



St Andrew's C of E Primary School 17th April

Everyone is different. Everyone is special. Everyone is our neighbour.





I hope everyone had a lovely Easter holiday. It was great to welcome the children back to school this week, where they have got straight back into the rhythms and routines of school life.

Class photos took place on the second day back to term. Hopefully these will be lovely memories of your child's class. We will be exploring the preferred layout for class photos for following years, to ensure that the layout which we have had for many years now is meeting the desire of the majority of parents/carers.

Easter raffle

Thanks to your support and involvement, we have raised over £1000! This is an incredible achievement, helping to push our 'cash thermometer' ever closer to the £10,000 aim for our Woodland Play area.



Young Art Oxford



We have had very successful Young Art Oxford competition results this year:

Tilly (Reception); Sofia, Ava, Mae (Year 1); Orla, Louise, Hannah, Mia, Austin (Year 2); Ben, Bella, Shiva (Year 3); Sam, Iris, Jacob, Nikolas, Jeanne, Isla V (Year 4); Zainab, Ellie, Oliver, Leo, Marilena (Year 5); Elias, Nicholas, Emma, Ben (Year 6).

The organisers said 'with over 3000 entries this year, they have every reason to feel extremely proud of themselves'. Well done!

Retirements



This year, three of our staff will be retiring: Mrs Chris Walker (after 22 years at St Andrew's), Ms Sian Davies (after 24 years at St Andrew's) and Mrs Chris James (after 44 years at St Andrew's)!! Chris Walker will be leaving at the end of this half term (May), whilst Sian Davies and Chris James will go at the end of the academic year (July). We will be celebrating these three incredibly committed and dedicated members of staff and giving them a good send off into retirement at the end of the summer term. Do be in touch if you - or even your parent(!) - has special memories of these staff members.

Waitrose tokens

St Andrew's School is now one of the options for green tokens voting in Waitrose! Customers will have 3 months to vote for 1 of 3 charities, St Andrews Primary being one of them. Please do go and add tokens to the box as we continue to fund raise for our Woodlands area.



Concert at St Andrew's Church

Saint Andrew's Parish Church
Headington, OX3 9DL

presents the acclaimed trumpet and organ duo

Crispian Steele-Perkins

with

Hilary Davan Wetton



Sunday 26th April 2026 at 3.30pm

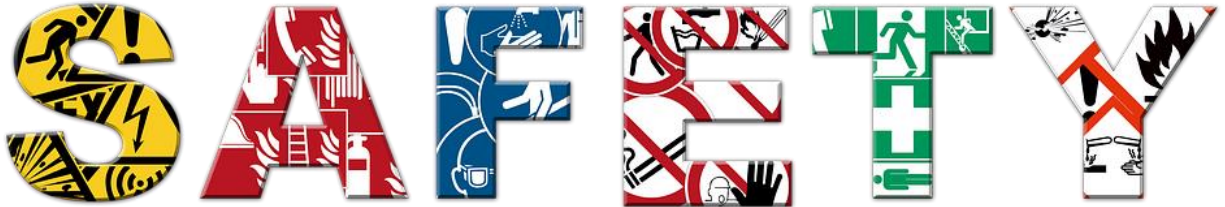
Programme includes works by

Charpentier, Handel, Bach, Stanley,
Haydn, Gershwin, Howard Goodall

Tickets £10 on the door

Concessions available

Health, Safety and safeguarding



Oxford Health's Smile 360 team are currently planning a survey running from April to July, inviting parents and carers to answer a short set of questions about their children's oral health. The findings will help them better understand local needs and target their approach more effectively. Please take some time to do this survey if you can.



Got Two Minutes?



Help shape the future of Oxfordshire's oral health services

SCAN ME



To print a hard copy, please scan:



1st April-20th July 2026

Eligible for parents or carers of children aged 2-4 years

Participating in this survey is a simple yet impactful way to contribute to the well-being of your child and others.

your input is invaluable!

Coffee mornings



Every Thursday morning will be a coffee morning with Mrs Suzanne Walker. Feel free to pop in any time between 8.45 - 9.30am to meet other parents/ carers or to talk to Mrs Walker. The coffee morning will be held in the learning base - come to the school reception to be signed in.

Some of the upcoming topics of discussion are:

- Safe Families visitor - a local charity offering support for families

Dates



Term dates for this academic year (2025-26) are available [here](#).

NEW: Term dates for next academic year (2026-27) are available [here](#).

Class letters and topic webs have also been sent home (Friday 17th April), which contain information about key dates specific to your child's class.

