Newsletter #26

Friday 20th April 2024

Web: <u>www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk</u> Email: <u>office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk</u> Phone App: Search "School Jotter" <u>Standard Termly Reminders</u>



Welcome back to Summer Term 5 and a very special day today...it's our 25th Birthday!

Thank you for celebrating with us today; for dressing in something shiny, silver or grey and for all your donations of silver coins (can you spot them in the drone photo above!). The children really embraced the day. We started with an assembly

at which I showed the children pictures of the school being built followed by Mrs Fowkes leading a lovely rendition of 'You've Got a Friend in Me' (which was the hit song in the year the school was built).

A very big thank you to John, aka Mr Whippy! John made our celebration extra special by giving every child an ice-cream or lolly. Please thank him if you see him! We also did a small celebration for Gill (who doesn't like a big fuss being made). She is the longest standing member of staff at the school and spends such an immense amount of her time looking after us by providing our lunches and making sure the school is ready at the start of each



day. She deserves infinite praise for the work she puts in every day. She now has a silver medal.



Pictured by the ice cream van are the winners of today's birthday sticker competition: Yaa, Ana, Kinan, Ben, Dominics, Lucy, Chloe, Jennifer, James, Zachary, Tommy, Filip, Aimee and Lucy. Our winners received a medal and enjoyed the first ice-cream of the day! You can see their amazing artwork below. Congratulations!

Year 6 formed a human 25 for a drone shot, kindly taken by Matt Burnett. Matt also managed to get a fantastic view of the whole school with the silver coins in the courtyard. His time is much appreciated.

A group of year 6s spent most of the afternoon collecting up the coins, they haven't finished yet but it's over £650 so far! This will go towards the courtyard fund for writing, drawing and quiet play equipment. Everyone looked very sparkly and happy even through unforecast downpours!



This week...

Classes 1, 2 and 3 have been super-excited this week with the arrival of our eggs, which then very quickly hatched into chicks! All chicks have hatched so we have 20 noisy chicks in total. The children have been kept very busy observing the changes and making lots of pictures and puppets of the chicks and also presents for them. They are off to stay with our volunteers over the weekend. Keep an eye on the google classroom for updates!



Celebrating Success

During Easter, Felicity put on a show with her Stagecoach group. She played the role of Lilian Sonata in the play Melody Manor. It was a musical using songs from High School The Musical and The Greatest Showman. Felicity sang a solo in front of a crowd of parents and siblings. She said she worked hard but had a brilliant time on stage. Well done Felicity!



Please see the end of the newsletter for this week's 'Word of the Week'!

Dates for Term 5...

Tuesday 23rd April	 Class 14 Rewley Road Trip - children to arrive at school promptly at 8.30am to be registered on the coach. <u>Refer to letter sent 27/02</u> Class 11 Swimming - remember swimwear and goggles! Year 5 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets!
Wednesday 24th April	 Class 15 Rewley Road Trip - children to arrive at school promptly at 8.30am to be registered on the coach. <u>Refer to letter sent 27/02</u>

Thursday 25th April	• Choir Club 3.10 - 4.15pm					
Friday 26th April	• Year 1 Oxford Museum of Natural History Trip - letter sent 26/02					
Tuesday 30th April	 Class 11 Swimming - remember swimwear and goggles! Last lesson. Year 5 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets! 					
Wednesday 1st May	• Year 3 Didcot Railway Centre Trip - <u>letter sent 21/02</u>					
Thursday 2nd May	• Choir Club 3.10 - 4.15pm					
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED					
Thursday 9th May	• Choir Club 3.10 - 4.15pm					
I	Monday 13th - Friday 17th May - Year 6 SATS Week					
Tuesday 14th May	Year 5 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets!					
Thursday 16th May	• Choir Club 3.10 - 4.15pm					
Monday 20th May	 Foundation Stage Farms2Ewe Visit (in school) - <u>letter sent 20/02</u> Class photos - Class 1, Reception and Year 6 Big Summer Sing - Choir Pupils 					
Tuesday 21st May	 DGS & SBS Transition Visit at LPPS, 9am - letter sent home 17/04 Year 5 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets! 					
Thursday 23rd May	• Class photos - Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6					
Friday 24th May	Last day of term - normal finish time					

Notices

Sickness and Absence	Please notify the school office <u>every day</u> of your child's absence. Please either email <u>office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk</u> or call to leave a message on 01235 519235 by 9am. Clearly state your child's full name, class and the specific reason for absence (including the symptoms of the illness). Please refer to this useful <u>NHS guide - Is my child too ill for school?</u> If your child is ill for 3 days or more, ensure to consult your GP and to inform the school of the outcome.
Extended Schools Billing	Term 5 After School Club fees have been charged on ParentPay. Breakfast Club will be charged next week. Please make payment as soon as possible.
Curriculum Newsletter and Knowledge Organisers	The Curriculum Newsletters and Learning Organisers should now have been shared on Google Classroom. A copy of these can also be found on our website under the Our Curriculum> Year Group tabs.
Summer Term Clubs	Emails have gone home this week via ParentPay to confirm if your child got a place at a club. Please note that when a club is oversubscribed, priority will be given to those that have not yet attended a club so far this academic year and then, if necessary, children's names will be picked at random.

Foundation Stage - Living Eggs/Farms2Ewe	Just a reminder to parents of Class 1, 2 and 3 to make payment on ParentPay to help support our Living Eggs (chicks!) and upcoming Farms2Ewe visit. This will show on ParentPay as FS Farms2ewe/Living Eggs 2024 . Many thanks!			
Year 1 Oxford Museum of Natural History Trip - 26th April	Please remember to login to ParentPay and make payment for this trip as soon as possible if you haven't already done so. A copy of the trip letter can be found on the website here - <u>https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/calendar-1/timetable</u>			

Inclusion

Work continues to improve services for children with special educational needs and disabilities in Oxfordshire. Highlights from press release below:

Oxfordshire's local area partnership continues to make progress to improve services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

Progress includes an investment into SEND services by Oxfordshire County Council; plans to expand the number of educational places for children with social, emotional and mental health difficulties (SEMH) and autism spectrum disorder (ASD) are taking shape; a review of children's therapy services is underway by NHS Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Berkshire West Integrated Care Board (BOB ICB); and a number of regular information sharing opportunities and engagement events are now in place.

The Oxfordshire SEND Strategic Improvement and Assurance Board (SIAB) made up of senior leaders from across the partnership, including Oxfordshire Parent Carer Forum (OxPCF), is also well established with a clear programme of improvement. The board has been set-up to drive the actions required to deliver better services for SEND children, young people and their families.

Councillor Kate Gregory, Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet Member for SEND Improvement, said: "We continue to make progress in our improvement journey but it will take time for real changes to be felt by all families. We are working together as a partnership to review, reset and rebuild services listening to what matters most to children, young people with SEND and their families.

SEND e-newsletters have also been set-up to share helpful information and updates. Parents and carers can sign up for the e-newsletter online. In addition, online support for parents and carers of children with SEND has been improved to make it easier to find information. Further improvements will continue. Information can be accessed at oxfordshire.gov.uk/localoffer

The Witherslack Group is the UK's leading education provider for children and young people with special educational needs. They create many webinars and resources to support parent/carers.



Join them on Thursday 25 April for an insightful webinar 'Empowering Autistic Children',

presented by Sam Bailey, X-Factor Winner, Influencer & proud parent of a child with autism, sharing her perspective on navigating a neurodiverse family life.

Date: Thursday 25 April

Time: 10am-11am (Including Q&A)

During this webinar, Sam will share her experience during the early stages of discovering her child's autism, the challenges of obtaining a diagnosis, and strategies for navigating and embracing everyday life. She'll also provide her top tips for supporting family home-life, discussing managing sibling relationships, rolling out routines, and the best ways to support your child's regulation.

Click Here To Register





Message from Busby House Dental Surgery, Didcot:

I am writing to inform you of the current situation of NHS Dentistry and a new scheme to allow access to NHS Dental Care at Busby House.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, we lost 6 NHS Dentists and have found ourselves in a Nationwide crisis with the inability to recruit NHS Dentists, despite our Practice Owners going to vast lengths to secure incoming staff to aid us on the NHS.

Unfortunately, the harsh reality is that there is a huge shortage of NHS Dentists currently in the UK. The Dental Schools are not producing enough Clinicians to fulfil the needs to meet NHS targets and those who do begin their career journey on the NHS, soon avail themselves to independent Dentistry or move abroad.

Our Practice Owners have gone to extreme lengths to recruit from abroad to increase our NHS capacity, however this has been fraught with a mountain of red tape and takes an extended period to secure the right candidate.

This situation is not unique to our Practice and all our colleagues Nationwide are facing a similar situation.

The Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, and Berkshire West (BOB) Integrated Care Board (ICB) Flexible Commissioning scheme is to support more vulnerable patient groups where there are clear health inequalities with the aim of achieving greater equity of access to NHS dental services.

We are pleased to be able to offer the scheme to the below patients:

- Those who have not attended the Practice in the previous 2 years
- People relocating to the area who cannot access NHS services
- Looked After Children, who are very vulnerable and the responsibility of the local authorities
- Families of armed forces personnel
- Asylum seekers and refugees, who have never had dental services in this country
- Other groups which may be locally identified who are more vulnerable

We are aware that lots of children have not seen a Dentist since the COVID-19 pandemic and want to prioritise them in these clinics. As a registered dental nurse, I am far too aware of the need for children to see a Dentist regularly to ensure that they are dentally stable and pain-free.

We currently have limited availability until August 2024 but hope to have these clinics extended. The child or parent would need to meet one of the above criteria to be eligible for the scheme. For further information, visit the <u>Busby House Facebook Page</u>.



