

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 27th February 2026 | Issue 20

Dear Families

This week we have been reflecting on the season of Lent, thinking about the image of Jesus going into the desert for forty days. Lent invites us to pause, look inward, and allow a process of renewal to take place. In our assemblies we have been talking about the importance of doing the right thing and looking inward, even when it is difficult and even when we would rather not. Lent is not simply about giving things up. It is about becoming better people through prayer, sacrifice and acts of kindness, and recognising that even the smallest choices we make can have powerful ripple effects in our community. As we reflected in assembly, *small actions can have big consequences*, and when we choose mercy and kindness we help transform the world around us. This is at the very heart of The Greyfriars Way.

It has been a busy and inspiring time in school, stretching across half term and into the start of this new term. During half term, our Year 10 Kenya team travelled to Kenya. After a long and challenging journey, they have thrown themselves fully into the experience: working in medical centres, helping to build homes, and even learning how to milk cows! They have had a rich and varied time, and we are very much looking forward to hearing the many stories when they return. Experiences like this remind us how powerful service and solidarity can be.



I was also honoured this week to represent the school with Mr Greer at an Iftar hosted by [the Dialogue Society](#) at Mansfield College, Oxford. (Here we are!) The Dialogue Society is a community organisation committed to building understanding between communities and celebrating the diversity that is such a strength in our country, and especially here in Oxford. It was a joyful and thoughtful evening and a reminder of the importance of dialogue, respect and friendship between faiths.



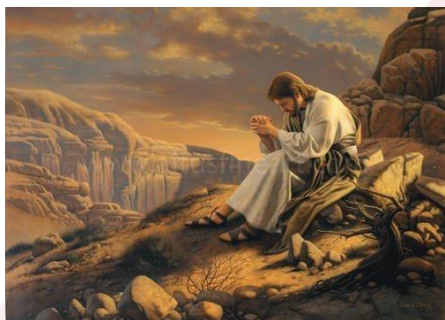
Of course, our Lenten journey began in school with our Mass at the end of last term, and as we continue through this season we will keep reflecting on how we can live out the Greyfriars Way — choosing mercy, kindness and courage in the small decisions we make every day. We know that our students will also take a lot from their Rome Pilgrimage, which is also leaving next week.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of the school community. I wish you all a peaceful and reflective weekend.

With very best wishes
Lyndsey Caldwell
Headteacher

WHAT IS GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ME THIS WEEK?

Gospel - Matthew 4 : 1 - 11



Jesus Is Tested in the Wilderness

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² After fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ The tempter came to him and said, "If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread." ⁴ Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" ⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and had him stand on the highest point of the temple. ⁶ "If you are the Son of

God," he said, "throw yourself down. For it is written: "'He will command his angels concerning you, and they will lift you up in their hands, so that you will not strike your foot against a stone.'" ⁷ Jesus answered him, "It is also written: 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour. ⁹ "All this I will give you," he said, "if you will bow down and worship me." ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'" ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.

Reflection

Matthew 4:1-11 details Jesus' 40-day fast in the wilderness and his subsequent temptation by the devil, serving as a pivotal moment of preparation for his public ministry. Jesus overcomes three distinct temptations—physical hunger, testing God, and idolatry for power—by quoting Scripture, demonstrating his obedience to the Father and triumphing where Adam and Israel failed. This passage is the inspiration for the 40 days of Lent, where we fast and rely on God, just like Jesus did.

Infinite God, You hold time in your hands. Thank you for meeting me even in the ashes of this broken world, calling for repentance and bringing salvation. During this season of Lent, may I hear Your call in the present and every day, find You in deep waters as I turn my heart to You, and follow on the highway that draws us closer in love. Amen



To view the St Edmund and St Frideswide (Greyfriars) parish website please click on the following link:

<https://www.greyfriarsoxford.uk/>

GENERAL NOTICES

Catholic Life | Mr Greer

On Monday, our Catholic Life Ambassadors hosted guests from the Oxford Community Land Trust, working to build a strategy on affordable housing in Oxford. Students have excelled this year at putting Catholic Social Teaching into action, and this new partnership will help us fight for the dignity of the most vulnerable in our city.

On Wednesday, Year 8 Ambassadors had their first meeting in a new enrichment session. It's exciting to see them emerge as young leaders, and they have been tasked with developing a retreat programme for Year 8 that will occur in the summer term.

We wish our Muslim students and families a happy Ramadan. In our Catholic season of Lent, we come alongside you in a time of continued prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Ms. Caldwell and I attended an Iftar dinner with the Oxford Dialogue Society on Thursday to mark our commitment to shared understanding and respect.

We go on our Rome pilgrimage next week, and so are finishing our final preparations. Pray for us!

