



St Andrew's C of E Primary School 24th April

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





It has been lovely to enjoy the glorious sunshine this week. I really enjoy greeting children as they arrive in the morning - seeing the smiles and eagerness is a very positive start to each day. We had a wonderful moment of 100% attendance across the whole school on Wednesday 22nd April! It is always a joy to have our whole school community together.

The photos below show this happiness and our school value of friendship (linked closely with our other values of trust, forgiveness, hope and justice) in action during lunch play time. There are lots of options of play, from the sporty (hockey, tennis, football, skipping and basketball) to active (being on the equipment and games of tag) to creative and imaginative. For the latter, we are looking to get more equipment, such as digging and sand toys. If you would like to contribute, keep an eye on the Amazon wishlist on this page of our website: [St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Oxford - Fundraising](#)













Year 4 girls' sale initiative

It's wonderful to see St Andrew's pupils come up with initiatives and ideas to support others or the wider community. Some girls in Year 4 decided they wanted to raise money. Helped and mentored by Mrs Suzanne Walker, the girls made jewellery, sourced other items and then organised a sale last Thursday. Over £50 was raised by these girls' initiative - great work! The success was so good, they had a follow-up sale this week.



Year 1 trip to Science Oxford

Year 1 had a fantastic day at Science Oxford on Wednesday, exploring the indoor and outdoor environments, learning through experimenting and hands on activities. They were engaged and enthusiastic throughout!











Year 2 and 3 tennis workshop

Years 2 and 3 have two Tuesdays of tennis workshops by external coaches. This is great link to their outdoor PE lessons this term.



Lost property

Please check the lost property for any missing items. Lost property will be out near the hall in the playground at the end of today, Friday.

Conversation starters with your child

School value of the term: Trust

This term in our collective worship, we are looking at our school value of Trust. We will use our collective worships to explore what trust means, through stories in the Bible, through lives of those around us, through songs, through our own experience. Last term, the well-being council introduced the children to the 'hand of trust' - each finger represents 5 people that children can identify whom they trust. Why not ask your child about what trust means to them and who they trust?



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.

Health, Safety and safeguarding



New advice for parents about screen time for young children

On 27 March 2026, the Government published [advice on screen use for children aged 0-5](#) on the Best Start in Life website.

The early years are a critical period for children's development. The advice offers practical, non-judgemental support to help families balance screen use with other activities.

The advice is informed by an expert [panel's independent report](#), which draws on quantitative and qualitative research, including engagement with parents, carers and stakeholders.

Messaging functions in Apps

Pinterest tends to fly under the radar. Unlike Instagram or TikTok, it has never attracted the same level of public concern, it's older, it's built around image collections, and most parents consider it benign, if they think about it at all.

That perception is the problem. The White Hatter, a Canadian digital safety organisation, published a blog post recently after supporting two families whose children had shared intimate images via Pinterest's direct messaging feature. In both cases, the parents had no idea the platform had a messaging function.

It's a broader pattern worth raising. Platforms that present as visual or creative tools like Pinterest, VSCO, Tumblr, Lemon8, Canva, Amino, often include messaging features that aren't obvious. The question worth asking isn't "what app is my child using?" but "what can that app actually do?"

The article is a short, practical read:

<https://www.thewhitehatter.ca/post/what-parents-didn-t-know-about-pinterest-matters-for-all-caregivers>

Dates



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

Below are some key dates which impact the whole school.

In addition, class letters will have specific dates for special events, visitors or trips for your child's class.

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 sharing at celebration assembly (Year 2 parents/ carers invited)

Sunday 17th May - SASA Fun Run

Friday 22nd May - Term ends (3.15pm Reception/ 3.20pm Years 1-6)



Helpful information for parents/ carers

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. Please can you take the time to complete this **brief survey about SASA** (St Andrew's School Association) so that the school can have a better understanding of how parents/ carers would like to be involved: [Parent/ carer engagement – Fill in form](#)

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 \(gosh.org\)](http://Clothing Collections | Great Ormond Street Charity (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



23.04.26

term 5 – letter 2

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES – GREEN SPACES

The map devised at the workshop last week is available as a hard copy from
Thornhill Park & Ride, coffee shop Courtside 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 sylvajane.moore@outlook.com
there's also a QR code to access it but this newsletter editor does not have access to it

Further information about places to get outside locally are on
<https://www.oxford.gov.uk/go-active-outdoors-green-spaces-nature>

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

MEET THE SCIENTISTS: TRY OUT RESEARCH!

Saturday 25 April 12.30-3.30
Join the Oxford University Experimental Psychology team to take part in real research. Taking part in these activities will help
scientists discover more about children's behaviour and how their brains work.
Information about the studies available on the day:

Three cup study (3-4 year olds) In this study, researchers look at whether early logical reasoning may influence the
development of anxiety in young children. The children will play an online game and win sticker rewards.
Parents will be asked to fill in an online questionnaire.

VR study (5-8 year olds): In this study, children will be asked to share stickers with others. The study aims to see how
observer effects (number of virtual avatars watching) affect sharing behaviour in children. Duration 15-20 mins per child.
Children will gain a book voucher and stickers for their participation.

Please note that there are limited spaces and there will be a sign-up sheet available on the day to register to take part in the
studies whilst at the Museum

THE SCHWARZMAN CENTRE FOR THE HUMANITIES OPENING DAY 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

Friday 24 April 7.30 All Saints Church House, New High Street, OX3 7AL
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 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, Neil 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! <https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/>

NATURE CLUB : POND DIPPING - NEWT DAY Saturday 25 April 10.00, 12.30, 3.00
for ages 5-9 SOLD OUT <https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/pond-dipping-newt-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, down-
loadable from the website. **Deadline is next 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 fenrell 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**
<https://hill-end.org/news/logo-comp/>

(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
WALKING and BACK TO NETBALL – TENNIS COURSES for children and adults – YOGA book 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

OXFORD FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS April to July <https://artsfestivaloxford.org/whats-on/>
with the theme 'Signs, symbols and secrets' – in partnership with many city arts organisations
films – talks – exhibitions – concerts – drama – walks at multiple venues around the city
the Festival hub is at Magdalen School rose garden by Magdalen bridge
book on line - download the programme

Lesley Williams Headington Extended Schools Coordinator 07982 439 828
lesley.williams@headingtonpartnership.co.uk

May Half Term 2026

Dragon School, OX2 6SS
20th - 29th May 2026

www.nextthing.education

MAY 2026 CAMPS
Tech-powered camps, packed with **WOW** experiences!

Example camp activities
Ages 5-11, Camps run 9 am - 4 pm

ROBOT LAB	3D PRINTING	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	3D CREATIONS	ANIMATION
BOOK CLUBS	CRAZY COOKING	WORLD MAKING	MINICRAFT BEDSTONS	VIRTUAL REALITY

WOW EXPERIENCES

MINICRAFT	ANIMALS	STREET DANCE	SCIENCE	LASER TAG
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Activities vary by location, please visit our website to see what's running at your school.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
At Next Thing Education, our goal is to spark curiosity, fuel creativity and empower young minds for the future. Offering hands-on tech exploration with unforgettable WOW experiences, we inspire children to think, create and discover... Join us for tech-packed, fun and supportive experiences, with lots of opportunities to try out exciting activities, challenges, and our all-building adventures.

£65 per day or £215 when you book all 4 days for just £165

WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150

Schwarzman CENTRE FOR THE HUMANITIES

SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2026 from 10am

Open House at the Schwarzman Centre

A free all-day indoor festival for all the family with music, dance, poetry, art, cabaret, talks, workshops, and surprises.

Plan your day at schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk/openhouse

Image: Zoomson

OXFORD

Open House at the Schwarzman Centre for the Humanities

Come along to **Open House** on **Saturday 25 April 2026 from 10am** for a free festival celebrating humanity and marking the launch of the Schwarzman Centre's cultural programme.

Explore Oxford's newest cultural spaces with family fun, music, dance, film, exhibitions, food, and interactive activities.

schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk/openhouse



**GO
ALL
IN.**

National
Year of
Reading
2026

SJC Literary Festival

23–24 May 2026

A family-oriented literary festival
at St John's College, Oxford.

Free events and interactive
activities for children and adults.



MORE LEISURE

NO JOINING FEE
Adult & Child
SWIMMING LESSONS
 Available throughout April.

USE
 PROMO CODE
APRIL NOADMIN

Call us, or head to our website for more information.

Barton Leisure Centre, Waynflete Road, Oxford OX3 8GA Tel: **0330 109 8770**
Ferry Leisure Centre, Diamond Place, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7DP Tel: **0330 109 8771**
Lays Pools & Leisure Centre, Pegasus Road, Oxford OX4 6JL Tel: **0330 109 8773**


   | oxfordcityleisure.com

 **MORE for every body**

T&Cs apply. See website for more details. Offer available online and in centre from 1st – 30th April 2025.

