

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 9th October 2026 | Issue 5

Dear Families

This week, we began with the Parable of the Tenants from Matthew's Gospel. It is not the easiest of parables; indeed, it is rather violent in places. But beneath the difficult story is a message that is both simple and incredibly important: we have all been entrusted with something, and what we choose to do with it matters. The tenants in the story are given responsibility for a vineyard, but rather than caring for it and producing good fruit, they begin to behave as though it belongs entirely to them. Jesus challenges us to consider our own responsibilities. What have we been given? What are we doing with our gifts, opportunities and talents? And, importantly, how are we using them to make the world better for others?

It was a particularly fitting reflection following our celebrations of St Francis of Assisi and St Thérèse of Lisieux last week. St Francis reminds us of our responsibility to care for creation, for one another and for the world we share. St Thérèse, through her *Little Way*, reminds us that we do not always need to do extraordinary things to make a difference. Sometimes, the smallest actions, carried out with great love, can have the greatest impact.

At Greyfriars, we talk often about doing the basics brilliantly. Being kind, working hard, looking after one another and taking responsibility might seem like small things, but collectively they build something extraordinary. We have been given something precious in our school community; it is our responsibility to help it flourish.

This message has connected beautifully with our focus this week on Vocation.

Vocation is one of the four pillars of our Greyfriars Curriculum. It is not an add-on or something we think about only when students are considering their next steps. It is fundamental to our understanding of education. We want our students to think deeply about what they are capable of and what they might be called to contribute to the world.

Throughout the week, subjects across the school have been exploring how their knowledge connects to life beyond the classroom. In Religious Education, students have considered artificial intelligence through the lens of Catholic teaching and the reflections of Pope Leo XIV. In Maths, students have become detectives, exploring how mathematical thinking helps us understand and solve problems in the world around us. Across the curriculum, teachers have been helping students make those important connections between what they learn and what they might one day do with that knowledge.

This is something we feel passionately about. Education is not simply about preparing young people for examinations or employment, important though both are. It is about helping them discover their place in the world and understanding how their gifts might be used in the service of others. That is what we mean by vocation.

Please do ask your child what vocation means to them, and what they have discovered in their lessons this week. I hope it might lead to some interesting conversations at home.

Continued on the next page...

Weekly Newsletter

We have also had the great pleasure of welcoming families into school for our Open Mornings this week. They were fully booked, and it has been wonderful to share the everyday life of Greyfriars with so many prospective families.

I am always enormously proud of our students on these occasions. As we walked around the school, we were greeted by students who were, as ever, *Greyfriars polite*. There is something lovely about hearing a cheerful "Good morning!" or "Welcome to Greyfriars!" from students who are simply going about their normal school day.

But what struck me most was the sense of purpose throughout the school. Classrooms were full of learning, students were engaged and there was that wonderful combination of ambition, care and joy that makes Greyfriars so special. Our visitors were able to see the school as it really is; a community where relationships matter, where learning is taken seriously and where we genuinely want every student to flourish.

Finally, I think most of you will know by now just how much I love Greyfriars. I love our students, our families, our staff and the extraordinary community we have together. There is, however, one thing I really do not love: the traffic...

Once again, the peculiarities of Oxford's traffic system have caused enormous difficulties for our school community this week. I know that many families have experienced exceptionally long and frustrating journeys, and some of our staff have found themselves stuck in traffic for up to three hours. We often talk about going above and beyond at Greyfriars, but I think three hours in a traffic jam is taking that commitment rather too far.

I do feel deeply frustrated that decisions about the city's roads can have such a significant impact on the everyday lives of our children, families and staff. Getting to school should not be this difficult. I am continuing to do what I can to raise these concerns and seek improvements, although I am sorry that there is not more I can do to resolve the situation directly.

What I can say is how grateful I am for the extraordinary patience, determination and resilience that everyone has shown. I know it has not been easy, and I do not take that effort for granted.

Perhaps that brings us back to the beginning of the week. We are all entrusted with responsibilities, and sometimes fulfilling them requires considerable perseverance. This week, our community has demonstrated that in abundance.

Thank you, as always, for everything you do to support our school. I hope you have a wonderful weekend, with rather less time spent sitting in traffic.

Lyndsey Caldwell
Headteacher

Oxford transport chiefs refuse to remove LTNs over bad traffic

7th October Local government Traffic Oxford



WHAT IS GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ME THIS WEEK?

Gospel | Matthew 21:33-43



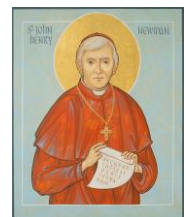
Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went on a journey. When vintage time drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they stoned. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his inheritance.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes? Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."

Reflection

With this parable, Jesus reminds us what happens when people deceive themselves into thinking that they are self-made, and they forget to be grateful, they forget the real basis of life: that good comes from the grace of God, that good comes from his free gift. When one forgets this gratitude to God, one ends up facing one's situation and limitations no longer with the joy of feeling loved and saved, but rather with the sad illusion of needing neither love nor salvation. These people stop letting themselves be loved and find that they are prisoners of their own greed, prisoners of the need to have more than others, of wanting to stand out over others. This process is ugly, and it often happens to us. Let us think about this seriously. Many dissatisfactions and recriminations, many misunderstandings and many feelings of envy arise from this. And, driven by resentment, one can fall headlong into a spiral of violence. Yes, dear brothers and sisters, ungratefulness generates violence, it takes peace away, and makes us feel and yell when we speak, without peace, while a simple "thank you" can restore peace! (Pope Francis, Angelus, 8 October 2023).

A Prayer by Saint John Henry Newman

May the Lord support us all the day long, Till the shades lengthen and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in his mercy may he give us a safe lodging, and holy rest, and peace at the last. 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 this week, two Sixth Form students got to represent the school in an audience with the Archbishop of England and Wales, Richard Moth. We were part of a delegation from Citizens UK, sharing with the Archbishop all of the social justice success we've achieved in various parts of the country. He was instrumental in getting us an audience with Pope Leo XIV a year and a half ago, and he continues to provide strong spiritual guidance and support to our work.



Yesterday, in honour of the season of creation, students attended an outdoor prayer service during form time. After hearing St. Francis's Canticle of Creation, students found a spot in our back field where they could pray and thank God for what he's given us. The beautiful morning reminded us of how precious our earth is, and our responsibility to take care of God's gift.

Finally, signup for our Youlbury Retreat closes today.

This opportunity is available to students in Years 10 - 13.

If your child would like to participate, please go to your ParentPay account and complete the consent and payment as soon as possible.

Thank you!

Youlbury



OCTOBER
22-24
BOOK NOW

- Parent Pay
- £95
- All Meals Provided
- Zip Line, High Adventure Ropes, Team Building, and One Extra Challenge (Surprise)
- Board games, Catholic Mass, and S'mores, Prayer





GENERAL NOTICES

Sixth Form News Ms McCabe

Buddy Reading

Our new cohort of Buddy Readers had a training session this week. From next week, they will be in the library meeting their Y7 and Y8 Buddies, finding out about their reading habits and interests. Students will also be choosing their first book to read with their buddy. This is a brilliant initiative that supports our younger students to develop their confidence and fluency with reading. Well done to all of the Sixth Form buddies for taking part!

Early UCAS applications

A number of students in Y13 have been busy this week finalising their early UCAS applications. These are students applying to Oxford and medicine degrees. All other students applying to university or an apprenticeship should finalise their applications after PPEs. For any Y12s considering a similar pathway, it's important they look for as many super curricular and work experience opportunities as possible. This is what can make a real difference when making their application.

Independent Study in Sixth Form

Dr Kay and I were delighted that, on Wednesday, a group of students helped us redesign our independent study spaces. Our two large study rooms are where students are required to study in between lesson time, with the option of using the school Library. Independent study is the key to academic success in Sixth Form and Mr Dingley gave insightful assemblies this week on how to do this effectively. One of the conditions that really supports independent study is a quiet, focused environment. A reminder to students and parents that if a student does not have a lesson P1 or P2, they are expected in school at 8:40 for form time and need to use those periods for independent study.

Axiom Maths Problem of the Week! | Mr McCutcheon

In a game, **eight** counters are placed on the table. **Player A and B** take turns to remove some counters.

Player A goes first. Each player can remove one or two counters (but not none!). The player who takes the last counter wins.

- a) Who will win?
- b) What if there are nine counters on the table at the start?
- c) What starting numbers of counters guarantee a win for player A and what starting numbers of counters guarantee a win for player B?



GENERAL NOTICES

Message for Year 7 | Mr Cunningham

What a successful week it has been — well done to all of our Year 7 students for their continued hard work, positivity, and effort. Every week we see this group growing in confidence.

With the weather taking a distinctly autumnal turn, we would encourage all parents to make sure their children are coming into school with a warm coat. As a reminder, hoodies are not part of our school uniform and are not permitted — so please do check before the school run on those chilly mornings!

Finally, and importantly, we wanted to raise the topic of social media. We know this is something many families are already thinking carefully about, and we want to work with you on it. We will be sharing more detailed information and guidance throughout the year, but in the meantime we would ask all parents to stay vigilant about their child's social media use — checking in on who they are talking to, what apps they are using, and what conversations are happening in group chats. It may feel like a small thing, but it can make a real difference.

Pedro	47
Hibba	45
James	44
Lexi	40
Joanna	33
Bruna	33
Laurencja	32
Macourley	31
Alexander	31

7PJE	607
7RHO	430
7LP	385
7CHO	287



Weekly Book Review by Lian

Inspired by Slavic folklore, this book is a total treat! It's extremely in touch with feelings of loneliness, yearning and being stuck.



When I read this, it felt almost nerve wracking or that feeling when you simply have a soft uneasiness within you. I found Marinka to be extremely human in ways you don't normally see in stories, seeing both all her flaws and aspirations. In her struggles there was also selfishness and self insecurity which then splayed out when she tried hard to fix things while she tended to run ahead of herself. She was awkward with her choices and there wasn't some magical convenience to fix it. Things didn't naturally fix themselves when she made the poorer choice yet Marinka had to pull through and as a result this pulled at the empathy of the reader.

I must admit this is a slight spoiler but the tale's ending is bittersweet and a wonderful lesson on balance and also acceptance. You can feel Marinka grow throughout her ventures in the book and I at least believe that there's a certain proudness to be felt as you see her develop.

GENERAL NOTICES

Library News | Mrs Brett

Hello Everybody! This week we have been working very hard to add even more new books to our shelves. Don't believe me? Come and check for yourself.



I have now launched our Author in Spotlight campaign. The idea is that I will introduce a different author each term, and place questions about them in the library, which you can read and give me the answers to. At the end of term, we will have an Author in Spotlight Kahoot! Quiz, where you can show off your newly-acquired knowledge and win some points and cool prizes.

Our first author is no other than... That's right, you guessed it! And if you haven't... well, finding out is your first challenge.



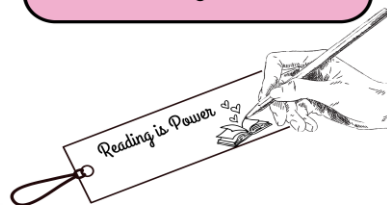
I have also launched two short competitions, one for writing and the other for drawing. Have a look at the posters and if you need any resources or help, come and chat with me. And, of course, there are achievement points and prizes up for grabs.

**"A Letter
to My Future Reader Self"
writing competition**

Write a letter about how you want
reading to help you this year.
Minimum: 100 words
Maximum: 500 words

Drawing Competition

Design your dream library
bookmark. You can create
a bookmark design that
represents reading, identity
and imagination.



Don't forget about the UNITE poetry competition by Young Writers! I have had a few entries, but there is still time to give it a go. You can not only become a published author, but also win some very exciting prizes (+50 achievement points from me!). Nothing to lose, so much to gain:).

Finally, an update on our Reading Championship. Individual students are doing wonderfully, more encouragement needs to be given to the forms. Well done to all the avid readers, keep going!

Wishing you a warm weekend filled with great stories 😊.

TERM 1 WEEK 5				
	Reading Champ		Tutor Group Reading Championship	
1	Sahas	32	9BMO	69.6%
2	Karthik	25	7PJE	59.1%
3	Ludozio	21	9RM	56.52%
4	Phoebe	17	8ALW	53.57%
5	Roisin	14	7LP	52%

GENERAL NOTICES

Safeguarding | Mr Daly

World Mental Health Day is on Saturday 10th October. The focus this year is about listening to others when they need us.

Our top tips to listen better

How to support someone's mental health through listening well.



1. FIND A GOOD TIME AND SPACE

If you're worried about someone, choose a time to talk when you won't be rushed, and a space where you won't be interrupted or distracted.



2. LISTEN TO UNDERSTAND

Focus on listening to understand, not to respond. This can make a big difference to making someone feel heard.

3. ACTIVELY LISTEN

Show them that you're listening by facing them, making eye contact, and not interrupting. If you ask questions, keep them open and aimed at clarifying.



4. ASK, DON'T TELL

Don't rush to offer a solution. Instead, try to ask what you can do to help. They might want practical support, like help contacting their GP. Or they may simply want a listening ear.

5. CHECK IN

Keep checking in so that they know they can come to you again. If you're worried that they need more support, you can encourage them to talk to their GP or contact a mental health service:

mentalhealth.org.uk/get-help

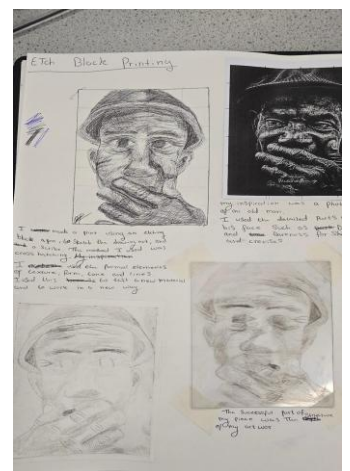
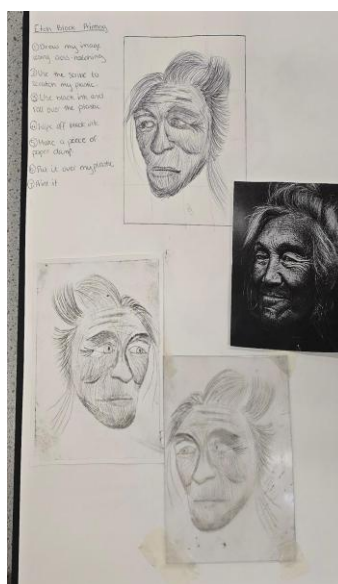
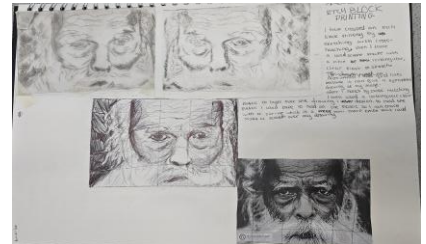


Everyone deserves good mental health. For more tips and information visit mentalhealth.org.uk/wmhd



Art | Ms Youngs Do Patrocínio

Year 10 art students are currently learning printing techniques. They have created portraits using etching, where you scratch into a plastic sheet and cover it in ink to create an impression.



GENERAL NOTICES

Message for KS4 | Mr Weedon

It has been another fantastic week for our Year 10 and Year 11 students.

Year 10 – Looking Towards the Future

This week, Y10 have been taking part in Vocational Week. Students have explored the huge range of careers and pathways available to them beyond school. There has been a real focus on helping students understand what different jobs involve, what qualifications and skills are required, what their next steps might look like and, the earning potential associated with different careers.

With work experience coming up later this year, this is an ideal time for students to start thinking about what they might enjoy doing in the future. They do not need to have their entire career mapped out yet, but beginning to explore different possibilities, identify their interests and ask questions is an important first step.

I would encourage parents and carers to continue these conversations at home. Ask your child what they have discovered this week, which careers have interested them and what they might like to find out more about. You never know where one conversation might lead.

Year 11 – Continuing to Impress

Our revision sessions in both Maths and Science have been particularly encouraging this week. Students are making the most of the additional opportunities available to them, and it is fantastic to see so many showing the determination to improve and achieve their very best.

Our Y11 attendance is outstanding, and this is something that deserves huge recognition. Students should remember that one of the most valuable things they can do is simply be in school, in front of their teacher, ready to learn. Every lesson matters, every explanation matters and every opportunity to ask a question or address a misconception can make a difference. The commitment Y11 are showing is exactly the kind of example that our Y10 students can look up to. They are demonstrating what happens when you combine consistent attendance, hard work and a positive attitude.

I am impressed by both year groups. We are continuing to grow as a collective, and I am proud of the students for the way they are representing themselves, their year groups and our school.

Form Group	Points	Form Group	Points
10KAN	279	11CT	195
10RC	161	11MJ	141
10JS	95	11SA	101
10SW	69	11JOD	80

GENERAL NOTICES



The poster features a festive background with Christmas lights, garlands, and a building. At the top center is the Greyfriars Catholic School logo, which includes a cross with a dove and a flame. Below the logo, the school's name is written in a serif font. The main title 'CHRISTMAS FAIR' is in large, ornate, gold and white letters. The date and time are listed below in a dark red font. The school's address is provided in a smaller font. A gold circular badge with a red ribbon says 'FREE ENTRY'. At the bottom, there are seven icons in red circles representing different activities: Festive Food (fork and knife), Music (musical notes), Stall Holders (stall), Refreshments (cup of tea), Santa's Grotto (Santa Claus), and Raffle (ticket). A Santa Claus figure is at the bottom, waving.


GREYFRIARS
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

**CHRISTMAS
FAIR**

Saturday 5 December 2026
11am – 2pm

Greyfriars Catholic School
Cricket Road, Oxford OX4 3DR

**FREE
ENTRY**

 **Festive Food**  **Music**  **Stall Holders**  **Refreshments**  **Santa's Grotto**  **Raffle**

GENERAL NOTICES

Attendance at Greyfriars

At Greyfriars Catholic School, our priority is to ensure that every student has the opportunity to flourish individually and collectively. Consistent attendance plays a vital role in this success and we have high expectations for all pupils, with the aim of achieving 100% attendance.

Every day in school counts.

For more information on our attendance policy and details of how to notify the school of your child's absence or indeed, to request a term time absence, please follow the link below which will take you to our attendance page on the school website:

Attendance



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 at family-action.org.uk/NSBP.

National School Breakfast Programme

Family Action. Registered as a Charity in England & Wales no. 2144712.
Registered as a Charity in the Isle of Man no. 1204. Registered Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales no. 01068186.

family
action

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.

GENERAL NOTICES

Free School Meals

National Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026

The current transitional protection arrangements for Free School Meals will end in July 2026. This means that pupils who are currently receiving FSM will not automatically remain eligible from September 2026. To continue receiving Free School Meals, families will need to meet the revised eligibility criteria.

Expanded Eligibility from September 2026

From September 2026, **all children living in households that receive Universal Credit** will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household income.

If you believe that your child is eligible for free school meals, please complete the following Google Form: [Free School Meals Registration Form](#)

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

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

GENERAL NOTICES

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 20 October | PFMAC Concert

Thursday 22 – Saturday 24 October | Youlbury Retreat

Monday 26 – Friday 30 October | Half Term

Monday 2 November | Term 2 Begins

Friday 6 November | Peterhouse Outreach for Year 11

Wednesday 11 November | Remembrance Service

Tuesday 10 November | Year 11 / Year 13 PPEs Begin

Monday 16 November – Friday 20th November | Anti-bullying 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

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

SEN CONNECT Coffee Morning for Parents & Carers

A relaxed, friendly space to connect
with others who understand

When
Every other Thursday
9.30 – 11am

Where
The Jungle, Cowley
Oxford, OX4 3JF

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Friendly peer support
- Monthly guest speakers
- Free tea & coffee
- A safe, welcoming environment

Upcoming Dates

Sept: 10th 24th
Oct: 8th 22nd
Nov: 5th 19th

Parking available
Get in touch
Donna@oxfordhub.org

Supported by:
Oxford Hub
Working together
to build a better Oxford

SEN
tipede

Scan me
for updates
and more
information

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

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 Didcot based charity, providing surplus
food, training and opportunities to young
people and organisations.

£10
P/YEAR
ANNUAL
JOINING FEE

INDIVIDUAL
MEMBERSHIP
FROM
£3.50
P/WEEK

FAMILY
MEMBERSHIP
FROM
£7
P/WEEK

An individual membership provides up to 10 items of non-perishables
(pasta, 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 105762

COMMUNITY
LARDER
SOFEA

SEND Coffee Mornings

Oxford
Hub

Peer support group for parents of children
and young people with SEND/Neurodiversity



17th Sept and 1st and 15th
October



9:00 - 11:00



Flo's cafe
Florence Park, OX4 3NP

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
email - kylie@oxfordhub.org
phone - 07707918532
visit - www.oxfordhub.org



Scan the QR code to find
out more about the work
we do.

Oxford Hub, Windle Avenue, OX4 6JD

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



FREE

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM

POP-UP SHOP

Oxford
Hub

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

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



October 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	5 Oct 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	5 Oct 7pm
Decreasing Depression	6 Oct 10am
Introduction to OCD	6 Oct 7pm
Improving Family Communication	12 Oct 10am
What is ACT?	12 Oct 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	13 Oct 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	13 Oct 7pm
Understanding Anger	19 Oct 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 Oct 7pm
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	20 Oct 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	20 Oct 7pm
FREE - ADHD and Homework	22 Oct 7-8pm
Facing Defiance	26 Oct 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	26 Oct 7pm
School Anxiety	27 Oct 10am
Anxiety Explained	27 Oct 7pm

FREE talk for parents 22 October 7-8pm

If you don't have time to listen

Just book online and receive a link to the recording available for 48 hours



ADHD & Homework

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



MONDAY MEALS AT FLO'S

Flo's Cafe Menu is offered on on **Every**
a free or pay-as-you-can basis. **Monday**
12-2pm

Simply order your meal at the till point and our friendly team will help.

Your donations help support free meals in our community for those who need it. Thank you.

PLAY. GROW. BELONG.

GIRLS AFTER-SCHOOL BASKETBALL
DEVELOPMENT BASKETBALL PROGRAMME

TUESDAY 15:30 to 17:00
FRIDAY 15:30 to 17:00
INCLUDING HALF TERM

FOR GIRLS YEAR 7 & 8

OUR TEAM PLAYS IN ***
OYBL & OXFORDSHIRE U13 GIRLS LEAGUE

EVERY PRACTICE BUILDS YOUR FUTURE.

MAKE FRIENDS BE PART OF SOMETHING BIGGER
IMPROVE YOUR GAME DEVELOP SKILLS & CONFIDENCE
PLAY HARD COMPETE, LEARN AND ACHIEVE
BE YOU RESPECT, SUPPORT & TEAM SPIRIT

MORE INFO **MR ROMAN** **OYBL** **HER VOICE HER GAME**

WORK HARD * STAY POSITIVE * SUPPORT EACH OTHER * HAVE FUN

BOYS AFTER-SCHOOL BASKETBALL
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

MONDAY 15:20 to 16:20

FOR BOYS YEAR 7 & 8

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
CONFIDENCE & DISCIPLINE
TEAMWORK & RESPECT

OUR TEAM COMPETES IN:
OXFORDSHIRE U13 BOYS LEAGUE

"YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE THE BEST TO START, BUT YOU HAVE TO START TO BE THE BEST."

WE ARE RUNNING YEAR 7 & 8!

MORE INFO: **MR ROMAN** **TRAIN** **LEARN** **WIN** **TOGETHER**

OXFORD SCIENCE IDEAS FESTIVAL
www.if-oxford.com

16-31 OCT 2026
A taste of the Festival...

Arts and performance
Anna Dumitriu exhibition, 36 Hospital 6
Optical Illusion uchiwa, Pegasus (all Festival)
Lady Inonophore, E.Ox Community Centre (Fri 9 Oct)
Poetry of Science, Westgate Library (Sat 17 Oct)
The Clock Factory, Science Oxford (Sat 17 Oct)
Train Bending Nation Show, Pegasus (Sun 18 Oct)
Ruskin's Skies, Ashmolean Museum (Sat 24 Oct)
Storm-Cloud, Natural Hist. Museum (Sat 24 Oct)
Orbits by Creation Theatre, The North Wall (Tue 27 Oct)
Dancing Dark Matter (Thu 29 Oct)
Fusing Glass: Becca Rowland (31 Oct 9-11pm)

