



Rush Common School Newsletter

Friday 27th January 2023



Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Dear Parents/Carers

The Chinese New Year started on Sunday 22nd January, and to mark this, Mrs Carr, our Modern Foreign Languages Lead, held a special assembly on Monday 23rd January, to share information about this celebration. It is the year of the Rabbit, and the children heard the story of the 'Moon Rabbit'. The Rabbit is kind, confident, thoughtful, polite and quick witted – certainly characteristics we aspire for our pupils to demonstrate!

Last week our library was transformed into a castle for Prayer/Reflection Space. All the children in the school experienced the treasury, dungeon, great hall, armoury and throne room, with each location providing an activity that allowed them to think about themselves or other people (as a reflection or prayer), I joined one of the sessions for Year 2 and saw first hand what a great inclusive opportunity this was for children to think more deeply. These activities are especially important given the busy nature of all of our lives.

Our enrichment opportunities are coming thick and fast, with a brilliant visit to Year 1 this week from 'Abbey Brass' (a traditional British Brass band based in Abingdon). The children were fascinated and inspired in learning about and hearing a range of brass instruments. Year 3 and 4 pupils have been out this week on school trips. Year 3 had a fantastic time at the Ashmolean Museum, while Year 4 are having a lovely visit today at the Sheldonian Theatre in Oxford.

This week, we also had our Year 5 Curriculum Assembly based on children's learning in their Victorian topic last term. Thank you to all the parents that made up a large audience, and they were treated to quite a performance! The assembly was creatively put together to resemble Victorian school lessons, with some quite ferocious teachers! It was very clear how immersed into this topic the children have been and how much knowledge they have gained from learning about this period of history.

Last week we started a brand new Drama Club at the school, run by 'Boost! Drama' We had great take up for this new club, and, as well as being fun, it aims to inspire confidence, tolerance, empathy and a better self-image. We are proud of the wider provision we offer children at Rush Common School and are always looking for new and exciting clubs and activities to help pupils develop their passions and interests.

We have an active School Parliament and Eco Council at Rush Common School and children from all year groups have discussed numerous topics. They would like as many people as possible involved in RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch, which is the UK's biggest citizen science wildlife survey. There is a link included in this newsletter to see how you can get involved.

Please can all parents ensure they are following the uniform policy. Please ensure correct footwear, that long hair is tied back, ties are worn and children wear the correct PE kit on PE days. A link to the uniform policy is below.

<https://rushcommonschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Uniform-PPD-July-19.pdf>

Please can I also remind all parents about safe parking and driving during drop off and pick up. Unfortunately, a minority of parents are choosing to park on zig zags, turn in the school drive or drive in a fast and unsafe way. These actions are dangerous, and could result in someone getting hurt. If you notice unsafe driving or parking, please do report it to abingdowntownNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Finally, I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend as we head towards the end of January.

Kind regards

Kristen Fawcett

Headteacher



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SWIRE
CHINESE
LANGUAGE
FOUNDATION



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School Parliament and Eco Club have had their 2nd meeting of the school year and children from all year groups have discussed numerous topics. One of which is getting as many people as possible involved in RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

'Big Garden Birdwatch is the UK's biggest citizen science wildlife survey. In 2022 nearly 700,000 people came together to count the birds around them in order to help create a snapshot of how our birds are faring... Submit your results online at [rspb.org.uk/birdwatch](https://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch) before Sunday 19th February' (Quoted from RSPB Pamphlet)

For more details on how you can take part either from your garden, balcony or local park please follow the link below. Let's get as many people as possible involved.

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/everything-you-need-to-know-about-big-garden-birdwatch/>

Australian Music and Instruments

In Year 1 the children are learning about indigenous Australian music and instruments. If we have any parents, carers or grandparents who play the didgeridoo and would like to come in and play to the children, please contact Mrs Wallis via the school office by emailing office@rushcommon.school

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is **£2.40** per day. Payment for school dinners can be made via ParentMail. Meal choices must be made at least 3 days in advance.



Homework Champions

Noah	1NDBL	Jessica	4LR
Phoebe	1NDBL	Ada	4LR
Robyn	1NDBL	Nevaeh	5AS
Christopher	1NDBL	Emily	5AS
Eleni	1LMJB	Amber	5AS
Finley	1LMJB	Callum	5AS
Violet	2RS	Martha	5AS
Millie	2RS	Abigail	5AS
Leo	3NM	Cara	5EC
Noah	3NM	Oliver	5EC
Sophie	3NM	Iris	5EC
Adeola	3NM	Becca	5EC
Madison	3NM	Hannah	6EW
Freya	3NM	Jack	6EW
Amelia	3JF	Ava	6EW
James	3JF	Belle	6JN
Lily	4CM	Jessica	6JN
Joseph	4CM	Elliot	6JN
Dylan	4CM	Lexi	6JN
Josh	4CM	Max	6JN

FREE PARENT DELIVERIES



**FREE DELIVERY ON ALL ORDERS OVER £20 –
SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY FROM 12AM UNTIL MIDNIGHT**

We are pleased to be able to offer a 1 day promotion for your parents;

**FREE DELIVERY ON ALL ORDERS OVER £20 – SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY FROM
12AM UNTIL MIDNIGHT**

Please share this information with your parents via newsletters and / or parentmail.

Kind regards

Brigade Schoolwear



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[Guidance for Parent and Carers](#)

[New Resource - 5 to 8 Year Olds - Jack Changes the Game](#)

CEOP have released a new learning activity and picture book (PDF) for 5 to 8 year olds which can be used by parent/carers at home. The book is all about online friends and how online friends are not always as they seem. You can see all the resources for free download [HERE](#).

[For Parents - Find the Fake](#)

Internet Matters have a great little quiz for parents and their children to test their knowledge around areas such as fake news, disinformation, misinformation, and how to stop it from spreading. You can find the quiz [HERE](#).

[For Parents - Epic Games Store Parental Controls](#)

Epic is a games store and also games-playing platform where children can play games such as Fortnite, Fall Guys and Rocket League. There are a number of good parental features available for under 13's which some parents may not know about including: chatting, in-app purchasing, inappropriate content and more. It might be worth sending [THIS](#) guide out to your parents

[For Parents - Fortnite Parental Controls](#)

Fortnite Chapter 4 has just been released, which means that many children are going to be talking about this. Similarly, some children who grew bored with Chapter 3 are going to be checking out the new Chapter 4. So now is a good time for parents to revisit those parental controls to set up the game and devices appropriately to the age of the child. There is a step-by-step guide to setting up parental controls on Fortnite [HERE](#).

[Guide to Social Media Apps](#)

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/social-media-age-ratings/>

[TikTok Parent Guide](#)

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/tiktok-parent-guide/>

[Loot Boxes Parent Guide](#)

<https://www.openvieweducation.co.uk/what-parents-need-to-know-about-loot-boxes/>

Friends of Rush Common



Second-Hand Uniform Sale

Tuesday 28 February
2:30 - 3:30 PM
in the school hall



Prices start from £1
Come along and grab
a bargain!



Dates for your diary 2023

Music Flood Orchestra Day	Tuesday 31st January
Books at Bedtime (KS1)	This event has been postponed
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 7th February
Inside Out Day	Friday 10th February
End of Term 2a	Friday 10th February
Start of Term 2b	Monday 20th February
KS2 Author Visit	Wednesday 22nd February
World Book Day	Thursday 2nd March
Book Fair	Tuesday 7th – Friday 10th March
Year 4 Assembly	Tuesday 7th March @ 2.30pm
Year 3 Assembly	Thursday 16th March @ 9.00am
FoRC Krispy Kreme doughnut sale	Friday 17th March
Parents Evening	Tuesday 21st – Thursday 23rd March
Reception Assembly	Wednesday 29th March @ 2.30pm
End of Term 2b	Friday 31st March @ 1.30pm
Start of Term 3a	Monday 17th April
May Bank Holiday (children not in school)	Monday 1st May
Extra Bank Holiday (children not in school)	Monday 8th May
Year 1 Assembly	Tuesday 23rd May @ 9.00am
End of Term 3a	Friday 26th May
Inset Day (Children Not in School)	Monday 5th June
Start of Term 3b	Tuesday 6th June
Year 5 Residential to Kingswood	Wednesday 7th – Friday 9th June
FoRC Non-school uniform day	Friday 9th June
FoRC Summer Fete	Saturday 24th June
Year 6 Residential to Call of the Wild	Monday 26th – Friday 30th June
Year 2 Assembly	Tuesday 27th June @ 9.00am
End of Term 3b	Thursday 20th July @1.30pm
Inset Day (Children Not in School)	Friday 21st July

Local Community News

Please note items and events detailed below are for information purposes only. Rush Common School do not endorse or make recommendations.

The Oxfordshire Gang Show has been going for 70 Years and it remains a perfect showcase for the talent and commitment of young people from the Scout and Guides organisations across the County. For most of the participants, it provides the opportunity to perform on stage in front of a large live audience that they would not otherwise have.

All performers on stage will be between the ages of 8 to 25, and in addition to all the rehearsal time they have, they also take part in the Scouting and Guiding activities that are relevant to their sections.

The 2023 show is taking place at Radley College Theatre, Radley, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 2HR from Tuesday 14th February to Saturday 18th February 2023.

Tickets can be purchased online by clicking [here](#).

Hannah and Hope in Year 6 and Sophie in Year 5 will all be taking part in the show. Good Luck Girls!

A promotional poster for the Oxfordshire Gang Show 2023. The background features a red stage curtain with gold fringe at the bottom. In the top left corner is the Scouts Oxfordshire logo. In the top right corner is a blue and pink badge that says 'WE DISCOVER, WE GROW Girlguiding Oxfordshire County'. The main title 'OXFORDSHIRE GANG SHOW 2023' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. Below the title, the dates '13 - 18 FEBRUARY 2023' and the venue 'RADLEY COLLEGE THEATRE' are listed. To the right of the dates is a large, stylized yellow 'GG' logo with 'OXFORDSHIRE' written in yellow capital letters below it. Below the 'GG' logo, it says 'OUR 70TH SHOW!!'. At the bottom of the poster, the text 'Making memories for a long, long time...' is written in a white, cursive font. At the very bottom, there is a white text box containing the website 'www.oxfordshiregangshow.org.uk' and the instruction 'or scan the QR code to go direct to our Box Office', followed by a QR code.

LOCATION & BOOKING

Chandlings Prep School

Chandlings is an independent prep school situated on the western edge of Oxford and close to Abingdon, and offers first-class facilities, a swimming pool and extensive grounds. Perfect for an ultimate holiday camp.

Address: Bagley Wood,
Oxford OX1 5ND



ULTIMATE
ACTIVITY
CAMPS

GET SET FOR ULTIMATE HOLIDAY FUN!

CAMP DATES

EASTER: MON 3RD - FRI 14TH APRIL
SUMMER: MON 24TH JULY - FRI 25TH AUGUST

EARLY BOOKING OFFER

£205
PER WEEK
SAVE £40
STANDARD PRICE £245

£48
A DAY
SAVE £6
STANDARD PRICE £54

Offer ends Wednesday 1st March 2023

- + Pay by childcare vouchers
- + Move dates for free up to 14 days in advance
- + Book by the day or week
- + Monday to Friday
- + Drop off from 8.30am & pick up until 5.15pm
- + Extended hours available 8am to 6pm
- + Ofsted Registered

BOOK NOW on ultimateactivity.co.uk or call 0330 111 7077



Outstanding holiday camps for 4 to 12 year olds this Easter and summer at Chandlings Prep School, West Oxford

Ultimate Savings When You Book Early!

ULTIMATE ACTIVITY

Over 40 activities every week. Including...

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
| SWIMMING | ROLLER RACERS | ROUNDERS |
| TENNIS | DODGEBALL | DANCE |
| ARCHERY 8+ | KWIK CRICKET | FOOTBALL |
| ZORBING 8+ | ULTIMATE FRISBEE | TRI-GOLF 6+ |
| ULTIMATE ART | ESCAPE & EVASION | TEE BALL |
| COMBAT ARCHERY | BADMINTON | TAG RUGBY |
| PEDAL KARTS 6+ | NETBALL | CAPTURE THE FLAG |
| FENCING 8+ | STORY ADVENTURE | TEAM & INITIATIVE GAMES |
| ULTIMATE INFLATABLES | | ...AND MUCH MORE* |

AGES
4-5

Tailored, introductory timetable delivered by Early Years specialists

AGES
6-7

Mix of sports games and creativity to burn off boundless energy

AGES
8-9

Additional, exciting activities for the 8+ including archery, zorbs and fencing

AGES
10+

Making friends and true holiday camp vibes with our large group games and challenges



ULTIMATE SURVIVAL

Embrace adventure with our survival camps...

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS | OUTDOOR FIRST AID |
| ARCHERY | SHELTER BUILDING |
| AWESOME WIDE GAMES | TEAM CHALLENGES |
| AXE THROWING | TRAPPING TECHNIQUES |
| CAMOUFLAGE | WILD COOKERY |
| COMBAT ARCHERY | WILD FOOD PREPARATION |
| FIRE LIGHTING | WOOD WHITTILING |
| KNIFE SKILLS | ...AND MUCH MORE* |

FOR CHILDREN AGED
7-12

ONLY AVAILABLE IN THE
SUMMER HOLIDAYS

WEEKLY THEMES FOR ADDED
EXCITEMENT AND DRAMA

CAMP COOKOUT

For children wanting an extra dose of adventure, then our Thursday Camp Cook Out option offers survival team games, camp fire dinner, toasted marshmallows and optional bug eating challenges!

*Activities vary per location - see online
If you have received this flyer from your child's school, this does not mean the school endorses Ultimate Activity Camps.





Book Now

**OXFORDSHIRE
MUSIC SCHOOL**
Presents

GUITAR, DRUMS, BASS LESSONS

Available Now

-  **NEW:** Courses starting February 2023
-  **Instruments are Provided**
-  **Group Lessons & 1 to 1** for all ages and abilities
-  **Didcot, Abingdon, Wantage & Wallingford**

To book visit:
www.oxfordshiremusicschool.co.uk



**OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY**

SCIENCE BAZAAR BEYOND

Saturday 18 February 2023

9:30am - 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening	11:30am - 4pm Open to all (no need to book just drop-in and explore)
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[BOOK HERE](#)

**FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-12YRS**

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



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

 @ScienceBazaar #BrookesBazaar23

 @brookessciencebazaar  @oxfordbrookessciencebazaar

Oxfordshire Libraries



SHORT STORY

WRITING COMPETITION!

Are you aged between 7 and 11?
Do you love writing?

Why not have a go at writing a short story
for our competition?



It can be on any topic and up to
3,000 words long



The winning story will be published as an
eBook for library members to borrow!

More information and instructions on how to enter can be
found on the Oxfordshire Libraries website.

 @oxonlibraries

Entries open: **3 January 2023**

 Oxfordshire Libraries

Closing date: **26 February 2023**

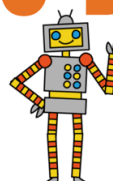
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/shortstorycompetition



CODE CLUB



SATURDAYS
09:30-10:30



BOOK
HERE



OR ONLINE
@
Oxfordshire
Libraries
Eventbrite

<https://bit.ly/OXCodeClub>

Events at Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre

Young and Teen Rangers

Monthly Saturday clubs for young people aged 8-17 years who love wildlife. See the website for upcoming dates and details. £7 per child

Nature Tots

Monthly outdoor nature sessions for toddlers and their carers. Come explore, play and learn. See the website for upcoming dates and details. £7 per child

Adult Weaving Workshop: Willow Bird Feeders

Saturday 11 February; 10am-3:30pm

Learn to weave your own bird feeders from willow harvested on the nature reserve. £65 per head

Family Trail – Dinosaurs!

Monday 13 – Thursday 16 February 2023; 10am-2pm

A fun filled dino day out for families with children aged 4-11 years. £5 per child

Teen Practical Conservation Day

Friday 17th February, 10am-3pm

A day for 13 - 17 year olds to get their hands dirty and learn some practical conservation techniques. £25 per head

Adult Weaving Workshop: Garden Obelisks for Beginners

Saturday 25 March; 10am-4pm

Join us for a day of wild willow weaving and make a beautiful willow obelisk for your garden. £70 per head

Adult Workshop - Stick to Bread

Saturday 15 April; 10am-3pm

Take the journey from foraging for fuel to baking your own bread on the campfire. £70 per head, includes lunch

Wild Connections

Do you love spending time in nature? Would you like to meet some likeminded people and explore a local wild place? Join the learning volunteers for a gentle, seasonal stroll and a chat over light refreshments. We hope you will feel physically and mentally refreshed after a light bathe in Nature! (Indoor cover available in poor weather) £3 per head

Friday 10 February, 10:30am-12:00noon

Friday 10 March, 10:30am-12:00noon

Friday 14 April, 10:30am-12:00noon

Friday 12 May, 10:30am-12:00noon

All events are bookable at www.bbowt.org.uk/events

