

Windmill Weekly (23)

Achievement through Creativity, Community and Challenge

Value for March - Thoughtfulness

07 March 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Staff Emails

Unlike many schools we give you access to the staff email addresses. However, with staff wellbeing in mind, I want to remind you that staff emails should only be used for important messages. Also please don't expect staff to respond after 5:00pm and at weekends. Some staff will choose to reply to emails outside of normal working hours but it is not a school expectation that they will. I am sure that you all understand this.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who supported the Book Fair last week.

World Book Day

I thought the children all looked amazing in their book character outfits yesterday. Well done to them all!

One Way System

I have had a few comments about the congestion in the path into school by the Church because the one way system isn't being observed. Please can I remind you that it is much safer for everyone if you follow the one way system. Enter by the Church side of the building and exit via the black gates in the car park.

Strictly Junior

Well done to all of the children who competed in the Strictly Junior competition last Saturday. The Year 3 / 4 team came 3rd and got a very impressive trophy to keep. The competition in the Year 5 / 6 section was particularly tough, and despite the children performing brilliantly they weren't placed. I was very proud of all of the children.

School Street Survey

Oxfordshire County Council is carrying out a review of the phase 1 school streets to monitor how it is working for people. The council will be looking at a number of things such as air quality, traffic, parking and numbers of people walking, wheeling and cycling to and from the school. We would also like to hear your views of the school street - how it has been working for you, and anything that is not working as well as it should do. A report will be produced from the survey results after it has closed, which will be shared with the school.

Please could you take a few minutes to complete the survey below. All responses to the survey will be anonymous.

<https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/school-streets-review-phase-1>



Key Dates

19 March	Parent Interviews for whole school
21 March	Vision Screening - Reception children only
21 March	Comic Relief
1 April	Year 4 performance 2.00pm
2 April	Orchestra Concert 9.00am
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

Next Year's Term Dates

All the INSET days have now been set for the next academic year. If you would like to view the calendar please follow this link to our website [Windmill Primary School - Term Dates](#).

WOW - Walk to School

As you may be aware, we have been given a free opportunity to take part in the Living Streets WOW programme for the current academic year. The children have been able to earn badges for walking / cycling / scooting or doing Park and Stride to get to school. The aim is to reduce the number of children coming to school by car. Windmill Primary was 70th on the national February leaderboard. With 958 schools recording in England, this is great work.

Second-hand Uniform

The pre-loved uniform shop (<https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/windmill-primary-school>) is constantly restocked with donations, so don't forget to take a look if you need to top up. The team have just added quite a lot of PE kit, in time for the house cross-country at the end of term.

Plus! Advanced notice that we'll be holding an in-person sale of shorts and summer dresses in the playground before the running starts at the cross-country event 🌞

Term 4 School Health Nurse Newsletter

Please find here the Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust School Health Nurse Newsletter for Term 4: <https://sway.cloud.microsoft/1nc5etAV4eEc1vHl?ref=email>

Smart Watches

Please be aware that smart watches are not allowed for children (e.g. vtech and similar). Many have the ability to photograph, video, audio record, and receive/make calls. The ability to do these things are against our Safeguarding and GDPR policies. If you feel your child needs the watch, they must hand it in to the teacher at the beginning of the day, and it will then be returned at the end of the day. If a child is seen wearing these type of watches, they will be confiscated and returned to the parent.

Smartphone Free Childhood

Just a reminder that the school is hosting a virtual parent workshop by Jennifer Powers from PAPA YA (<https://www.papayaparents.com>).

Other local schools part of the school partnership have also been invited.

The workshop will be held online on Microsoft Teams NEXT WEEK on Wednesday 12th March at 7.30pm for 1 hour, followed by 15 minutes to ask questions. Link below and a few points 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.
- All parents and staff are encouraged to attend but it is not appropriate for children (except babes in arms).

Chessington Inset Day Trip - 20th June

After last year's brilliant Legoland trip, this year for the June 20th inset day the PTA has arranged a great discount rate for [Chessington](#) World of Adventures: a zoo, sealife centre and theme park which includes rides ranging from classic rollercoasters, to 'World of Jumanji', to Julia Donaldson-inspired attractions for younger siblings. At around 1 hr 15 mins from school, it's not too much further than Legoland, so it's a perfect spot for another group trip!

Day tickets are usually £29 per person, but we have secured a group rate of £20 for children and £25 for adults, which includes a small profit for the PTA. Please note that this is NOT a school trip - you will be responsible for making your own way, and for supervising your children whilst there.

To secure your slot, please use [this form](#), AND make a bank transfer for the correct amount to the PTA account:

Sort code: 20-65-21

Account number: 00978604

PLEASE use a payment reference of the following format:

ELDEST CHILD SURNAME & INITIAL-CLASS e.g. JOHNSONH-TIGERS

All tickets must be booked by May 15th. The PTA can cover a small number of tickets for families who would not otherwise be able to attend - if you'd like to be considered for these tickets, please email windmillpta@gmail.com

(short link for form in case you can't click through: <http://bit.ly/4bpXQ6h>)

PTA Survey

Thanks to those who have responded already to our survey. We would love a few more replies. Your views are important to us. Can you spare two minutes to complete this short survey?

<https://tinyurl.com/windmillptaquestionnaire> Your feedback and ideas are really helpful in shaping the future of the PTA and making sure that we support our school and our children in the best ways possible. Thank you.

Yours faithfully



Lynn Knapp
Headteacher

The Swim School at Barton Leisure Centre now offers weekly swimming lessons from preschool beginners age 3 up, to Stage 5 swimmers, with a focus on building water confidence, technique, and a love for swimming.

Weekly Swimming Lesson Schedule:

1. Monday to Thursday: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
2. Saturday: 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM
3. Sunday: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Additionally, intensive swimming crash courses run during the school holidays:

7th of April-11th of April

14th of April-18th of April

09:00-09:30- Stage 1

09:30-10:00- Stage 2

10:00-10:30- Stage 3

10:30-11:00- Stage 1

Barton Leisure Centre has a Big Open weekend this weekend, 8th & 9th March. We have FREE taster swimming lessons, you don't need to be a member or have visited us before.

Visit the link for more information: [Welcome | Barton Leisure Centre | Gym | Swim | Fitness](#)

Or ask at reception.

Snap Happy

Photography and Film Club @ Windmill

Tuesdays 15:15-16:15

KS2 only

Fully qualified teacher, DBS checked



Come and have fun learning how to:

- Compose photos
- See the world around you differently
- Use household objects for your art
 - Create animations
- Use different camera settings
- Make beautiful gifts for friends/family
 - Tell stories without words



Beginners welcome!
All equipment provided

Any questions, please get in touch!
snap.happy.oxford@gmail.com

Snap Happy

Easter Holiday Clubs

St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

These clubs are open to children aged 3-11

Monday 7th to Friday 11th April

Monday 14th to Thursday 17th April

Activities include dodgeball, dance, drama, yoga, multi skills, ball games, art and crafts, team and confidence building activities and much more.



Cost: £35 per day
All childcare vouchers accepted

Timings: 8am-5pm

To find out more or to book visit
www.rattleandrollperformance.com
or call 07722 014301





British Science Week Competition

It's British Science Week 2025, between 7th to 16th March and here at Wychwood School we love Science!

Using British Science Week's 2025 theme 'Change and Adapt' we are running a competition, and first prize is £20 book token and second prize is a £10 book token, as well as some Wychwood goodies.



We would like you to design a new animal that lives in University Parks, Oxford.



*Think about what features they have to survive and adapt in that environment.
Do they live in a tree, in the grass, underground? Do they fly?
What do they eat? What colour are they?*

You can use a single page of A4 paper to do this. You can be creative by drawing a picture, taking a photo of a model you've made or writing an essay about your animal. You need to annotate any pictures or photos to say how their features allow them to survive and adapt to live in University Parks, Oxford.

All entries can be posted or delivered to Wychwood School or emailed to office@wychwoodschool.org or bring it to our Open Morning on Saturday 22nd March (see overleaf for details).

The competition closes 22nd March 2025 and the winners will be announced 26th March.

Please write your name, address, school, year group and your parents contact email and phone number on your entries.




Good Luck and we look forward to seeing your wonderful animal creations.



PROM DRESS POP UP

Looking for the perfect prom dress without the hefty price tag? Join us for a one-day-only Prom Pop-Up! We've gathered a collection of beautiful dresses for you to browse 🌟

 **Tuesday, 25th March**


 **3:30 PM – 6:00 PM**

 **Barton Neighbourhood Centre, Underhill circus OX3 9LS**

 **All dresses just £5!**

A variety of styles and sizes are available, but stock is limited—first come, first served!

Enjoy some alcohol-free bubbles and sweet treats while you browse. 🥂🍰

Previous attachment 

JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT POP UP

CLOTHES HUB



DATE: TUESDAY 25TH MARCH

TIME: 10-12:30

**LOCATION: BARTON NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE,
UNDERHILL CIRCUS OX3 9LS**

5 ITEMS FOR £3
7 ITEMS FOR £4
SHOES AND COATS £2

WOMENS, MENS AND CHILDRENS CLOTHING



Easter Holiday Camps 2025

Monday 7th April

West Oxford Primary School, Ferry Hinksey Road, Oxford, OX2 0BY

Tuesday 8th April

Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, Curbridge Rd, Witney, OX28 5JZ

Wednesday 9th April

Begbroke Village Hall, Begbroke Lane, Woodstock, OX5 1RN

Thursday 10th April

Stockham Primary School, Stockham Way, Wantage, OX12 9HL

Friday 11th April

Caldecott Primary School, Caldecott Rd, Abingdon, OX14 5HB

Monday 14th April

Long Lane Primary School, Long Lane, Reading, RG31 6YG

Tuesday 15th April

Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7JN

Wednesday 16th April

St Joseph's Primary School, Headley Way, Headington, OX3 7SX

Thursday 17th April

Gagle Brook Primary School, Cranberry Avenue, Bicester, OX27 8BD

Daily - 9am to 3.30pm. £35 per child per day. Sibling discount available.

EGGSPERIMENTAL SCIENCE



Call a member of our team or visit our website for more details

To book, please go to the 'Science Holiday Camps' tab on our website, and click the 'Register Now' button. All bookings are processed through Active Network.

Suitable for children aged 5 to 11 years. Spaces are subject to availability.

Call: 01865 522 775

www.brightsparksevents.co.uk



THE | OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established in 2013 to provide children with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

This Easter, we will be learning some beautiful seasonal music by Handel, Gibbons and John Ireland as well as some light-hearted pieces by Cole Porter and Aaron Copland. And, as always on our courses, we will be giving sessions on vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see www.oxbridgesingingschool.com or email oxbridgess@gmail.com

7 & 8 APRIL 2025

ST. BARNABAS' CHURCH, JERICHO, OXFORD

www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk