

# *St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford*

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



Headley Way, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7SX

Telephone: 01865 763357

Email: [office.3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023



*"Let us dream, then, as a single human family, as fellow travellers sharing the same flesh, as children of the same earth which is our common home, each of us bringing the richness of his or her beliefs and convictions, each of us with his or her own voice, brothers and sisters all"*  
(Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*) 8)

Dear Families,

Today we celebrated International Day. It has been lovely hearing all the connections everyone has to all corners of both the UK and the World. We are so lucky to share such diversity in our school and the children and staff, all have a story to share!

At St Joseph's we talk about treating each other with dignity and respect. As many will know, we use a restorative approach at school and we are really noticing a change in behaviours and children solving smaller issues themselves. We would like to explain this to you and invite all families to attend an online talk that explain what this means. Please see later in the newsletter for details.

It has been a very lively start to the year. It is always busy as we try to get classes organised, meet the teacher meetings and, this year, we have had quite a few new starters as well. Welcome to all our new families! We have also had the Year 6 trip to Stone Farm and next week Year 4 go to Youlbury. Again, this takes a lot of organisation and coordination. Thank you for bearing with us and thank you to our amazing office staff for their coordination.

Warm wishes

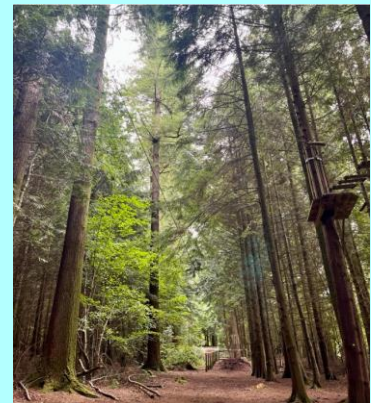
Jess Tweedie  
Headteacher

## Stone Farm

Many of our Year 6 pupils visited Stone Farm in Devon last week, they were so lucky with the weather and had a marvellous time. Thank you so much to the teachers and support staff who accompanied the trip, these experiences are not possible without their volunteering time and energy. What follows are the accounts of two of our Year 6 pupils:

*I really enjoyed Stone Farm for lots of different reasons. The most important reason to me, is that I got to spend the whole trip with my friends and we got to do lots of stuff together, like laughing at each other's jokes in our dorm, or naming the animals at the farm. It made my trip extremely enjoyable. Secondly, I enjoyed playing with all the animals, even the chickens! My favourite animals were the rabbits and the pigs. Thirdly, I enjoyed going to different places each day. The first day, we went to a place called Tree Surfers. It was amazing! We went on a massive zip line 70ft in the air! For me, it felt like I was flying through the air. The second day we went for a walk on Dartmoor. We first went to a man-made forest that contained the remains of some old roundhouses, tombs and a line of mysterious rocks. We then went to another part of Dartmoor and it had 3 tors (high hills with rocks at the top). It had a wheelwright and a blacksmith. The third day, we went to the beach! We went rock pooling, we found a few shrimps and a weird wriggly thing. Also we went swimming in the sea and we had fun jumping whenever a big wave came! I had really good time at Stone farm, and it was definitely the BEST residential trip I have ever been on!!*

*I really enjoyed Stone Farm because we got to bond with everybody even if we didn't know them that well, got to hold many animals and went on many trips. The first trip we went on was to a place called Tree Surfers. Tree Surfers is a parkour place where we got to play and even conquer our fears! We climbed ziplined and many more! The best activity was Jacob's Ladder because we got to work together the most and got to see who got to the highest step. On the second trip we got to go onto the tors. Tors are huge hills with rocks on them. We learnt the process of how people made solid wheels in past centuries and that a flowing body of water carried above the ground is called an aqua duct. One of the myths we were told about the moor is that if you walked over a bridge called The Clapper without clapping you would become ugly. On the last trip we went to a beach. We got to go rock pooling and found many different types of fishes. We also got to swim! During Thursday night we had a disco and everybody was partying. Overall, everybody had a great time and the experience was just amazing. I was so glad I went and wish I could do it again.*



## *‘Using a Restorative Approach – what this means in practice at St Joseph’s’*

We invite families to join us for an on-line presentation with the Headteacher and other members of staff to explain the restorative approach at our school. We are proud of the work we have done on changing behaviours and would welcome an opportunity to share this with the community.

**Meeting Venue: On-line**

**Time: 5.15-5.45pm**

**Date: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

If you would like to attend – please click on this form and we will send a meeting link out closer to the time.

[Link to form to register for meeting](#)

In the meantime, the Relationships and Behaviour Policy can be found on the school website

Please click for link – [Relationships and Behaviour Policy](#)

We would like to highlight this quadrant which gives a summary of the approach we use in school.

(Challenge, Boundaries, Structure)	<div>Doing To</div> <p>We endeavour to set <u>clear</u> boundaries for acceptable and unacceptable behaviours across the school (inside and outside). These are set out in policy, procedures and the law. These:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Keep everyone safe</li><li>• Ensure everyone can focus and learn (<i>'You cannot be in class because you are disturbing the learning. When you are ready to learn, you can come back inside.'</i>)</li></ul> <p>Where these are broken, there are given consequences which may be punitive/legal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Time out to self-regulate e.g. off the playground, learning break, completing unfinished work etc.</li><li>• Suspension</li><li>• Permanent Exclusion</li></ul>	<div>Doing With (restorative)</div> <p>This involves listening to (not excusing), removing blame, building trust and resolving root causes of conflict:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What happened?</li><li>• How do you feel? What were you thinking?</li><li>• Who was harmed?</li><li>• How can we fix it?</li></ul> <p>This is not just about saying sorry (that may be part of it) – it is about co-constructing a resolution that everyone is happy with and ensure behaviours do not re-occur. The 'fix it' may be just the conversation or may include an action. <u>This is not lip service.</u></p>	
	<div>Not doing</div> <p>Ignoring behaviour – walking by and not giving boundaries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sort it out yourself</li><li>• No guidance</li></ul> <p>This leads to an escalation in behaviours.</p> <p>(Ignoring behaviours can have a place in very specific, agreed instances, but never where someone could be harmed).</p>	<div>Doing For</div> <p>We may find that we need to model behaviour, responses and actions. This is especially true with younger pupils, pupils who are new to the English education system or some pupils with SEND. This may involve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Modelling feelings or thoughts <i>'I think what xxxx is saying is ....' 'It looks like you may be feeling ...'</i></li><li>• Explaining/teaching ripples of harm - who has been harmed/affected as a result of actions</li><li>• Suggesting an action to model how to resolve an issue.</li></ul>	
	LOW	LOW	HIGH
		(Nurture, Support, Encouragement)	

### EYFS Newsletter

Due to staff absence, the EYFS newsletter was not distributed today as usual. It will be sent to families on Monday instead.

### Lunchboxes

We are a **nut free school** as we have children in school with severe allergies to nuts and nut products. Please make sure that your child's lunchbox does not contain nuts or nut products such as Nutella or peanut butter.

## **Secondary School Applications**

Parents/Carers of Year 6 pupils

The deadline for applying to secondary school is Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October. There is plenty of time! Secondary schools will be holding open events during September and October, check the secondary school's website for information about these events. We would always recommend that you attend these, not just for your top choice of school but also for other schools you are considering.

You have an option to apply for up to 4 schools. We would strongly recommend you enter 4 schools on your application. Applying for more schools will not reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school. Our home/school link worker, Kate Stratford, is available to help and support parents with their applications if you would find this useful.

Secondary schools are starting to run open evenings. I would urge you to go along to one or two to give you and your child an insight into the school they might be going to next September.

***Open Event information for local secondary schools can be found at the end of this newsletter.***

## **Collection at the end of the day**

In order to keep our children safe, please ensure that they do not climb or play on the large outdoor equipment in the Early Years, Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 playgrounds. Thank you for your help!

