



# Rush Common School Newsletter



Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## *Dream, Aspire, Succeed*

Dear Parents/Carers

This week our Year 4 pupils have been out on their first residential trip to Ufton Court. It was an incredible immersive Tudor experience, in which a whole array of Tudor activities were enjoyed, including a role play at the manor house and a Tudor banquet on the second evening. A huge thank you to all the staff that attended the trip and made it so special for the children!

We have also been enjoying our KS1 Nativity productions this week. Parents turned out in huge numbers to see their children perform, and they were sensational! I am sure everyone left the hall really feeling the Christmas spirit, and I know the children hugely enjoyed putting on the show. A huge thank you to the KS1 staff, and also to the parents for supporting their children with this production.

There have been a number of charity fundraising events across this Autumn Term, and we are pleased to let you know that we recently raised £260 for the Poppy Appeal, and over £230 for Save the Children, Christmas Jumper Day. Thank you for supporting us with these worthwhile causes.

FoRC have also been very busy raising money for the school across this Autumn term. The fireworks in November raised over £2500, the wreath-making workshop this week made over £750 and the Christmas raffle (tickets still available!) has made over £1000. The draw will take place on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December at 8.00pm. These events demonstrate the huge support from our parent community, and every penny will be put to good use for children's education. Thank you for supporting these events.

We are often very successful in sporting competitions, and cross country is no different. In October, all of our cross country teams progressed to the Vale Finals, which were held last week. All the children competed fantastically well and special congratulations to Cody in Year 4 and Isla in Year 5 who both came third for their age group! Thank you to Mrs Barnes for her commitment in preparing the children so well for these events.

We continue to offer a broad range of enrichment experiences and last week it was the turn of Year 2 to get all dressed up in their Roman outfits and enjoy an immersive Roman experience for the day. The children loved the activities, and it really complemented all the knowledge about the Romans they have been soaking up over the course of this term! Year 5 have also been out this week to Our Lady's Abingdon for an exciting Science Workshop looking at crystals!

We have a number of Christmas events on the horizon for the remainder of the Autumn Term. Next Monday and Tuesday is our Reception Nativity, which we know will be a delight! Then it's Christmas dinner day on Wednesday, followed by our whole school 'Singalong' Carols on Friday, and our Reception Christmas craft open afternoon. Our Reception children will also be heading out to the postbox on the following Monday to post their letters to Santa!

Our newly refurbished preschool building is almost finished and preschool staff will be 'moving in' soon ready for the first day of our new onsite preschool on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January! I know the preschool staff and families can't wait to start in the newly refurbished building.

With this being the last newsletter of the Autumn Term, may I wish all of our families a lovely Christmas break and a Happy New Year, as we look forward to everything that 2024 has to offer!

Kind regards

*Kristen Fawcett*

Headteacher



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Abingdon Learning Trust is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee.  
Registered in England and Wales. Company No. 7931886  
Registered Office: Rush Common School, Hendred Way, Abingdon. OX14 2AW

### School Dinners

The cost of school dinners is **£2.60** per day. Payment for school dinners can be made via ParentMail. Meal choices must be made at least 3 days in advance.



## Homework Champions

Jacob	2RS	Megan	5AS
Finley	2RS	Alexander	5AS
Sara	2RS	Sophie	5AS
Sofia	3LG	Sam	5AS
Theo	3LG	Lana	5AS
Madison	4CM	Leela	6JN
		Seb	6JN

Following our recent Wreath Making Workshops...



A huge thank you from FoRC...



FRIENDS OF RUSH COMMON'S

# CHRISTMAS ★ RAFFLE ★



BUY YOUR TICKETS AT:

[www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/forcchristmasraffle](http://www.peoplesfundraising.com/raffle/forcchristmasraffle)

£1  
PER TICKET

## Prizes Include:



- 1 week holiday camp with House of Fun worth £225
- Miele Vacuum Cleaner worth £199
- 2 x Breakfast for 4 at the Courtyard by Marriott, Oxford
- Loose Cannon Brewery Tour
- 4 passes for a 1 hour session at Jump Inc.
- Snakes and Ladders vouchers
- Stagecoach - 2 week free trial
- Laser Kombat vouchers
- Partyman World Vouchers
- Rainbow Hampers
- Cake voucher from The Littlest Bakery worth £55
- Prosecco and chocolates from Waitrose
- 4 tickets for a family day at Science Oxford
- Bright Sparks Science day camp



*Raffle drawn on the 10th Dec at 8pm*

Promoter: Friends of Rush Common, c/o Rush Common School, OX14 2AW. Registered Charity No. 1169863  
Registered with Vale of White Horse District Council No. GALOTT/09552/19

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## Dates for your diary 2023/2024

<b>Reception Nativity Performance</b>	<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> (RHJ) and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December (RLHBL) @ 2.15pm</b>
<b>Christmas Dinner Day</b>	<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>Reception Craft Afternoon</b>	<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>End of Term 1b</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December @ 1.30pm</b>
<b>Year 4 Cycling Training</b>	<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>Start of Term 2a</b>	<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 2a</b>	<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>Start of Term 2b</b>	<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>Year 1 Crocodiles of the World</b>	<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>Year 3 Ashmolean Museum Trip</b>	<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 2b</b>	<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 @ 1.30pm</b>
<b>Start of Term 3a</b>	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>
<b>Year 5 Residential Kingswood</b>	<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> – Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>
<b>May Bank Holiday (children not in school)</b>	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 3a</b>	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>
<b>Inset Day (Children Not in School)</b>	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>Start of Term 3b</b>	<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>Year 6 Residential Call of the Wild</b>	<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> – Friday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 3b</b>	<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 @1.30pm</b>

## Local Community News

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

Come and join us for...



### The Family Links Nurturing Programme



A FREE 10-Week programme for parents and carers.

Over the 10-weeks, we will look at lots of different topics, including:

- Understanding...** why children behave as they do
- Recognising...** the feelings behind behaviour (ours & theirs)
- Exploring...** different approaches to discipline
- Finding...** ways to develop co-operation and self-discipline in children
- Learning...** the importance of looking after ourselves

**Where?** Abingdon Carousel Family Centre, Caldecott Chase, Abingdon, OX14 5GZ

**When?** Tuesday mornings from 9.30-11.30am

**Starting?** Tuesday 16th of January 2024

**Cost?** Free

**Interested?** To book a place, please email [m.etienne@abingdoncarousel.org.uk](mailto:m.etienne@abingdoncarousel.org.uk) or call (01235) 526691




**Autism Central is here to help!**

Sometimes, talking to people who share similar experiences to yours means you're more likely to feel understood and get the support you need.

The Autism Central Peer Education programme is for parents, carers and personal assistants of autistic people. Support is provided by parents and carers of autistic people who are happy to share their knowledge and experience with others.

- We are here to listen, offer guidance and tell you about services that are available in your local area
- Navigate you to services that can make a difference and empower you
- Increase your knowledge, understanding and provide you with skills to last

Request for Support by scanning the QR code or emailing [autismcentralsoutheast.org.uk](mailto:autismcentralsoutheast.org.uk)






## ParentLine 5-11 years

New School Health Nursing messaging service for parents and carers of children 5-11 years attending a state school in Oxfordshire

**Text 07312 263227**  
to message a school health nurse



Text School Health Nurses for advice on issues such as:

- diet & healthy lifestyles
- toileting
- sleep
- bullying
- support with behaviours
- general and emotional health



Or scan QR code here to start a chat



We will only reply to you within our working day and we should get an immediate message back to confirm we have received your text. Texts will only be sent between 9am and 5pm. Services may be unavailable during school holidays. If you are unable to reach us, please contact your local health care professional. We support messages from all ethnicities, religions and sexual orientations and we are happy to support you in your own language. We support messages from all ethnicities, religions and sexual orientations and we are happy to support you in your own language. We support messages from all ethnicities, religions and sexual orientations and we are happy to support you in your own language.




**ibrick**  
house of fun

**RUSH COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**INSET DAY LEGO CAMP**

**MONDAY 8TH JANUARY 2024**

CREATE, INSPIRE, PLAY!

BOOK NOW AT [house-of-fun.co.uk](http://house-of-fun.co.uk)




house of fun

**RUSH COMMON SCHOOL  
IBRICK CAMPS**

**BOOK FOR FESTIVE FUN AT OUR UPCOMING CHRISTMAS IBRICK CAMPS**

Thursday 21st December 2023  
Friday 22nd December 2023  
Thursday 4th January 2024  
Friday 5th January 2024  
Monday 8th January 2024 (Inset Day)

BOOK NOW AT [house-of-fun.co.uk](http://house-of-fun.co.uk)



CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED





house of fun

**CUMNOR SCHOOL  
IBRICK CAMPS**

**BOOK FOR FESTIVE FUN AT OUR UPCOMING CHRISTMAS IBRICK CAMPS**

Thursday 21st December 2023  
Friday 22nd December 2023

BOOK NOW AT [house-of-fun.co.uk](http://house-of-fun.co.uk)






## THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School is for those aged 7-13 who love to sing. Established in 2013, the Singing School provides the opportunity to experience great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop confidence in singing and performing.

This Christmas pupils will learn some beautiful seasonal music and at the same time learn about vocal technique, music theory and history. Children will also have a singing lesson in a small group with a dedicated vocal coach. Families are most welcome to come and listen to an informal concert at the end of the day.

To book or to join our mailing list, please go to [www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk) or email [Samantha@oxbridgess.com](mailto:Samantha@oxbridgess.com)  
BRING A FRIEND and SAVE £20 each family.  
See website for details

21 & 22 December 2023  
St Barnabas Church, Jericho  
OX2 6BG

[www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk)

### Drayton Players present



### Away with the Fairies this Christmas

A play by Sue Hadley

THE BIG CHRISTMAS SHOW It's full of fun and madness!  
Being senior doesn't mean you can be exploited. Even if your DIY man is an Elvis Impersonator. A unique and inspiring Christmas story, where good triumphs over evil at "The Foresters" sheltered accommodation. One act tells it all! This is an ADULT SHOW where grown ups have fun and laughter.  
SPECIAL: Stay and meet the cast this Christmas show- bar open after the show. Raffle and fun.

Fri 8th December at 8.00pm (doors 7.30)

Sat 9th December at 7.30pm (doors 7pm)

Steventon Village Hall, The Green, OX13 6RR

Tickets: £7.50


In person from Vickerys Hardware Store, Drayton

In person from 40 Castle St, Steventon, OX13 6SR

From [www.trybooking.co.uk/CTER](http://www.trybooking.co.uk/CTER) (Booking fees apply)


Tel 01235 821351 or on the door

Oxfordshire County Music Service presents.....



# An Ocean Odyssey

At the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford  
Friday 26th January 2024



oxfordshire music hub

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Explore LEARNING

24H

FREE

# TELLING THE TIME WORKSHOP

Ages 5-7

LIMITED SPACES BOOK TODAY!

Did you know?

Time is the 2nd biggest area of difficulty in maths for primary school children. Children will have help tackling the challenge of the big and little hand. We all know how tricky it can be to master this lifelong skill, so there's no time like the present to start learning.

Location: Abingdon Library

Date: Thursday 21st December

Time: 11:30-12:30

Call us to book: 01865 595 509

explorelearning.co.uk

The PRINCESS who Hid in a Tree




ALL WELCOME! IDEAL FOR AGES 5-9

## JACKIE HOLDERNESS

STORYTIME AT ABINGDON LIBRARY

Join us for a storytime session with local children's author Jackie Holderness, who will be reading her standout work 'The Princess Who Hid in a Tree: An Anglo-Saxon Story', followed by a book signing and a make-your-own princess/prince crown craft session.

FRIDAY 22ND DECEMBER  
10:30-11:45

01235 520374

abingdon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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 1,000 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: 11 December 2023

Oxfordshire Libraries Closing date: 11 February 2024

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/shortstorycompetition

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL



Join us for

# Stay and Play

at Abingdon Library



For babies and toddlers

Every Thursday

9:30-11:00am

Free drop-in sessions

Children must be accompanied by an adult



RADLEY

# WINTER FUN SESSIONS

2:00PM - 3:30PM

THURSDAY 21ST DECEMBER

THURSDAY 28TH DECEMBER

TUESDAY 2ND JANUARY

THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY

AGES 8 - 12

£8 PER CHILD

Book now via our website:

<https://www.radley.org.uk/sports-centre/fun-sessions/>

or call 01235 543111 for more information