Tuesday 21st April - NCMP (National Child Measurement Programme) for Reception and Year 6

Monday 4th May - Bank holiday - no school

Monday 11th - Thursday 14th May - Year 6 SATS

Wednesday 13th - Friday 15th May - Year 4 residential at Hill End

Friday 15th May, 2.30pm - Year 2 celebration assembly (Year 2 parents/ carers invited)

Friday 22nd May - Term ends (3.15pm for Year R, 3.20pm for Years 1 - 6)

Helpful information for parents/ carers

Food (reminder from last week's newsletter):

Following successful student council involvement, **our school menu is now halal.**

Please do be aware, that even with a good lunch, many children are hungry by the mid-morning break time. In Reception, there are snack times in the morning and afternoon, which include free fruit which is also given to children in Year 1 and 2. **Children in Years 3 - 6 are encouraged to bring a healthy snack for the morning break, such as a piece of fruit or crackers and cheese.**

Parent/carer engagement:

At St Andrew's, we would love for every parent/carer to feel that they can engage with the school at the level at which they feel comfortable. For some this might mean becoming a governor; for others this might mean helping out at an event or being able to contribute financially.

SASA (St Andrew's School Association) is the parent/carer group of which every adult with a child in the school is automatically a part.

Fundraising:

As a school, we are extremely grateful to our parent body / SASA who look for ways to raise money for the school, through events such as the fun run, disco, film night etc - this all supports the wider learning opportunities, such as keeping our lovely library well-stocked, updating our play equipment, developing our music provision. In addition, as a school, we seek out opportunities for grants and free events/ trips, to enable all of our pupils to have a rich learning experience during their time at St Andrew's.

Sometimes families are unable to attend the fund-raising events but would still like to contribute to the school. For this reason, we have set up the following options:

1. A **QR code** found on our [website](#).
2. An **Amazon 'wish list'**: <https://amzn.eu/2DAkpvb>
3. **Cashback from Sainsburys and Argos** – signing up to the MySchoolFund. When someone signs up using our school code, the individual gets 2% cashback on spend in Sainsburys and Argos and the school gets 1% in eGift vouchers. Link to our school (use postcode OX3 9ED) on the My School Fund website. If this could work for you, please do sign up. Sign up today at www.myschoolfund.org Our school registration number : 29600

Eggs

Don't forget that eggs from our very own chickens are on sale in the office. The children looking after the chickens are keen to get this money, as we need it to buy food for the chickens!

Recycling opportunity

We are really pleased to see the success of the recycling box (via Collection4Clothes) for clothes and other items. For every kg collected, the school receives 40p and also Great Ormond Street Hospital received a donation: [Clothing Collections | Great Ormond Street Charity \(gosh.org\)](https://www.gosh.org)

Please bring items to the box in the school office foyer. The box will be emptied on a regular basis. So, there is no deadline - bring items along as suits you. The items should be in good condition - the sort that you would take to a charity shop.

Library books

If a book is overdue, a reminder comes from the librarian. If the book is lost or damaged, the cost of the book is on that overdue reminder slip. Replacing a book or sending in money to cover the cost of the book enables the library to remain well-stocked.

Toys

At St Andrew's we ask that children do not bring in toys and special items from home, as these items can be lost, which causes upset and tension between children when accusations arise as to who might have taken or broken an item.

Information about local events

HEADINGTON SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP : extended learning for all ages



16.04.26

term 5 – letter 1

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES – GREEN SPACES Saturday 18 April

Are you interested in protecting the green spaces in urban OX3? The goal of this campaign is to highlight the need to protect our green spaces for nature and for ourselves. The national **Community Planning Alliance** has called **A DAY OF ACTION** on Saturday 18 April, which is what has sparked this Headington project. The meeting on **Wednesday 15 April** will have identified as many precious spaces in urban OX3 as possible and planned a walk to link them. **The map of the walk** that will be designed to link these precious spaces and be walkable from any starting point, will be disseminated as widely as possible, hopefully to be available by Saturday. This newsletter goes to press before the weblinks and QR code are ready but we do know that physical maps and posters with the QR code will be available at:

Thornhill Park & Ride, coffee shop Courtyard cafe in Bury Knowle Park
Cafe Coco on London Road, central Headington Cafe Grill at 12 Cherwell Drive, the bottom of Headley Way

After 12.00 pm: Red Lion, Marston Up In Arms, Ferry Road
and may be more by the weekend

for more information, contact [Jane Moore sylvianajane.moore@outlook.com](mailto:Jane.Moore@sylvianajane.moore@outlook.com)

MINOAN CREATIVE WRITING CAFE St Alban's Church, Charles Street, OX4 3AU

Saturday 18 April 2.00 – 4.00

The Iris Project based at Cheney School announces another very special afternoon at the Creative Writing Cafe, teaming up with **Dr Efi Spentzou** from **Myth and Voice** to explore the Minoan civilization. The Cafe will be exploring the beautiful murals of the Minoans, and for those who would like to, there will be an opportunity to have a go at creative writing inspired by these murals.

Whether you would like to sit and write, admire the beautiful murals, or just have a drink and chat, you are most welcome! Visitors can drop in and out, or stay for the full two hours.

aimed at ages 14 to adult. If you would like to attend, please email lr@cheneyschool.org

OXFORD UNIVERSITY'S GARDENS & MUSEUMS <https://www.glam.ox.ac.uk/whats-on>

AN EPIC MAMMOTH EVENT Oxford University Museum of Natural History, Parks Road, OX1 3PW

Saturday 25 April 11.00 – 12.00 recommended for children aged 7-11 years and their families

Step into the frozen world of Mammoth Rider in this immersive event with author **S.J. Poyton**. Come and hear all about Ash Grimes and her enormous, extraordinary companions - the newly returned mammoths - and discover how this thrilling adventure blends bold science, brave characters and big ideas about climate, conservation and courage.

In the lecture theatre FREE but booking needed <https://tickets.ox.ac.uk/webstore/shop/viewitems.aspx>

RELAXED MORNING OPENING Saturday 25 April 9.00-10.00

Relaxed morning openings allow visitors to experience the Museum of Natural History and Pitt Rivers Museum early in the day, when the buildings are quiet. The museum opens an hour early to welcome visitors who may struggle in the museums at peak times. The number of visitors is capped, which reduces ambient noise levels and how full the space is.

FREE but booking is required <https://ournh.ox.ac.uk/event/relaxed-morning-opening>

NEW! THE SCHWARZMAN CENTRE FOR THE HUMANITIES Woodstock Road, OX2 6GG

Saturday 25 April The new and seriously impressive building in the Radcliffe Observatory Quarter between Woodstock Road and Walton Street is flinging open its doors for a public opening: it's your chance to enjoy some really incredible performances and events - all FREE but some needing to be booked.

<https://www.schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk/stephen-a-schwarzman-centre-for-the-humanities-opens-its-doors-to-the-public-with-a-major-celebration> <https://www.schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk/>

HOW IT FEELS TO BE FREE

All Saints Church House, New High Street, OX3 7AL

Friday 24 April 7.30

A concert featuring some very fine local traditional folk musicians and singers.

FREE but donations encouraged for **Asylum Welcome**, the Oxford charity helping people in Oxford who are refugees.

THE STORY MUSEUM

42, Pembroke Street, OX1 1BP

Comic Club Saturday 18 April 11.00 - 12.30 Saturday 30 May 11.00 - 12.30

Comic Club (for 8 - 11 year olds) runs monthly and develops young people's comic making skills with professional comic book artist, **Neill Cameron**, on hand to offer helpful advice and tips. There are two bursary spaces available for each session, for those who qualify for FSM <https://www.storymuseum.org.uk/whats-on/comic-club-2021>

To apply for a bursary, please contact lesley.williams@headingtonpartnership.co.uk for the necessary form and return it to learning@storymuseum.org.uk. You need to be quick!

SCIENCE OXFORD

The Science Oxford Centre, Stansfeld Park, Quarry Road, OX3 8SB

FAMILY DAYS every Saturday – two hours in the Exploration Zone 10.00-12.00, 12.30-2.30, 3.00-5.00

the outdoor water lab and all day access to the woodlands best for ages 3+ but all are welcome

£8.50 per person which includes the Eventbrite fee - free for Under 3s
You are advised to book in advance <https://scienceoxford.com/events/family-days-every-saturday/>

STEM THEMED SATURDAY CLUBS most Saturdays 10.00-11.30, 12.30-2.00, 3.00-4.30

£15 per child – accompanying adult(s) free <https://scienceoxford.com/centre/science-oxford-centre-events/>

helping you and your child to learn from each other and work together while trying out new things
book now – they sell out quickly! Programme through April available <https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on>

SCIENCE CLUB : BUBBLES

Saturday 18 April 10.00, 12.30, 3.00

for ages 5-9 <https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/bubbles/>

NATURE CLUB : POND DIPPING - NEW DAY

Saturday 25 April 10.00, 12.30, 3.00

for ages 5-9 SOLD OUT <https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/pond-dipping-new-day/>

SCIENCE CLUB : SOUND SCIENCE

Saturday 16 May 10.00, 12.30, 3.00

for ages 5-9 <https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/sound-science/>

IF OXFORD SCIENCE AND IDEAS FESTIVAL - POETRY OF SCIENCE COMPETITION

The Poetry of Science competition returns to create its 10th anthology of new work from young writers!

