St Andrew's C of E Primary School 13th November

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





Individual and sibling photos are taking place today. Please keep an eye out for an email of how to order your child's photo when they are ready.

We have been giving tours for parents/ carers thinking about starting school for their Reception-aged child. It is always a pleasure to show visitors around. Visitors comment about how calm the school is and how engaged and polite the children are. Thank you for your children who really live out the values of St Andrew's School.

Netball Match

On Monday 9th November, Mrs Halcrow organised a netball match between St Andrew's Year 6 pupils and Windmill Year 6 pupils. This was an exciting opportunity to put into practice the netball skills which had been learnt last half term. Both teams played really well, showing good sportsmanship. The end result was a 6 - 4 win to St Andrew's - excellent team work, Year 6!

Mrs Halcrow is hoping to continue to organise some friendly competitions with Windmill, in different sports and different year groups, to enable our children to experience playing in a match after learning skills of a sport in their PE lessons.


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GD







Remembrance Day

On Wednesday 11th, we held our Remembrance Service. Mother Emma (St Andrew's Church vicar) led the assembly, reading a book called 'Peace Lily', the 'sequel' to one of the books that Mrs Magill has been reading in the library with classes this week. Miss Clanchy and Esme (Year 6) played the Last Post and we held our silence as we remembered those who have laid down their lives. As always, the children showed respect and the assembly was a memorable one.



Anti-bullying Day - Monday 16th November

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, we will be holding an Anti-Bullying Day on Monday 16th November. The theme this year is "Break the Silence" (Anti-Bullying Week 2026: Break the

Silence) and we are exploring being a bystander, and how we can make sure everyone feels confident to stand up for others.

The definition of bullying from the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) is "The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power." We simplify this to someone doing something unkind "Several Times On Purpose (STOP)".

On the day, children (and staff) are encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate our differences and remind us that everyone is unique. We will have a whole-school assembly in the morning and each class will have an anti-bullying lesson adapted to be age-appropriate.





Children in Need Day

St Andrew's will have our own 'Children in Need Day' on Friday 20th November (By the side of every child- BBC Children in Need**)**. The school council have asked that children wear spots and bring in £1 donation. They are also organising a bake sale at the end of the day - please look out for information about that.

St Andrew's Library Art competition



Parent workshops/ opportunities



1 - Please feel free to come to the Thursday coffee mornings (8.45 - 9.30am) with Suzanne Walker, our Home School Link Worker. This is an opportunity to meet other parents/ carers and discuss parenting. We have several special visitors lined up for this term.



2 - On Thursday 16th and Thursday 26th, there is a two-part workshop addressing Anxiety in Children, led by the Mental Health Support Team. Please see details in the poster below.

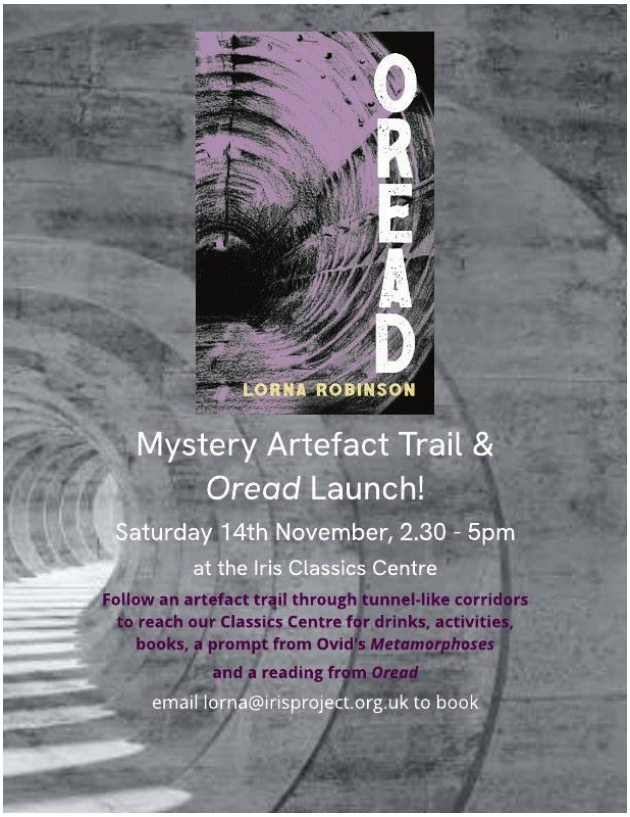
Cheney School opportunity

Follow an artefact trail with mystery clues through the Rumble Museum, and see our new Astronomy Mural!

