



Northbourne News

10th June 2022

I hope you all had a relaxing half term and managed to spend time with family and friends over the extended Jubilee weekend. The final term of the school year is always a busy one – as well as summer events, thoughts increasingly turn to transition and what lies ahead in the next school year, especially for children in Nursery who will start school and for our oldest children in Y6 who are getting ready to leave us and start their secondary education. Alongside this, though, learning definitely continues. As I explained in assembly on Monday, the next 5 weeks are packed with knowledge and skills that it is important for children to learn or practise in order to make sure they are ready for the learning that will come as they move into the next school year. You will shortly be sent curriculum newsletters showing you what your children will be learning this term, so please read through these and continue to talk to your child about what they are covering in class.

Given how busy this term is, it seems timely to provide a reminder about the importance of attendance. Whilst I understand that the pandemic has disrupted planned family holidays, it has also, in most cases, reduced the number of days children have been able to be in school. When rearranging any holidays and breaks, please continue to ensure these are taken outside the school term – absence for holidays is **not** authorised, and may lead to a fixed penalty notice. Please also continue to ensure children arrive at school before the start of the day at 8:55am; late arrival is stressful for your child and disruptive to their class.

Bikeability

A huge well done to our Y6 pupils who completed their Bikeability training this week. Building on their level 2 training which took place in Y5, many pupils have this week completed more advanced learning enabling them to cycle safely and with confidence over longer distances and on more complicated roads. The instructors were incredibly complimentary about the behaviour, attitudes and skills of all of our pupils who took part – well done to all of you for representing school so positively.

Bikeability sessions will be offered to Y5 and 6 next year; if your child is moving into these cohorts, continue to check Parentmail carefully as this will be used to share information about dates and arrangements for these sessions.

Y4 Youlbury

Pupils in Y4 are looking forward with nervous anticipation to their three-day residential visit to Youlbury next week; I know they will have a great time and represent school impeccably. Many thanks to parents and carers for supporting this visit.

On Monday, Mr. Macfarlane will greet those children taking part at the double doors at the back of the hall as they arrive at school, and show them where to leave their bags. The coach is due to depart at 11:30am – any parents and family members are welcome to wave farewell from Cockcroft Road at this time. We will Parentmail to let you know of their safe arrival, and will look forward to bringing you an update of their adventures in the newsletter next week.

While Y4 are away, Y3 pupils are working in mixed class groups. Pupils in Owls should have let you know whether they will be learning in Hawk or Falcon class for the start of next week so you know where to wait for collection; please get in touch with your child's class teacher if they are unsure.

For next week, pupils in Owls, Falcons and Hawks will need to wear PE uniform to school on Tuesday and Wednesday only – not their usual PE days.

School Health Nurse news

This term's newsletter from our School Health Nurse team is attached; please take a moment to have a look through, and contact the team (or speak to me) if you think they can lend a hand with anything that may be difficult for your child at the moment.

Puffins and Swans news

The Reception team hope you will be able to join them for Puffins and Swans end-of-year **Celebration Assembly** on Monday 11th July at 9:15am. If you are able to join us, please make your way into school through the main door after dropping your children off...after register, your children will join you and share some of their achievements from their Reception year.

This year's **Reception Sports Day and Family Picnic** will take place on Wednesday 6th July from 10:45am; please arrive at the main gate from 10:35am, and members of staff will welcome you and direct you to the field. After watching the sporting activities, parents and family members are welcome to stay and share a picnic lunch on the field – feel free to bring chairs and blankets for this. Let us know if your child would like a packed lunch from Tracy; a form for this will follow, so please look out for this (this will be in place of the hot meal option for this day). Please send children to school in their PE kit – including trainers - on this day, along with any clothing appropriate for the weather: a raincoat if it is overcast and a hat with suncream applied if the forecast is for warm weather. Children will head back to class to continue their day at 12pm, but you are very welcome to stay with us until then.

Reading Update...

You might remember that, this year, we set a whole-school target of reading at home over 40,000 times before the end of term 6...we are so proud to tell you that they have already smashed this target. Term 5 saw 8,396 reads recorded at home, bringing the running total up to the end of term 5 to 44,772, earning a whole-school reward! We can't thank you all enough for time and effort you have put into hearing your children read this year; it makes such a difference to their education and future. Please keep reading with your children during our final term of the school year as every read has an impact – let's see if we can smash 50k reads now!

Particular well done to last term's winning classes: Robins with 602 reads and Falcons with 1584 reads.

Fundraising Updates...

- Thank you...from Dani McKechnie to everyone who supported her cake sale for Wallingford Midwifery Unit – thanks to your generosity, the final donated total was £278.50.
- Isabelle and Darcy in Eagles and Kites are planning a 5-mile charity bike ride around Didcot on Sunday 26th June to raise money for Helen & Douglas House and Diabetes UK. Please have a look at their sponsorship page if you are able to help: <https://www.justgiving.com/team/bikeathon>. Huge well done to both girls for really living out our value of community.

Didcot Girls' School

Committed to Excellence



School Tours 2022

To book a place please use the links on the Open Events page of our website

Tours will take place on the following mornings:

Tuesday, 10th May	Wednesday, 18th May
Friday, 17th June	Tuesday, 21st June
Wednesday, 22nd June	Monday, 27th June
Wednesday 29th June	Wednesday, 6th July

All School Tours 9am - 11.15am



Open Morning School Tours

for current Year 5 students

9am-10:15am

Tuesday 7th June

Wednesday 8th June

Tuesday 14th June

Wednesday 15th June

Tuesday 21st June

Wednesday 22nd June

parking will be available through the Main Gates, Mereford Avenue

to book a tour, please visit:

www.st-birinus-school.org.uk/openevents

We kindly request one adult per family for the tours

OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 5th October 2022

5:30pm-8:00pm

Headteacher talks to take place at 6pm and 7pm

NO BOOKING NECESSARY