Interactive Festival zones
Packed with hands-on activities for families, teenagers and adults on weekends, evenings and during half term, spend a few hours at:

Family Day (Sat 17 Oct)
EXPLORAZONE (Sat 17 Oct)
TECHWORKS (Sun 25 Oct)
BLAST! (Tue 27 Oct)
ZONE ONE (Thu 29 Oct)

Presentations and Talks
The Dawn of AI (Sat 17 Oct)
Ghost in the Machine documentary Q&A (Tue 20 Oct)
Careers in Medical Research (Wed 22 Oct)
Spilling the Tea with Uncomfortable Oxford (Wed 22 Oct)
Breakup Monologues: Artificial Intimacy? (Mon 26 Oct)
Weapons of Mass Persuasion: Propaganda (Mon 26 Oct)
Modelling the Unknown: Zoonosis & Health (Sat 31 Oct)

Workshops and a new hobby?
Get coding with **Glow Your Own** (Wed 14 Oct - 18 Nov)
Photographing **Big Science at Culture** (Sat 17 Oct)
Enamelling: **Make a pendant** (Mon 19 & 26 Oct)
Metals and Colour from the Earth (Tue 20 Oct)
The Chemistry of Colour (Thu 22 Oct)
Exploring Art for Science: **Wildlife Drawing** (Mon 26 Oct)
Fusion: **Fluor** (Thu 29 Oct)
Origami Engineering: **beginner to expert** (Sat 31 Oct)

Try today!
UKAEA Open Day (Sat 24 Oct)
History of Oxford Science (Sat 24 Oct)

Book your events this Autumn: www.if-oxford.com

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Donnington Doorstep Family Centre has reopened its **free Youth Club** for young people in OX4.

We offer a safe, welcoming space with activities, support, and a free hot meal each session.

Open **Tuesdays & Wednesdays**

Please see our poster for parental permission details.

PARENTS to COMPLETE FORM

YOUTH CLUB Registration Form – Fill out form

NHS
Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust

Is your child up to date with their vaccinations?

We have finished our school visits for this year but vaccinations can still be given in a clinic. Please check your child has received the vaccines below.

Either ask at your GP surgery or check for an email from school.immunisations@nhs.net

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) – Two doses are required which are usually given before children start school.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) – One dose is given in Year 8

Tetanus/Diphtheria/Polio (Td/IPV) also known as the 3 in 1 or Teenage Booster – The 5th and final dose is given in Year 9

Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) – One dose given in Year 9.

How can I book an appointment?

Our website has all the information you need to Consent and to book an appointment in a clinic

<https://oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/parents/>

Have a question?
Contact the Immunisation team

Email: immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Further information about vaccinations can be found using the links below

[Immunisations for young people - your questions answered \(publishing.service.g o.uk\)](#)

[Vaccine Knowledge Project - Oxford Vaccine Group](#)

[Vaccinations - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

TURTLE KEYARTS

"It was amazing and I didn't want it to end!"
Aaron
Turtle Opera participant
2024

JOIN OUR FREE MUSIC & DRAMA PROJECT FOR YOUNG AUTISTIC PEOPLE.

Four days of workshops with a professional composer and director, creating stories and music for an informal performance. A specialist team from Turtle Key Arts will support the group, enabling fun and friendships!

FOR 11 TO 15 YEAR OLDS

Dates **Tue 27 - Fri 30 Oct**

Time **11am til 3:30pm**

Ogston Music School
24A South Parade
Oxford OX2 7JN

COMPLETE THE STEPS TO JOIN.

Scan the QR code to reach the registration page.

Submit the **online form** and we'll send you a reply.

Call us on 020 8964 5060

Email ellie@turtlekeyarts.org.uk

APPLY NOW! Free Limited spaces available

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.

Scan the QR to BOOK

Contact Us
plkicks@ouitc.co.uk

Premier League Kicks OXFORD UNITED

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

School holidays just got more exciting!
Fresh air, freedom and adventure!





Ready for a school holiday full of excitement?