To celebrate new novel, Oread, a classics-inspired mystery tale set in the abandoned tunnels of the London Underground, we're inviting travellers to follow a mystery artefact trail through the Rumble Museum at Cheney School to reach our Iris Classics Centre.

The trail and launch open on Saturday 14th November, 2.30 - 5pm. You can arrive at any time to follow the mystery trail, which will take you to the Iris Classics Centre, where there will be drinks, books, chat, and some classics-themed activities for all ages.

If you would like to attend, please email lro@cheneyschool.org



Concert opportunities

During our Remembrance Service, Louise Graham played her violin as everyone walked in. It is such a privilege to have professional musicians working in St Andrew's. I'm not sure the children realise how fortunate they are to hear instruments played by professionals and have musicians, like Spike (who leads orchestra) working with us. Both Louise and Spike are playing in the concert advertised below.

A few of

OUR FAVOURITE THINGS



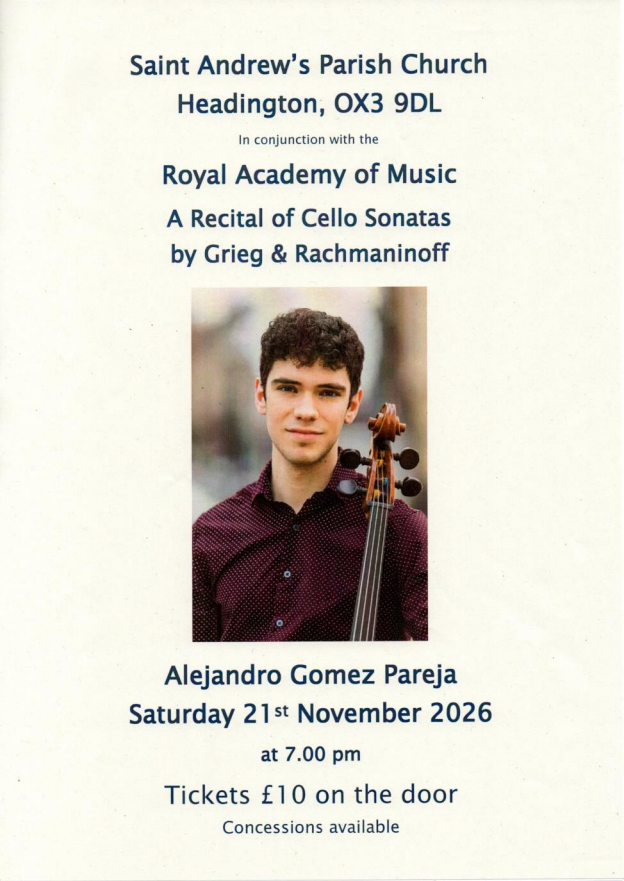
Celebrating 20 years !

An hour of quartet music by Mendelssohn, Shostakovich, Caroline Shaw and more

Saturday 21st November 2026
at 4.30 pm

All Saints Church, Headington OX3 7AF

Tickets £16/£3 (under-25s)
www.bookthatin.com/link/oxus
and on the door



Health, Safety and safeguarding



Empowering Parents in a Digital World: A free webinar and toolkit for schools and community settings, (LGfL)Wednesday, 9th December 2026

LGfL has released a free Parent Online Safety Toolkit to help schools start safeguarding conversations with parents and carers. It covers generative AI, social media and gaming, and includes a ready-made presentation that staff can deliver to parents. It is free to schools and community settings.

To help settings get the most from it, LGfL is running a free webinar for DSLs and online safety leads on Wednesday 9 December at 3.45pm. It will cover how to personalise a parent event, activities to lead discussions, and resources on emerging risks, screen time, safety settings and wellbeing. SLT, governors and anyone with online safety responsibility are also welcome.

Download the toolkit: parentonlinesafety.lgfl.net

Book the webinar: lgfl.bookinglive.com



Dates



Term dates for this academic year (2026-27) are available here.

Class letters and topic webs have been sent home which contain information about key dates specific to your child's class.

These are whole school events.

