



# NEWSLETTER

1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2025



Our school Christmas tree looks stunning, decorated with over 500 stars, hand made by every child and members of staff. The children have enjoyed looking for their stars as well as celebrating those made by others.

As you can see from the calendar, the next two weeks (and the last week of term) are extremely busy both with festive events, trips and experiences.

Thank you for your generous chocolate donations last week, I am sure the ever popular chocolate tombola will see a queue forming at the PTA double discos on Thursday. There are still a few tickets available for both events so book now to avoid disappointment.

## Cross Country: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2025

An annual event since the school opened, our 10<sup>th</sup> inter-house cross country event will be held on Tuesday. Every child (including those in nursery) need to come to school in PE kits ready to race. Every single result contributes to our house points to determine the winning house for this half term.



## Special Educational Needs - Our approach Parent information session Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 9am

A reminder that Mrs Vickers and Mrs Middlemore will be running a special information session for all interested parents.

This session will provide an opportunity to learn about how DPA identifies, supports and works with children with special educational needs within our school. We will outline our inclusive approach, explain the support available and share how we work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that every child achieves their best. There will also be time for questions.

**the deadline is fast approaching to book your child's Christmas meal. Please don't miss the cut off date to avoid disappointment!**

**DON'T FORGET**

The next two weeks	
1 <sup>st</sup> December	
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Cross Country house competition Parent Meeting - Special Educational Needs, our school's approach to SEN 9 am
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Year 5 Humantopia event at Aureus School.
4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 trip to Stonehenge Christmas double disco (PTA event)
5 <sup>th</sup> December	
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Christmas Craft afternoon - Beech Class
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Christmas craft afternoon Maple class
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Rocksteady concerts 10:30am and 2:30pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2 Christmas Performance - 2:30pm and 5:30pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December	

## Congratulations to the Year 3 and 4 Sportshall Athletics team

Mr Little was very proud of the team's attitude and effort at the event held last week at St Birinus. The team worked incredibly hard and won 2<sup>nd</sup> place, only a few points away from the top spot. Well done to every member of the team and thank you to Mr Little and all that accompanied the team.



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# Christmas productions - Reception and Year 2

## Have you purchased your tickets?



**Reception: The Nativity**

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm**

**Year 2: Christmas with the Aliens**

**Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December at 2:30pm and 5:30pm**

Production guidance:

In order for all the audience to fully enjoy (and hear) the performances, please be aware of the following:

- Tickets are already available to purchase via Arbor. We charge a small fee in order to cover licensing and script charges.
- Tickets are limited to two per family per performance (however if we have tickets left on 3<sup>rd</sup> December this will be opened up to all to make additional purchase )
- Children under 5 **will not be permitted** into the hall (this does include babies)
- Please do let us know in advance if you need a wheelchair space.
- Performances will start at the times stated - please be on time so that you don't disrupt the performance!

**There will be no filming or photography allowed during the performances. All mobile phones should be turned off and put away.**

### Academic Snapshot Reports - Keeping you informed

Right at the end of this term you will receive, by email, an academic snapshot report that is based on the assessments that have been undertaken by your child alongside teacher judgement. For Years 1-6 this will be for: reading, writing, mathematics and science and for early years you will receive a report based on the areas of learning. The learning reviews that will be held before half term will discuss these reports and if there have been changes since then.

Years 1-6 Reading, writing and maths only

Attainment is relative to the age related expectations for the year group and is split into the following descriptors:

Greater depth	working at a greater depth within the age related expectations
Expected	working at the age related expectation
Just below	Nearly working at the age related expectation
Below	Not yet working at the expectation for that year group

Years 1-6 Science

Attainment in science will only be recorded as expected or lower.

### Ofsted, a year on....

This week marks a year since the school was inspected and was judged to have maintained and strengthened the previous judgement of outstanding in all areas. Our approach as a school has always been to continue to look to make further improvements and developments in order to continue to provide the very best in education for your children. We are currently working on:

1. Developing editing in Years 2-6 to further refine our successful writing approach
2. Continuing to strengthen and develop our successful mathematical approach with a focus on mental calculations
3. Ensuring that strong foundations in EYFS and KS1, pave the way for success- with a continued focus on correct letter formation, reading skills (including phonics), spelling and early mathematics.
4. Continue to develop and strengthen our approaches to pupils with SEND to enable them to achieve the best possible outcomes.

## Term dates 2025-6

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

**2025-26 Autumn 2**

Date	Who	What...
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Year 5	Outdoor learning (Ash Group A / Alder Group B)
4 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6	Milestones Museum trip
10 <sup>th</sup> November	whole school	Odd socks day - Anti bullying week
10 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5	Outdoor learning (Ash Group B / Alder Group A)
11 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4	Lego workshop
12 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5	Lego workshop
14 <sup>th</sup> November	whole school	Individual photographs. If your child is not present in school they will not have their photograph taken. Due to photos being taken on Children in Need day, we will not be dressing up.
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5	Outdoor learning (Ash Group A / Alder Group B)
21 <sup>st</sup> November	Whole school	Non school uniform (not fancy dress) in return for chocolate and other sweet treats.
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 5	Outdoor learning (Ash Group B / Alder Group A)
24 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3-6	Young Poets week National Zoom workshop
25 <sup>th</sup> November	selected team from year 3 and 4	Sportshall Athletics
1 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 5	Outdoor learning (Ash Group A / Alder Group B)
2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Whole school	Cross country competition - all children to wear PE kits today
3 <sup>rd</sup> December	Year 5	Humantopia Event at Aureus

Autumn 2 continued

4 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3	stonehenge trip
4 <sup>th</sup> December	whole school	PTA - Christmas Disco event
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5	Outdoor learning (Ash Group B / Alder Group A)
8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Beech Class	Christmas craft afternoon 2:15pm * please note change of date
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 Maple Class	Christmas craft afternoon 2:15pm. *please note change of date
10 <sup>th</sup> December	Rocksteady parents	Rocksteady concerts at 10:30am and 2:30pm
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2	Year 2 Christmas performance at 2:30pm. Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted.
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 2	Year 2 Christmas performance at 5:30pm. Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted.
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Reception	Reception Christmas performance. Please note that children under 5 will not be admitted into the audience.
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Pre-school	Nursery Christmas craft and sing along
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3-6	Christmas Concert Red and Yellow house at 9:15am Blue and Green house at 2pm choir will be performing at both concerts
17 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole school	Christmas dinner
17 <sup>th</sup> December	pre-school	last day of term
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	whole school	no pre-school sessions. School closes at 12 noon. Gates open at 11:50am.

## 2026 Spring 1

When	who	What
Tuesday 6th January	whole school	Term starts at 8:40am
8 <sup>th</sup> January	Chestnut class Year 3	Swimming starts
14 <sup>th</sup> - 22nd January	Year 6	Bikeability
16 <sup>th</sup> January	years 3,4 and 6	Virtual reality sessions: Year 3 - volcanoes Year 4: Vikings Year 6: The arctic
20 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 5	Trip to Winchester Science Museum
23 <sup>rd</sup> 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.
28 <sup>th</sup> January	Parents of children in Early years	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 2	Hampton Court Palace
29 <sup>th</sup> January	Year 3	Rocking Rocks workshop
4 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents of children in Early Years	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child
9 <sup>th</sup> February	whole school	learning reviews
11 <sup>th</sup> February	whole school	learning reviews
11 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents of children in early years	Developing communication, English and Maths with your Early Years Child
16 <sup>th</sup> - 20 <sup>th</sup> February	whole school	half term.

## 2026 Spring 2

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

**2026 Summer 1**

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

## 2026 Summer 2

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

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

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Spring Term	
First day of term	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027
Half term	15 <sup>th</sup> February - 19 <sup>th</sup> February 2027
Last day of term	Pre school 24 <sup>th</sup> March 2027 Rest of school 25 <sup>th</sup> March at 12 noon, gates will open at 11:50am
Easter/Spring holidays	26 <sup>th</sup> March - 9 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
Further information	
Summer term	
First day of term	12 <sup>th</sup> April 2027
Half term	31 <sup>st</sup> May - 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2027
Last day of term	Pre school: Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> July Rest of school: Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July at 12 noon. Gates will open at 11:50am.
Further information	Inset day on Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> June and Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July