

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford

*"Let us protect with love all that God has given us"
(Pope Francis 19.03.2013)*



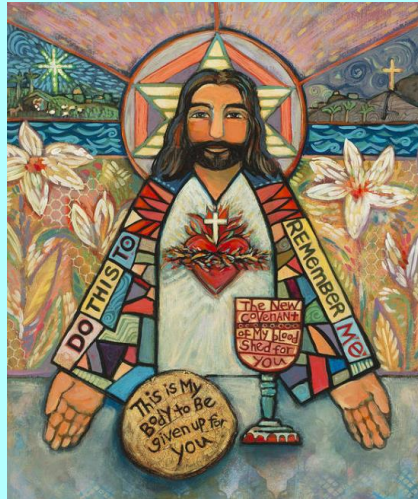
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16th June 2023



'Love is the decision to always want the best for the others and to help to attain it'

St Thomas Aquinas

Dear Families,

Today is the feast of the Sacred Heart. I was given this quote this week at a Headteacher meeting and felt it fitted so well with our school Mission.

What a wonderful start to this final term. The sun is shining and we are doing so many things. This is possibly the longest newsletter yet! We have had Year 3 camping (always a joy!), the grand opening of the polytunnel, an unexpected treat with the production of 'The Hobbit' as well as a safeguarding review by the Local Authority, Year 6 writing moderation visit and an invited RE inspection. And many other things besides. We are so proud of all that we do and we do it well!

Enjoy your weekend and, please be aware of UV rays.

Warm wishes

Jess Tweedie
Headteacher

Polytunnel – Grand Opening

We celebrated our new polytunnel with an official opening ceremony on Wednesday 14th June. The event, attended by Lord Mayor of Oxford - Councillor Lubna Arshad (see speech below), local councillors, school Governors, representatives of the PTA, Eco-Council pupils and staff, gave all those involved in funding and building the tunnel an opportunity to see how it is benefitting pupils in our school. The installation complements existing raised beds and fruit trees donated by Tree Council, Orchards for Schools Project and planted by pupils in the School's Eco Council in 2021. Pupils say "It is great to grow crops that we can eat in school" and "The plants grow better because it is warmer in the polytunnel". The project is also supports our Catholic Social Teaching 'Caring for our Community' and our progress towards the Cafod Live Simply Award which requires us to commit to actions demonstrating that we are living simply, sustainably and in solidarity with the poorest communities.

Brothers and Sisters,

First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for inviting me to speak here today as we gather to celebrate the successful completion of the polytunnel project. It is truly a moment of joy and accomplishment for all of us. During my time as the former cabinet member responsible for parks and waste reduction, I had the privilege of working alongside dedicated officers and local councillors who shared a common vision. Together, we joined forces to support St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School in acquiring a polytunnel. I must acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) as well. Through our collaborative efforts, we have successfully realized this goal.

In recent years, it has become increasingly vital to provide the students of St. Joseph's with outdoor learning opportunities. Not only does this help mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, but it also fosters a deeper understanding of the world through hands-on experiences and enables students to work together in groups, interacting with their environment. School gardening, in particular, offers tremendous potential for learning across various subjects, including Science, Maths, English, and Design Technology. Over the past few months, students from all year groups have enthusiastically participated in cultivating vegetables and flowers, constructing raised beds, implementing a water harvesting system, and sowing wildflower seeds.

However, the extended summer holiday and the unpredictable British weather present challenges, restricting what can be grown and harvested outdoors during the school year. Moreover, there is a genuine need for a sheltered outdoor space to conduct activities. The polytunnel we have built provides the perfect solution, offering a protective shelter for groups and creating a valuable growing space that will greatly benefit the school's gardening endeavours in the years to come. This development allows the school to utilize their own produce for meals, cooking lessons, and even potentially sell them to parents throughout the year.

I would also like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the volunteers who have dedicated their time and effort to make this project possible. Under the exceptional leadership of Ms. Tweedie, their unwavering commitment has brought us to this momentous occasion. I extend my gratitude to everyone involved in erecting the polytunnel, as well as the forest school teachers who demonstrated great resilience during the challenging times of the pandemic, ensuring the completion of this project.

Once again, I would like to convey my immense thanks to all individuals who have contributed to this achievement. I am filled with immense pride, knowing that the generations to come will learn about biodiversity, sustainability, and witness this school taking a lead in climate justice. The presence of Oxford's first polytunnel at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School serves as a beacon of hope, teaching our children the importance of caring for our planet.

Thank you all.



E-Safety

Navigating the world social media, internet and gaming with children and keeping them safe is hard and we recognise this. As a school we pride ourselves on protecting with love all members of our community. We also work to teach children about safe use of the internet through our Ten Ten programme and our Internet safety teaching. During the week after half term, we held our 'Internet Safety Week'. Children attended assemblies with a focus on keeping themselves safe online, with further work in class reinforcing these messages.

When children are exposed to inappropriate language, images and interactions outside of school, they may bring it to school to share. On the 8th June we held two sessions for parents to explain to families our approach to this and how our relationships and behaviours policy work. Parents who attended found the sessions very helpful and informative, with a chance to share experiences and approaches. We will send out the materials from these sessions to all parents for future reference.

Cricket Tournament – 6th June

Straight after half term, two teams of pupils accompanied me up the hill to a cricket event at Headington School. It was freezing cold but I was glad to see a former pupil organising the event! Some school had dropped out, but both of our teams triumphed in their games against Tyndale School Year 6 boys, one of these games producing a nail-biting finish. Another even closer game was between our own teams – look out cricketing world – we have some great bowlers!

Mr Ingram



Empathy Week – Ed Kirwan

On Tuesday 13th June, we had a visitor in UKS2. Ed Kirwan, the creator of Empathy Week and ex-pupil of St Joseph's, came in to talk to us about his work and the importance of showing empathy - the ability to understand someone's feelings. In UKS2 we have studied the stories of five people from Nepal who have taught us about empathy, and it was great to be able to meet the person behind this. We were able to see behind the scenes footage of the film work involved and learn a little bit about how the films were created. He told us to help people and play with others if they are on their own. It was both amazing and inspiring!

Written by Judy – Year 6



The Hobbit

On Monday, M&M Productions visited our school to perform 'The Hobbit' for our Key Stage 2 pupils. 'The Hobbit' was written by J.R.R Tolkien who lived in Sandfield Road, Headington. Years 5 and 6, who are rehearsing their own end-of-year performance took a keen interest in the acting, staging and use of props and lighting. Year 3 were able to link the Oxford author to their work on story-telling and their local study on the City of Oxford. The magical, energetic, music-filled performance was inspiring and exciting for the whole audience!



On Monday 12th June, as a treat, we watched 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R Tolkien...as a play! It was incredible! It was great to be able to share such a wonderful event together as a key stage again and even better to watch something that made us all so happy. There was singing and dancing and lots of wonderful acting as well. It has inspired me, and others in my class, to read 'The Hobbit' and maybe even more books by J.R.R Tolkien too now!

Written by Angharad – Year 6



Summer Swap Shop

Following the success of our other swap shops this year, our eco council would like to hold a final swap shop for this academic year on **Thursday 29th June**. The shop will be held on the main playground on the decking outside the Year 6 classrooms. We have lots of good quality uniform which we would love to share, whether it be for the end of the Summer Term or in preparation for the new academic year in September. All the items of uniform are free of charge. As always, we are really keen to promote the re-use of uniform instead of buying new.

Mrs Haines and Mr Davis-James

Uniform Reminder

There are lots of children getting hot and bothered in this weather. We would recommend that they do not wear thick woollen tights or vests this term. Children often remove jumpers/cardigans/fleeces during the day, please ensure all of these items are named so that they do not get lost! Children should always have a sun-hat and water bottle with them in school to ensure comfort and sun safety.

PTA SportsFest

We had a gloriously sunny day for the PTA SportsFest event on Saturday 10th June with children (and parents!) taking part in egg-and-spoon races, sack races and obstacle courses. The ping-pong, football and table football tournaments were hotly contested, and the BBQ and ice-cream stall saw a lot of action as athletes refuelled! Thank you so much to the PTA for organising such a fun event for our school community, raising over £400 in the process, and a huge thank you to all the volunteers and teachers who gave their time to make sure the day ran smoothly and safely.



Shakespeare Speaks

On Thursday 15th June, 3 of our pupils represented our school at the Shakespeare Speaks event at the Spires Academy. The morning's drama workshops prepared the competitors for an afternoon performance of either a Shakespearean monologue or duologue. Sofia (Year 5) came second overall in the monologue category with an outstanding performance from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*! The pupils had a great time and represented our school beautifully across the whole day.

Mr Turner

Year 3 Camping Residential



What a wonderful first residential experience our Year 3 pupils had this week!

The Big School Camp arrived on Tuesday morning with a trailer full of tents, which the children quickly got to grips with setting up. Both the Tuesday and the Wednesday were jam-packed with activities such as fire-making skills, building shelters, problem solving and strategy games.

The children ate well and slept soundly after all the fresh air. The leaders from the Big School Camp were very complimentary about our pupils who listened attentively and engaged in the activities with such enthusiasm.

The camp is a super introduction to residential visits, the children develop resilience and independence, learning to care for themselves, their belongings and people around them. Skills which they will further develop as they move through the school, participating in longer trips away.

A huge thank you to Mrs Chadbourne who stayed awake all night 'just in case' and to all the school staff who made the event possible.

St Joseph's Pupil Profile

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been **Intentional and Prophetic** this past fortnight

RO – Mrs Oates		RSM – Mrs Sekulic/Mrs McLachlan	Ada and Mikaeel
1MA – Miss May		1ML – Miss Mleczko	
2C – Miss Cook	Emma and Esther	2S – Mrs Smith	
3D – Mr Dillon	Kris	3M – Mrs Montes	Mason and Rhys
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter		4R – Mrs Ravenhill	Jamie and Diyan
5I – Mr Ingram	Harvey and Darasimi	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	
6H–Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon	Nilesh and Sofia	6T – Mr Turner	

Learning Charter Champions

Congratulations to the following pupils, our **Learning Charter Champions** this past fortnight

RO – Mrs Oates		RSM – Mrs Sekulic/Mrs McLachlan	Emmanuel and Ayra
1MA – Miss May	Iraklis and Matteo	1ML – Miss Mleczko	
2C – Miss Cook	Ze Pedro and Zainab	2S – Mrs Smith	
3D – Mr Dillon	Felicity and Micah	3M – Mrs Montes	Noah and Abdul
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter	Emilia and Kai Sinachi and Edward	4R – Mrs Ravenhill	
5I – Mr Ingram	Roza and Raphael	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	Bella
6H–Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon	Ibrahim and Ben	6T – Mr Turner	

Practical Help and Signposting

Sadly, things at the moment are difficult for many of our families. Bills all seem to be rising, and everything is getting more expensive. We want to make sure that all our families have support in place if it is needed. Even if your child is not eligible for Free School Meals, we may be able to help with uniform from our vast stock of good-quality second-hand items, we are able to refer to local Food Banks and signpost families to other sources of help, advice and support.

If you are struggling, please contact our home/school link worker, Mrs Kate Stratford. Her contact details are below. Mrs Stratford will be happy to talk to you in confidence to see what support we can offer.

If you need help towards paying for school trips, please contact the office to arrange a confidential conversation with Ms Tweedie.

Mrs Kate Stratford

Home/School Link Worker and Deputy DSL

Tel: 01865 763357 Mobile: 07500 802732

Email: kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Dairy Dates

Date	Year Group/Class	Event
Monday 19 th June – Friday 23 rd June	Year 6	Stone Farm residential
Thursday 29 th June	All year groups	Mass for the Feast of St Peter and St Paul
Thursday 29 th June	All year groups	Open Classrooms Event
Tuesday 4 th July	Year 1	Cotswold Farm Park trip
Tuesday 4 th July	Class 6H	IMPS trip
Wednesday 5 th July	Class 6T	IMPS trip
Wednesday 5 th July at 6:30pm	Choir, Handbells and Orchestra	Summer Concert
Friday 7 th July	All year groups	International Day
Wednesday 12 th and Thursday 13 th July	Year 6	Play performances

Thursday 13 th July (TBC)	All year groups	Sports Day
Friday 14 th July (TBC)	All year groups	Sports Day (weather reserve date)
Monday 17 th July	All year groups	Visiting new classes for next year!
Wednesday 19 th July	Year 6	Leavers Mass
Thursday 20 th July	Year 6	Leavers Assembly
Friday 21st July	All year groups	School finishes for all pupils at 1pm



1MA celebrating all their hard work in Phonic with a picnic!

Flyers and Information

CORPUS CHRISTI & OUR LADY OF LOURDES

SUMMER FETE

CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 25TH JUNE 2023
12PM (AFTER THE 11AM MASS)

MARGARET ROAD, HEADINGTON
OX3 8AJ

Summer BBQ, Cake stall, Repository, Italian Hamper Raffle, Pimms Bar,
Special Treasure Hunt for Children, Games
Everyone is welcome!



Ignite would like to let you know that they currently have open trials for under 8s and 9s for Oxford City Youth Girls. If your daughter is interested or you know someone that might be, please complete the following form:

[Under 8's and 9's trials](#)



Accessival

Accessible Festival for the whole community

Saturday 8th July 2023 - 11am-10pm
Music - Beer - Food - Play



Thomley's first festival is an opportunity for the whole community to experience the best of all the local festivals.

We will have various food stalls; alcohol stalls; live local bands on stage plus the best of Thomley for children and young people.

Bouncy castles, jumping pillow, archery, giant bubbles are just a handful of activities on offer to keep the younger generation entertained for the day. Wristbands are available to buy online at £14 each. Children have access to the majority of activities as part of their wristband.

There is also limited camping availability for those wishing to stay over.



Would you like to volunteer on the day? Please get in touch if you can help: festival@thomley.org.uk
Book your wristbands here: www.thomley.org.uk/events/festival/

Oxford Hoops Basketball Club






**U12 NATIONAL LEAGUE TRIAL
2023/24 SEASON**

**SUNDAY 25TH JUNE
12 - 14:00PM**

CHENEY SCHOOL, CHENEY LANE, OXFORD OX3 7QH

**FOR BOYS 10 - 12 YEARS OLD
IN SCHOOL YEARS 5, 6 AND 7 (Sep 2023)**

***** Your 12th birthday must be after 01st Sep 2023 *****

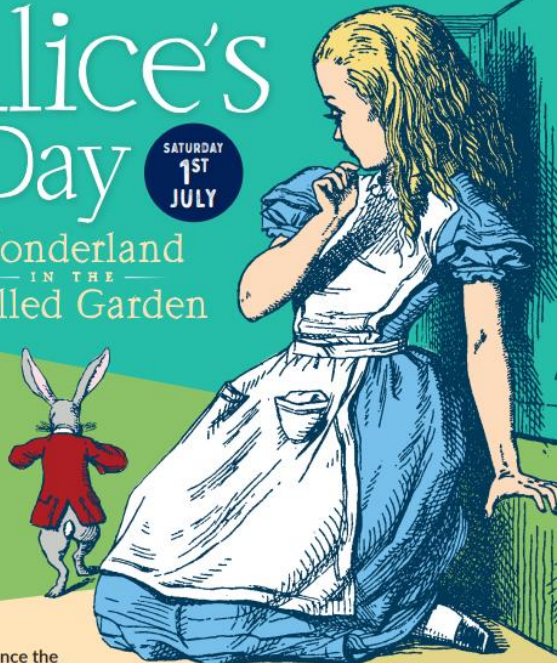
Please Pre-Register:
07827 331593 OR sales.oxhoops@gmail.com

REGISTRATION FEE
£7
PER PLAYER

www.oxfordhoops.co.uk
[@oxfordhoopsbasketballclub](https://twitter.com/oxfordhoopsbasketballclub)


Alice's Day SATURDAY 1ST JULY

Wonderland
IN THE
Walled Garden





Learn to dance the Lobster Quadrille, take part in the Queen's Croquet Match, or find out Who Stole the Tarts with WhatNot Theatre in three unique interactive performances

Scan here to book your tickets



Performances on the Event Lawn at 11am, 1pm and 3pm by ticket only
Botanic Garden open as usual
For more information visit obga.ox.ac.uk

Alice's Animals At MOXI MOXI Museum of Oxford



Alice's Day: Saturday 1st July

Gryphons, Bread-and-Butterflies and Mock Turtles, Oh My!

Help turn our museum into Wonderland by making your very own weird and wonderful animals creations!

£6 per child
Ages 5+

10.30-11.30am
12.30-1.30pm
2-3pm

Book your spaces at museumofoxford.org/whats-on or pop into our museum shop!

SWANFEST

12-3pm, Saturday, 24th June 2023
Marston Ferry Road



Stalls Games
BBQ Bar Coffee & Cakes
Plants Uniform Penalty Shoot Out
Obstacle Course Face Paints
Hook a Swan Family Fun



Free Entry
Blue badge parking only


REAL KINGDOMS
ADVENTURES



WARRIOR CAMP



**Holiday club
at
Hill End**

Role Play adventures

Week 1
Mon 24th July - Wed 26th July

Week 2
Mon 31st July - Wed 2nd August

Week 3
Mon 7th August - Wed 9th August

email info@greendragons.org.uk
for more details text
07830084877



**Fantasy adventures for
children aged 7 to 14 years old**

9:30am - 3:30pm

Single day £35.00
Early Drop-off £10.00
Late Pick-up £10.00






Grief support
for children
and young people
in Oxfordshire

LEGO Walk

Sunday 2 July 2023
Oxford City Football Club
Adult: £15 | Child: £10

Think you've got what it takes to
walk across 20,000 LEGO bricks?

Sign up today →
Visit: sobellhouse.org/events
Call: 01865 857007



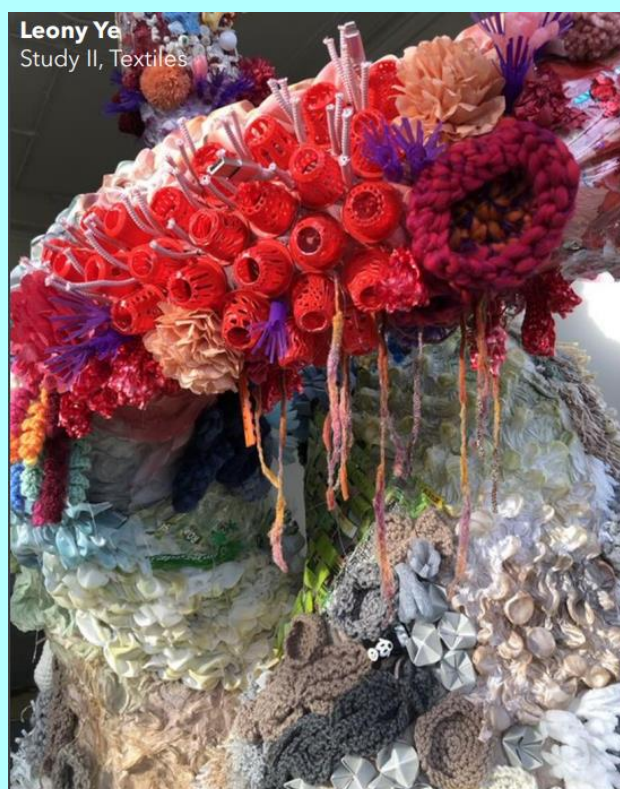



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TAKEAWAYS
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WYCHWOOD

SCHOOL • OXFORD

Art, Photography & Textiles Summer Exhibition

Join us to celebrate art from across the school

When: Monday 26th June 6pm - 8pm
At: Wychwood School Art Department, OX2 6JR
RSVP: admissions@wychwoodschool.org



Supporting Toddlers with a family connection
to autism or ADHD to develop strong
Attention, Regulation and Thinking skills

Recruitment open for a trial of a new programme to support
toddlers with a family connection to autism or ADHD

Researchers will play
with your child to
collect information
about their strengths
and difficulties.

Scan for information



or visit startproject.info

You may be invited to
take part in the
12 week START
programme, which
aims to help parents
provide toddlers with
additional support.

■ travel costs covered ■

■ online voucher after completion of questionnaires ■

■ BabyLab gift after each assessment ■

■ toys and activity ideas to take home after each START session ■

To be eligible for the study you must:

- have a child born after June 2021 who is suspected to be autistic OR whose mum, dad, brother or sister is autistic or has ADHD (diagnosed or suspected).
- be willing to attend weekly 1 hour parent-child sessions located in Oxford, over a 3 month period.
- be able to understand spoken English.



people



Principal Investigator: Dr Alexandra Hendry
Email: start@psy.ox.ac.uk
073108 76421

www.startproject.info

NIHR

National Institute for
Health and Care Research
Ethics approval reference: R6115/RE001