



NEWSLETTER

26TH JANUARY 2026

Success at Sportshall Athletics

Our Year 5 and 6 athletics team stormed to first place at the Didcot area sportshall athletics competition, displaying not only fantastic skills and talents in their events - but also fantastic sportsmanship. Congratulations to them and we are now awaiting a date for the county finals!

Young Voices

On Friday 70 children, 7 staff and 117 parents and friends joined the sell out crowd at the O2 arena London for the 30th anniversary Young Voices concert. We had a totally amazing day, sang our hearts out and were fantastic ambassadors for the school. A huge thank you to all the staff who worked an incredibly long day to make this trip happen - we arrived back at school at 12:40 am. This is always such a special event and it was wonderful to see the children enjoying themselves so much.



Learning Reviews

Most of the school will be holding their learning reviews on Monday 9th February and Wednesday 11th February 2026. Pre school will be holding Learning reviews on Wednesday 4th February and Wednesday 11th February 2026. You will be shortly receiving information on how to book your appointment.

These learning reviews mark the halfway point of this school year and will be focused on your child's academic progress and achievements. As always, you will be able to look through their books prior to or after your appointment. Appointments are for 10 minutes and are available in person or by telephone. We do our very best to stay on time for appointments and it is important that you arrive in good time for your child's learning review.

The next two weeks...	
Monday 26 th January	Outdoor learning Elm Class
Tuesday 27 th January	House Competition - maths
Wednesday 28 th January	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child course 9-11am Year 4 at DGS for International Day
Thursday 29 th January	Year 2 at Hampton Court Palace Year 3 Rockin' rocks workshop
Friday 30 th January	
Monday 2 nd February	Outdoor learning Birch
Tuesday 3 rd February	National Story Telling week KS2 workshop
Wednesday 4 th February	Year 1 walk around local area Pre school learning reviews
Thursday 6 th February	
Friday 6 th February	Police talk/visit for Year 1 and 3



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Appointments during the school day

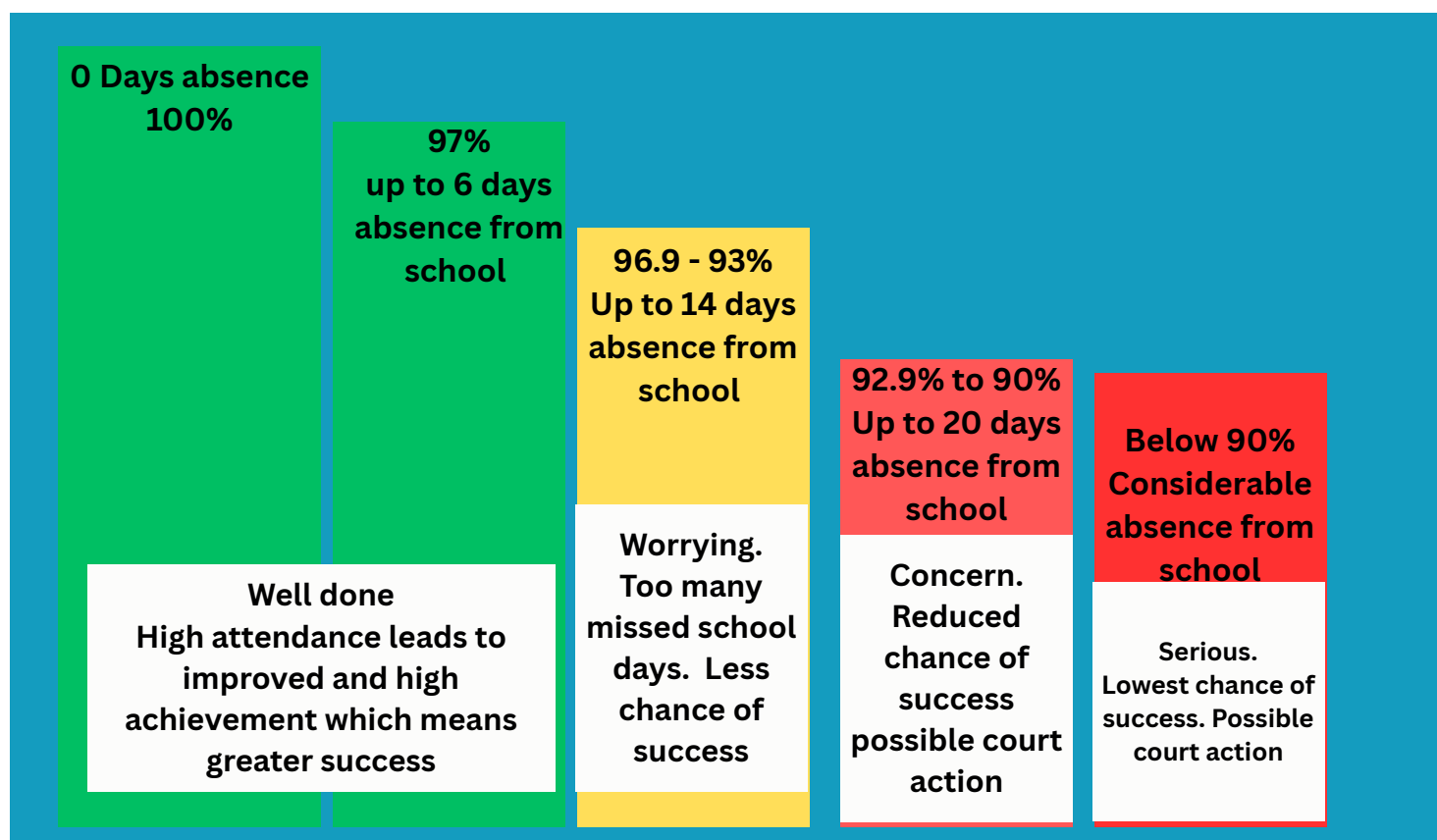
In order to authorise time absent from school for appointments, you will need to provide the office with proof of appointment. Routine dental appointments, hairdressers and family day outs are not able to be authorised.

Choir will be paused until after half term

Choir has been extremely busy since September and now that the Young Voices concert has been completed we are going to take a short pause until after the February half term. We will then be working on a new repertoire of songs ready for Festival of Voices at Dorchester Cathedral and our own summer concert. If your child is in Year 3 upwards and would like to join our fantastic choir, this would be a good time to do so.

Attendance

Attendance at school is vital to ensure all pupils achieve their full academic achievement. We see punctual and regular attendance as central to raising standards in education and contributing significantly to each child's progress. Absence from school can result in children falling behind in their learning and social development. You can check your child's attendance on Arbor



**There are 175 non school days a year.
That is plenty of time to go on visits, holidays, shopping and other appointment**

Term dates 2025-26

First Day of term	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
Half term	27 th October – 31 st October 2025
Last day of term	Thursday 18 th December at 12 noon (nursery sessions finish on Wednesday 17 th December)
Winter Holidays	19 th December - 2 nd January
Further information	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025 and Thursday 4 th September 2025 half days for Reception children, allocated as either morning or afternoon. 5 th September in full time. 8 th September Pre-school children start on allocated days INSET DAYS Monday 1 st September and Tuesday 2 nd September Friday 10 th October 2024
Spring Term	
First day of term	Tuesday 6 th January 2026
Half term	16 th February 2026 – 20 th Feb 2026
Last day of term	Pre school – Thursday 26 th March 2026 Rest of school Friday 27 th March (school finishes at 12 noon, gates will open at 11:50am)
Easter/Spring holidays	30 th March till 10 th April 2026
Further information	Inset Days. Monday 5 th January Inset Day school closed to children
Summer term	
First day of term	Monday 13 th April 2026
Half term	25 th – 29 th May 2026
Last day of term	Pre school: Thursday 16 th July Rest of school: Friday 17 th July at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.
Further information	INSET DAYS Friday 12 th June, school closed to children

2026 Spring 1

When	who	What
Tuesday 6th January	whole school	Term starts at 8:40am
8 th January	Chestnut class Year 3	Swimming starts
12 th January	Elm Class	Outdoor learning
13 th January	Reception parents	Reception Mastering Number at home parent workshop 2:15 pm
14 th January	Year 1 parents	Year 1 mastering number at home parent workshop 2:15pm
15 th January	Year 2 parents	Year 2 mastering number at home parent workshop 2:15pm
14 th - 22nd January	Year 6	Bikeability
16 th January	years 3,4 and 6	Virtual reality sessions: Year 3 - volcanoes Year 4: Vikings Year 6: The arctic
19 th January	Birch Class	Outdoor learning Birch Class
20 th January	Year 5	Trip to Winchester Science Museum
23 rd January	choir going to Young Voices	Young Voices concert at the O2 London. We will leave school at 9:15am and return at around midnight.
27 th January	whole school	Maths House competition
28 th January	Year 4	International Day at Didcot Girls School
28 th January	Parents of children in Early years	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child

2026 Spring 1 continued

When	who	What
29 th January	Year 2	Hampton Court Palace
29 th January	Year 3	Rocking Rocks workshop
2 nd Feb	Birch Class	Outdoor learning
3 rd Feb	KS2	National story telling week workshop
4 th February	Parents of children in Early Years	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child
4 th Feb	Year 1	Geography Field work -Local area study
6 th Feb	Year 1 and 3	Police visit
9 th February	Elm class	Outdoor learning
9 th February	whole school	learning reviews
11 th February	whole school	learning reviews
11 th February	Parents of children in early years	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child
16 th - 20 th February	whole school	half term.

2026 Spring 2

When	Who	What...
23rd February	whole school	Spring 2 starts
24 th February	Year 1	Great Fire of London workshop
25 th February	Parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
3rd March	Whole school	Roving bookshop in school
4 th March	parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
2 nd - 6 th March	whole school	Book week events
10 th March	Year 6	Presentation to parents at 3pm
11 th March	Parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
11 th March	Whole school	PTA Family Film night - more information to come date to be confirmed
16 th March	Year 4	Presentation to parents at 3pm
17 th March	Year 3	Presentation to parents at 3pm
18 th March	parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
19 th March	Year 2	Elizabeth I workshop
19 th March	Year 5	Presentation to parents at 3pm
25 th March	parents	Supporting your child with managing feelings
25 th March	Parents of Rocksteady children	Rocksteady Concerts 10:30am and 2:30pm
27 th March	pre-school	No nursery sessions
27 th March	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon. Gates open at 11:50am

2026 Summer 1

When	Who	What...
13 th April	Whole school	Summer 1 starts at 8:40am
16 th April	Year 3 Sycamore class	Sycamore class start swimming
22 nd - 24 th April	Year 4	Residential trip to PGL
4 th May	whole school	Bank holiday
5 th May	Year 1	Victorian school workshop at Oxfordshire Museum
11 th May to 14 th May	Year 6	SAT's Week
15 th May	all school	Class photos
19 th May	pre-school and reception	Early Years sports afternoon at 2pm
20 th May	Reception children	Vision screening
22 nd May	Year 1-6	Sports day and picnic Year 1-3 am Year 4-6pm

2026 Summer 2

When	Who	What...
8 th June	Year 3	Chedworth Roman Villa Visit
9 th June	Year 4	Ashmolean Museum visit
10 th June	EYFS	Get Active Olympic Event
12 th June	whole school	School closed to children. Inset Day
17 th June	KS1	Olympic Event
18 th June	Selected team	Swimming Gala
24 th June	KS2	Olympic Event
7 th July	current children reception to Year 5	Transition day 1
7 th July	new reception children	one to one parent meetings with new teacher for children new to school. (not existing pre school children)
8 th July	current children reception to Year 5	Transition day 2
8 th July	new reception children	first transition session in school 9:00-11 am or 1 - 3pm
10 th July	Whole school	End of year reports will be emailed out to all parents
14 th July	Year 6	Year 6 party 3:30pm - 5:30pm
15 th July	Parents of children in Rocksteady	Rocksteady Concerts 10:30am and 2:30pm
16 th July	Year 6	Year 6 performance at 2pm and 6pm
16 th July	pre school	last day of term for pre school children
17 th July	Parents of children in Year 6	Year 6 assembly 10:15am
17 th July	Whole school	school closes at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.

Looking ahead.....Term dates 2026-27

First Day of term	Thursday 3 rd September 2026
Half term	26 th October - 30 th October 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 17 th December at 12 noon (nursery sessions finish on Wednesday 16 th December)
Winter Holidays	18 th December - 1 st January 2027
Further information	Thursday 3 rd September 2026 and Friday 4 th September 2026 half days for Reception children, allocated as either morning or afternoon. 7 th September in full time. 9 th September Pre-school children start on allocated days INSET DAYS Tuesday 1 st September and Wednesday 2 nd September Friday 9 th October 2026
Spring Term	
First day of term	4 th January 2027
Half term	15 th February - 19 th February 2027
Last day of term	Pre school 24 th March 2027 Rest of school 25 th March at 12 noon, gates will open at 11:50am
Easter/Spring holidays	26 th March - 9 th April 2027
Further information	
Summer term	
First day of term	12 th April 2027
Half term	31 st May - 4 th June 2027
Last day of term	Pre school: Monday 19 th July Rest of school: Tuesday 20 th July at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.
Further information	Inset day on Friday 11 th June and Wednesday 21 st July