

Summer Fete Urgent Plea

The Summer Fete is almost upon us (Saturday 27th June). It is always a wonderful event with many displays, stalls and activities. We have heard from PALS that they are struggling *more than ever* to get extra parent volunteers for the event. In order for the event to run smoothly and successfully helpers are vital. Please sign up here as soon as possible, if you are available:

<https://volunteersignup.org/3ECJL>

Please note that we often have people offering to help on the day itself. This is hugely appreciated but it is infinitely more helpful for PALS planning to know what the helper capacity is, in advance.

PALS continuously donate their raised funds to us based on our needs. Sometimes you can clearly see this, for example when we install a new climbing frame. Other times, the benefit is internal. Where funds are spent on the resources you don't see, these are invariably much more beneficial than the ones you do see. For example, our latest funding has gone to a much needed replenishment of Chromebooks. In a recent audit, we found that 17 of our Chromebooks were below usable standard. We have bought 30 new ones, to fill these gaps and give further resources for the children. These help with all aspects of curriculum and research, as well as presentations and assemblies made by the children, and of course, all Computing and IT based lessons. For the last tranche of funding from PALS please see the entry below about the Enquiry Curriculum- which has really transformed the way the children learn in their 'foundation subjects'.



Get Active Week and Sports Day

We are looking forward to next week! Children are asked to wear their sports kit every day next week. We have a number of different sporting opportunities, offered by staff, parents and external professionals. Some highlights include a professional ladies cricketer from Kenya, Yoga and Kung Fu.

As always, the weather forecast is keeping us guessing for Sports Day on Wednesday. The forecast currently shows an average temperature with some occasions of light rain. We are currently fully expecting to go ahead- see the timings for each year group below. If the forecast changes we will inform everyone via the School Jotter App. We sincerely hope that we will not have to cancel. If you do not hear from us, then the Sports Day is going ahead.

This week...

Assembly

Every term, we undertake a Diversity assembly to remind the children of the vast and wonderful mix of cultures, beliefs, understandings, religions, and backgrounds in our school and community. We talked to Key Stage 1 about the experiences and opportunities that arise from our diversity, such as the introduction of fashions, sports, cultural activities, food and many other aspects. We then heard from our Diversity Ambassadors who are selected every year from Year 4. They gave us their clear views and thoughtful opinions about diversity in our school. We showed how diversity and respect are clearly present in the skills for life, the Ladygrove Standard, in the purple rule. Key Stage 2 looked at the same things and then went further to explore what stereotyping is, how stereotypes can lead to pre-judging (prejudicing) someone and then in the worst cases to discrimination and racism. We looked

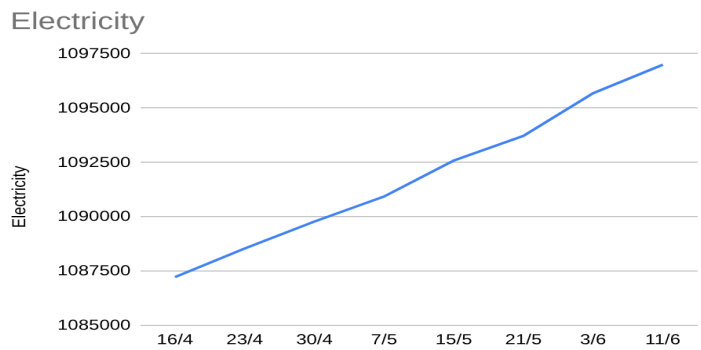
at how, in school, as in life, these things are against the rules/laws and have serious consequences. For us, in the school, this is where the purple rule leads to the red rule, as racism is as serious as physical harm.

Pupil Responsibility Groups

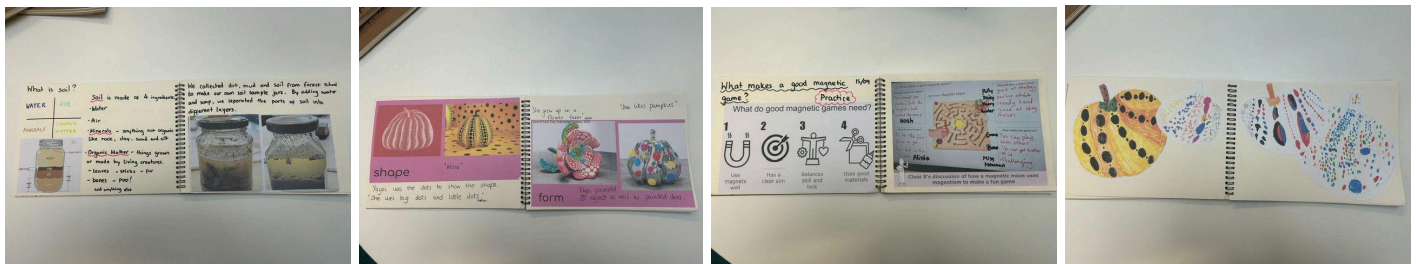
The Eco/Electricity Ambassadors continue to monitor our electricity usage. They started by plotting this on a graph but have now learnt how to use a spreadsheet to make a graph:

Thank you to the volunteers at the Baptist Church who are putting on 'Step Forward' sessions for Year 6 students in Didcot to give us space and guided activities designed to help us reflect on our move to secondary school. We were lucky enough to attend again.

There were lots of fun things to do and really helped us calm down. The fidgets and the huge bubble tube were particularly calming, and it was satisfying to let some of our worries go through our 'disappearing' flowers. Making affirmation bracelets was very popular, as was making pipe-cleaner people to share with our friends, but the favourite activity for most people was decorating the scratch-off bookmarks. The tree activity helped us focus on the positives of moving on.



On Tuesday, Ali Camp, external Curriculum Consultant with **Lighting Up Learning**, came in to review the progress the school has made with its enquiry curriculum. She was astounded and delighted with how far the school has come within a year. She felt Ladygrove's curriculum is going above and beyond the aims of the National Curriculum, providing its learners with enriching opportunities to develop them as life-long learners. Particular strengths identified were the opportunities for hands-on learning, as well as how clearly learning was sequenced so that it builds on what has come before. Ali reviewed the children's work books, as well as the class floor books. Floor books are used to capture the learning of the class, especially those hands on opportunities which can't be captured in individual exercise books. These floor books will then be passed up with the children each year for them to refer to in their next stage of learning. See below for some photos of floor books.



PALS Summer Fete - Saturday 27th June, 2-5pm

A huge thank you to everyone who supported today's PALS Non-Uniform Day with their generous donations. These contributions will help make our Summer Fete on Saturday 27th June a fantastic event for the whole school community.

We have lots of exciting stalls and activities planned, including refreshments, Name the Sloth, Wine or Water, glitter tattoos, Hoop a Duck, Lucky Lollies, the Teddy Tombola, Treat Tombola, Beat the Goalie and more – so there will be plenty of fun for everyone to enjoy!

As always, events like this can only happen with the support of our wonderful parents, carers and staff. If you can spare just an hour to help on the day, we would be incredibly grateful. Please sign up using this link - <https://volunteersignup.org/3ECJL>

Punctuality

We are seeing an increasing number of children arriving late to school and a few who are persistently late. **This week alone, we have had a total of 51 late pupils!** Whilst we appreciate that traffic around Didcot has been particularly challenging recently, and arising family issues might lead to one off incidents of lateness, late arrival can have a significant impact on your child's day. Children who arrive after the start of the school day miss important learning time, key instructions, and valuable time with their classmates.

In addition, late arrivals place additional demands on our office staff, who are required to process children entering school after registration has begun, whilst processing essential operational responsibilities (such as following up school absences for safety and safeguarding purposes, admitting OCC education services professionals who are visiting children in school, processing school dinner orders accurately in time for the day's lunch session.)

For those children who are regularly late, the lost learning time can quickly add up. Please refer to the graphic here to see the cumulative impact that lateness can have over the course of a school year.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support in ensuring that children arrive at school on time and ready to learn.

EVERY Minute COUNTS



School and future success starts with **good attendance!**

DAILY LATENESS
EQUATES TO...

5 MINUTES
LATE
3 days lost to
learning

10 MINUTES
LATE
7 days lost to
learning

15 MINUTES
LATE
10 days lost
to learning

REMEMBER

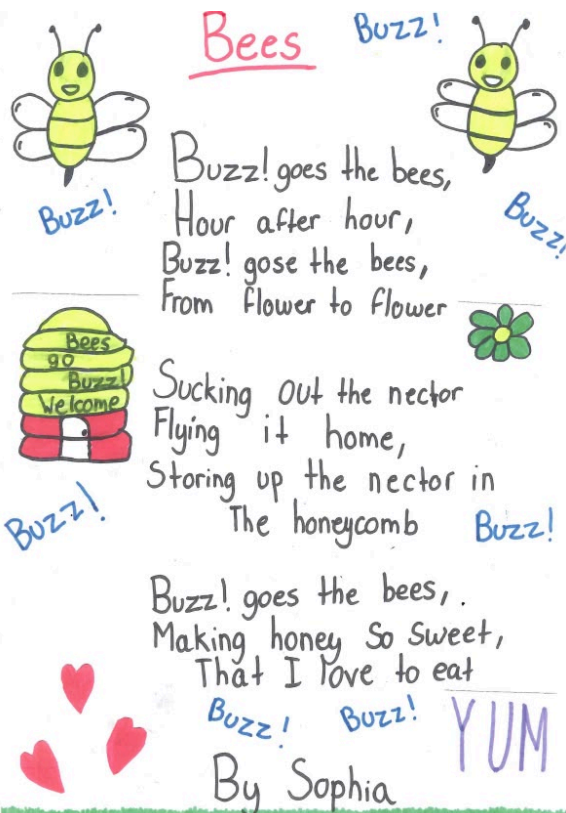
Your education is important - don't miss out!
BE **HERE**, BE **PUNCTUAL**



Celebrating Success

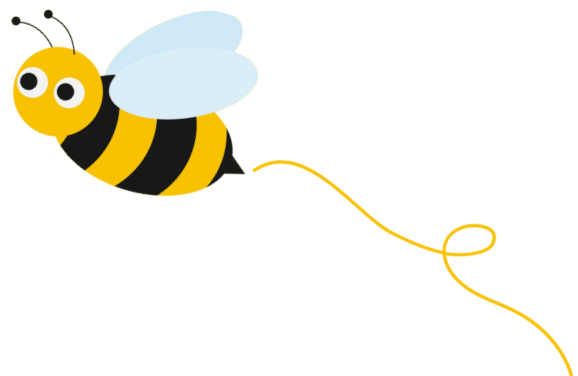
Parker from Class 7 was very lucky to have attended Old Trafford last weekend to take part in the Precision Pass Football Tournament. His team were incredible and even won the U7 tournament! Congratulations Parker!

Ellie in Year 6 entered her first baking competition last weekend. She adapted recipes to create a lemon and orange citrus cake with homemade orange curd. Although she came runner up, it was very tasty and received great reviews. Well done Ellie!



Please enjoy this **Bee**-autiful work from Sophia in Year 5!

Thank you Sophia for your creative and inspiring poem about bees, now proudly displayed in Reception and soon to be featured in the hall.



Free School Meals Eligibility Changes - **FINAL REMINDER!**

The Department for Education (DfE) is introducing changes to the **national FSM eligibility criteria from September 2026**.

This currently means that children who became eligible for FSM on or after 1st April 2018 will continue to receive FSM until July 2026 even if household circumstances have changed.

From September 2026, transitional protections will end and a new National Eligibility Rules will apply to all pupils. Regular annual checks are needed to confirm eligibility. At the start of each academic year we will ask parents to complete a Google Form (link below) to ensure pupils who meet the updated criteria continue to receive their entitlement.

From September 2026, national FSM entitlement will consist of three types:

- **Targeted FSM**
For pupils in households with earned income under £7400.
Only this group will continue to attract Pupil Premium Funding.
- **Expanded FSM**
For all other pupils in households receiving Universal Credit, regardless of income.
- **Universal Infant Free School Meals**
Continuing for all pupils in Reception Year 1 and Year 2.

These categories reflect the national expansion of FSM to all families receiving Universal Credit and are intended to help schools distinguish between means tested entitlement and wider universal credit based provision.

YOU MUST complete this form by **Friday 12th June** if you are in receipt of Income Support or Universal Credit:

<https://forms.gle/K4x97Y92Bi51q75UA>

Once checks have been made and eligibility confirmed, we will let you know.

Dates for Summer Term 6...

Please keep checking these dates for any additions or amendments!


Monday 15th - Friday 19th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Get Active Week - See below. Children wear PE Kit all week.
Wednesday 17th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Thank a Teacher Day! https://thankateacher.co.uk/thankateacherday/● Sports Day 9am: Nursery, Foundation Stage & Year 1 (lasting no more than 1 hour) 10.45 - 11.45am: Years 2 & 3 1.30 - 3pm: Years 4, 5 & 6
Friday 19th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Year 5 Period Product Workshop, in school
Tuesday 23rd June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reception Farm2Ewe Visit, in school● Year 5 Cycle Training (selected children) - remember bikes and helmets!● FVP Cyber Security Talk to Parents and Carers, 5pm - postponed to next academic year
Wednesday 24th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sports Day Backup (in case of bad weather!)
Thursday 25th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Year 6 Period Product Workshop, in school
Saturday 27th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● PALS Summer Fete, 2-5pm
Monday 29th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Year 6 Production - Box Office opens for ticket


Tuesday 30th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 STEM Workshop (in school) Year 5 Cycle Training (selected children) - remember bikes and helmets!
Tuesday 7th & Wednesday 8th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6: Aureus, DGS & SBS Induction Days
Tuesday 7th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 Cycle Training Test Day (selected children) - remember bikes and helmets!
Tuesday 14th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Production, 9.15am and 1.30pm - see below
Thursday 16th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Leavers Assembly, 9.15am Last day of term - normal finish time

Club Dates this term (selected pupils)

























Year 3 & 4 Drama Club (Mr Mackriell), Monday, 3.10 - 4pm	8th, 22nd and 29th June
Year 4 TTRS Club (Mrs Wiles), Wednesday, 3.10 - 4pm	Now finished.
Year 5 & 6 Netball Club (Mrs Clarkson), Wednesday, 3.10 - 4pm	10th, 17th, 24th June and 1st July

Notices

<p>Attendance</p> <p>Please email the school office. Do not email the year group.</p>	<p>If your child is not in school, you must notify us by leaving a message on our answer phone or by emailing office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk before 9am on each day of their absence. Email is preferable as we are finding it increasingly hard to understand due to unclear messages and poor telephone signal.</p> <p>Please state clearly and concisely your child's full name, class and their reason for absence - <u>being specific about the illness or medical needs</u>. You must inform the school in advance by email above, if you need to take your child for an educational setting visit, religious observance or similar. These absences will need to be pre agreed by us. No birthdays, cheaper holidays, altered holiday arrangements or similar will be agreed. In line with strict government legislation, they will be recorded as unauthorised on your child's attendance record.</p>
<p>Get Active Week 15th - 19th June</p>	<p>We are looking forward to Get Active Week next week!</p> <p>The children will be taking part in a variety of activities during the school day throughout the week and Sports Day is on Wednesday 17th June (see below for timings).</p> <p>Please can we ask that children come to school in their PE kit or suitable clothing for sports all week (t-shirt, shorts or joggers and trainers). They will need to be wearing their house coloured t-shirt on Wednesday for Sports Day.</p> <p>A reminder that they will also need a water bottle, have suncream applied and a sun hat.</p>
<p>Extended Schools Billing</p>	<p>The billing for Term 6 Extended Schools has now been processed. Please ensure to logon to ParentPay as soon as possible to make your payment for the term. Many thanks.</p>
<p>Term 6 Enquiry Newsletters</p>	<p>The new Enquiry Newsletters will be shared with you on Google Classroom and they are also available to view on our website under the Curriculum>Year Group tab. Please do have a look and find out what your child will be learning this term.</p>
<p>Year 6 Production - Gigglebox</p> 	<p>Our Year 6 Production this year is Gigglebox!</p> <p>The Box Office (aka the school office!) will be open for ticket sales on Monday 29th June from 7.30am.</p> <p>Tickets cost £2 each (<i>cash only please!</i>)</p> <p>A maximum of 2 tickets per child per performance.</p> <p>We will let you know if there are any extra tickets available.</p>

<p>Sports Day - Wednesday 17th June (backup in case of bad weather is Wednesday 24th June)</p>	<p>Please enter school promptly at the start time via the Main Reception.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ 9am: Nursery, Foundation Stage & Year 1 (lasting no more than 1 hour) ★ 10.45 - 11.45am: Years 2 & 3 ★ 1.30 - 3pm: Years 4, 5 & 6 <p>Remember, parents can earn House Points too! Wear your house colours proudly, bring your banners, and get ready to cheer as loudly as you can!</p>
<p>School Nursing Team Newsletter - Term 6</p>	<p>Click on the link below to see the Term 6 School Nursing Team Newsletter: https://sway.cloud.microsoft/S5JuiRh8BMANXEhr?ref=email&loc=play</p>
<p>The Big Future Survey - Please complete the survey with your child!</p> 	<p>As Children’s Commissioner, I am writing to ask you to ensure all of your children complete my new survey, The Big Future.</p> <p>Under the Children Act 2004, it is my role to promote the views and interests of children in England, and I have done this so far by conducting the two largest ever children’s surveys: The Big Ask and The Big Ambition.</p> <p>Now, for the first time, hundreds of thousands of children will be eligible to vote in the next general election, the biggest change to the franchise in half a century. Yet just one in five children say politicians listen to them. That’s why I’m launching my final survey, The Big Future.</p> <p>Your child can complete the survey here: http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture</p> <p>I want to make sure that I hear from as many children as possible, aged 0-18, from all backgrounds, in all schools and colleges, and in every part of the country. To do that, I need your help.</p> <p>I am asking children about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns, and their hopes for the future. More than anything, I want to know what they think a good childhood should look like today.</p> <p>I will be publishing my findings next year, and they will be used to advocate at the highest level for solutions that children want to see, to the problems that they tell me are most important to them.</p> <p>Thank you for your support.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, Dame Rachel de Souza Children’s Commissioner</p>
<p>PALS - Raffle</p>	<p>Raffle tickets have gone home this week so keep an eye out in book bags! There are some great prizes to be won including vouchers for days out and family fun! The draw will take place at the Summer Fete on Saturday 27th June.</p> <p>Please return your completed ticket stubs with money (cash please) in a sealed envelope to the school office. Additional tickets are also available at the office too.</p>
<p>External Clubs and Activities</p>	<p>If you are looking for external clubs and activities taking place in the local area, or for any upcoming holiday camps, please visit this page on our website - https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/parents/external-clubs-activities</p> <p>New additions this week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ★ Elite Sports Summer Camp ★ Junior Adventures Holiday Camp ★ Premier Football Summer Holiday Course ★ Serious 4 Sport Summer Football Camp ★ Serious 4 Sport Summer Camp ★ Angels Performing Arts Summer Timetable

SPRING SUMMER MENU 2026

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MENU KEY:
WEEK ONE	Option One	Macaroni Cheese	 Phat Pasty Pork Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	 Spaghetti Beef Bolognaise	Fishfingers with Chips	 Whole grain
	Option Two	Tomato Pasta	Mexican Bean Roll with Potato Wedges	 Roasted Quorn, Roast Potatoes, & Gravy	Vegan Bolognaise	Cheese & Bean Pasty with Chips	
	Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	
	Dessert	NEW Banana Mousse	Orange Drizzle Cake	 Fruit Platter	 Apple Flapjack 	 Cookie	
	13.04.26 04.05.26 01.06.26 22.06.26 13.07.26						
WEEK TWO	Option One	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Summer Mixed Salad 	 Beef Chilli with Rice & Sweetcorn & Cucumber Salsa 	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Greek Chicken Pitta with Herby Rice & Salad	Fishfingers with Chips	 Plant based
	Option Two	Rainbow Pizza With Summer Mixed Salad 	Mild Mexican Quorn Chilli with Rice & Sweetcorn & Cucumber Salsa	 Quorn Roast Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Greek Spinach & Cheese Whirl with Herby Rice & Salad	NEW Cheesy Broccoli Frittata with Chips	
	Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	
	Dessert	Vanilla Sponge	Ice Cream	 Freshly Chopped Fruit Salad	Jam & Coconut Sponge with Custard	 Oaty Cookie 	
	20.04.26 11.05.26 08.06.26 29.06.26						
WEEK THREE	Option One	Sweet Potato Curry with Rice	 Beef Burger with Potato Wedges & Rainbow Slaw	Roast of the Day, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	 Beef Pasta in Tomato Sauce 	Fishfingers with Chips	 Chef's Special
	Option Two	Chickpea Curry with Rice	Vegetable Burger with Potato Wedges & Rainbow Slaw	Quorn Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Vegetable Pasta in Tomato Sauce	Cheese & Spinach Whirl	
	Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	
	Dessert	Peach Cake	Cheese & Crackers	 Fruit Medley	Apple Cake 	 Vanilla Shortbread	
	27.04.26 18.05.26 15.06.26 06.07.26						
AVAILABLE DAILY:		Jacket Potatoes with a choice of fillings, Salad Bar					

If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods, please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of allergen cross contact.



www.standinginthegap.uk

Is your child starting Secondary school / High School in Sept 2026? This talk is for both of you:



The biggest parent / student concerns

Lots of practical hints and tips

Participants told us:

“Very informative and excellently delivered. Made us chat through topics we’ve not yet thought about! Thanks so much!”

“This should be mandatory for all parents/carers to attend! It was so useful.”

After the talk, Year 6 students told us:
30% felt less anxious, 50% felt more prepared

To find out more and book your ticket scan the QR code



Standing in the Gap is an early intervention mental health charity based in Bloxham, Banbury. We support children and families by providing the tools to build emotional wellbeing and good child mental health. This talk is delivered to assist you in managing change.

The Friends of the Oxfordshire Museum

Children's Creative Writing Competition 2026

Find the magic in an object from our collection and let your imagination fly as you write your own story.

Submit your entry by 26 June 2026

Calling all 7-11 year olds - we're looking for exciting stories!



For an application form please email:
oxfordshire.museum@oxfordshire.gov.uk