Standard Termly Reminders

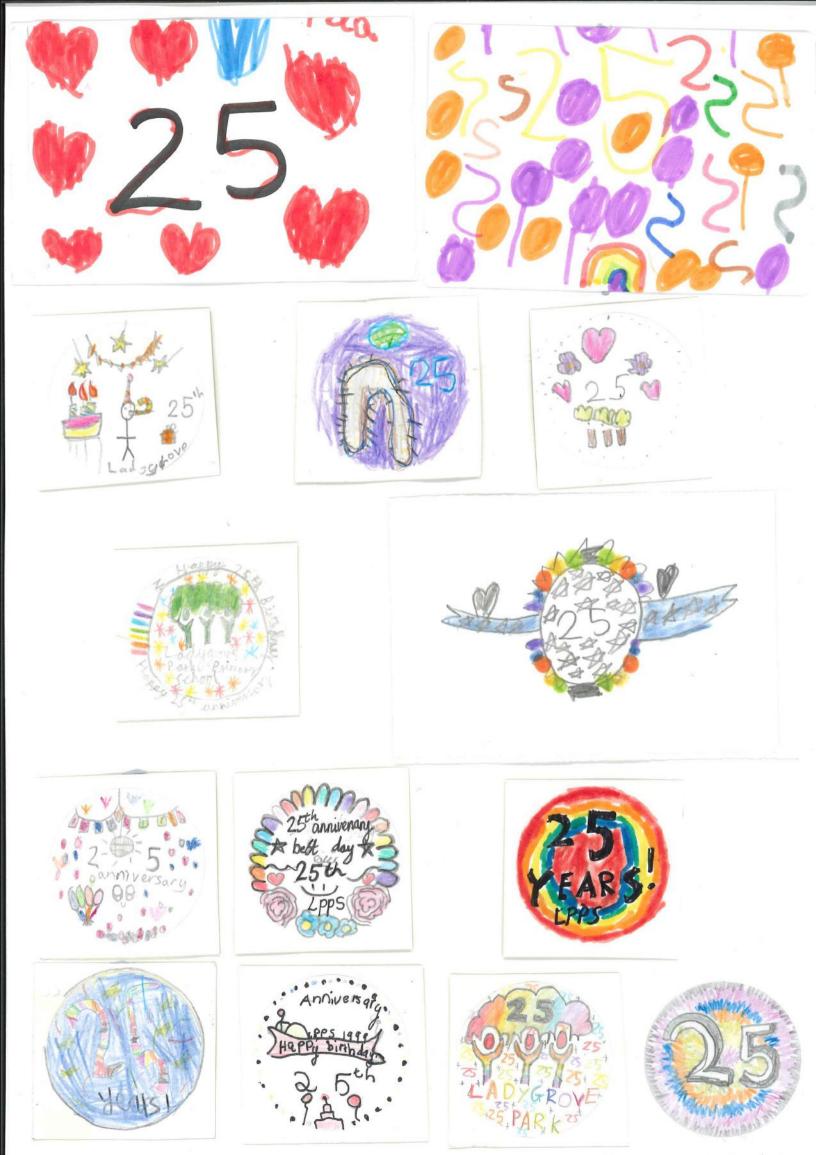
Reminders

We send you the standard reminders at the start of term. We will always keep you up to date through weekly newsletters and parent updates (where necessary).

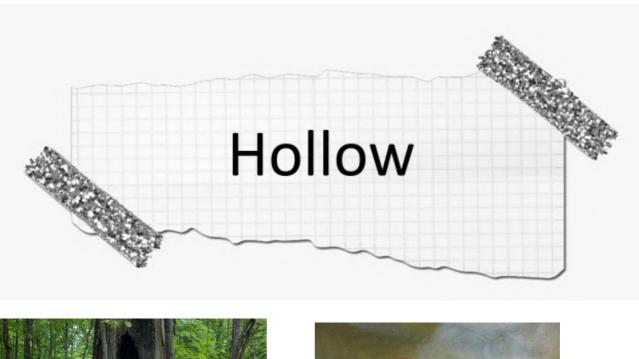
Parent Helpers	If you are a parent helper- thank you! You will need to talk to the office before coming to help. They have to run through some safeguarding matters with you before you can start.				
Gates	There are always staff on the gates to help you at drop off or pick up times. During the daytime all access to the interior of school is locked. Note that we close the main reception gates, path gate (by the kitchen) and the car p gates but these gates are not locked (so you can access the front office). We ask that you close the gates behind when you leave.				
Social Media	Any inappropriate or disproportionate comments regarding the school or any of the pupils, parents or staff, on social media sites such as Facebook are not in the best interests of the whole school community. Parents should be aware that even flippant comments can be vastly misinterpreted when in print and are often shared beyond your online friendship groups, negatively affecting others. Any concerns you may have should always be made through the appropriate channels by speaking to the classteacher, headteacher or office staff, so they can be dealt with fairly, appropriately and effectively for all concerned.				
Home Time	Children in Foundation Stage and KS1 are always handed over to their parents by a member of staff at the end of the school day. Children in KS2 exit through their class doors and are instructed to find their parents. They are told that if they cannot find their parent/childminder they are to come back into their classroom and tell their teacher. Please can you reiterate this to your child. If you happen to be late picking up, please notify the school office and we will get a message to your child if it is before 3pm. If we know you are going to be late, the children can sit supervised in Reception.				
Dropping Off and Picking Up	Parents are respectfully asked to park with care and consideration at the beginning and end of the school day. These are busy and sometimes frustrating times as it gets very congested- the roads were not designed for the number of cars we now use. Please also give consideration to our very young or disabled children when you bring your child into school. Some of our children have mobility issues and may lose their balance if jostled. I go out to monitor the road when possible but this is not part of the school's remit therefore we involve the PSCO if necessary. Please do not use the entrance to the car park as a drop off or pick up point, this causes further congestion and hazard.				
DISABLED PARKING BAYS	We have parents and children in school for whom it is essential to use these spaces - <u>please do not park in these</u> <u>bays unless you are eligible</u> . Thank you.				
Safety Drills	Fire drills take place termly and the cluster point is the KS2 playground. Invacuation practice takes place once a year. Staff are aware of the expectations for lockdown and escort all children. These drills are highly beneficial although they usually lead to wild rumour amongst the children! Please assume that there will be drill practices at any time during the year.				
You will know that we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children at the you have any safeguarding concerns, Andrew Markham, Elaine Li-Koo, and Carly Clarkson are the design safeguarding leads at school. Posters with pictures of these staff are all around school. Anne Addison and Alex Meyer are the designated safeguarding officers at our Extended Schools/After					

Cycle safety	Please ensure your child wears a helmet at all times, evidence shows that these can save lives and historical local incidents have shown that injuries from falls while cycling around Ladygrove estate have been minimised by the use of helmets.
Online safety	The potential dangers of social networking sites are often highlighted in the news. <u>http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk</u> has sections for parents and children. We talk to children about online safety in assemblies and during computing lessons but you should follow this up at home. At home, the important aspect is ensuring children have the skills and understanding to deal with an issue if it arises, since it is becoming harder to monitor what they are doing on personal devices. Some aspects of online activity are helpful for socialising at distance but some media practices have been linked to mental health issues, especially for adults. Please take care of yourself as well as being a role model for all our children.
Holidays/Absences	We have to monitor absence meticulously. If your child is not in school, whatever the reason, you must notify us by leaving a message on our answerphone before 9am each day. We need very clear details from you if your child is absent. This could even help identify illness patterns. Term time holidays are not allowed and will be recorded as unauthorised absence in line with government legislation. If you need to take your child out of school, you must request this in writing beforehand. Please note that we monitor all absence and when below 95% we may contact parents to discuss attendance expectations- depending on specific circumstances. Below 90% we may need to involve external services- depending on specific circumstances. Over a whole school year 90% attendance is 10 school days absence. We also send letters home as reminders of current percentages, especially when below 90%.
Food Allergies	We have children in school who have various complex food allergies or needs and special lunchtime procedures to help keep them safe. If your child has a packed lunch please ensure they know they are not to 'share' food or eat food from another child's packed lunch. Please take this into account when bringing in class treats to share out (eg. birthdays).
Photographs	A little while ago, we sent out a form asking regarding photo consent. You may have also completed this on your Pupil Enrolment Form when your child started at our school. This tells us when we are able to use photos of your child. We take photographs or videos of the children at our school mainly for educational purposes but sometimes for promotional reasons. For example- promotional images may be used on our school website, in publications that we produce or on displays in school. Educational images may be used to allow teachers to reflect on their teaching. Our school may be visited by the media who will take photographs or film footage.
	Parents can normally take photographs at school events but strictly for their personal use, these cannot be made public unless you have gained permission from everyone in the image. On some occasions, it may be necessary to retract this opportunity, depending on the circumstances of the particular event or year group.
School Photographer	Twice a year we commission a company called Starlight Images to take individual photographs and class photographs for parents to purchase. If you need to check that you have given permission for these photos to be taken please contact the office.
Trips	If a payable trip is planned any payments are required via ParentPay. A letter will be sent home detailing information about ParentPay for any new children. The letter will have an activation code on it for you to use. Please note that Years 4 and 6 have residential trips during the summer term. We allow ample time to pay for these trips but often make a loss due to one or two parents failing to pay the balance. If you have any problems paying for your trip, please contact the school office.
Local Area Trips	Schools do not need to ask for parental consent for school trips during the school day. We won't, therefore, ask your permission for local trips (e.g. to the park or local library) but you will always be made aware in advance that they are taking place. Children are always accompanied by an appropriate number of school staff members and risk assessments undertaken.
ParentPay	Please check your ParentPay account to see if you have any outstanding monies due to be paid.
PE Kits	We have a sharp and smart look for PE and children currently wear their kit to school on PE days. Pupils wear their house colour t-shirts as standard PE kit. Children will be expected to wear a house coloured t-shirt with or without a logo, blue shorts, trainers for outdoors, warm top and jogging bottoms when it is cold. Kits should also be labelled.
Medicine	Whilst we appreciate the difficulty parents may face, I'm sure you understand that we have over 400 children in school and staff cannot be responsible for administering prescribed medicines to individual children at individual times unless there are special circumstances. Thank you.

Inhalers	Children must have their 'named' and 'in-date' inhaler at school <u>at all times</u> (this is a parental responsibility). If, over the holidays your child has been given an inhaler for the first time please speak to the school office as you we need to complete relevant paperwork.				
Medical Conditions	Whatever medical conditions your child has please ensure we have this information in writing. If your child requires antihistamine or an epipen please remember it is your responsibility to ensure medication is replaced when it expires.				
Dogs	Dogs are not allowed on school premises. Please leave your dogs tied up outside by the school gates.				
Mobile phones	If it is necessary for your child to bring a mobile phone to school then please speak to your child's class teacher. All mobile phones must be switched off upon entering the school gates and remain switched off all day. Your child is expected to hand their mobile phone to their teacher upon entering the building so that they can be kept in a safe place. If your child does not hand their phone in the school cannot take responsibility for any loss or damage and any use will be breaking school rules as lack of safety.				
Breakfast and After School Clubs	 Breakfast Club runs from 8am till school start time; children are provided with breakfast and social time. We have a varied menu that will meet the needs of even the most selective of children! Breakfast Club costs £5 per session and is open to all children. After School Club runs from school end to 6pm. It ensures a smooth transition from school to child-care. The children are offered a snack on arrival and a light meal halfway through the session. It costs £11 per session and is open to all children in school. Fees are invoiced a term in advance. Payment must be made via ParentPay or childcare vouchers only. It will be necessary to chase non-payment. Any queries please contact Heather in the office. Parents are respectfully asked NOT to use the school car park or entrance to the car park to drop off their child to Breakfast Club. If you need to book places in our Breakfast Club or After School Club please complete the booking form online here - https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/contact/after-school-club Please can bicycles belonging to After School Club children be left in the cycle racks outside the main reception area. Thank you. 				
Extra Curricular Clubs	Clubs usually happen straight after school, run by staff covering aspects such as science, art, gardening and various sports. These will be communicated via the office at the start of each term.				
School Uniform and the shop	 We believe that a school uniform is important: it looks smart, contributes to a sense of belonging and community, gives a common purpose, makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance to help to reduce any prejudice, fosters a feeling of pride and is designed with health and safety in mind. We expect that all children will wear the uniform when necessary and encourage them to maintain a good quality of clean and tidy dress presentation including sensible haircuts. Please label all items of school uniform. Navy jumper or cardigan White polo shirt, shirt or blouse Plain navy trousers, shorts or skirt/pinafore dress. Blue checked/striped dresses may also be worn. White or black socks or tights Wellington boots (Foundation Stage and Year 1 children only) Black shoes (boots, shoes, trainers) Our school uniform is available to purchase from Trutex in Didcot. They are based at Cockcroft (opposite 				
	Northbourne School). Book bags and PE bags are also available at Trutex.				
School Meals	School meals are £2.90 per meal. The most up to date menu can be found on our website here - https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/contact/school-menu				
Healthy Snacks	Children in KS2 (Yrs 3-6) can bring in a piece of fruit (or veg) to eat at breaktime. Children in KS1 and Foundation Stage are offered a piece of fruit/veg every day through the Government funded Fruit and Vegetable Scheme.				
Fruit Trees	We have some fruit trees in school that bear fruit such as apples. Whilst they are edible, we ask you to reiterate at home that children are not to pick/eat anything off trees unless an adult has said it is safe to do so.				