Active Adventures at Youlbury is the ultimate outdoor adventure club for children aged 8-16. Packed with thrilling challenges, nature connection activities, and epic team games, each day offers a new adventure to inspire a love for the great outdoors!

www.scoutadventures.org.uk/events



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 February, Easter, May, Summer and October school holidays (see website for dates).
- 8.30am - 5.30pm daily (activities run 9am - 5pm)
- 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. Registered address: The Scout Association, Gilwell Park, Chingford, London, England E4 7JN.

Are you or anyone you know looking after someone else's child?

If a child is cared for informally by someone who is not a close relative for 28 days or more, this is considered **private fostering** and legally we must be told.



Let us know

Get in touch to make sure everyone gets the support they deserve. You can do this anonymously:

01865 323 126
private.fostering@oxfordshire.gov.uk
oxfordshire.gov.uk/privatefostercare →



Fostering Oxfordshire OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

JOIN US ...
RAF Air Cadets recruiting now!



If you love aircraft, action and adventure, then the Air Cadets is for you.

The Air Cadets is a UK-wide cadet force sponsored by the Royal Air Force. As a cadet, you'll get the chance to do things that others only dream about such as adventurous training, camps, drill and real flight experience.

So if you're aged 12+ - 17 and you're looking for a challenge call 0345 600 6601 or log on to www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets

*You must be in Year 8 (England & Wales), S2 (Scotland) or Year 9 (Northern Ireland).

2210 (Cowley) Sqn
Sandy Lane West, OX4 6LD
www.aircadets.tv/2210 Come join us on 20th of April at 8 pm! RSVP: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6jMhPH4RLRE>

ROYAL AIR FORCE AIR CADETS
the next generation



Supporting your mental health through creativity

scan here to sign up

Weekly drop-in sessions
Wednesdays
12 - 1:30 pm
term time only

For more info contact:
hello@ark-t.org or 01865 772095

MySpace (online)

MySpace (Online) is a weekly creative wellbeing group for 10 to 14 year olds who are struggling with school attendance due to emotional challenges. The sessions run in a drop in / out style supporting individual interests and needs.

Oxfordshire Community Foundation Supported by

ARK-T
Creativity Changes Lives

For more information about joining the Air Cadets call:

0345 600 6601

or go to
www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets

Make new friends
Have fun
Earn BTECs





LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Rugby Club



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, OX4 2HR 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 Grey Follau was picked for England's Six Nations squad. Look out for him on TV in the coming weeks.



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.



If you don't have any boots but would like some, please speak with Miss Kenneford.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday!

From Laura and the Quins coaching team.

OXFORD Quins RFC
MULTI-SPORT CAMP

Join Rugby All-Stars at Oxford Quins Rugby Club for action-packed days of rugby, learning and fun!

Open to children aged 6-12, our camps are designed with a range of activities and sports to keep kids active and have fun!

8:30am until 5pm
Early drop off and late pick up available
26th of October until 30th of October
Oxford Quins, Horspath
£40 per day

SCAN TO BOOK

WWW.RUGBYALLSTARS.CO.UK

RUGBY PERFORMANCE CAMP ✓
OXFORD Quins RFC

Join Rugby All-Stars at Oxford Quins for action-packed days of rugby, learning and fun!

Open to players of all abilities aged 7-11 and 12-16, our camps are designed to help every player develop their game in a fun, positive and professional environment.

26th of October until 30th of October

Time: 8:30am until 4pm
Location: Horspath
Cost: £35 per day

SCAN TO BOOK

WWW.RUGBYALLSTARS.CO.UK

SQUAD PLACES AVAILABLE
WELCOMING U13 PLAYERS (CURRENT YEAR 8)

JOIN OXFORD ATHLETIC FC

- ✓ WELCOMING ALL ABILITIES
- ✓ BUILD YOUR CONFIDENCE
- ✓ GREAT PEOPLE, GREAT ATMOSPHERE, GREAT FOOTBALL

Interested in joining?

club@athleticfootball.co.uk
07423 711776
www.athleticfootball.co.uk

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:

YOU MOVE

TRY LOVE RUGBY

WANT TO PLAY RUGBY? TRY OUR FREE FOUR-WEEK INTRO TO RUGBY FOR GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN

CONTACT GIRLSRUGBY@OXFORDHARLEQUINS.ORG