WELCOME TO
OBCA
COME AND TRY CHEERLEADING!

SIGN UP FOR JUNE CLASSES TO GET YOUR TRAIL FOR FREE!
TRIALS - SATURDAY JUNE 27TH 2026
BROOKES SPORT, CHENEY LANE
FIND OUR SIGN UP FORM AND CLASSES ON THE QR CODE BELOW!










May 2026 Timetable

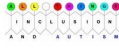
All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

School Anxiety	4 May 10am
Understanding Anger	4 May 7pm
Facing Defiance	5 May 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	5 May 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	11 May 10am
Anxiety Explained	11 May 7pm
Introduction to OCD	12 May 10am
What is ACT?	12 May 7pm
Decreasing Depression	18 May 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	18 May 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	19 May 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 May 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 May 10am
Improving Family Communication	25 May 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	26 May 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	26 May 7pm
FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep	28 May 7-8pm



allthingsautismhd@gmail.com
01895 649211
https://allthingsinclusionandautism.com

Workshops for parents / carers (and practitioners) -Summer term 2026

<p>All things visual strategies Supporting autistic children / those with communication difficulties with visual strategies - why use visuals, which visuals to use and how to use them? Monday 18th May 2026 10 - 11.30am Online - via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>	<p>Pathological Demand Avoidance (PDA) Understanding PDA and practical strategies to support Tuesday 12th May 2026 7-9pm Or Wednesday 8th July 2026 9.30 - 11.30am Online - via Zoom £44 plus VAT per person</p>
<p>All things communication and play: Supporting autistic children with communication and play skills - laughing and learning together Thursday 11th June 2026 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person</p>	<p>Autism and Girls Exploring differences and diagnosis . Understanding how autism impacts on girls and strategies and ideas to support them Tuesday 9th June 2026 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>
<p>All things behaviour - supporting positive behaviours for autistic children Monday 6th July 2026 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person</p> 	<p>All things sensory processing - a workshop exploring the sensory needs of autistic children and practical strategies to support their needs Friday 5th June 2026 9.30am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person</p> 

<p>All Things Toileting Exploring the challenges around toilet training for autistic children and practical strategies to support them Monday 15th June 2026 7 - 8.30pm Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>	<p>Gestalt Language Processing How to support early language skills for young children including Gestalt learners Tuesday 16th June 2026 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>
<p>Supporting Children's Transitions Supporting transitions for children with autism or social communication difficulties. This course covers transitions into school and nursery and between classes Thursday 14th May 2026 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>	<p>ADHD Understanding ADHD in young children and practical ideas to support them Thursday 7th May 2026 10-11.30am Or Thursday 2nd July 7 - 8.30pm Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>
<p>Supporting children with Bereavement and Loss Looking at the impact of bereavement and loss on young children and strategies to support them Thursday 18th June 2026 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p>	<p>Promoting positive mental health in young children Examining causes of mental health difficulties, learning about anxiety and trauma Monday 22nd June 2026 9.30 am - 12 Online via Zoom £51 plus VAT per person</p>
<p>Selective Mutism Understanding the causes of selective mutism (situational mutism) and practical strategies to support children in early years and primary Thursday 4th June 2026 9.30 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £44 per person plus VAT</p>	<p>New Understanding AuDHD Supporting children who have a dual diagnosis of Autism and ADHD with practical strategies to help. Wednesday 24th June 2026 7 - 8pm Online via Zoom £28 per person plus VAT</p>

<p>Attention Autism 2 day Foundation training The complete training package taught by an Attention Autism Advanced Practitioner. This covers stages 1 - 4 of the Attention Autism programme, equipping you to run this programme within your school, setting or home. 12th and 19th June 2026 9am - 4pm Venue: St Giles' Church Hall Corner of Swakeleys Road High Road Ickenham UB10 8BG £240 per person plus VAT</p>	<p>All Things Mealtimes Understanding the issues and supporting eating and mealtimes for autistic children Tuesday 30th June 2026 10 - 11.30am Online via Zoom £36 plus VAT per person</p> 
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Contact Jaci Smith or Nikki Duhig at allthingsautismtd@gmail.com or 01896 649211 to book your place/s