

Windmill Weekly (21)

Achievement through Creativity, Community and Challenge

Value for February - Happiness

14 February 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Eco-school Environmental Messages

I was asked by Low Carbon Oxford who funded our Solar panels if I would like to be one of their guests at an event on Wednesday afternoon which the Duke of Edinburgh (Prince Edward) was attending. The theme for the event was environment and climate change. I took this as an opportunity for the children who come to Eco-schools to tell the Duke of Edinburgh their ideas about how to address Climate Change issues. The children created some lovely posters incorporating a range of ideas and I was very pleased to hand them over to the Duke of Edinburgh on Wednesday afternoon.

Half term Break

Have a great half term break and we look forward to seeing you all on Monday 24th February by 8:40am. If you are taking this as an opportunity to travel I hope that you all have safe and trouble free journeys.



Key Dates

24 February	First day of term 4 - 8.40am
25 - 28 February	Scholastic Book Fair
27 February	Y6 Gallery of Movers and Shakers 8.30am - 9.00am
6 March	World Book Day
21 March	Vision Screening - Reception children only
21 March	Comic Relief
19 March	Parent Interviews for whole school
1 April	Year 4 performance 2.00pm
2 April	Year 4 performance 6.00pm
4 April	House Cross Country
4 April	Last day of term - finish at 2.30pm
Tuesday 22 April	First day of term 5 8.40am

The Scholastic Travelling Book Fair

The Scholastic Travelling Book Fair is coming back to Windmill with 100s of new books. The book Fair will be open each morning from Tuesday 25th February to Friday 28th February from 8:00am to 8:30am and will be CARD payment only (no cash!). It will also be open after school on Wednesday and Thursday during this week! All the books brought and money raised at the Fair helps buy new books for our school library and individual class library's. It also gives children a chance to look at a breadth of new books for their own reading pleasure! For more details, please look on your child's home learning platform.

Oxford High School girls football tournament

On Thursday, Mr Habbershaw and our team of nine girls travelled to North Oxford for the inaugural Oxford High School football tournament. We played 10 matches, won 9, and drew our last one, meaning we won the trophy! Well done Daisy, Carly, Hannah, Sky, Amelia, Evie, Agnes, Sreya, and Joni.

After a flurry of fixtures before Christmas, Primary School football winds down around this time of year, as competitions reach their later stages. Fixtures we have left to play are:

Thursday 27th February - Boys vs St John Fisher

Tuesday 1st April - Girls Open 7s Finals

The girls have also reached the semi-finals of the Manor Cup, with an opponent and date to be decided.

An update on results of the Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC) survey, and next steps.

A survey was sent out to all parents and carers of Windmill school in October 2024 via the school newsletter, Classlist and publicised on class WhatsApp groups. 222 parents and carers responded. Here are some highlights:

1. Nearly 88% of 222 who responded said their children don't have a phone of any kind. 14 parents said their children have a smart phone with limited functionality online/ restricted apps and only three parents said their children have a smartphone with full functionality/apps of choice. 6 others said their children have access to a smart/simple phone to listen to music or arrange meet ups. Children with smart phones were aged between 7 and 13 years.
2. Reasons for children using smartphones (39 responses):
 - 46% for entertainment (music, gaming, browsing)
 - 43.6% to communicate with parents/carers
 - 33% to communicate with friends
 - 30% for homework
 - 25% for utilities (maps, tickets, photos, GPS tracking)
3. Reasons why parents bought their child a smartphone were similar to children's reasons for using them. Some also mentioned online learning, old smart phones being cheaper than new brick phone, and learning the discipline of using a smart phone as reasons.
4. Main problems children encountered with smartphones were excessive screen time, reduced interest in hobbies, and inability to focus on schoolwork. A few reported impact on sleep, and exposure to harmful content. There were no reports of cyberbullying, mental health impacts and grooming.
5. Most parents said they didn't feel pressurised to buy their child a smartphone, and 18% said they did because of expectations in year 6/secondary school, with the pressure coming from their own children or other children having one.
6. Out of 216 respondents, 64% said they would buy their child a simple 'brick' phone rather than a smartphone as a first step, if others in their peer group did too, but 14% said they wouldn't, and 23% were undecided. Most parents/carers were worried about buying their child a smartphone, with exposure to harmful content being the main reason.
7. 57% of 184 respondents said they would be interested in a talk/workshop about smartphone use for children and parents together. 16.8% would like the talk to be for just parents and 15% would like it to be for parents and children separately. Most parents would like the talk to be virtual on an evening.

Findings of the survey have been presented to Mrs Knapp, and some discussions about smartphones and screen time were had at the last PTA meeting. Mrs Knapp has kindly agreed for Windmill to host a talk about SFC, and the PTA has agreed to fund this.

Next steps:

- Majority of the parents who responded to the survey preferred to have a talk for parents and children together, however the parent workshops we found were not suitable for children. A workshop for key stage 2 students will be arranged in the summer term, so watch this space.

- Windmill school is hosting a virtual parent workshop by Jennifer Powers from the charity PAPAAYA (<https://www.papayaparents.com>) for all parents, and staff of Windmill. Wood Farm, St Andrew, Cheney and Barton Park schools have also been invited. There is evidence that involving more local schools results in a wider impact on the community.
- The parent workshop will be held online on Microsoft Teams Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm, for 1 hour followed by 15 minutes to ask questions.

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MWUzNzJmMmYtMjdkMy00NTBkLWFjZTIzMzk3ZjlkYmFIOTkx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22458ca429-a938-4a3a-af79-8a4a9e96d874%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d6686f0a-bd89-421e-8254-7a08234e1ab1%22%7d

□

A few things to note:

- The talk is in two parts. The first part covers the evidence around the impact of smartphones and social media on children.
- Parents are encouraged to make their own decisions about what's right for their families.
- The second part talks about solutions - both for children who do not yet have smartphones and those who do.
- Parents repeatedly say they learned a lot and highly recommend the talk.
- The talk is non-judgmental but hard hitting. It is not appropriate for children (except babes in arms).

Further information:

- To find out more about the SFC campaign, visit <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>
- For more information about the voluntary pact for parents/carers who want to pledge to wait to get their children a smartphone until the end of Y 9, visit <https://oxfordshireparentpact.smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk>
- To join the Windmill SFC WhatsApp community, use this joining link <https://chat.whatsapp.com/Gv4QkhVWpJLLuvDMFrP7c2> (whatsapp can be used on your computer instead of your phone: settings > linked devices > scan)

Yours faithfully



Lynn Knapp
Headteacher

Dear Parent / Carer

Finally, the days are getting longer and hopefully the weather will soon begin to improve. Either way, hopefully in next week's half term, you and your children will be able to spend some time outdoors.

Half term would be a great chance for you to use our **Footsteps** programme to begin to support your children in their journey to becoming safer, independent pedestrians and road users.

Our **Footsteps** guide will give you some ideas of how to begin to support your child in developing the decision-making skills that will help them become a pedestrian able to keep themselves safer when they eventually walk to school or a friend's home independently.

If they are ill-prepared, children are more likely to be killed or injured in a road traffic incident, as seen by the fact that the number of child pedestrians injured rises significantly around 10 -12 years of age – the time at which they begin to go out unaccompanied by adults.

The **Footsteps** programme is simple to use as it can be carried out in normal everyday situations such as walking to school or to the local shops. Rather than *telling* children what to do, you are encouraged to *ask* lots of open questions to make the children think about the decisions they are making. Making these decisions safely, while in the company of a supporting adult, will mean they will be better prepared for dealing with roads and traffic once they begin going out on their own.

Learning to cope with traffic is a practical skill, which can't be learnt in the classroom. As parents / carers, you are the best people to help your child develop this knowledge as you spend the most time out and about with them.

It is never too early to start talking to your child about road safety as, having a good understanding of road safety skills, could one day save their life.

Please follow the link to the **Footsteps** guide [Footsteps](#) and start giving your children the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safer on our roads.

Oxfordshire Fire & Resue Service Road Safety Team
Oxfordshire County Council



SEASON 3

OBCA

**WE ARE LOOKING TO THE FUTURE!
DO YOU WANT TO BE AN OBCA ATHLETE IN
SEASON 3?**

WE ARE LOOKING FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 4+ (SCHOOL AGED FROM SEPTEMBER)
ALL THE WAY TO ADULTS, TO JOIN OUR GROWING PROGRAMME.
CONTACT US TO SECURE YOUR TRIALS SPACE!
OXFORDBROOKESCHEERACADEMY@GMAIL.COM



**OXFORD BROOKES
CHEERLEADING ACADEMY**



HALF-TERM TENNIS CAMP

AT DRAGON SCHOOL

February Half Term | Mon 17th - Fri 21st
10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Early drop-off and late pick-up available.
Childcare vouchers accepted.

courtside.uk/oxfordshire/camps

Previously
premier
TENNIS
Same team, new name!

Scan the QR
code to book



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[BOOK NOW](#)

Find us on
socials!



Previously
premier
TENNIS
Same team, new name!



FEB HALF TERM

THE STORY MUSEUM

- Author appearances: Chris Riddell
- Family Shows • Family Workshops
- Comic Workshops & Draw Alongs



storymuseum.org.uk

Tel: 01865 807600

Registered charity no. 1107809

COMING UP AT OXFORD CITY

FEBRUARY



ISUZU FA TROPHY ROUND OF SIXTEEN
OXFORD CITY
FOREST GREEN ROVERS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



SOUTHERN REGIONAL WOMEN'S LEAGUE
OXFORD CITY
ASCOT UNITED
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2 - 2PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
MARINE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 - 7:45PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
LEAMINGTON
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



SOUTHERN REGIONAL WOMEN'S FOOTBALL LEAGUE
OXFORD CITY
WOODLEY UNITED
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9 - 2PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



OXFORDSHIRE WOMEN'S CUP
OXFORD CITY
EASINGTON SPORTS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 - TBC - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
SCUNTHORPE UNITED
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
CHESTER
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25 - 7:45PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM

MARCH



TOWN V GOWN FOOTBALL MATCH
TUESDAY, MARCH 4 - THE MGROUP STADIUM
WOMEN'S FIRST TEAM vs OXFORD UNIVERSITY - 4:30PM
MEN'S FIRST TEAM vs OXFORD UNIVERSITY - 7:45PM



OXFORD CITY CHARITY GOLF DAY
THURSDAY, MARCH 6 - OXFORD GOLF CLUB - 9:30AM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
BUXTON
SATURDAY, MARCH 8 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
WARRINGTON TOWN
SATURDAY, MARCH 22 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
RADCLIFFE
SATURDAY, MARCH 29 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM

APRIL



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
HEREFORD
SATURDAY, APRIL 12 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



VANARAMA NATIONAL LEAGUE NORTH
OXFORD CITY
RUSHALL OLYMPIC
MONDAY, APRIL 21 - 3PM - THE MGROUP STADIUM



OXFORDSHIRE FA WOMEN'S CUP FINAL
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23 - THE MGROUP STADIUM

MAY



PREMIER LEAGUE TROPHY EVENT
&



OXFORDSHIRE FA SENIOR CUP FINAL
SATURDAY, MAY 3 - THE MGROUP STADIUM

JUNE



OXFORD CITY FC SUMMER TOURNAMENTS
GIRLS TOURNAMENT - 7 & 8 JUNE
JPL TOURNAMENT - 14 & 15 JUNE
HOOPS TOURNAMENT - 21 & 22 JUNE

WATCH ANY HOME LEAGUE MATCH FOR **FREE**.

USE THE CODE '**FREE SCHOOL**'. ON ANY GAME VIA THE QR CODE BELOW

**DON'T MISS OUT
SCAN HERE**



We're excited to invite you, your pupils and their families to experience some live football at Oxford City Football Club over the next few months! As part of our ongoing commitment to the local community, we are offering **free tickets** to your school and community for both our **Men's and Women's First Team games**.

We would love for your students, staff, and families to come along and enjoy the matches at no cost. It's a fantastic opportunity to inspire young football fans, support local sport, and enjoy a great day out.

To redeem the tickets please scan the QR code at the bottom of the poster and use code **FREESCHOOL** to attend up to 5 games at no cost for any league game between now and the end of the season. We'd love to see as many of you as possible cheering on Oxford City FC!

*Please note - Cup games are not included



OXFORD UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY

THIS INTERNATIONAL WOMENS DAY WE WANT YOU TO TELL US ABOUT YOUR INSPIRATION IN FOOTBALL!

Oxford United Women are offering 1 lucky winner the chance of a Captains Mascot Package at an Oxford United Womens game!

All you need to do is tell us about your inspiration in football. This does not have to be Oxford United related - any football entry is welcome!

You can do this by;

- Writing a short story (500 words)
- Writing a song or poem
- Designing a poster or picture
- A story board or cartoon

Please submit your entry to community@oufc.co.uk. Entry closes on the 28th February 2025. The competition is open to all girls between age of 5 to 13

All entries will be given a free ticket to Oxford United Women v Exeter on 9th March where their entries will be on display!



USE THIS SPACE FOR YOUR ENTRY!



**SEND TO COMMUNITY@OUFC.CO.UK WITH
NAME, AGE AND A PARENTS EMAIL
OR DROP IT OFF AT THE TICKET OFFICE
DURING OPENING HOURS**





FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-16 YRS

OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY

SCIENCE BAZAAR BEYOND

Saturday 1 March 2025

9:30am – 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening
11:30am – 4pm Open to all

Fun activities, hands-on workshops, experiments, talks, shows, competitions and cafe



BOOK
TICKETS



www.brookes.ac.uk/science-bazaar
sciencebazaar@brookes.ac.uk



@obuengagement #BrookesBazaar25



@OxfordBrookesPublicEngagementResearch



@oburesearchpublicengagement

Event sponsored by
**MORGAN
SINDALL**
CONSTRUCTION

Oxford Brookes University, Clerici Building, Headington Campus,
Gipsy Lane, Headington, OX3 0BP

NO PARKING ON SITE EXCEPT FOR ACCESS NEEDS

Calling all U11's

We offer:

Welcoming
Competitive

Fun
Football



**SUMMERTOWN
STARS · AFC**

JOIN OUR U11 TEAMS



JOIN THE TEAM **PLAY FOOTBALL**

9 A-SIDE OYFL LEAGUE MATCHES EVERY WEEK

We are looking for experienced or new players who are interested in playing 9-a-side football. Matches are on Sunday mornings for players in Year 6.

We play in the OYFL leagues, offering a competitive, fun, and welcoming environment with plenty of game time!

COME ALONG AND JOIN IN...

- Training on Monday nights 6.30pm - 7.30pm at Phil and Jim school.
- Just let us know you're coming (it's free for the rest of the season)

TRAINING:

Every Monday 6.30 - 7.30 pm
@ Phil and Jim School
& Friday 6-7pm @Cherwell 3G

More Information:

www.summertownstars.org

Contact Us

welfare@summertownstars.org



welfare@summertownstars.org



01865 558624



www.summertownstars.org



REACHING OUT ◆ MAINS OUVERTES

Celebrating 35 years of twinning between Oxford and its twin town Grenoble, dancers and musicians from Grenoble, Wrocław, Abingdon and Oxford present an exciting collaborative show expressing friendship and joy.

Saturday 22nd February 2025

4.00 pm & 7.30 pm



**Amey Theatre
Abingdon School,
Park Road, Abingdon
OX14 IDE**



**Tickets:
Adults £12,
Under18s £6**



www.abingdon.org.uk

**← Scan to book
or pay at
the door**



MND (Grenoble), Wrocław Musical Collective (Wrocław), Spirit of D Lays (Grenoble), Oxford Youth Dance, South Oxford Dance Academy, Amanda Alder Dance Academy (Abingdon)



Year 5 and 6 Maths for Parents

FREE 5 week course

Day: **Mondays**

Time: **7:00pm - 8:30pm**

Dates: **3rd March - 31st March**

Online using **Microsoft Teams**

This course explains the current teaching methods used to help you feel more confident supporting your child.

The following topics are covered:

- Column Addition and Subtraction
- Multiples and Factors
- Long Multiplication
- Long Division



To book a place please contact Oxfordshire Adult Learning:

 01235 216 278

Visit the website and search 'Family Learning'

www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk