

Windmill Weekly (08)

Achievement through Creativity, Community and Challenge

Value for October - Honesty

24 October 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Sustainability Week

I hope that many of you were able to get into school to see the work that the children have been doing on Sustainability this week. It was great to see the work that they had produced and to hear about the learning that they have done.

Asylum Welcome

Thank you to everyone who has made a contribution of food to the Asylum Welcome. A reminder that the last day that food can be donated is Monday 3rd November in the morning. The food will be collected later on 3rd November.

Pudsey Bear / Children in Need - 14th November

We have Pudsey Bear paying a visit to Windmill on Tuesday 4th November. This is part of the Radio Oxford sponsored walk which they are doing 3-legged. They will have film cameras with them but we will make sure that any children who don't have permission to be filmed will still meet Pudsey.

On 14th November children can pay £1 to dress up in yellow and red. We will also be having a 3-legged challenge for children in Key Stage 2 which children can choose to take part in. They can be sponsored for this. Details to follow after half term.

Parking

Please can I continue to remind you about safe parking. If the car photographed below is yours, please can you make sure that you park more safely as parking on street corners makes crossing the road safely very difficult. Thank you!



Half Term Break

I hope that you all have a lovely holiday, and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 3rd November at 8:40am.



Key Dates

3 November	Start of Term 2 at 8.40am
4 November	PTA AGM - 7.30pm
5 November	Open Evening for new pupils September 2026 (pre-booked appointment)
10 November	Anti Bullying Week
11 November	SEN and Pastoral Coffee Morning 8.45am - 10.00am
14 November	Takeover Day
18 & 19 November	Individual Photos
20 November	Open Morning 8.30am - 9.10pm

Governor Message

The Governing Board has met for the first time in this academic year. Clearly, the year has got off to a really good start with many wonderful things going on in school. A few, non parent, governors were at the Autumn Fayre and we really enjoyed meeting parents, grandparents and other local people. It is striking how Windmill reaches out to the local community - people are really made to feel that "We all belong here".

We have a number of Parent Governors on the Board. Some of these will have come to the end of their current term of office in January 2026. While current governors are most welcome to stand for re-election, the vacancies will be advertised and we will be running an election for parents at the beginning of next term. So, if you think that this is something you might like to explore further, do, please, get in touch with us. We would be more than happy to have a chat about what being a governor at Windmill entails.

We are getting on with the job of monitoring various areas of school life through our committee meetings, covering everything from Attendance, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Subject overview and so on. Our governors work hard but we are all proud of the school and thoroughly enjoy being part of it. With best wishes for a peaceful half term break, much deserved!

Anne Cowan and Brid Cronin
Co-chairs of Governors

SEN and Pastoral Coffee Morning

We will be running a coffee morning on Tuesday 11th November, 8.45am - 10.00 am in the afterschool club room at the front of the school. This is opportunity to chat with other parents and carers and to speak informally with Mrs Griffiths (SENCO) and Ms Painter (Home school link worker). Please do drop in and say hello!

48 Hour Exclusion Sickness Policy

A reminder that if your child has had sickness or diarrhea then they need to remain off school for 48 hours from their last episode.

Poppy Appeal

In the first week back after half term we will be sending round the Poppy Appeal box to the classes (please do not come to the school office). If you would like your child to purchase something please send them in with a suggested donation of £1 - £2. This is to raise funds for the Royal British Legion.

100 Club Needs More Members!

The 100 Club is our school's monthly lottery draw. You can join by purchasing tickets for £1 per month or £12 for the entire year. Each month you have the chance to win prizes of £25, £15, and £10. The

remaining funds are used to buy books for classrooms and the school library, as well as to support other school projects.

If you want to join, please contact Dariusz via email: mail@dariusz.tv or WhatsApp: 07929059974.

Under 11s Girls city football finals

Congratulations to our amazing team of girls For winning the Oxford city under 11's girls seven aside football finals last Friday. They did amazingly, winning loads of group matches and triumphing in the final after a penalty shoot-out.



PTA AGM

The PTA AGM will be held online on Tuesday November 4th - everyone is very welcome and we'd love to see you there! The meeting starts at 7.30 at the usual link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8472552140>

Your PTA needs you!

Have you got a few hours a month to help support our school?

Last week's Fayre was a huge success, in large part thanks to the participation of parents from across the school. However, the PTA works all year round.

There are currently only 5 people volunteering to stand for the Windmill PTA committee for 2025-26, from a school of 600 children. The Windmill PTA raises over £10,000 a year for extra resources and activities for the school. We run at least one fundraising/social event every half term and help to coordinate a whole lot more. We cannot do it all without a few more people on the committee. Being on the committee doesn't have to be a huge commitment - the current committee members all do

this alongside working and parenting. You can join for a specific role or 'without portfolio' which means you're a general helper.

We need at least two more committee members, especially to help with communications. This role can be shared (which would mean less than an hour a week each on average), and entails:

- a) sharing ad-hoc information to Classlist
- b) sending weekly PTA information to the Newsletter
- c) managing communications of PTA events and PTA meetings
- d) managing Classlist/class reps (an annual task)
- e) monitoring the PTA email address alongside the Chair & Treasurer.

Amy Matthews is currently on communications and is very happy to chat informally about the role to anyone interested - contact her via Classlist or the email below.

If you'd like to be on the committee in any other capacity please get in touch.

If you don't think you could be involved in the committee, PLEASE still consider signing up to help at events. There is a core group of awesome, super-committed volunteers who not only unfailingly put a shift in at all events, but also run things like Green Club, second-hand uniform and the holiday cards. They do a brilliant job, but they also need more people to get involved in all levels of school and PTA activities! For more general information on how to get involved or donate, see here.

Please also consider attending the AGM, online, at 7.30 pm on November 4th.

And for any more information, or to express an interest in any roles, please email windmillPTA@gmail.com

Headington Wombles

Headington Wombles next community litter pick is being held on Friday 7th November 12 noon (midday) to 2pm. We'll be at The Portuguese Cafe, 5 The Roundway, Headington, Oxford OX3 8DH and you can collect equipment from there. Our focus is on the Green Road Roundabout underpasses and surrounding areas. Please come for as long or little as you're able.

Please bring a litter pickers if you already have one, and a pair of sturdy gloves to wear. We'll also have equipment people can borrow available.

Also please join our WhatsApp group at <https://chat.whatsapp.com/JRXK8ZjMHVFFHQSTwMD7nv> in case there are any updates on the day.

We look forward to seeing you when we're out Wombling soon.

To read more visit our website at: <https://sites.google.com/view/headington-wombles/>.

Yours faithfully



Lynn Knapp
Headteacher

Dear Parents and Children,

The Art Leaders and I have decided to share an art challenge suggested by Leo, Year 6, with you all, starting on Saturday 1st November.

INKOVEMBER: 30 drawings/painting/ sketches etc (anything 2D) in 30 days.

First, make your own sketchbook - any size using a piece of stiff cardboard folded in two for your cover and sheets of different kinds of paper cut to the same size as the cover. Hold the paper in the cover with an elastic band. You can add paper as you go. You can fold and stick in additional paper if you would like to make some pages bigger.

<https://www.accessart.org.uk/making-a-cardboard-sketchbook/>

Use the table below. Each day of November, draw whatever the word inspires. Of course, it doesn't matter what order you do the words in!

You can use chalk, charcoal, graphite, pencil, pastels, ink, felt coloured pencils, crayons, pens, collage, etc

INKOVEMBER Sat 1 st Dragon Sun 2 nd Sparkle Mon 3 rd Saturn Tues 4 th Happy Weds 5 th Creature Thurs 6 th Landscape Fri 7 th Moustache Sat 8 th Crown Sun 9 th Murky Mon 10 th Vacant Tues 11 th Tasty Weds 12 th Firefly Thurs 13 th Inferno Fri 14 th Arctic Sat 15 th Starfish	Sun 16 th Cute Mon 17 th Night Tues 18 th Award Weds 19 th Weave Thurs 20 th Heavy Fri 21 st Puzzling Sat 22 nd Ornate Sun 23 rd Fridge Mon 24 th Taylor Swift Tues 25 th Music Weds 26 th Spring Thurs 27 th Noisy Fri 28 th Calm Sat 29 th Story Sun 30 th Jewels
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DEADLINE WEDNESDAY 3rd DECEMBER

From Monday 1st December Please bring your sketchbook to school with your completed challenge of THIRTY pictures in an envelope with your name and the name of your class on the outside.

GOOD LUCK COMPLETING YOUR CHALLENGE!

Best wishes, Anna Rianne and the Art Leaders

Vacancies

School Cleaner

We are seeking a cleaner to work 10 hours per week, 2 hours per day, Monday to Friday, 2 hours between 5.00am and 9.00am **or** 3.00pm – 5.00pm.

The rate of pay is £12.65 an hour.

This is an all year round contract so you will need to work during the school holidays, although hours can be blocked during the holidays if desired so you would not need to work every day. All annual leave must be taken during the school holidays and cannot be taken during term time.

This could be a term time only plus 3 week contract by request. This would be all 5 inset days plus 2 weeks (20 hours) in the Summer holidays.

Please email office.2527@windmill.oxon.sch.uk to ask for an application form or visit our website www.windmill.oxon.sch.uk for further information and to download the OCC Support Staff (August 2022) application form.

[From Hieroglyphics to Emojis: Festival of Writing](#) - Tuesday 11th November, 3:30 - 5:45pm at Cheney School

We are delighted to announce a Festival in collaboration with the University of Oxford Department of Linguistics, "Read Between The Lines: From Hieroglyphs to Emojis" on Tuesday 11th November, 3:30 - 5:45pm at Cheney School.

Explore Egyptian, Minoan, Aztec and other ancient scripts and modern emojis through a range of exciting and informative activities, stalls and performances!

There will be three ten minute performances of a play exploring signs through time, followed by a discussion at 4pm, and 5pm. All performances will be British Sign Language interpreted.

There will also be a labyrinth escape and fire show, Minoan dancing, facepainting and refreshments! The event is free and open to all ages. We welcome school groups as well as individuals and families. To book, please fill in [this form](#). If you have any questions, please email lro@cheneyschool.org

charity number 202215

FREE
ENTRY



Christmas
**CRAFT
MARKET**



CRAFTS, GIFTS & RAFFLE

GET YOUR GIFTS AND DECORATIONS
WHILE SUPPORTING LOCAL STALLHOLDERS



**SUNDAY 2ND
NOVEMBER 2025**

FROM 11 AM TO 6PM



HEADINGTON QUARRY VILLAGE
HALL, QUARRY ROAD OX3 8NX

for more information email: eventsqhvh@gmail.com





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