As part of **If Oxford**, the annual science and ideas festival, young poets are invited to explore the wonders of science through verse. Whether inspired by biology, physics, chemistry, or any other scientific field, hundreds of creative new works have flowed to the panel of judges over a decade of creativity. You can read all previous anthologies, downloadable from the website. Deadline is **Friday 1 May**

The winning and runner up poems will be performed, and prizes, anthologies and certificates presented during the festival on a **Saturday in mid October** – date and venue to be confirmed. <https://if-oxford.com/poetry-competition/>

HILL END OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE

Eynsham Road, OX2 9NJ

HILL END CENTENARY OF OUTDOOR LEARNING (1) LOGO COMPETITION

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre is celebrating a very special milestone: in 2026, it marks an amazing 100 years since children first came to Hill End for adventure and outdoor learning, at the outdoor school set up by the Fennell family who had bought the whole Wytham estate from the Earl of Abingdon. To celebrate, a "DESIGN AN AWESOME LOGO" competition has launched for children age 4-12, to create a bold, imaginative centenary logo that captures the spirit of Hill End. The winning design will be chosen by celebrity judge, renowned children's "Winnie the Witch" illustrator **Korky Paul**, and will be used throughout the centenary celebrations. **Deadline for entries – Thursday 30 April**

Children may enter individually, but, if schools can help by organising class/group entries, there will be a **Tutor led day** for a class of up to 35 for the winner's school, as a special thank you for your support and encouragement.

<https://hill-end.org/news/loqo-comp1>

(2) MEMORIES OF HILL END BLOG

With 2026 marking a century since the very first schools visited Hill End by charabanc from Oxford city, there is an exciting year planned: everyone who knows and loves Hill End is invited to get involved. One element is a collation of **HILL END STORIES** – a blog celebrating 100 years of outdoor learning. It is hoped to collect memories through the decades, with interesting and unusual things you might not know! Please add any stories you have, however short or vague and include photos if you have them <https://hill-end.org/about/stories> <https://hill-end.org/news/memory-bank/>

COURTSIDE @ BURY KNOWLE HUB

Bury Knowle Park, OX3 9JJ

Classes still available until Easter : WALKING and BACK TO NETBALL – TENNIS for children and adults –

CARDIO TENNIS – YOGA Summer term booking is on line

DIY: TENNIS – TABLE TENNIS – SHUFFLEBOARD – MINI GOLF – BASKETBALL

<https://courtside.uk/bury-knowle/activities>

and meet friends in the CAFE <https://courtside.uk/bury-knowle>

ARTWEEKS OXFORDSHIRE

2 - 25 May www.artweeks.org

2 - 10 May - South Oxfordshire & Vale of The White Horse 9 - 17 May - North and West Oxfordshire

16- 25 May - Oxford City

art, design and craftsmanship in every corner of the county - five hundred open studios, pop-up exhibitions and other events – over 1,000 artists! - all free to visit; just drop-in

the full programme is downloadable from the website but printed copies are available in leaflet 'bins' in libraries, shopping centres etc. but the website is very usefully interactive

<https://www.artweeks.org>

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6 WEEK COURSE



Play basketball at:
 OXFORD HOOPS
 CHENEY SCHOOL
 CHENEY LANE
 HEADINGTON
 OXFORD
 OX3 7QH

SATURDAYS
 9 to 11 AM
 6 WEEKS COURSE
 STARTS 25-APRIL

SLAM JAM IS BASKETBALL ENGLANDS OFFICIAL JUNIOR PROGRAMME DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 5 AND 11.

The programme is jam packed with fun basketball games, festivals and rewards and gives children a great way to learn the basic skills of the game!

Find out more at:
basketballengland.co.uk




2026 3RD & 4TH MAY
THE BUCKS COUNTRY SHOW & WE LOVE DOGS WITH MONSTER TRUCKS



**PENN ESTATE, AMERSHAM
 HP7 0PS**

www.buckscountryshow.co.uk



**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY
BADMINTON TRIALS**

Radley College Sports
Centre
Sunday 3rd May
10am - 1pm

All levels welcome
- both community
and county places
offered!

See age group timings & book now:
bookwhen.com/nb-trials



NATIONALBADMINTON.ORG.UK



April 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm