 IMPS Boys Lunchtime Football | Footykids Lunchtime Club 3.15pm Drama Club | |
| 10 th November | 11 th November | 12 th November | 13 th November | 14 th November |
| Year 6 Residential – All week | | | | |
| 3.15pm Nature Club 3.15pm Young Voices Club |  Oak Class Swimming | Boys Lunchtime Football | Footykids Lunchtime Club 3.15pm Drama Club | |



THURSDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2025
 Booking details to follow

MAPLE & GINKGO TRIP
BATSFORD ARBORETUM

On Friday 6th October, Maple Class had a wonderful trip to Batsford Arboretum. We spent the day exploring and enjoying the beautiful treasures that Autumn had left for us, from colourful leaves to interesting plants and wildlife. One of our favourite activities was creating habitats for mice in the cave, which was both fun and hands-on. The trip gave us a fantastic opportunity to enhance and embed our learning in Science and Geography, as we observed nature up close and connected it to what we have been learning in class. It was a memorable day full of discovery, learning, and fun! *Mrs Wymbs*



Ginkgo Class had a wonderful time on their trip to Batsford Arboretum! We didn't mind the rain — it just meant we could hide under some of the biggest leaves we could find!

Our first challenge was to spot as many different types of leaves as possible, but it soon turned into a game to see who could throw their leaves the highest into the air.

Along the way, we discovered a beautiful red Japanese bridge. Everyone tiptoed carefully across it so we didn't wake up any trolls that might be sleeping underneath! We also spotted some enormous bamboo trunks and several statues, including a Chinese lion, some grazing deer and a lovely rabbit.

The highlight of the day was exploring the cave, where the children excitedly reported seeing — and I quote — “bats, bears and cockroaches!”

It was a fantastic day full of adventure, imagination and laughter. *Mrs Timms*





WILLOW CLASS TRIP TO RUTHERFORD APPLETON LABORATORY



Willow Class had a brilliant day visiting the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories for their 'Space Explorers Day'.

The day consisted of a variety of different workshops. We started by video calling a worker in the Bulby Mine, where there is a lab that explores 'dark matter' and also tests things like robots. We were amazed to find out that it's actually 35C in the mine!

We then went to our first workshop, where we made UV detectors for a visit to the moon. We then created moon houses/buildings and tested their effectiveness with UV torches.

After that, we were lucky enough to go into a planetarium, where we learnt lots about the stars and different constellations. We also got to have a go at programming Beebots and testing out our codes on large scale space maps.

After some lunch and a good run around, finished the day by designing and making space boxes, linked to the laboratory's experiments. See photos! They were amazing.

Willow Class were all fantastic, with such curious minds and great questions. *Mrs Clark*



BURFORD PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS



St Christopher's were invited to participate in the Burford Partnership Cross County event at Bampton Sports Ground. All the children ran their socks off and had an amazing morning with everyone being the best they could be! A huge well done to everyone involved! *Mrs Veeder*



U11 FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT On Monday the U11 Boys and U11 Girls team went off to Carterton Community College to take part in the Burford Partnership U11 football tournament. With some incredibly close matches both teams managed a very respectable 3rd place - well done - you were great role models for the school! *Mr Lenton*



Oxford Health

NHS Foundation Trust

CHILDHOOD FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME

We have been advised by the School Health Nurse Team following their visit to school this term, that if you had not provided consent but now wish to book an appointment for your child to receive the flu vaccination you are able to do so at a catch up clinic. Please click the link below for further information and how to book.

<https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/>



Health Visiting / School Health Nursing message service for support or advice

ParentLine 0-4 years. Text: 07312 263081

ParentLine 5-11 years. Text: 07312 263227

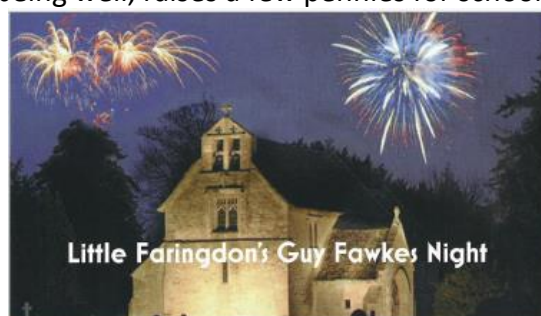
ChatHealth 11-19 years. Text: 07312263084



I am sure many of you share my concerns about the use of smart phones by children. The following website may be of interest to you: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>



We hope to welcome all families and friends to the following event which, all being well, raises a few pennies for school!



Little Faringdon's Guy Fawkes Night

Friday, 7th of November 2025

Gates Open at 6.45pm

Tickets sold at the gate
£6.00 for adults and £3.00 for Children

- The children stand for treats, sweets, hot chocolate and soft drinks!
- The adult stand serves mulled wine, beer and soft drinks.
- The food stand serving hot dogs & burgers

Music and a charity raffle

Entrance and Stalls will accept contactless and cash, Contactless Preferred

All profits go to local charities and Schools

FREE PARKING & TOILETS PROVIDED

PLEASE LEAVE PETS AT HOME



Clubs

We are delighted to be able to introduce a few clubs after half term. Please see dates and details below. We request a voluntary contribution to help cover resources and staff costs and this can be done via SCOPAY which can be done when you register.

| | Club | Led by | Time | Year Group | Numbers | Cost | Dates |
|-------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|--|---|-----------|---|
| Mon | Nature Club | Mrs Hobbs | 3.15pm-4.15pm | All | Max 16 | £15.00 | 10 th , 17 th , 24 th Nov, 1 st & 8 th Dec |
| Mon | Young Voices | Mrs Veeder | 3.15pm-4.15pm | This will continue every Monday until 12 th January 2026. | | | |
| Weds | Boys Football | Mrs Veeder | Lunchtimes | Years 4,5,6 | Max 20 | £10.00 pw | 5 th , 12 th , 19 th , Nov 3 rd & 10 th Dec |
| Weds | Hartist Art Club | Hartist Design | 3.15pm-4.15pm Min 10 Max 20 | Year 1 to Year 6 | Separate flyer with details and booking info To follow when received. | | |
| Thurs | Footy Kids | Footy Kids | Lunchtimes | This will continue until the last session on the 27 th November 2025. | | | |
| Thurs | Drama Club | Ms Hamill | 3.15pm-4.15pm | Rec to Year 3 | Min 10 Max 20 | £15.00 | 6 th , 13 th , 20 th , 27 th Nov & 4 th December |

Please note:

- A club may not go ahead if there is not enough children registered/attending.
- Once your child registers, we do expect that they will attend each session.
- There is the same high level of expectation with regard to behaviour and the schools behaviour policy will be followed.
- For ease of banking & administration, payments are due at the start of the course via SCOPAY
- Payment and commitment is for the whole course to cover staff/coach costs & resources.
- For children attending an afterschool club please note the finish time for the club their child is attending as indicated above. At this time the club leader will bring the children to the main entrance and see them out of the main door to parents/carers who are waiting. Please note that the bell should not be rung prior to this time as staff cannot allow Parents/Carers to wait unaccompanied inside the school building.
- Please collect your child promptly as staff may need to go home!



The staff car park is not to be used for picking up children before 4.30pm as it is very busy with children walking through the car park after finishing clubs. After this time you are permitted to park if you are picking up from After School Provision but please be aware of the work vehicles.



We will be supporting the Poppy Appeal again this year to defend our democratic freedoms and way of life. Next week and after half term, poppies etc will be available in school if you wish to make a donation.



open day

WEDNESDAY

19TH NOVEMBER 2025

The school will be open
to visitors from
9.30am-11.30am

Please “spread the word” and if you have friends and colleagues who are unable to make this date and wish to visit please telephone the school office 01367 860318 to arrange an appointment.