Friday 13th November - Individual and Sibling photos (for children in school time)

Monday 16th November - Anti-bullying day (for children in school time)

Friday 20th November - St Andrew's Children in Need day

Thursday 26th November, 8.40 - 9.00am - Parent/carer book look & non-uniform day for tombola

Friday 27th November - INSET day (no children in school)

Monday 30th November - St Andrew's Day (for children in school time)

Tuesday 1st December - Big Christmas Sing (for choir), 5.30pm concert

Friday 4th December, 3.30-5.30pm - Christmas Fair (for parents/carers & children)

Monday 7th December, 6.00 - 6.30pm - Years 1 & 2 Nativity at St Andrew's church (for parents/carers & Years 1 & 2 & orchestra)

Tuesday 8th December, 10.30am - Christmas Service at St Andrew's Church

Thursday 10th December, 6.00pm - Years 3 & 4 Christmas play (for parents/ carers & Years 3 & 4)

Tuesday 15th December - theatre trips in school day (Pegasus for Yrs R, 1 &2; Oxford Playhouse for Yrs 3 - 6)

Wednesday 16th December - Years R, 1 & 2 Christmas lunch (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 need packed lunch)

Thursday 17th December - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas lunch (Years R, 1 & 2 need packed lunch)

Friday 18th December, 1.15pm Year R/ 1.30pm Years 1 - 6 - *End of Autumn 2 term*

Key dates for the whole year

Monday 4th January - INSET (no children in school)

Tuesday 5th January - *start of Spring 1 term*

Wednesday 13th January, 3.30 - 5.00pm - Teacher meetings for children with SEND

Friday 15th January - mid-year short reports (Years R - 6)

Friday 22nd January - SASA Disco (TBC)

Friday 29th January , 8.40 - 9.00am - Parent/carer book look

Friday 12th February - *end of Spring 1 term*

Monday 22nd February - *start of Spring 2 term*

Tuesday 16th March , 10.30am - Easter Service at St Andrew's Church

Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th March, 3.30 - 6.00pm - Class teacher meetings

Thursday 25th March, 1.15pm Year R/ 1.30pm Years 1 - 6 - *end of Spring 2 term*

Monday 12th April - *start of Summer 1 term*

Monday 3rd May - *bank holiday - no school*

Wednesday 19th May - Class photos

Friday 21st May, 8.40 - 9.00am - Parent/carer book look

Sunday 16th May - SASA Fun Run (TBC)

Friday 28th May -*end of Summer 1 term*

Monday 7th June - *start of Summer 2 term*

Monday 28th June - *INSET - no children in school*

Wednesday 30th June , 3.30 - 5.00pm - Teacher meetings for children with SEND

Thursday 1st & Friday 2nd July - Art Exhibition

Monday 5th July, 5.30pm - Summer music concert

Tuesday 6th July - Sports Day (during school day)

Friday 9th July, 3.30 - 5.00pm - Summer Fair

Friday 16th July - end of year reports (Years R - 6)

Tuesday 20th July, 10.30am - Leavers's service at St Andrew's church

Wednesday 21st July, 1.15pm Year R/ 1.30pm Years 1 - 6 - *end of Summer 2 term*

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

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.

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!

Information about local events




Pegasus
OXFORD LIGHT FESTIVAL
AT PEGASUS
THE BATTLE OF NIGHT AND DAY
Walking Tour
Puppet workshop
The Glow Gallery
Drop in Craft Workshop with Carmen Rodriguez Macias
FREE EVENTS
SOME NEED BOOKING
YOUTH OPEN MIC!
AT PEGASUS THEATRE
AN ARTISTIC FREE-FOR-ALL FOR PERFORMERS AGED 7
SAT 14 NOV | 10AM - 9:00PM
Pegasus, Magdalen Road, OX4 1RE
pegasustheatre.org.uk
WhatNot
Wild Boor Ideas
OXFORD SCIENCE + IDEAS FESTIVAL

HEADINGTON SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP : extended learning for all ages

12.11.26 ***term 2 – letter 2***

OXFORD LIGHT FESTIVAL **Friday 13 – Sunday 15 November** ***https://www.oxlightfest.com/***

Friday : THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT BUS visits Wood Farm from 6.25, on to central Headington, Risinghurst and Barton, leaving at 7.55 The festive spectacle will feature the iconic City Sightseeing Oxford open-top bus, decked out in hundreds of twinkling lights. As the bus winds its way through Oxford, it creates a magical atmosphere, accompanied by a soundtrack of Christmas classics provided by the fabulous, **Get Radio**, Oxfordshire's local radio station.
The bus will stop at designated stopping locations to spread even more pre-Christmas cheer and allow colleagues to distribute delicious treats to children and adults alike, including vegan and gluten-free options

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WINTER LIGHTS **Friday 13 November 5.00-8.00** ***Ark-T - The Venue, 242b Barns Road, OX4 3RQ***

Step into a magical winter celebration designed to bring the whole community together!
Discover a vibrant, seasonal atmosphere filled with light, warm music, delicious food, and hands-on creative activities for all ages. Whether you're stopping by for a bite to eat or crafting something special with family and friends, there's something for everyone to enjoy.
Ark-T Winter Lights is free and open to all—everyone is welcome to share in the magic!
The Venue has a dedicated quiet space available for visitors with sensory needs. Please note, during busy hours the main area might be difficult to navigate in a wheelchair. ***https://www.ark-t.org/***

LIGHT FESTIVAL AT PEGASUS ***Pegasus Theatre, Magdalen Road, OX4 1RE***

Saturday 14 November day time activities: 10.00 - 4.00 evening activity: youth open mic night: 7.00-9.00
Pegasus Theatre is offering a range of exciting, free and accessible activities around the theme of light. Bringing together science and the arts, you will find installations, crafts, workshops, music and, of course, performance! Just pop in so the whole family can enjoy exploring all fully-accessible corners of the theatre and a holistic sensory experience. There is something for everyone! All **FREE** but bookable to control numbers
Pegasus has partnered with **Oxford Science and Ideas Festival, IF Oxford**, to bring you the **Glow Gallery *(drop-in),*** which explores the science of light using lasers, LEDs, and phosphorescent boards.
Get crafty **with Emma Boor and Euton Daley** in a silly, spooky, **shadow puppet-making workshop *(bookable*)**, incorporating a short introduction with singing, then try bringing it to life in a show of your very own! All materials provided, just bring your imagination! **10.00, 11.30, 1.30, 3.00**
WhatNot Theatre brings you a brand-new, fun, interactive walking tour performance **The battle of Night and Day (*bookable)*** where Night and Day are battling for power and need your help! **10.30, 11.30, 1.00, 2.00**
Try your hand at light-inspired arts and crafts ***(drop-in),*** led by talented local artist, **Carmen Rodriguez Macias**, suitable for all ages and families.
For aspiring young musicians and spoken-word artists aged 14-18, come along in the evening to our gallery space, as Pegasus is hosting a low-key **open-mic night (*bookable for artists),*** providing a safe space for young people to have a go at performing to a live audience ***https://pegasustheatre.org.uk/shows/***

MAKE YOUR OWN LANTERN inspired by Oxford street lights. ***MOX, Oxford Town Hall, St Aldate's, OX1 1BX***

Saturday 14 November 11.00-12.30 and 13.30-15.00, starting promptly at the advertised time so please arrive a few minutes before so you can check in - **suitable for ages 5+.** Children must be supervised at all times.
Tickets cost **£2** per child and can be purchased online on the website or at the Museum Shop. Each child ticket includes free entry for one accompanying adult. This event ticket also includes access to the Galleries for one child and one adult.
Advance booking is recommended
Sales from tickets help support work to deliver fun and accessible family activities, community engagement projects, schools' workshops, exhibitions and special events for Oxford's people in the Museum
https://museumofoxford.org/event/christmas-lights-festival-at-mox/

FANTASTIC FICTION **Saturday 14 December** ***Rose Hill Community Centre, Carole's Way, OX4 4HF***

Creative Lights Festival: Fantastic Fiction is a magical day of creativity, community and celebration. Families and young people are invited to take part in a range of free creative activities inspired by the world of books, stories, imagination and fictional adventures. **Indoor activities start from 2.00**, offering opportunities to get creative, make lanterns, and enjoy time together with friends, family and neighbours, including a free community meal.
4.30 for 5.00 join a lantern procession around the estate ***https://www.oxlightfest.com/fantastic-fiction***

More events at *Cutteslowe Park* LIGHT TRAIL with live music Saturday 14 November from 4.00
LIGHTING UP THE COMMUNITY *The Barn, Greater Leys* Sunday 15 November 3.00-5.00
https://www.oxlightfest.com/

THE CHRISTMAS LIGHT BUS returns for the weekends of 11-12, 18-19 December and you can vote for where it should visit ***https://www.oxfordbus.co.uk/lightbus2026***

Friday,11th December 4:00 – 8:00 **Saturday, 12th Decembe 4:00 - 8:00**
Friday,18th December 4:00 - 8:00 **Saturday, 19th December 4:00 - 9:00**

You can help shape the magic! **Vote for your favourite route** using the website link, and you might just bring the sparkle of the Oxford Christmas Light Bus right to your doorstep! **Voting will end at 11:59 hours on Sunday 15th November.**
As last year, they will try to visit as many of you in Oxfordshire as they can, creating **FOUR** routes, based on your most popular answers for stopping locations!
The final routes will be announced on **Tuesday 1st Decembe** via the website and social media channels.
https://www.oxfordbus.co.uk/lightbus2026

THE TUNNELS ARE CALLING - MYSTERY ARTEFACT TRAIL TO THE OREADS!