School Lunch Accounts

Please remember to regularly check your child has enough funds in their ParentPay lunch accounts and if this is running low please top up. Students will be unable to purchase food in the restaurant if they do not have enough funds in their account. Please note that we are a cashless school and cannot accept cash for lunch payments. If you are having trouble accessing your ParentPay account, please contact the school.

Assistant Site Manager Vacancy

We are looking to appoint a reliable, self-motivated person to support the Head Caretaker at Greyfriars Catholic School.

The successful candidate would, ideally have previous experience in a school environment. They must have the ability to display a conscientious and logical approach to the variety of tasks necessary for the smooth running of the school. The role will involve the unlocking and locking of the school as well as ad-hoc maintenance and repairs.

For more information and to make an application, please go to
[mynewterm](#)

GENERAL NOTICES

Library News | Miss Brett



Hello, everybody! Welcome to the best week yet! I am literally bursting with pride! Starting today, 21 is my favourite number. Do you know why?



You might remember the Stranger Sagas competition, and the Enrichment workshops we ran in one of our previous terms. Well, guess what! Here's the news I have received this week.

Yes, you guessed it! **21** of our wonderfully talented students are getting published in the "Stranger Sagas – Beneath the Surface" collection that comes out in April! This is an unbelievable achievement – **CONGRATULATIONS!** As of April, you will all be

published authors!!!! (apologies, my pride and excitement often show through the number of exclamation marks!!!). Also, to all the fantastic writers, who submitted their stories begrudgingly – I told you it was worth it 😊 - well done and keep writing!

I will brag again when we get our free copy of the published book!

Now, a smooth transition into the next great thing.

Here's the timetable of lunch time activities to enjoy in the library. Don't forget, there will be other exciting things happening around the school, including talks and workshops by writers, illustrators, and other professionals. These provide unforgettable experiences and an opportunity to find out what it's like in the real world.

AAAAND... Stranger Sagas competition is back! Come to the library and grab your entry form, so you can have the chance to be published in the next book.

Greyfriars LITERARY FESTIVAL

2–13 March 2026

Lunchtime Fun in the Library

13:35 – 14:10

Week One
Monday 2 March – First Line Frenzy Kahoot
Tuesday 3 March – Murder Quiz
Wednesday 4 March – Shakespeare Quiz: Are You Better Than the Bard?
Thursday 5 March – Staff Literary Mastermind
Friday 6 March – Shakespeare or Hip Hop?

Week Two
Monday 9 March – Poetry Slam
Tuesday 10 March – Book Dingbats
Wednesday 11 March – Guess the Book by Its Cover
Thursday 12 March – Blackout Poetry
Friday 13 March – My Favourite Book

Running Throughout the Festival

- Daily Book Raffle:** Borrow a book = win a book!
- Golden Bookmark Awards:** Vote for your favourite activity/book and enter a raffle.
- Stranger Sagas Competition:** Join the 21 students already getting published. Write your saga and see if you're next!

All events in the Library, everyone welcome!

GENERAL NOTICES

Library News Continued...

Finally, who is leading the READING WAY?

TERM 4 | WEEK 1

	Reading Champ		Tutor Group Reading Championship	
1	Sahas	50	8TTO	89%
2	Phoebe	34	8BMO	86%
3	Ayesha J.	22	7BN	81%
4	Seerat	12	7KR	79%
5	Iliam	11	7GKE	75%

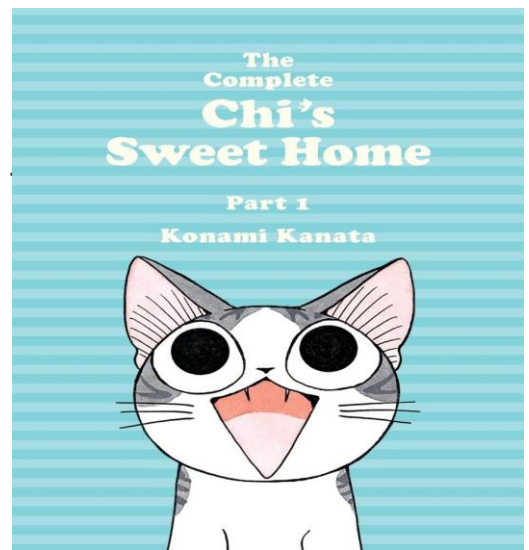
Have a restful and READful weekend, so you have lots of energy to enjoy the festival!

Weekly Book Review by Lian

A very simple, cosy and cute manga which is all around soft to read. It's extremely heart-warming and can definitely be the pick-me-up a person would want in times of slightly anxiety or stress. There's light-hearted jokes and the plot line following a rather kooky but sweet cat's journey with found family is genuinely pleasant.

The manga also has easy to follow panels- being both clear and straightforward so you can totally feel the whimsy as you enjoy Chi's journey.

All in all I believe the manga is *paw-sitively* adorable!



Cricket | Miss Kenneford

On Thursday 26th, we were delighted to welcome **Charlotte** and **Richard** from **Oxfordshire Cricket** to deliver a fun and inclusive cricket session for our students.

The session included bowling, batting, fielding and a quick game to finish. It was wonderful to see the students fully engaged and enjoying themselves, and even better to watch their confidence grow throughout the afternoon.

We can't wait to welcome them back again soon!

GENERAL NOTICES

Message for Year 7 | Mr Cunningham

It is wonderful to have everyone back at school after what I hope was a restful half term, and it is equally wonderful to have everyone coming to school and leaving in the daylight. As we move into Lent as a school we are focussing on the preferential option for the poor, and how we as members of the Greyfriars community can support those around us who are less fortunate than ourselves.

As a year group, we are reflecting on our assemblies from last term, particularly in relation to building a sense of belonging and the idea that attendance matters, it is so important to our school that students are in and involved in what we do collectively, and each form group has their own targets and plans for how they can help students improve their attendance!

Our year group achievement points are off to a flying start, with year 7 receiving over 1500 points this week!

7GKE	440
7BN	378
7KR	366
7ALW	339

Aseda	36
Niall	33
Elena	30
Mia	29
Bella	27
Alyssa	27
Natalie	25
Abubakr	24
Charity	24



Massive well to everyone and have an amazing weekend!

Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh Expedition Training Day | Miss Kenneford

On Wednesday this week, our Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh students took part in their Expedition Training Day, delivered by Richard from The Oxford Boat Adventure. Students developed key expedition skills, including map reading and navigation, understanding the importance of nutritional food to fuel their bodies, cooking safely on a Trangia stove, and pitching tents correctly. The hands-on sessions helped build confidence, teamwork, and independence as they prepare for their upcoming expedition.



Well done to all involved for their enthusiasm and positive attitude throughout the day.

GENERAL NOTICES

Message for KS4 | Mr Weedon

Year 10 Update

Year 10 students have been working incredibly hard in lessons and are responding positively to feedback from their Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs). It has been fantastic to see so many students taking on board teachers' advice and actively putting it into practice — a real sign of maturity and commitment to improvement.

We are also very proud of the amazing opportunities our Year 10 students have been involved in recently, including unforgettable trips to **Kenya** and **Rome**. These experiences have been enriching, inspiring, and a wonderful reflection of our students' enthusiasm and engagement.

A reminder that **Parents' Evening is next Thursday**. Please ensure you sign up using a browser to secure your appointments. We look forward to seeing you there.



Form Group	Points
10SA	312
10MJ	299
10JOD	262
10CT	258

Year 11 Update

Year 11 students are producing some outstanding work in their PPEs. Their dedication, positive attitudes to learning, and excellent attendance have been fantastic to see. This strong approach will undoubtedly place them in a great position as they continue their preparation for the months ahead.

Keep up the excellent work, Year 11!

Sparx Maths **WEEK 20**

Total hours spent on Sparx this year
7,196hrs

Number of questions answered correctly
537,558

XP Champions THIS YEAR | 27/02/26

Name	Year	Total XP
Miu Miu M	8	37,451
Nita C	11	30,953
Seerat S	7	29,640
Aseda K	7	27,832
Russell R	11	26,390
Samayrah K	10	26,212
Rayan P	7	25,800
Gaudencio F	9	24,456
Emmabong B	7	24,334
Aman A	9	24,244

XP Champions for LAST WEEK

Name	Year	XP POINTS
Hajera S	12	2,081
Hajera S	12	2,001
Russell R	11	5775
Ayden M	11	3,545
Progress O	10	1,640
Ana Paula	10	1,509
Gaudencio F	9	3,071
Blossom V	9	1,588
Miu Miu M	8	2,988
	8	2,557
Ricardito M		
Dirgano B	7	3,175

Year 10 Hospitality and Catering | Mrs Awanyo

Our Year 10 students recently enjoyed making and frying their own doughnuts as part of their Food Technology lessons. They developed their skills in dough preparation, safe frying techniques, and kitchen hygiene — all while producing some delicious results!



Well done to Year 10 for their enthusiasm, teamwork, and fantastic effort.

GENERAL NOTICES

Sixth form News | Ms McCabe

Work Experience Week Y12

All Y12 students will be on Work Experience next week. Students who have not secured a placement outside of school must be in school every day from Monday to Friday. The week in school will include work related projects, speakers and activities for students to consider their future career. All Y12 students have a booklet to complete to reflect on their learning and students in school and out of school will be given feedback on their work related skills.

We know it will be a valuable week for everyone.

PPE Week 1

Our Y13 students have been working hard this week on their exams. These exams are so important for students to reflect on gaps in their knowledge before the final summer exams. They continue for one more week and then, we look forward to our Y13 returning to lessons on Monday 9th March.

