



# NEWSLETTER

1ST MAY 2026



What a fantastic couple of weeks it's been at school! Last week, we proudly hosted our very first Careers Week, enjoyed an amazing concert from all of our Rock Steady bands, welcomed parents and pupils for our Spring Clean Day, and this week our Hedgehog class headed off on a wonderful trip to Oxford Botanic Gardens

It's safe to say we've all earned the long weekend ahead! We'll be back on Tuesday, refreshed and ready for another busy and exciting three weeks leading up to May half term.

Thank you Usman

Thank you Helen

Thank you Damian

Thank you Carrie

Thank you Jo

Thank you Kate

Thank you Sarah O

Thank you Kirstie

Thank you Vet Beckie

Thank you Chris

Thank you Amanda

Thank you Naomi

Thank you Sarah E

Thank you Cag

Thank you Dickie

Thank you Justine

Thank you Tim C

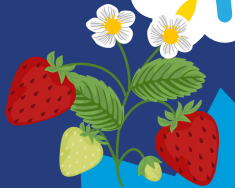
Thank you Amy

Thank you Tim O

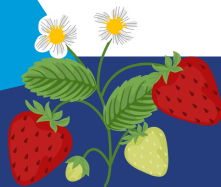
Thank you Jenny

Thank you Anna

# Thank You



A big thank you as well to Phillipa from Aspens for providing and helping us plant fruit and veg plants—we're excited to nurture them and watch them grow!



## CAREERS WEEK

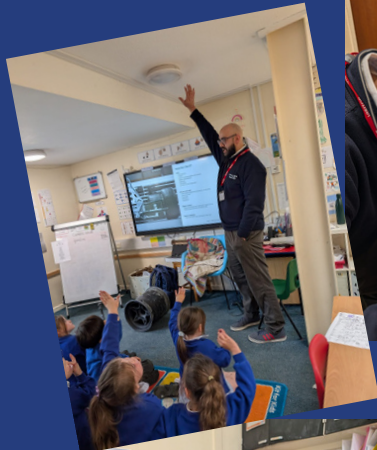
We genuinely could not have been more delighted with the success of our first ever Careers Week. A huge 'Thank You' to each and every parent and visitor who joined us for the week. You were all engaging and thoughtful with your presentations and really opened the children's eyes to a wide variety of careers. Our theme was 'Dream Big' and the week certainly finished with a big finale. It was fantastic to see so many parents joining us to share our learning (and enjoy a hot dog).

We would like to extend a special thank you to the whole Blundell family for providing all the crops and farm machinery for Friday, as well as the stand in, star of the show, Pickle the horse! In addition—a shout out to Mrs Shortman who managed to make bread with most of the school and Mrs Geller who worked tirelessly behind the scenes too. Thank you to the staff for running with our slightly ambitious plan and finally, all our children who participated so well in the many different activities during the week.

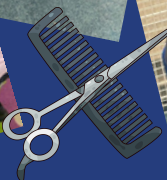
We have included some photographs in this newsletter but there will be plenty more soon on our website. The whole event would not have been possible without such incredible buy-in from everyone involved.



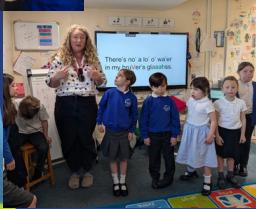
# Monday



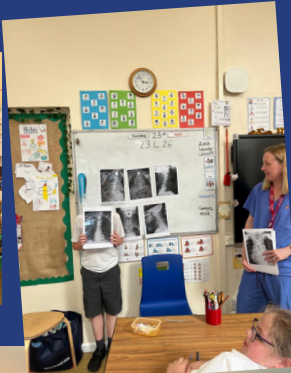
# Tuesday



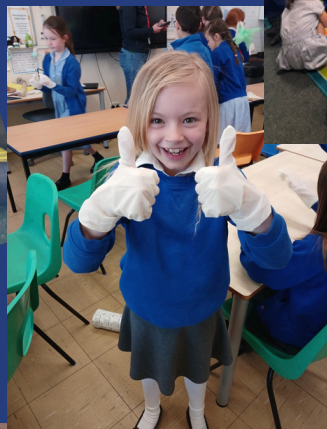
# Wednesday



# Thursday



# Friday



## HEDGEHOG CLASS TRIP



Hedgehog Class enjoyed a lovely day out in Oxford on Wednesday. The morning was spent at the Botanic Gardens where they learned about how plants are able to grow and adapt to live in different climates.

During the afternoon, we took a walk around Christchurch Meadow.

As always, our children were a delight to take on visits-so well behaved and great ambassadors for our school.



## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

As our school continues to grow in numbers, space becomes tighter, as does school funding. We greatly appreciate the generosity of our school community (recently displayed with the response to our Amazon Wishlist and our fantastic FOSP volunteers) so would be keen to explore if anyone has links or suggestions as to how we might raise more substantial funds for bigger projects such as an additional Garden Room.

This might be links with local businesses, access to grants, benefactors and philanthropists.

If you would like to discuss this further or have any suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

# THANK YOU

## WORKING PARTY

Again, another Thank You to all who came along to help with our working party last Saturday-including those who bought their whole families. We achieved an enormous amount in a short space of time. It really was appreciated. Thank you also to our school governors who were out in force too. Amazing what we can achieve when we work together (and provide bacon rolls-thanks, Mrs Scagg!)



## PARENT SURVEY

Please can we remind parents that they are invited to complete the Governors Parent Survey. This provides an opportunity to celebrate what we do well, as well as help us identify where we can improve. The survey will close on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026.



## TIME CAPSULE

As part of our 50th Anniversary, we plan to bury a time capsule in the school grounds.

We would like your help in suggesting items to include. The size of the capsule is 10 x 40cm cylinder, so we will be limited in its contents. Please take a few minutes to discuss ideas with your children and let us know what you come up with.

## HEADTEACHERS FORUM

This will be taking place on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2026. As always, this is an opportunity to discuss general school related matters rather than individual concerns. If you are in the vicinity of the school, come and join us in person.

**Join:**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/316624312242439?p=7D17C87AaKRMknhuM9>

Meeting ID: 316 624 312 242 439

Passcode: fZ2yx7aE

## CURRENT SCHOOL AVAILABILITY

We have a few spaces available in our current year groups. Please do pass our information on if you know any families who may be considering a new school or relocating.

- Year 2 - 1 space
- Year 3 - 2 spaces
- Year 4 - 2 spaces
- Year 6 - 6 spaces

## WOW WALK TO SCHOOL

Thank you for your continued commitment to our WOW scheme. It's great to see the effort our families are making by walking to school or choosing to park at the church and walk the rest of the way.



**Reminder**  
**Bank Holiday**  
**Weekend - Back to**  
**school on Tuesday!**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### May 2026

- Bank Holiday (School Closed) - 04.05.26
- Headteacher Forum - 06.05.26 (2.45pm)
- KS2 SATs week - 11.05.26 to 14.05.26
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Maypole - 22.05.26 (2.15pm)
- End of Term 5 - 22.05.26 (3.15pm finish)

### June 2026

- Inset Day - 01.06.26
- Term 6 starts - 02.06.26
- Whole School Art Week - W/C 08.06.26
- Summer Exhibition - 18.06.26 (9.30am)

### July 2026



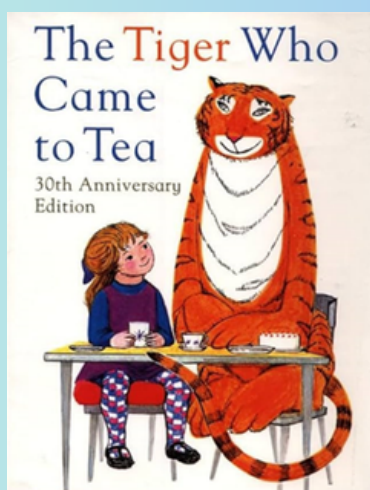
- Headteachers Forum - 01.07.26 (2.45pm)
- Rock Steady Concert - 09.07.26 (9.15am)
- Sports Night - 03.07.26 (6.00pm)
- Reserve Sports Night - 10.07.26
- End of Year Production (Otters) 15.07.26 (6.00pm)
- End of Year Disco - 16.07.26 (6.00pm)
- Leavers Service - 17.07.26 Year 6 families only (9.15am)
- End of Term 6 - 17.07.26 (1.00pm Finish)



# WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER CLUB BOOK



## READING RECOMMENDATIONS

This weeks book recommendation by Mrs Ecclefield





The *Tiger Who Came to Tea* by Judith Kerr is a brilliant book because it mixes something ordinary with something completely unexpected in a really fun way. The story starts off very normal—with Sophie and her mum having tea—but suddenly a tiger shows up at the door, and everything changes. That surprise makes the book exciting and a bit silly, which is why it's so enjoyable to read.

One of the best things about the book is how imaginative it is. The tiger doesn't just have a snack—he eats and drinks everything in the house! That exaggeration makes it funny and memorable, especially for younger readers. The illustrations also add a lot to the story, showing the tiger's size and the chaos he causes in a comical, friendly way rather than anything scary.



It's also a great book to read with others because it sparks questions like "What would you do if a tiger came to your house?" That makes it interactive and encourages creativity. Overall, it's a classic because it's simple, playful, and full of imagination—perfect for making reading feel like an adventure. It's one of my daughter's favourite books and she even dressed up as the tiger for World Book Day recently!

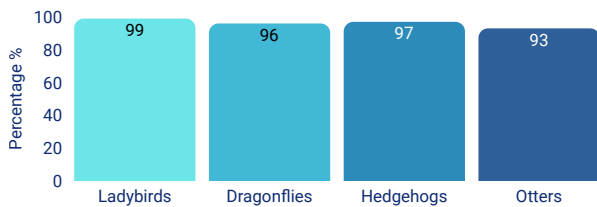


## ATTENDANCE

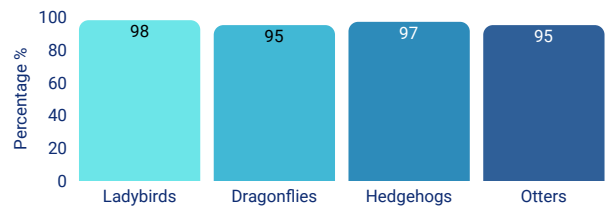
The school has an attendance target of 97%, so far this academic year our overall attendance is 96.6%. Each child has an important part to play in helping us meet it. Regular attendance supports learning, builds confidence, and ensures every pupil can make the most of the opportunities school offers.

Thank you to all families for supporting good attendance—together, we can continue to build strong habits that help every child thrive.

Attendance 20th to 24th April 2026



Attendance 27th April to 1st May 2026



Well done to ladybirds for highest attendance for the last two weeks!

## CAKE CLUB

Would you like your child to be in with a chance of winning a cake each Friday? Cake club membership costs £10 for the year; which can be paid in full, or at £3.50 per term to guarantee your entry. Membership means your child's name will be entered into the Cake Club draw each Friday to win the cake kindly donated by a different family each time. If you would like to take part in Cake Club and help us raise funds for FOSP, please see Mrs Venner or leave money in the office clearly marked with your child's name.

Calling all bakers. We have created an online cake club rota: [Cake Club Google Sheet](#) - Please do pop your name down against any of the available dates if you would be willing to bake or donate a cake. If you are unable to edit the google sheet directly, please email the office with the date you'd like and we can pop your name on for you.

**Please can we ask that all cakes made are nut and gelatine free.**



## 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Please come and join us for our 50th Anniversary (of being at Cratlands Close) on Friday  
22nd May from 2.00pm until 4pm

The children will be taking part in our traditional Maypole dancing and will be entertaining  
visitors with some songs from the last 5 decades.

There will be some invited guests joining us too including past pupils, staff and families. We  
will be providing light refreshments so bring along your picnic blankets and deck chairs.



You are invited to

*Stadhampton Primary  
School's*

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Maypole & Celebrations

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FRIDAY      MAY      FROM 2 PM  
                 22nd

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Cratlands Close, Stadhampton, OX44 7XL

Please RSVP to  
[office.2455@stadhampton.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.2455@stadhampton.oxon.sch.uk)

# Community Events



## ELITE CAMPS BOTLEY

26TH MAY - 29TH MAY

FOR 4-13 YEAR OLDS

**FLEXIBLE SESSION OPTIONS**

AGE 4 HALF DAY	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
AGE 5-13 STANDARD DAY	9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
AGE 5-13 EXTENDED DAY	8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

**BOTLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOTLEY, OX2 9JZ**

**LIMITED SPACES** available!

**OUR CAMPS INCLUDE:**

- Fun games & sports
- Skills development
- Team challenges
- Creative activities
- Experienced Staff
- Safe environment

**BOOK NOW!**

elityouthsports.co.uk  
01235 415846



30+ FUN ACTIVITIES | TRAINED COACHES | MAKE NEW FRIENDS | CHILDREN'S VOUCHERS ACCEPTED | TAX FREE SCHEME ACCEPTED | Ofsted Registered



## DORCHESTER ON THAMES FESTIVAL

1 MAY - 10 MAY 2026

LIZA PULMAN SINGS *Streisand*

**BE FREE YOUNG CARERS**

Box office 0333 666 3366 [www.dorchesterfestival.com](http://www.dorchesterfestival.com)



## MADDEN SWIM SCHOOL

**NOW TAKING BOOKINGS**

Summer Term-Time Children's Swimming Lessons & Intensive Crash Courses

Book Now - Spaces Are Limited



<b>DOWNE HOUSE SCHOOL POOL</b> Cold Ash, nr Thatcham	<b>ORATORY SCHOOL POOL</b> Woodcote, nr Reading
<p>Summer Term-Time Lessons April - July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Mondays, Thursdays, Saturdays</li> <li>£170 per swimmer (12-week term)</li> </ul>	<p>Summer Term-Time Lessons April - July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Fridays, Sundays</li> <li>£170 per swimmer (12-week term)</li> </ul>
<p>5-Day Intensive Crash Courses</p> <p>May 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>   July 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup></p> <p>10am   10:30am   11am</p> <p>£70 per swimmer</p>	<p>5-Day Intensive Crash Courses</p> <p>May 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>   July 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup></p> <p>2pm   2:30pm   3pm</p> <p>£70 per swimmer</p>

To book or for more information about all our courses, email: [Julie@maddenswimschool.co.uk](mailto:Julie@maddenswimschool.co.uk)  
[www.maddenswimschool.co.uk](http://www.maddenswimschool.co.uk)



## RATTLE & ROLL PERFORMANCE

May 2026

### St Nics Holiday Club

Open to all children aged 3 to 11 years

Activities include dodgeball, dance, drama, yoga, multi skills, ball games, art and crafts, team and confidence building activities and much more.

**LOCATION:** St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

**DATES & TIMES:** 8:00am - 5:00pm  
Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th May

**NEW PRICE** £29.99 per day

All childcare vouchers accepted

**HOW TO BOOK:** Scan the QR code to book and use code HHSNIC to take you straight to the club or visit our [website](http://website)



[rattleandrollperformance.com](http://rattleandrollperformance.com)  
enquiries@rattleandrollperformance.com  
07722 014301

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