St Andrew's C of E Primary School 27th November

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





Last Friday, we supported Children in Need by dressing in spots and having a cake sale. St Andrew's raised around an amazing £300! Well done to the school council for your commendable charity fundraising work.

We finished the day with Year 5 sharing their learning about Space in our celebration assembly - we all really enjoyed their planet song!

Please remember that tomorrow (Friday 27th November) is an INSET day - no children are expected in school.

Primary Maths Challenge

Every year, children in Year 6 take part in the Primary Maths Challenge (a National challenge); this year we had the majority of the class wanting to participate. Bronze, Silver and Gold awards were presented in celebration assembly on Friday. We await to hear which pupils have made it through to the next round.



Book Look

It was lovely to welcome our parents/ carers into school this morning for a 'book look'. Children love the opportunity to share what they have been learning - and it has been a lot! We realise that not everyone can make these events due to work commitments; please be reassured that children still had the opportunity to share their work with interested adults or peers.



















Woodland Play

Woodland Play continues to be a successful addition to the Early Years provision, with this week making 'nature art' and having a hot chocolate in the outdoor classroom being very much enjoyed by the children.









Christmas is coming..

Today, children came dressed in their own clothes and brought in an item for the tombola. The school is about to embark on the 'run up to Christmas'!

This begins with our **Christmas Fair on Friday 4th December (3.30-5.30pm),** where there will be stalls run by our Year 6s as an enterprise project, as well as the usual crafts, cafe, Santa's grotto and tombola.

We then have the **Year 1 and 2 Nativity and Year 3 and 4 Christmas plays the week beginning the 7th December.** Our final week before the Christmas holidays (**beginning 14th December) there are the Christmas lunches and theatre trips**.

It is an exciting time for children - we endeavour to find the balance of enabling excitement to be expressed and calm still prevailing, through maintaining routines and the same expectations around behaviour and relationships in school.

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.

Health, Safety and safeguarding



PARKING

As a school serving our local community, we expect that children will be walking or scootering to school. If parents/ carers need to drive, please can you park with respect to our neighbours. Complaints have been received of residential bays being used and driveways being blocked. Police will be called if parking is not legal.

School Nurse Health Newsletter

Autumn Term (2): Primary SHN Newsletter November 2026

Worries about the world

Children hear a lot of worrying news. Some of it is on the television. Much of it is on social media. Many children feel scared or overwhelmed by it. Adults feel the same way at times.

Childline has a page on worries about the world. It gives children simple steps to feel in control again. It also links to advice on climate change, doomscrolling, fake news and misinformation, feeling good on social media, terrorism and violence, and radicalisation and extremism.

Children can also talk to a counsellor online, or call 0800 1111.

This is a useful place to send a child who has seen something upsetting:

https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/your-feelings/anxiety-stress-panic/worries-about-the-world/

December 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

Raising Self-Esteem	30 Nov 10am
Introduction to OCD	30 Nov 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	7 Dec 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	7 Dec 7pm
Improving Family Communication	8 Dec 10am
What is ACT?	8 Dec 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	14 Dec 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	14 Dec7pm
Understanding Anger	15 Dec 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	15 Dec 7pm

FACE is having a facelift!
From January 2027, we're making FACE even better!

Look forward to **more topics,** more **free sessions on our YouTube channel,** and **24/7 access to recordings** of our parent talks for families with a FACE School Membership.

More choice, more flexibility, more support – whenever you need it!

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.

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 29th January - SASA Disco - confirmed

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



HEADINGTON SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP : extended learning for all ages

26.11.26 *term 2 – letter 4*

OXFORD BOTANIC GARDEN CHRISTMAS FAIR *Rose Lane off Magdalen Bridge, OX1 4AZ*

Saturday 5 December 10.00-5.00 (last entry 4.00) Sunday 6 December 10.00-4.00 (last entry 3.00)
Enjoy a joyful celebration of local craftsmanship and seasonal charm, set against the historic backdrop of Oxford Botanic Garden. Browse over fifty thoughtfully selected stalls offering a wide variety of festive gifts, locally produced food products and seasonal treats.
Entertainment as well : creative activities run by the OBGA Education Team - explore the UK's oldest botanic garden, including the seven display glasshouses festive lighting and seasonal ambience.
Live music performed at regular intervals:
Fleur Stevenson 12.00 - 12.45, 1.00 - 1.45 **Horns of Plenty 2.00 - 2.45**
Icy Winter Wonderland with WhatNot Theatre:
Enter WhatNot Theatre's Icy Winter Wonderland with magical fairy lights, music, candy canes and wrapped presents. Write a Christmas wish and post this through the WhatNot Theatre post box.
10:15-11:30 12.00-1.00 1:30-2:30 3.00 -3:45
Adult | £7.00 **Disabled visitor with carer £7.00** **Concession (over 65s) £6.00**
Under 16s & Friend Member| £5.00 **Under 3s and Patron Member Free**
https://www.obga.ox.ac.uk/event/christmas-fair-oxford-botanic-garden

CHRISTMAS CRAFTERNOON *Weston Library @ the Bodleian, Broad Street, OX1 3BG*

Saturday 5 December 12.00-4.00
A cosy afternoon of crafts, suitable for all ages - make quirky collaged cards and sparkly decorations ready for the festival season - plus a chance to sing some carols - storytelling and a festive rhyme time for the littlest elves.
Craft activities are most suitable for ages 5 up, but all are welcome.
Please note: childcare is not provided and all under 16s must be accompanied by an adult.
https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/event/2026/dec/christmas-crafternoon

CHRISTMAS MARKET & REINDEER HUNT *Waterperry Gardens, near Wheatley, OX33 1JZ*

Saturday and Sunday 5 & 6 December 10.00-4.00
Christmas shopping galore: art and craft stalls with gorgeous handmade gift ideas, festive food and drink, all nestled in the undercover plant area.
A brass band will be playing throughout the weekend to bring that extra festive feel to this ever-popular event.
The **prizewinning teashop** will be selling their homemade produce, including Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings, mince pies and so much more. View their price list ***https://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk/tea-shop/***
The annual **Reindeer Hunt** is in the gardens to keep the children busy **£4.75 per child** with a prize guaranteed
https://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk/event/find-santas-reindeer/
The **Barn Gallery** has a new free selling exhibition : **Winter Glimmers**
https://www.waterperrygardens.co.uk/event/november-christmas-market/

STICK MAN TRAIL *Westgate, Queen Street, OX1 1PE*

Westgate does some pretty amazing trails and activities! **Julia Donaldson's Stickman** has landed for Christmas.
Pick up a free activity booklet from the Guest Experience desk (by Uniqlo, upper ground floor) and collect 10 stamps as you travel around the interactive trail (including a chimney slide!) telling the story of Stick Man travelling through the seasons to find his way back home to the Family Tree – where children can write a letter to Father Christmas using the postcard from their trail booklet - **in place until 3 January 2027 FREE – no booking needed**
This is part of a raft of goings on at the Westgate this Christmas.
Guest services open Monday-Friday 10.00-8.00 Saturday 9.00-8.00 Sunday 11.00-5.00 .
https://www.westgateoxford.co.uk/en/stick-man-trail-2026

HEADINGTON ACTION : CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTS SWITCH ON *Headington Carfax*

Saturday 5 December 4.30-5.30 Look out for a special visitor! Guess who!
4.30 choir – seasonal refreshments **4.55** countdown to switch on by the Lord Mayor of Oxford
5.05 community singing round the tree

Saturday 19 December Christmas pre-orders can be picked up at this **last Saturday market of 2025** but there will be a special one on **Wednesday 23 December** for last minute shopping. Then the first of 2027 on **Saturday 9 January**

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
Last family day of the year is Saturday 19 December ***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***

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/***

This is the last STEM club of the year – back on Saturday 30 January

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

OXFORD PRESERVATION TRUST 2026 AWARDS ***- congratulations!***
WINNER in the Community impact section for the Hill End Roundhouse – an inspiring new teaching space for outdoor learning, created sustainably by volunteers using local materials and topped with recycled reed donated by a local thatcher

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/***

FURTHER OUT OF OXFORD

THE TREE BARN *Greenfield Farm, Christmas Common, OX49 5HG*

open 9.00-5.30 with some later 7.30 closing ***https://www.thetreebarn.co.uk***

APPLETON CHRISTMAS BARN *Eaton Road, Appleton, OX13 5JJ*

open 10.00-6.00 daily with some later 8.00 closing ***https://www.appletonchristmasbarn.com/***

ILLUMINATE OXFORD Milletts light trail *Millets Farm Centre, Kingston Rd, Frilford, OX13 5HB*


THE STORY MUSEUM
MEET
KORKY PAUL:
A FESTIVE
WINNIKIN
DRAW-A-THON
SAT 5 DECEMBER 11:00
Join Korky Paul for a fast, fun, draw-along adventure packed with Winnikin spotting, audience challenges and plenty of drawing.
Then create your very own magical Winnikin to join the gang...get ready to spot, draw and bring your Winnikin to life!
Recommended for ages 7+
Tickets: £10.50pp
Book tickets: 01865 807 600
hello@storymuseum.org.uk
storymuseum.org.uk
Funded by UK Government
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
The Story Museum is registered charity no. 1107809


FREE ENTRY!
OXFORDSHIRE
WILDLIFE RESCUE
CHRISTMAS FAIR
10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Saturday 19th December
Chilton Village Hall
Christmas Raffle
Hot food & Drinks
Art competition!
Make wild bird feeders!
Make your own christmas ornaments!
Decorate christmas biscuits!
Loads of Prizes!


OXFORD
ATHLETIC FC
SQUAD PLACES
AVAILABLE
WELCOMING U11 PLAYERS
(CURRENT YEAR 6)
⚽ JOIN OXFORD ATHLETIC FC ⚽
✔ WELCOMING ALL ABILITIES
✔ BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE
✔ GREAT PEOPLE, GREAT ATMOSPHERE,
GREAT FOOTBALL
Interested in joining?
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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


Schwarzman
CENTRE FOR THE HUMANITIES
Northern Ballet
4Pi
A Northern Ballet, 4Pi Productions, and Schwarzman Centre Production
Clara & The Nutcracker
Immersive Experience
10 – 24 Dec 2026
A beloved Christmas story brought to life all around you in a magical, 360° film experience.
Book now at schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk


MAKE HOLIDAY PLANS EASY, BOOK AHEAD NOW!
WOW CAMPS
THE TECH CAMP SUPERCHARGED!
MINECRAFT REDSTONE
LEGO ENGINEERING
VIRTUAL REALITY
Tyndale Community School, OX4 2JX
21ST - 31ST DECEMBER
30TH MARCH - 2ND APRIL
26TH JULY - 6TH AUGUST
BOOK YOUR PLACE NOW!
HALF TERM WEEK
9AM 1PM
AGES 5-12
SAFE & SECURE
SPECIALIST PRESENTERS
TAX-FREE CHILDCARE ACCEPTED
www.nextthing.education
CHRISTMAS CAMPS 2026
DISCOVER NEW ACTIVITIES EACH SEASON!
The activities below are for this Christmas - we refresh activities every holiday so there's always something new to experience!
ACTIVITIES THIS SEASON
ROBLOX CREATION STUDIO
ELECTRIC INVENTIONS
LEGO MACHINES
DRIVING ROBOTS
MINECRAFT REDSTONE
CREATIVE CIRCUITS
SPARK
SCAN HERE
Simply scan the QR to see schedule of this camp
Activities vary by venue. Please check our website for the exact schedule at your chosen camp.
EASTER & SUMMER CAMPS 2027
We're also at this location next Easter and Summer with even more exciting activities, fun and challenges!
EASTER CAMPS
Enjoy fresh activities, outdoor fun and exciting new challenges.
SUMMER CAMPS
More activities, bigger challenges and unforgettable camp experiences.
£25 PER DAY
10% OFF MULTI-DAY DISCOUNT
BOOK NOW!
RAVE REVIEWS...
"This was easily the best camp my son has been to. The camp clearly keeps them engaged and entertained, as my son never wanted to go home. Totally recommend them!"
www.nextthing.education
01442 873150
info@nextthing.education

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and pay nothing on swimming lessons until January!

Use promo code WINTERSWIM

Our swimming lessons are designed to help you, or your child, learn to swim and become confident in the water.

SCAN ME TO BOOK!



Barton Leisure Centre,
Waynflete Road, Oxford OX3 8GA Tel: **0330 109 8770**

Ferry Leisure Centre,
Diamond Pl, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7DP Tel: **0330 109 8771**

Leys Pools & Leisure Centre,
Pegasus Road, Oxford OX4 6JL Tel: **0330 109 8773**

moreleisure.com

OXFORD CITY COUNCIL

MORE for every body

T&C's apply, see website for details. Offer available in centre 00.00 1st November - 23.59 31st December 2026.
Offer available online 1st - 22nd November and 1st - 22nd December 2026. Available to new customers only on all swimming lessons.

OXFORD RFC

MINIS AND JUNIORS

Free taster sessions available for children aged 5-12

Every Sunday, 10:30 - 12:00



enquiries@oxfordrfc.com

Oxford RFC, North Hinksey Village, OX2 0NA

NATIONAL BADMINTON

Free Junior Badminton Roadshow!

Dive into a sport that's fast, friendly, and full of joy



Kidlington & Gosford Leisure Centre
Saturday 28th November
2:30pm - 4:30pm

Ages 6 - 17

Limited spaces, register now

bookwhen.com/nb-roadshows

NEXT GEN