



NEWSLETTER

4TH NOVEMBER 2024

Welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. This is always a really busy part of the year with a lot going on, so do make sure you keep up to date by checking the diary and website.



Next week, we will be taking part in the national anti-bullying week which this year has the theme 'Choose Respect'. We do not just talk about bullying during this week, this is part of an ongoing conversation. We want all children to feel empowered to stand up for what is right and to seek help. We also ensure that children understand the difference between falling out with friends, or a one off incident and bullying. We tell the children that this is: Several Times On Purpose or STOP as a quick reminder.

On Tuesday next week, children are encouraged to wear odd socks to remind us all that we are all different and unique - and that is to be celebrated.

APPLYING FOR A RECEPTION PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Parents of children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 will need to apply for a school place for September 2025

- Applications open on 4th November 2024
- 15th January 2025 is the closing date for applications
- If you have a child in our nursery you **must still apply** for a school place.
- Applications have to be made through Oxfordshire County Council not direct to the school.
- It is a parent's responsibility to apply for a school place

<https://myparentportal.oxfordshire.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/parents/admissions>

The next two weeks	
4th November	Forest school Alder Class
5th November	
6th November	
7th November	
8th November	Milestone Roadshow
11th November	Forest School Ash class Year 6 Police discussion
12th November	Odd socks day
13th November	
14th November	
15th November	Year 6 Milestones Museum trip Children in need day. Donations can be given at the school gates.



We will be talking about Remembrance in our assembly this Thursday, but also marking the 11am silence on 11th November. Poppies are on sale at the school office if you or your child would like to buy one as a mark of remembrance.



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With November only just beginning, it seems a bit early to be thinking about Christmas, but the countdown to the Friends of DPA Christmas Fair has begun! This is on the 30th November from 2 - 4:30pm. If you are able to give a bit of time to help with the fair, Friends of DPA would love to hear from you.

Christmas Tree decoration competition 2024....Entries must be in by Wednesday 27th November.

- **small Christmas decorations made from natural or recycled materials only please! (no nut based decorations).**
- **Please make sure that your child's name and year group is on the decoration**

Our Christmas tree always looks resplendent in hundreds of decorations - I am looking forward to seeing your creative ideas this year!

Non uniform day Friday 22nd November in return for chocolate and bottles for tombolas. Thank you in advance for your donations.



Balancing Screen time as the days become shorter....



Balance screen time with other activities. While your children may be getting more time on screens during this time, just be sure to balance this time with screen-free activities.



Keep meals media-free to promote meaningful conversations and improve dietary patterns.



Model good behaviours by setting time aside every day to fully engage with your family without screens nearby.



Keep mobile devices and charging stations out of the bedroom to promote healthy sleep patterns.



Avoid using screens as a reward or punishment to control behaviour. This can cause children to place



Use screens for **creating human connection**, such as a video call with grandparents.

2024-25 Autumn 2

Date	Who	What...
4th November	Alder Class	Forest School
8th November	Early years and Year 1	Big Machines Roadshow
11th November	Ash Class	Forest School
11th November	Whole school	Remembrance at 11am
11th November	Whole school	National Anti- bullying week - Respect
11th November-15th November	Parent/care rs of children with SEND	Learning plan reviews will be held this week
15th November	Year 6	Trip to Milestones Museum
15th November	Whole school	Children in Need day - monetary donations gratefully received
18th November	Alder Class	Forest school
21st November	Elm class	Elm class starts swimming
22nd November	Nursery	Didcot Library visiting nursery (TBC)
22nd November	Whole school	Non-uniform in return for chocolate and/or bottles
25th November	Ash Class	Forest School
30th November	Whole school	Christmas Fair 2-4:30pm
2nd December	Alder Class	Forest School
5th December	Year 5	Lego workshop (TBC)

2024-25 Autumn 2

When	who	What
9th December	Parents of Beech Class Year 1	Christmas Craft Afternoon from 2:15pm
10th December	Reception	Reception Christmas performance 2:30pm. Please note, no children under 5 will be admitted into the audience.
10th December	Year 5	Year 5 to watch High School Musical at Aureus School
11th December	Parents and families of Rocksteady bands	Morning lesson bands - concert at 10:30am Afternoon lesson bands - concert at 2pm
12th December	Year 2	Christmas performance 2:30pm and 5:30 pm. Please note, no children under 5 will be admitted into the audience.
13th December	Parents of children in Maple Class Year 1	Christmas craft afternoon from 2:15pm
17th December	Reception to Year 6	Christmas dinner
17th December	Nursery	Christmas Craft Afernoonon
18th December	Years 3-6	Christmas Concert Red and Yellow house 9:15am Blue and Green House 2:15pm
Thursday 19th December	Nursery	No nursery sessions
Thursday 19th December	Whole school	End of term. School Closes at 12 noon. Gates open at 11:50am.
20th December - 03rd January	Whole school	School closed

2025 Spring 1

When	who	What
6th January	whole school	Term starts at 8:40am
13th January	Year 3, 4 and 6	VR experience
14th January	Year 5	Winchester Science Museum trip
24th January	Choir	Young Voices O2 Concert. children will leave school at 9:15pm and will return around midnight
10th February	Whole school	Learning reviews
12th February	whole school	Learning reviews
13th February	Chestnut Class	Chestnut class starts swimming
14th February	Year 3	Rocks and Fossils workshop

2025 Spring 2

When	Who	What...
24th February	whole school	Spring 2 starts
27th February	Year 1	Great Fire of London workshop
4th March	Whole school	Roving bookshop in school
10th March	Parents/carers of children with SEND	Learning Plan review meetings will be held this week
17th - 21st March	Year 6	Kilvrough Residential Trip
20th March	Year 2	Elizabeth 1st to visit Year 2
24th March	Year 6	Junior Citizens
4th April	Nursery	No nursery sessions
4th April	Whole school	End of term at 12 noon. Gates open at 11:50am

2025 Summer 1

When	Who	What...
Tuesday 22nd April	Whole school	Summer 1 starts at 8:40am
30th April - 2nd May	Year 4	Year 4 Residential to PGL Liddington
1st May	Nursery	Acorn Class to visit Earth Trust
5th May	whole school	Bank holiday
8th May	Sycamore	Sycamore Class starts swimming
12th May - 15th May	Year 6	SAT's Week
13th May	Year 5	Earth Trust visit
15th May	Year 1	Victorian Sit Up Straight workshop
19th May	Nursery and reception	Sports afternoon 2:15pm
20th May	Whole school	Group photos
23rd May	Years 1-6	Sports Day

2025 Summer 2

When	Who	What...
2nd June	Whole school	INSET DAY school closed to children
15th July	Year 6	Year 6 performance 2:30pm