Word of the Week for Key Stage 1







🤪 Meaning	Challenge		
Objects with space inside.	Find three things at home		
	that are hollow.		

Word of the Week for Key Stage 2



Spring Summer 2024		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
WEEK ONE	Option One	NEW Vegetable Stack with Rice	Penne Bolognaise	Sausages, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	YAMAS!	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
15 th April 6 th May 3 rd June	Option Two	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Pasta Salad	Vegan Penne Bolognaise 🔶	Vegan Sausages, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Greek Chicken Pitta with Rice, Tzatziki & Salad or Greek Quorn Pitta with Rice,	Omelette & Chips with tomato sauce
24 th June 15 th July	Vegetables Dessert	Vegetables of the Day Freshly Chopped	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day NEW Berry Mousse	Tzatziki & Salad Vegetables of the Day Iced Vanilla Sponge	Vegetables of the Day Vanilla Shortbread
	Option One	Fruit Salad 🔶	Ice Cream 🍈		I T	
WEEK TWO	opilon one	Macaroni Cheese	Burger with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes, & Gravy	Beef Lasagne with Garlic Bread 🌍	Fish fingers with Chips
22 nd April 13 th May 10 th June	Option Two	AUTCHEN Tomato Pasta	Vegan Burger with Potato Wedges	Quorn Roast, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Vegetable Curry with Rice	NEW Vegan Sausage Roll with Chips
1 st July 22 nd July	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	NEW Chocolate Brownie	NEW Iced Biscuit	Fruit Medley	Jelly with Mandarins	Oaty Cookie
WEEK THREE	Option One	Tomato Pasta	FIESTA	Roast Chicken , New Potatoes & Gravy	NEW Chicken Fajitas 📢	Fishfingers with Chips
29 th April 20 th May 17 th June	Option Two	Vegan Chilli with Rice	Chicken Paella with Patatas Bravas or Veggie Meatballs with	Roast Quorn with New Potatoes & Gravy	Macaroni Cheese	Cheese & Bean Pasty with Chips
8 th July	Vegetables	Vegetables of the Day	Patatas Bravas Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day
	Dessert	Fruit with Ice Cream	Syrup Snap Biscuit 🕭	Fruit Platter 🔷	Chocolate Shortbread	Summer Lemon Cake
MENU KEY Staded Plant Power (E) Wholemeal Vegan C Chef's Special If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please as school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a new we have the necessary information to complete in or uncertain of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of allergen cross contact.						
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Didcot Cricket Club

We are looking for new players in our Junior cricket teams across all age groups and all abilities.

The season is due to start on the 26th April (weather permitting)



Under 9s – Years 3 & 4 Under 11s – Years 5 & 6 Under 13s – Years 7 & 8





Contact us at: Email: juniors@didcotcricketclub.com Visit our website: www.didcotcricketclub.com

All teams train on Fridays at 18:00 at Boundary Park, Great Western Park

U9 and U11 matches are on Sunday mornings

U13 matches are on Thursday evenings



Hagbourne FUN RUN And WALK Monday, May 6th

11am (Registration 9.00 to 10.30) Hagbourne Village Hall

PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE IF POSSIBLE, BEFORE SATURDAY 4th MAY at: https://www.evententry.co.uk/hagbourne-fun-run-walk-2024 Note: under 16's forms must be signed by a parent or guardian,

under 9's must be accompanied at all times by an adult.

Dogs on leads only with walkers: sorry NO dogs with runners.



PROCEEDS TO CANCER RESEARCH & THE VILLAGE FUND

Robpennington64@outlook.com
www.facebook.com/hagbournefunrun

ONLINE ENTRIES: Runners – Adults £9, U16's £3 Adult walkers £5, U16 walkers £1

ON THE DAY: Runners – Adults £10, U16's £3 Adult walkers £5, U16 walkers £1















ALL SUPPORTERS WELCOME: ENJOY THE REFRESHMENTS & MUSIC AT THE VILLAGE HALL