UCAS Trip Y12

A reminder that our UCAS trip takes place on Monday 23rd March. Spaces for this event are limited so students must sign up via ParentPay as soon as possible. On the day, students will be able to speak to teams from Universities around the country and ask about admissions, careers, and courses. There are also many leading apprenticeship providers at the event so students can speak to potential employers and young people currently on the apprenticeship pathway. Perhaps the best bit, for some students, is the bagful of freebies and goodies they can pick up from the different exhibitors!

Greyfriars Literary Festival

We are really excited to be supporting the Library with the Greyfriars Literary Festival which starts on Monday. A small number of our Y12 students are completing their work experience as Festival Runners. They will be helping Mrs Brett with the day to day smooth running of the festival. Additionally, we will have lots of opportunities for our Y12 who are in school to attend some of the festival events and work with younger students.



GREYFRIARS LITERARY FESTIVAL

2nd-13th March 2026

READING FOR LIFE



Opening minds, one book at a time.

GENERAL NOTICES

Message for Year 8 and Year 9 | Mrs Reddy

This week, I am delighted to recognise the exceptional effort and enthusiasm shown by our Y8 and Y9 students in History with Mr Kenan. Lorenzo, Zabrina and Caleb have demonstrated outstanding engagement in our recent lessons on the American Civil Rights Movement. Their thoughtful insights and strong understanding of the topic have truly set them apart.

Paulo, Damir and Deven have shown admirable dedication during our study of the Second World War. Their meaningful contributions to class discussions and impressive subject knowledge have not gone unnoticed. Saron, Rafael and Kaylun have approached the challenging topic of the Holocaust with maturity and respect. Their reflective engagement and consistent effort are highly commendable.

Ephraim, Sherry, Abdullah and Lucas also has a fantastic session with Oxfordshire Cricket. They participated with great energy and enthusiasm, making the most of every activity.

A special mention goes to Kali Reynolds for her positive attitude and active participation in lessons. Congratulations as well to Ricardito and Gaundencio for their excellent progress in English, and to Sekou and Kaicy for their remarkable improvement in Maths.

These students are shining examples of what can be achieved through focus, curiosity and perseverance. We encourage all students to follow their lead, ask questions, engage fully and always strive to give your very best.

Well done to everyone recognised this week. Keep up the excellent work!

Students leading the way

Year 8	Year 9
Wissam	Junaid
Kristian	Alexia
Isaac	Sahas
Joshua	Fina
Greidi	John
Haider	Kevin
Rosmelia	Louie
Hafsah	Emmanuel
Sophie	Erika-Maria
Zain	Thomas

Congratulations to all students with 100% attendance. Thank you to the tutors for their ongoing support. Keep on striving to be a better version of yourself.

GENERAL NOTICES

Stars Pathway Weekly Highlights | Mr Jubin

The first week back after half-term saw our pupils return with energy levels that could rival a double espresso! It was a week full of curiosity, creativity, and plenty of “aha!” moments.

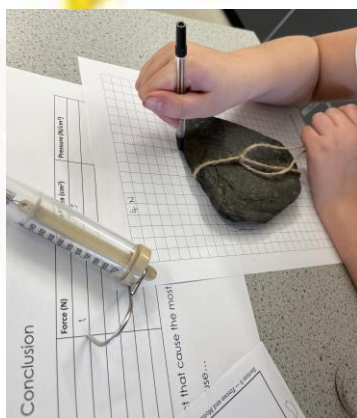
In **Science**, Dr Rogers guided our young experimenters as they investigated pressure. Using a Newton meter, pupils measured the weight of various stones, discovering firsthand how even the smallest pebble can pack a surprising punch. Who knew physics could be so hands-on... and so heavy?

During **Life Skills**, our pupils dabbled in the artistry of the Union Jack. Armed with red, white, and blue paints, they explored colour mixing, texture, and their own creative flair. While the real flag is all strict lines and symmetry, our pupils took a more expressive approach—celebrating individuality while developing fine motor control and a flair for drama.

History lessons transported us back to medieval England, as pupils role-played the Peasants’ Revolt and the Black Death. It was dramatic, immersive, and – luckily – entirely plague-free in our classroom!

In **Soft Landing** with Mrs Swanton, pupils built miniature farm scenes, complete with animals and houses. This tactile activity fostered problem-solving, fine motor skills, and lively discussion about the farmyard inhabitants. Our future architects (and perhaps farmers) were very much in their element.

It has been a joy to watch our pupils dive into learning with enthusiasm, imagination, and a dash of mischief. Here’s to another week of discoveries, creativity, and perhaps a little more controlled chaos!



GENERAL NOTICES



Greyfriars Catholic School
Invites you to a

FREE BREAKFAST!

Get an energy boost before
class with a **FREE** breakfast -
don't miss out!

When: Every week day
Where: School Restaurant
Time: 8:00am-8:30am

National School Breakfast Programme is delivered by Family Action.
Find out more of family-action.org.uk/NSBP.

Family Action, Registered as a Charity in England & Wales no. 24473.
Registered as a Charity in the Isle of Man no. 1206. Registered Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales no. 01048186.




French Christmas Markets Trip - Amiens

We are delighted to offer students the opportunity to visit the French Christmas Markets in Amiens, one of the largest and most festive Christmas markets in France.

Open to current Yr 7-10

2nd-4th December

Key Information:

- ◆ **Destination:** Amiens, France
- ◆ **Dates:** 2nd - 4th December
- ◆ **Booking:** Via ParentPay
- ◆ **Deadline to secure a place:** 31st January

Places are limited – Book now to secure your spot!

For more details, contact l.parish@gfcs.uk

The deadline has been extended for our **French Christmas Markets Trip.**

Dates: 2nd–4th December 2026
Open to: Current Years 7–10
Cost: £325
Deposit deadline: Weds 4th March 2026 (£50 deposit required to secure a place)

For more information, please contact l.parish@gfcs.uk

Astroturf

Please remember that your child needs Astroturf trainers or turf football boots – see the picture adjacent for examples of the shoes that are permitted.

Students wearing the incorrect footwear will not be permitted on the Astroturf.

Football boots can be bought for as little as £4.99 via Sports Direct (Sondico ones).

We will hold some spare boots to lend to students if necessary, however, these are to be returned at the end of the lesson. This way we can ensure we always have a supply of boots for those students who forget theirs or are in the process of buying their own.

If anyone has spare Astro shoes that they would like to donate to the school, this would be much appreciated. These would be used or students to borrow as explained above.



GENERAL NOTICES

Friends of Greyfriars (PTA)

Friends of Greyfriars is an open and important community of parent volunteers working alongside the school and teachers to benefit the school. It is like a PTA. It is a group that aims to ensure the best educational and enrichment experience for all its students. Friends of Greyfriars is a reflection of the school in the wider community.

By joining the Friends of Greyfriars you can help the school to build a far more effective and up-to-date teaching and learning environment, for the benefit of all its students. Everyone is welcome, parents, carers, staff, governors, past students, past parents, anyone and everyone who cares about the school. Please join us and be a Friend.

If you are interested, please contact Sophie Upellini via: s.upellini@gfcs.uk

5 Ways to Well-being

Click on the logo to find out more.



Building small actions into your daily life can make you feel good, and feeling good is an important part of being healthy. There are 5 ways to wellbeing that are proven to make a real difference to you.

free period products



In partnership with hey girls...

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Free School Meals

Are you entitled?

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household earnings must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get).

If you would like to apply, please contact Fiona Easton for an application form via: f.easton@gfcs.uk

GENERAL NOTICES

Dates for your Diary

- 02 – 06 March | Year 12 Work Experience Week
- 02 – 13 March | Greyfriars Literary Festival
- 03 – 06 March | Pilgrims of Hope Rome Trip
- 03 March | Year 10 Mock Interviews
- 05 March | World Book Day
- 05 March | Oxford Young Sports Leaders Programme – Session 1
- 05 March | Year 10 Parents' Evening
- 06 – 15 March | British Science Week

Donations

If you wish to make a donation to the school please click on the link.

DONATE

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open

Mon – Fri 8.00am - 8.30am in our restaurant.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us for breakfast club.
Breakfast is free. Start your day with friends and food!



Greyfriars Vacancies

If you are interested in joining the team at Greyfriars Catholic School, please email our School Business Manager, Sophie Upellini via: s.upellini@gfcs.uk
<https://www.greyfriarsoxford.org.uk/join-us/vacancies> or visit: to view all our current vacancies.

Archdiocese of Birmingham Vacancies



<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs>



You Tube

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ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMPS

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For ages 4 to 14

Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm

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Ultimate savings when you book early!

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GO WILD FOR A WHILE!

Fun and adventurous outdoor summer day camps, fully-immersed in the natural environment

For ages 7 to 14

Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm

EARLY BOOKING OFFER NOW ON!

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, Farmoor nr Oxford

Ultimate savings when you book early!

OXFORD UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY www.ouitc.org

GIRLS ONLY PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS TUESDAY IN OXFORD YEAR 7 - YEAR 13 5:00PM - 6:00PM

Leys Pools and Leisure Centre, Pegasus Road Oxford OX4 6JL

FUN AND SOCIAL FOOTBALL FREE TO ATTEND.

Contact Us plkicks@oufc.co.uk

Premier League Kicks OXFORD UNITED

Oxford Quins RFC

Rugby Club

GREYFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Great work so far, everyone, in our Rugby Club. We have been very impressed by your enthusiasm and ability to pick up new skills so quickly – and we're only in week 3!

As a reminder, we have worked on the fundamentals of rugby play:

- Run forwards, pass backwards
- Shoot the ball from the hip like a rocket
- Evasion - Stepping and swerving
- Chicken scratch on touch
- Retreating in defence

We'll continue to build on these skills in the coming weeks.

We plan to enter teams into the England Touch Schools Championship in the Summer Term – so something very exciting to work towards. Take a look at this video for some more details about the Touch game.

If you are interested in doing a bit more rugby, then please consider coming along to Oxford Quins RFC. We train at the Horspath Sports Ground, DX4 2BR on a Wednesday evening at 6-7pm or 7-8pm (depending on age group). And we play fixtures on a Sunday. It was a proud week for us at Quins, as Greg Ffoliaw was picked for England's Six Nations squad. Look out for him on TV in the coming weeks.

GREG FISILAU
ENGLAND SIX NATIONS CALL-UP

Bring your Boots!
Running on grass is so much easier if you are wearing studs. If you have them, please remember to bring your rugby or football boots along.

AGN

Kenford.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday!
From Laura and the Quins coaching team.

Blackbird Leys COMMUNITY LARDER

Oxford Hub Working together to build a better Oxford

What is a community larder?
A membership programme that provides:

- Access to utility discounts and social tariffs
- Local business discounts
- Little larder club
- Meet new people in a friendly environment

Who can join? Anyone who wants to prevent food waste and save money. It is not means tested.

Where does the food come from? A Diced based charity, providing surplus food, training and opportunities to young people and organisations.

£10 P/YEAR ANNUAL JOINING FEE + **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FROM £3.50 A WEEK** = **FAMILY MEMBERSHIP FROM £7 A WEEK**

An individual membership provides up to 10 items of non-perishables (paste, tins etc) per week plus free fruit and vegetables. A family membership is twice as much.

We offer hot drinks in our back room to all members and volunteers, this is from around 12.30.

Want free food and a bunch of other benefits?
Sign up today!
www.sofea.uk.com

Registered Charity Number 1051962

COMMUNITY LARDER SOFEA

Parent Power

We support local parents living in the OX4 area

Our team of Parent Advocates (local parents), Donna, Kerrisa and Kylie, can support you with:

- Practical and emotional support
- Connecting with your child's school or local organisations, such as attending parents' evenings with you.
- Connecting you to a network of parents so you can support each other.
- Help and support with form filling

Need help? Want to get involved?

Get in touch with the team:
Email: donna@oxfordhub.org

Oxford Hub
oxfordhub.org/parent-power

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

FREE

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM

POP-UP SHOP

DROP IN SUPPORT AVAILABLE DURING THIS SESSION WITH THE PARENT POWER TEAM

Open every Monday from
12th January
12-2PM

Templers Square Shopping Centre



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT KYLIE 07707918532
KYLIE@OXFORDHUB.ORG

Community MAD BMS

step, dance & VIBE.

THE GIRLS STEP

JOIN US FOR A DANCE AND STEP CLASS!
SUITABLE FOR AGES 11+

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FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY & FRIDAY 6 MARCH

ITS COMPLETELY FREE!

WHERE DO I SIGN UP?

@thegirlsstep

www.ticketsource.co.uk/the-girls-step

madgroupuk.org@gmail.com

Beyond the Classroom TRINITY COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Trinity College Beyond the Classroom (BTC) Online Academic Enrichment Programme is starting again on Tuesdays from 10 March at 4:30pm, until 7 July 2026!!

Registrations for 2026 are now OPEN!

Our online after-school academic enrichment programme in 2026 will feature a new series of mini lectures. Explore taster sessions, academic skills talks and advice about preparing for university study.

A certificate of participation from Trinity College, Oxford, for those attending 7 or more sessions!


Open to all students in Year 7-12 in a state school.

Register for the programme via this link: [Trinity Beyond the Classroom 2026](#). Or the QR Code below

More details can be found on our website which will be updated as [themes for the programme](#). Once you have registered, we will contact you 24 hrs prior to the start of each session with the joining details.

BTC Year 12 Trinity College Visit Days

If you are now in Year 12, attend a state school and are seriously considering applying to study one of the [19 courses](#) Trinity College admits for to study at the University of Oxford, when you register for the standard online programme, you can also express an interest in a place on one of our BTCR Trinity College Visit Days (date tbc)

SENse Learning is running six workshops, designed to support parents and carers with practical guidance, up-to-date information, and strategies that can be used at home. The sessions are a great way to learn, build understanding, and gain confidence in supporting your child's development and wellbeing.

Workshop topics include:

- 28th Jan | Parenting styles and attachment [Book here](#)
- 11th Feb | Brain development in children and young people [Book here](#)
- 25th Feb | Self-regulation and sleep [Book Here](#)
- 11th Mar | Online safety [Book here](#)
- 25th Mar | Understanding young people's mental health [Book here](#)

Booking information

All workshops are free to attend and will be delivered online
Tickets can be booked via Eventbrite
Places are limited, so we encourage early booking

Full details of each session, including dates and times, are available on the Eventbrite booking page

DR.EAM ASPIRE

ARE YOU A YEAR 10-12 STUDENT CONSIDERING A CAREER IN HEALTHCARE?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ADVICE FROM HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS?

Saturday 14th March 2026

10AM - 3:30PM

Online - Zoom Webinar



Join our healthcare conference for Year 10-12 students!

- ✓ Talks from surgeons, physiotherapists, dentists, and many more healthcare professionals
- ✓ Guidance on the university application process & work experience

BWAMS Sign up at: <https://gck.fm/cjria>

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EASTER & SUMMER 2026

The WOW Camp

SCIENCE, VIRTUAL REALITY, ANIMAL WORKSHOPS, INFLATABLES, ROBOTS, STREET DANCE, LASER TAG, MINECRAFT, COOL CIRCUITS, CRAZY CODING, MOVIE MAKING, MINECRAFT REDSTONE, VIRTUAL REALITY, ROBOT LAB, LEGO ENGINEERING, ELECTRIC INVENTIONS, 3D CREATIONS, ANIMATION

STEM. Creativity. Physical Play
All in one camp

HMRC TAX-FREE CHILD CARE ACCEPTED

www.nextthing.education

SCAN TO BOOK!

EASTER & SUMMER CAMPS

Tech-powered camps, packed with **WOW** experiences!

Example camp activities

Camps run 9 am - 4 pm

ROBOT LAB	LEGO ENGINEERING	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	3D CREATIONS	ANIMATION
COOL CIRCUITS	CRAZY CODING	MOVIE MAKING	MINECRAFT REDSTONE	VIRTUAL REALITY

NEW FOR EASTER - WOW EXPERIENCES

INFLATABLES	ANIMALS	STREET DANCE	SCIENCE	LASER TAG
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Activities vary by location. Please visit our website to see what's running at your venue.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
At Next Thing Education, our goal is to ignite curiosity, fuel creativity, and empower young minds for the future!
Blending hands-on tech exploration with unforgettable WOW experiences, we inspire children to invent, create, and discover. Led by DBS-checked, friendly and supportive instructors, kids build confidence while diving into exciting activities, challenges, and real skill-building adventures.

LIMITED SPACES - BOOK NOW!

WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150

OXFORDSHIRE PARENT CARERS FORUM
A Voice for Parent Carers in Oxfordshire

CAMHS
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

WEDNESDAY WEBINAR SERIES

Wednesdays | 12:00-1:30 PM

To register for a webinar visit: <https://oxpcf.org.uk/webinars>

- 24 September 2025**
What to Expect from the CAMHS: NDC (Neurodevelopmental Conditions) Service
- 22 October 2025**
Supporting family member's mental health through compassion
- 26 November 2025**
Emotional Based School Avoidance (EBSA)
- 17 December 2025**
Autistic Burnout
- 28 January 2026**
Demand Avoidance
- 25 February 2026**
Understanding, preventing, and supporting meltdowns
- 25 March 2026**
Support in the community for young adults (post-18)

These sessions, presented in partnership with CAMHS, aim to provide insights, expert guidance, and discussions on key topics related to SEND. To learn more or register for a webinar please visit: oxpcf.org.uk/webinars

ACTIVE ADVENTURES
RESIDENT CLUB

Give your child an unforgettable school holiday filled with fresh air, freedom and adventure!

Set within 42 acres of stunning woodland in rural Oxfordshire at Youlbury, Boars Hill, children aged 8-16 will take part in a daily programme of non-stop outdoor action. With expert instructors leading the way, creating a safe and supportive environment where children run, climb, explore, and build confidence while unplugging from screens and having a blast with friends in the great outdoors!

What's on offer:

- High-energy adventures such as archery, ziplining, and climbing.
- Fun team building games and problem-solving challenges.
- Survival skills such as shelter building, backwoods cooking and fire lighting.
- Connect with the natural world with mindful activities, outdoors arts and crafts, wildlife spotting, and nature walks.

When is it:

- Running throughout school holidays - February, Easter, May, Summer and October (see website for dates).
- 9am-5pm daily.
- Early drop off (from 8am) and late pick-up (until 6pm) available.
- Participants can attend individual days, or the entire week.

Pricing:
£35 per day, per child. Save 10% on a 5-day block and each additional child.

Book now and join the adventure!

www.scoutadventures.org.uk/events

activeadventures@scoutadventures.org.uk

Scout Adventures Youlbury, Boars Hill, Oxford OX1 5HD

Scout Adventures is owned and operated by The Scout Association. Reg Charity number 204670 (England and Wales). Registered address: The Scout Association, 21 West Park, Dorking, Surrey, England GU14 7JG.

LEYS YOUTH HUB

LOCATION: LEYS POOL AND LEISURE CENTRE, PEGASUS ROAD

FREE ACTIVITIES FOR 11 - 18

MONDAYS 3.30 PM - 5.30PM:
CREATIVE SESSION
BAKING, ART, MUSIC

THURSDAYS 3.30 PM - 5PM:
CREATIVE SESSION
COOKING, BAKING, ART, MUSIC

TUESDAYS 4PM - 6PM:
GIRLS GROUP
NAILS & BEAUTY, GAMES, MOVIE NIGHTS

PLUS ROCK CLIMBING (PREBOOK ONLY)

MONDAY 5.30PM - 6.30PM

THURSDAY 5PM - 6PM & 6PM - 7PM

TUESDAYS 6.35PM - 8PM:
OPEN ACCESS
GAMES, COOKING, CHILL OUT

CALL LYDIA ON 07483007103
OR JEN ON 07483010739

FOR ROCK CLIMBING BOOKINGS EMAIL: LEYSYOUTHUB@OXFORD.GOV.UK

Are you at risk of losing your home?

We can help you to avoid eviction

Our Housing Support Service Team can help keep a roof over your head by providing you with the tools to manage your money, navigate benefits, be independent, and avoid homelessness. Our team will help you gain control of your situation by working alongside you, to fully understand the challenges you are facing, so we can tailor our support. This free service is for individuals and families over the age of 16, who are residents in Oxfordshire.

Get in touch

enquiries@connectionsupport.org.uk
01865 711267
connectionsupport.org.uk

Drop-in details:

Visit our website to download the referral form

Connection Support

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Online FREE talk by Jane Keyworth

Anxiety Based School Avoidance

March 26th 7-8pm



Book online

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

go to PARENTS - Live Talks page



All 16 parent talks FREE with our School Membership



March 2026 Timetable

All 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 (excluding Free Talk)

Improving Family Communication	2 Mar 10am
Autism - Improving Communication	2 Mar 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	3 Mar 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	3 Mar 7pm
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	9 Mar 10am
Understanding Anger	9 Mar 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	10 Mar 10am
Facing Defiance	10 Mar 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	16 Mar 10am
Anxiety Explained	16 Mar 7pm
Introduction to OCD	17 Mar 10am
What is ACT	17 Mar 7pm
Raising Self-Esteem	23 Mar 10am
Decreasing Depression	23 Mar 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	24 Mar 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	24 Mar 7pm
FREE Anxiety Based School Avoidance	26 Mar 7-8pm



PARENT WEBINAR

Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust



Parents are the most important part of young peoples lives and hold the key to helping them. Let us, help you, to help them.

CAMHS
Child and Adolescent
Mental Health Service

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS SESSIONS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS



SUBJECTS INCLUDE

- TEEN ANXIETY
- SELF HARM
- LOW MOOD
- HOW TO TALK TO YOUR DISTRESSED CHILD

WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/OXON/SIR/WEBINARS

CALLING ALL YEAR 11 - YEAR 13

SOCIAL FOOTBALL DURING YOUR EXAMS!

EVERY MONDAY
8:30PM TO 10:00PM
BICESTER

EVERY TUESDAY
6:30PM - 8:00PM
OXFORD



Free Workshops for Parents at Oxford Hub

Oxford Hub at Windale School
Windale Ave, Oxford OX4 6JD

Date and Time	Suitable for	Workshop
Wednesday 25/2/26 13:00 - 14:30	Parents/Carers of primary school age children	Emotional Regulation Understand what is meant by emotional regulation and introduce Zones of Regulation as a tool to support your child.
Wednesday 4/3/26 13:00 - 14:30	Parents/Carers of primary school age children	Developing Resilience Understand what resilience is and what factors influence a child's ability to be resilient and develop tools to support your child to develop resilience.
Wednesday 11/3/26 13:00 - 14:30	Parents/Carers of primary school age children	Managing Meltdowns Effectively Find out about the connection between the senses and meltdowns and developing strategies to support your child with meltdowns.
Wednesday 18/3/26 13:00 - 14:30	Parents/Carers of nursery age children	Developing Communication With Your Child Understanding benchmarks and strategies to support the development of Speech, Language and Communication at home.
Wednesday 25/3/26 13:00 - 14:30	Parents/Carers of nursery age children	Early Maths for Parents Gain understanding of the areas of maths that are taught in Reception and learn strategies and activities to support your child's enjoyment and learning of maths.

To enroll, contact Penelope Lea (Family Learning Tutor)

penelope.lea@abingdon-witney.ac.uk

These sessions are fully funded so are free to families living in Oxfordshire (Ts and Cs apply).



Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!

YouMove is brand new for Oxfordshire, providing low cost and free fun activities for families including weekends & school holidays.

Enjoy a fantastic range of activities including swimming, badminton, activity packs, children's holiday activities & so much more!

Find out more here:



YouMove is here to offer free and low cost activities for children on benefit related free school meals and their families.

YOU MOVE

