Didcot Primary Academy

Celebrating 10 kind and brilliant years!

NEWSLETTER

12TH OCTOBER 2026

We are now in the last two weeks of this half term and it has really flown by.

This Friday.... Show Racism the Red Card Day - Friday 16th October

Racism has no place in our school or society and as a school we recognise Show Racism the Red Card Day by wearing red items of clothing.

Learning Reviews - Monday 19th October and Wednesday 21st October

We are looking forward to welcoming you all to our learning reviews next week.

- All reviews will take place in the classrooms and alcoves along the main corridor, please enter through the main entrance.
- Check in is in the entrance lobby
- Please make sure that you arrive in good time for your appointment. Teachers will do their best to stay on time.
- There are a lot of parents/carers to see - appointments are for 10 minutes.
- If you arrive late for your appointment, you may have missed your slot and this may not be possible to rearrange on the day. Please arrive on time.
- Books will be available for you to look at in the corridor.
- If you bring your children with you, **they must stay with you during the appointment.**

The next two weeks.....

Please make sure you have checked the calendar at the end of this newsletter for advance notice of dates and events for the year ahead...

12th October 2026	outdoor learning Rowan Class Little City experience for Acorn and Reception classes
13th October	Year 3 at Stonehenge
16th October	Show Racism the Red Card Day
19th October	Learning reviews 3:45pm onwards
20th October	Greek Workshop Year 5
21st October	Learning reviews NO CHOIR
23rd October	Last Day of term for Autumn 1

year 6 parents deadline for applications for secondary schools is 31st October - please make sure you apply through the Oxfordshrie County Council Portal

Our wonderful pastoral team: Mrs Wright and Mrs Venes

Mrs Wright, our Family Support Worker and Mrs Venes, our Behaviour Learning Mentor work across the school with a large number of children and families.

They are both trained ELSAs(Emotional Literacy Support Assistants who can support children with:

- Anxiety and worries
- Low self-esteem and confidence
- Anger management and emotional regulation
- Friendship and social skills difficulties
- Bereavement, loss or family breakdown

They received their training from an Educational Physchologist and continue to receive regular professional supervision.

If your child is referred for ELSA, and there is a space available, parents will be contacted to let them know more about the programme. This is usually a 6 week programme with a session once a week.

Signposting support for families.....

Mrs Wright can help you to find support for a range of issues - what we cannot help with ourselves, we can usually find another organisation to direct you to.

If you would like to talk to Mrs Wright, please phone the main school office.

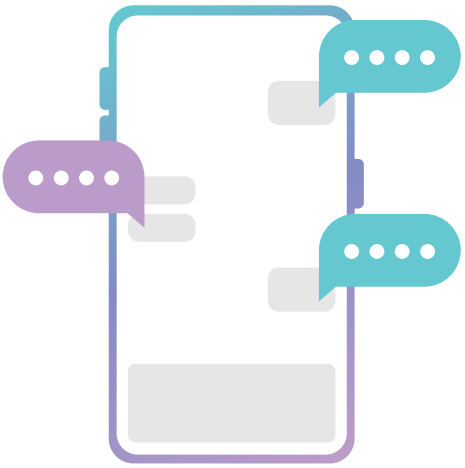
Attendance support

If your child's attendance is causing concern - or they are persistently late, you may receive a call from Mrs Wright to find out more and to discuss the barriers to attendance. Often that initial phonecall is all that is needed, but some families may need further support through drawing up an attendance contract.

Early Help

Early help is a service that offers guidance and practical aid during tough times. To access Early Help, you will need to complete a **strengths and needs assessment** with Mrs Wright.

School Health Nurse



Did you know that there is a Parentline to contact a school nurse that you can use between 9-5pm every day? (excluding bank holidays)

07312 263 227

You can send the school health nurse service a text on the number above for advice about:

- Diet and healthy life styles
- toileting
- sleep
- bullying
- Support with behaviour
- General and emotional health

If you would like a more detailed response for your child, you can speak with Mrs Wright to organise a school health nurse referral.

Foodbank and Didcot Larder

If you need an emergency foodbank voucher, please contact Mrs Wright

Didcot Larder

SOFEA Community Larders are designed to help people access affordable food while also reducing food waste. They are not food banks, so families do not need to be in crisis or referred in order to join. Members sign up to their local Community Larder and pay a small weekly membership fee. They can then attend each week and choose from a range of available food, which can include ambient, fresh, chilled and frozen items, depending on what stock is available.

The larders are run as welcoming community spaces, usually with the support of local volunteers and partner organisations. Alongside the food offer, many of our larders also provide access to additional support such as benefits of advice, employment support, health and wellbeing services, housing advice and other local services.

The aim is not only to help families stretch their household budgets, but also to create a space where people feel welcome, connected, and able to access wider support if they need it.

Autumn 1		
Date	**Who**	**Details**
12th October	Acorn and Reception Classes	Little City imaginative world experience
13th October	Year 3	Stonehenge trip
16th October	Whole school	Show Racism the Red Card Day - wear red items.
20th October	Year 5	Year 5 Greek workshop
19th and 21st October	whole school	Learning reviews - come and meet your child's teacher and find out how your child is settling in to their new year group. 3:45 - 6:45pm
22nd October	Whole school	Flu Vaccination programme
26th October- 30th October	Whole school	School closed half term. TA Sports Stars will be running a holiday club.

Autumn 2		
Date	**Who**	**Details**
2nd November	Whole school	Autumn 2 starts at 8:40am
9th November	EYFS	Police visit
13th November	Reception and Year 6	Weighing and measuring
16th November	whole school	Wear odd socks for Anti-bullying week
24th November	Year 6	Milestones Museum trip
2nd December	Rocksteady Bands	Rocksteady concerts at 10:30am and 2pm
7th December	Pre school	Christmas craft event 2:15pm
8th December	Year 2	Christmas performance at 2:30pm. This is the only performance. Please note that children under 5 are not permitted in the audience.
10th December	Reception	Christmas performance at 2:30pm - please note that children under 5 are not permitted in the audience.
11th December	Year 1. Beech class	Christmas craft event - come and join your child to make Christmas crafts 2:30pm
14th December	Year 1 Maple Class	Christmas craft event - come and join your child to make Christmas crafts 2:30pm
15th December	Year 1	Jack and the Beanstalk theatre trip Cornerstones Didcot
16th December	years 3-6	Christmas concerts 9:15am Red and Yellow house, 2 pm Blue and Green house. Come and join us for some festive music and singing.

Spring 1		
Date	**Who**	**Details**
4th January	Whole school	Spring term starts at 8:40am
7th January	year 3	Year 3 swimming will start for one class
11th January	Year 3	Rocks and Fossils workshop in school
14th January	Year 2	Trip to Windsor Castle
19th January	Year 3,4 and 6	Virtual Reality experience in school
22nd January	Young Voices Choir	Young Voices concert at the O2 Arena London
26th January	Year 5	Winchester Science museum trip
5th February	Reception	Vision screening
8th and 10th February	Parents/carers whole school	Learning reviews. Please book a slot to meet with your child's teacher to review academic progress.
15th - 19th February	Whole school	Half term

Spring 2		
Date	**Who**	**Details**
22nd February	whole school	Spring 2 term starts at 8:40am
2nd March	whole school	Roving Bookshop in school- come and purchase some high quality reading for your child
5th March	whole school	World Book Week dressing up (we celebrate this on Friday) Come as your favourite character or as a reader.
25th March	Whole school	Term ends at 12 noon. Gates open at 11:50am.

Summer 1		
Date	**Who**	**Details**
12th April	Whole school	Summer term starts at 8:40am
28th - 30th April	Year 4	Year 4 Residential to PGL Liddington
10th -13th May	Year 6	SATs week
Friday 28th May	Whole school	Sports day and family picnic
31st May- 4th June	Whole school	Half term. School closed.

Summer 2		
Date	**Who**	**Details**
7th June	whole school	Summer 2 starts at 8:40am
11th June	whole school	Inset Day - school closed to children
Week of 21st June and 28th June	Year 6	Bikeability
5th July	Year 3 and Year 5	Drum concert at 10:15am and ukulele concert at 2:15pm
13th July	Pre school	End of year celebration with parents/carers at 2:30pm
14th July	Year 6	Year 6 performance at 2pm and 6pm
20th July	Year 6	Final assembly at 10:15am
20th July	Whole school	Term ends at 12 noon gates open at 11:50am