Saturday 14 November 2.30 – 5.00 ***Cheney School, Cheney Lane, OX3 7QH***

To celebrate Lorna Robinson's new novel, **Oread,** a classics-inspired detective/mystery tale set in the abandoned tunnels of the London Underground, travellers are invited to follow a mystery artefact trail through the Rumble Museum at Cheney School to reach the Iris Classics Centre.
You can arrive at any time during the afternoon to follow the mystery trail. In the Iris Classics Centre, there will be drinks, books, chat, and some classics-themed activities for all ages – and a chance to see the new astonomy mural.
If you would like to attend, please email lro@cheneyschool.org

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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 **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 ***£5 for extra adults***
book now - they sell out quickly! ***https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on***

NATURE CLUB : BRILLIANT BATS **Saturday 14 November 10.00, 12.30, 3.00**
for ages 5 – 9 ***https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/brilliant-bats-2/***

SCIENCE CLUB : TRICK OF THE LIGHT **Saturday 21 November 10.00, 12.30, 3.00**
for ages 5 - 9 ***https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/trick-of-the-light-2/***

SCIENCE CLUB : TOY FACTORY **Saturday 12 December 10.00, 12.30, 3.00**
for ages 5-9 ***https://scienceoxford.com/whats-on/toy-factory-2/***

HILL END OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE ***Eynsham Road, OX2 9NJ***

WW1 TRENCHES TOUR **Saturday 14 November 10.00-12.00**
Deep in Wytham Woods are genuine WW1 practice trenches dug by Oxfordshire Soldiers 100 years ago, before they were posted to the front lines. Join this poignant guided tour – with many thanks to the University of Oxford for permitting Wytham Woods access.
Please note that the walk from Hill End takes 20-25 minutes, and is up hill at times. Sturdy footwear is recommended.
booking essential £7 adult, £5 children ***https://hill-end.org/news/ww1_practice_trenches/***

CHRISTMAS PAST, CHRISTMAS PRESENT **Monday 21 December 10.00-2.00**

A very special Hill End family day event with a festive sprinkle of history! To complete its 100th birthday celebration year, Hill End is hosting a natural, homespun Family Day with a range of fun activities inspired by Christmas on the Home Front. Explore outdoors: visit the WW2 bomb crater and Anderson shelter.- have a go at collecting your wartime rations! Christmas crafts: make your own model aeroplanes, create simple decorations, try traditional willow craft and whittling. Toast crumpets and marshmallows around the campfire.
Whether you're crafting, exploring, playing or simply enjoying the warmth of the campfire, it's the perfect opportunity to slow down, embrace the fresh air and enjoy a little outdoor magic together before the festivities later in the week.
£9 adults £7 children aged 3-16 You can then choose to add on a hot lunch or bring your own picnic.
Hot /cold drinks & cakes also available to purchase on the day (cash or card) ***https://hill-end.org/news/wild_christmas/***

IMAGINE LEWIS **Saturday 21 – Sunday 22 November** ***Holy Trinity Church, Headington Quarry, OX3 8NU***

A weekend of music, talks, poetry, worship, tours, children's activities to celebrate the life and legacy of Headington resident C.S.Lewis. Some bookable with a charge; some free and drop in
Children's Narnia activities Saturday 10.00-12.00 ***Coach House***

Art and worship workshop with Mandy Patterson	**Saturday**	**10.00-12.00**	***Church***
Malcolm Guite talk and reading: 'Lewis and Logres'	**Saturday**	**2.00-3.30**	***Church***
WIND live in concert	**Saturday**	**7.00-9.00**	***Church***
C.S. Lewis Tour 1 hr	**Saturday, Sunday**	**4.00-5.00**	***Church and church yard***
Worship services	**Sunday**	**10.00, 6.00**	***Church***

www.hthg.uk/imagine-lewis-weekend/ ***bookings https://imagine-lewis-weekend.eventbrite.co.uk***

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


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Simply scan the QR to see schedule of this camp
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Leys Pools & Leisure Centre,
Pegasus Road, Oxford OX4 6JL Tel: **0330 109 8773**

moreleisure.com

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