



Northbourne News

17th June 2022

Term 6 has been in full swing here this week, with a raft of activities taking place...more information below. It is wonderful to have a more normal end to the year than has been possible for the last few years, and it is great to see pupils enjoying the events that we all took for granted before the pandemic. We are hopeful our second attempt at Sports Day will be able to go ahead next Thursday, but will keep a watchful eye on the forecast...and this will be followed just the next day with our first Summer Barbecue in 3 years. We really hope you will be able to join us for this...more information below.

Youlbury

As mentioned in last week's newsletter, Y4 visited Youlbury for a two-night stay this week. Pupils were impeccably behaved, as always, and had a great time...highlights included aerial trekking, Jacob's Ladder, go-karting and the terrifying sounding tomahawk throwing. The visit ended with a memorable water-fight against the two scout leaders – needless to say, this resulted in a (very soggy) Northbourne victory. As always, huge thanks to all of the staff for their hard work in making this residential happen: Mrs. Johnston and Mrs. Gennery for their organisational genius, and to Mr. Macfarlane, Miss Kellock, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Enevoldsen for leading the trip and making sure everyone had such a great time. We are grateful, too, for all of the Y4 parents for supporting the trip – we know that finances are hard for everyone at the moment and always take this into account when planning visits, but we appreciate your support in ensuring we can provide such memorable opportunities.

Parents have been in touch about a number of misplaced / mis-packed items of clothing when children have returned from Youlbury. Could you please check whether you have ended up with anyone that belongs to another child – including a pair of black and white Nike trainers please. Many thanks!

Officer Ben

As part of our ongoing work to help children know how to keep themselves safe, Robins, Wrens and Nightingales each had a visit from our PCSOs this week. As well as hearing all about how the police help make sure we are safe and look after our community, a particular highlight of these visits involved each child being arrested and loaded into the "cage" at the back of the police van...before sneaking out of the side a moment later! It was great to hear more about the important work our PCSOs do – many thanks to all of the team for making time to visit us.

Year 5 and 6 Dates

Thank you for your patience while we have been confirming the dates for our Leavers' Events this year. We are pleased to be able to invite parents and carers into school for these this year, and hope you will be able to join us.

- Monday 11th July will be our Y6 Film Night, barbecue and parent vs child Rounders match. The fun will start at 6pm – please look out for more information about this over the next couple of weeks, and save the date in the meantime.
- Tuesday 12th July is our Leavers' Service at St. Peter's Church; parents and carers are warmly invited to join us at 10am for this special service to mark the end of your child's time in primary school.

A reminder that on Monday afternoon (20th June) Y6 will be travelling to Rewley Road Fire Station in Oxford to take part in the Junior Citizen program. Pupils will be having an early lunch, but will still be able to have school dinners as usual. Please send children to school in their usual uniform; if they choose to wear a skirt, please make sure this has shorts or leggings underneath. Children who are on our school records as asthmatic will also need to make sure they have their inhalers in school. Please let class teachers know if you have any further questions about this visit. *As a result of the trip, Y5 children in Kestrels and Eagles will not have PE as usual on Monday and so should come to school in their uniform rather than PE kit.*

**** As mentioned in their curriculum newsletter, can pupils in **Hawk Class** please bring an old pillowcase on Monday for their DT project. **Puffins and Swans** are on the look out for empty boxes – cereal box sized ideally, and avoiding any which have contained nuts. Many thanks! ****

Site Safety

An increasing number of parents are staying on-site to chat with friends and let children use the play equipment at the end of school. To help ease congestion while classes are leaving the school site, and to ensure the gate can be locked as soon as possible given that children are still using the building after 3pm, can I please politely ask that you leave as soon as you have collected your children at the end of the day. Thanks in advance for your help with this.

Summer Barbecue

We are really excited about our Summer Barbecue next Friday (24th) and hope you will be able to join us between 5 and 8pm. There will be a range of stalls, activities and entertainment, and so, as well as supporting our ongoing fundraising efforts, I know it will be a really enjoyable evening. Next Friday is a non-uniform day in school; in exchange, we ask that children in Reception and Key Stage One bring along some chocolate and Key Stage Two a bottle for our tombolas. These will be collected at the gate as children arrive at school, so please have them to hand, and thanks in advance for your help.

As part of the barbecue, we are pleased to announce the Great Northbourne Bake-Off. This will be judged across 5 age-related categories: Nursery and Reception; Key Stage One; Lower Key Stage Two (Y3/4); Upper Key Stage Two (Y5/6); adults and older siblings. Entry is £1 per bake, and entries will be collected at the start of school next Friday; please make sure these are in school by 9:30am. We can't wait to see (and taste!) your brilliant bakes and have some fantastic judges lined up...happy baking!

Sports Day

As mentioned above, we are hoping our second attempt at Sports Day will be able to go ahead on Thursday. This is the final attempt we will be able to make at running this event, so are keeping our fingers firmly crossed for dry, not too hot weather. A reminder of the arrangements...

On Thursday, please send pupils in Y1 – 6 to school wearing a T-shirt in their house colour (as previously shared) and the rest of their PE kit (black / dark shorts or black / dark jogging trousers and trainers) and bring a bottle of water, sun-cream and hat, especially if the weather is warm, and a waterproof coat to wear between races if it is showery, and any inhalers needed.

We will always do our best to try to run sports day as we appreciate that many parents book time off work to watch this event. However, rain does make the field slippery and, as you know, the safety of our pupils is always at the forefront of our decisions. Therefore, any decision to cancel sports day due to the weather will be based on the forecast for the rest of the day and will be taken **at the start of the day** to enable us to inform you of this as effectively as possible.

It would be lovely to have lots of parents and family members come along to join us. If you are joining us, please arrive to watch from 1pm onwards, when the school gate will be open. Please make your way around the outside of the school to the field. Please note, we will need to start promptly at 1:10pm to get through the races we have planned and so, to keep the site secure, the gate will be locked from this time.

- A small number of chairs will be set up for you on the side of the running track nearest the school; please feel free to also bring rugs and your own fold-up chairs, as there won't be enough seating for everyone. We would be grateful if spectators could remain on this side of the field, behind the cones set out, at all times to enable teachers and teaching assistants to organise children on the other side of the track effectively.
- Our PTA will be running a café during the event, so please pop along to support our ongoing fundraising.
- As in previous years, children compete in one of four houses. Please feel free to cheer for your child's house and for the rest of the pupils involved in the day. We know that sports day can be overwhelming for some children – and this will certainly be the case this year, as this will be such a new experience for so many children - and we know you will all cheer for everyone taking part to provide support and encouragement.
- After this, pupils will return, one class at a time, to their classrooms to collect their belongings. They will then be dismissed from their classrooms at the normal time of 3pm.
- We ask that children in Reception and Nursery are **not** collected to watch Sports Day; they will have their own planned learning to take part in.

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

ST BIRINUS SCHOOL

Inspiring Excellence through Care, Courtesy and Commitment



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, Mereland 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

admissions@st-birinus.oxon.sch.uk • 01235 814444 • www.st-birinus-school.org.uk