## **Stay-and-Play Sessions**

Our first stay-and-play session was held on Wednesday and the children who attended had a lovely time. Please do join us for tea, coffee and chat while the children play.

**FAMILY STAY AND PLAY**  
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

**COME AND JOIN US!**  
WEDNESDAYS DURING TERM TIME  
9AM - 10AM  
AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB ROOM

FRIENDSHIP & COMMUNITY  
TODDLER TOYS AND GAMES  
COLOURING AND CRAFT ACTIVITY  
REFRESHMENTS AND SNACKS

**WHY PLAY WITH US?**

- Meet and chat with other parents and carers from the St Joseph's Catholic Primary School community
- Activities to support your child's early learning
- Baby area
- Free drop-in session, no sign-up or cost.

**ST JOSEPHS**

### **Open Afternoon 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

We are holding an open afternoon on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 1:30pm-3pm for families with children starting school for the first time in September 2024. If you have a pre-school age child or know of families who do, please do share the information with them. The event will involve a tour of the school and a talk from the Headteacher.

### **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](mailto:kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

### **Dairy Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Year Group/Class</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>International Day with a Family Picnic from 5pm</b>
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 4	Youlbury residential
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> October		Open Event for entry into Reception September 2024
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	All families	<b>School Presentation on</b> <i>'Using a restorative approach to behaviour – what it means in practice'</i>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2	Oxford Castle trip
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	All year groups	Half Term break
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	All year groups	INSET (no pupils in school)
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	All year groups	INSET (no pupils in school)
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	6H	Junior Citizens
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	6T	Junior Citizens
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	All year groups	Parents/Carers Consultation Meetings with teachers
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	All year groups	Parents/Carers Consultation Meetings with teachers
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 4-6	Advent Penitential Service
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	All year groups	End-of-term Mass
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	All year groups	School finishes at 1:30pm

# Greyfriars School Open Evening 2023

## Thursday 5th October 6pm - 8pm

All prospective students and their families are invited to our Open Evening. This is an opportunity to have a look around our school and meet our students and staff. This will be followed by open mornings on 9th, 10th and 11th October from 9am until 11am - please contact the school to book your place. We look forward to welcoming you to Greyfriars.



The Oxford Academy  
Year 6 Open Evening  
27<sup>th</sup> September 15:30-18:00



**OPEN EVENTS**

<b>Open Evening</b>	Thursday 28 September
5.30pm - 8pm Presentations at 5.30pm and 6.30pm	
<b>Open Mornings</b>	Monday 25 September Thursday 28 September Tuesday 17 October
9.00am - 10.30am Tour at 9.00am and Presentation at 9.45am	

[www.cheneyschool.org](http://www.cheneyschool.org)



**THE CHERWELL SCHOOL**  
OPPORTUNITY, RESPONSIBILITY, EXCELLENCE

**THE CHERWELL SCHOOL OPEN EVENING**

The Cherwell School Open Evening Thursday 28th September 2023 Booking now available: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-cherwell-school-open-evening-28th-september-2023-tickets-713757797787?aff=oddtcreator>



HOME PAGE JOINING THE SCHOOL SIXTH FORM OUR SCHOOL PARENTS STUDENTS

Home » Visit Our School

## Visit Our School

### Year 7 Open Events

Applications are now open for year 7 entry in September 2024. We are offering a number of open events to give families a chance to visit us and find out about our fantastic school.

#### Open Evening

This year's open evening will be on **Wednesday 4th October 2023 (5-7pm)**. This will be a chance to tour our facilities and speak to our staff and students about what we have to offer. Although there is no limit on those who can attend, it is helpful for us to have an idea of numbers so we can plan accordingly.

Dear Parents and Carers

**Re: Wheatley Park School Open Evening and Open Morning 2023**

I am delighted to invite you to our upcoming Open Evening and Open Morning. As your child approaches secondary education age, we relish the opportunity to show you what Wheatley Park has to offer.

Our vision is to provide an outstanding education in the very broadest sense to each and every one of our students in accordance with our core school values of Everyone Learning and Everyone Caring.

Our Open Evening will give you a chance to see the school for yourselves. You will be able to meet the staff and appreciate their passion for their work. You will also be able to talk to students of all ages to get a sense of how much they enjoy school life and are involved in their learning. The Open Morning provides an additional opportunity to see the school on a normal working day.

We understand that the choice of a secondary school is an important and sometimes daunting matter. Please do take the opportunity to visit on either or both of these occasions and make sure that all your questions are answered. Equally, you are welcome to make an appointment for a visit at another time or to discuss your child's particular circumstances.

Our Open Evening will start at **6.00pm on Tuesday 26th September**. You will be able to join a student-led tour or explore the school freely. There will be two Headteacher talks to ensure all families are able to attend. You can either arrive at 6pm for Mr. Martin's presentation in the Main Hall with a tour of our site afterwards, or you will be able to arrive after 6pm for a tour of our school followed by a 7.30pm presentation with Mr Martin. The evening will end after the second Headteacher talk at 8pm.

In addition to this, our Open Morning will be from **9.00am until 10.45am on Friday 29th September**, beginning with a welcome reception in the Sixth Form Study Room located within the Sixth Form Centre. Please park in the main school car park adjacent to the Sixth Form Centre unless directed otherwise for both events.

On behalf of everyone at Wheatley Park, we look forward to welcoming you in person to our beautiful parkland site.

**OPEN MORNING- Saturday**  
**23 September 10:00 - 12:30**

 Our Lady's Abingdon School

 [ola.org.uk/open](http://ola.org.uk/open)







## Girls Only Football Camp October Half Term 2023



GIRLS ONLY 4-13 YEARS OLD

£99 FOR 5 DAYS

£30 PER DAY

9AM - 3PM

23rd - 27th October 2023

Venue:

The Oxford Academy (indoor sports hall / dome)  
Sandy Lane  
Littlemore  
Oxford OX4 6JZ

Book Now: <https://ouitc.org/course/holiday-courses/>



## OXFORD KARATE CLUB



**NEW BEGINNERS WELCOME !!  
BOOK A FREE TRIAL LESSON NOW !!**

TUESDAYS

HEADINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

6-7PM

(CHILDREN AGE 5 + )

7-8PM

(TENNAGERS & ADULTS)



**LIMITED SPACES AVAILABLE !!  
FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED!!**

**BOOK YOUR TRIAL ONLINE !!**

OR CONTACT LUKE MOUNTNEY DIRECT VIA PHONE

**07398195671 [www.usko-karate.co.uk](http://www.usko-karate.co.uk)**

**THEATRE & CREATIVITY WORKSHOPS**  
where imagination can run wild!

For ages 5-19  
Autumn term &  
October half term  
Oxford

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

**UNLEASH YOUR CHILD'S IMAGINATION**

**WEEKLY DRAMA CLUBS**

Each term, our Drama Clubbers choose a Shakespeare or classic text and devise and create their own version over 12 weeks. This culminates in a final showing for friends and family on the last day of term. Our clubs are the perfect environment for children looking to improve their stagecraft skills, build confidence, make friends and, of course, to have fun!

Working with facilitators and actors who nurture imaginations and give equal roles to all means that everyone has the chance to learn new skills, perform, and to explore classic stories.

*"Creation provides children with invaluable life lessons in public performing, ad libbing, letting their imaginations run riot, confidence, working together and meeting new and creative people. A massive success all round then."*  
The Oxford Times

Age	Day	Time	Venue
5-7s	Saturday	10-11am	St Peter's Church, Wolvercote
8-10s	Wednesday	4:30-5:30pm	Headington Baptist Church
8-10s	Saturday	4-5pm	St Peter's Church, Wolvercote
11-13s	Wednesday	5:30-6:30pm	Headington Baptist Church
11-13s	Saturday	11am-1pm	St Peter's Church, Wolvercote
13+	Saturday	2-4pm	St Peter's Church, Wolvercote

**PUT ON A PLAY IN A WEEK WORKSHOPS**

October half term | 6-8s and 9-12s | Wolvercote School  
Christmas holidays | 6-8s and 9-12s | The North Wall

**ENROL NOW | 01865 766266**  
[WWW.CREATIONTHEATRE.CO.UK](http://WWW.CREATIONTHEATRE.CO.UK)

**YOU MOVE**

**Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!**

You Move is brand new for Oxfordshire, providing low cost and free fun activities for families including weekends and school holidays

**It's quick and easy to sign up for You Move:**

- 1) visit [www.getoxfordshireactive.org/you-move](http://www.getoxfordshireactive.org/you-move) to register or call your local activator for more information (info below)
- 2) we'll send you a You Move welcome pack and membership cards
- 3) your local Activators will be on hand to provide lots of support and advice

Enjoy a fantastic range of activities including swimming, badminton, activity packs, children's holiday activities and so much more!

**Oxford City Activators**  
Ben - 07483 010720  
Gerti - 07485 311346

You Move is here to offer free and low cost activities for children on benefit related free school meals and their families

**OCTOBER HALF TERM AT...**

**USE CODE BAT10 FOR 10% OFF\***

**ELITE CAMPS**

**BOTLEY SCHOOL**

**MON 23RD - FRI 27TH OCT**

**EXTENDED HOURS**

**AGES 5 - 13**

**30+ Sports Elite Activities Arts & Crafts Fancy Dress**

**BOOK NOW**

**Ofsted Registered**

\*Discount code expires 30.09.2023

Cyclox is organising another Kidical mass, this time with even more attractions in Broad St to greet the riders.

Join us for our last Kidical mass of the year on Sunday 24th September. Family friendly bike rides from near your home to Broad St. Riders leave at 1pm from John Radcliffe Helipad, Flo's in the Park cafe, Oatlands play park, Botley Rd and Summertown Ferry Centre car park. Or join us in Broad St about 2pm and cycle back with the group.

**There's absolutely no need to book**, you just turn up and go for a ride - but putting your name on [this list](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oxford-kidical-mass-24th-sept-tickets-692590876957?aff=oddtcreator) means we can let you know of any changes to the plans.

The booking site is <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oxford-kidical-mass-24th-sept-tickets-692590876957?aff=oddtcreator>

- A fun family-friendly bike ride for all ages and a celebration of children cycling
- Join Cyclox volunteers leading feeder rides from across the city
- Groups merge in traffic-free Broad St outside the Weston Library (east end of Broad St)
- Bubble bike, badges and chocolates!
- Mass ride round the city centre leaves at 2pm
- [James Jibberish](#) of Magic for Smiles will perform magic tricks to entertain young riders
- Return via marshalled rides back to starting points leaving Broad after the show at 3pm

# Autumn FAIR HARCOURT ARBORETUM



AUTUMN MARKET  
WITH INDEPENDENT  
OXFORDSHIRE MAKERS  
AND PRODUCERS  
FAMILY CRAFTS  
PETTING ZOO  
FOOD & DRINK  
FRIENDS' CAKE STALL  
BOTANICAL  
ILLUSTRATIONS  
AND MUCH MORE!

**14 OCTOBER 2023** | FROM 10AM

BUY TICKETS IN THE WELCOME CENTRE  
OR SCAN THE CODE TO BUY ONLINE  
CAR PARK BOOKING ESSENTIAL OR USE FREE  
SHUTTLE BUS FROM REDBRIDGE PARK & RIDE

HARCOURT ARBORETUM, NUNEHAM COURTENAY OX44 9PX  
OBGA.OX.AC.UK

