

This week...

We would like to thank all parents who attended our **Parent Meetings** this week via Google Meet. This was a trial of online meetings on this platform, and we appreciate your support and flexibility. The booking process seemed to run smoothly, and although there were a few minor technical hiccups, the meetings overall, appeared to be very successful. Going forward, we will continue with face to face meetings in October, online meetings in February and school reports in July. We would appreciate it if you could spare a minute of your time to complete our short feedback form regarding the online meetings - <https://forms.gle/ZXUHKF7QhzceejFu9>. Many thanks!

Thank you to all parents and family who were able to attend **Year 6's** inaugural art gallery! We were delighted to be able to welcome you to see the result of many hours of observational sketching and improving our skills of outlining and tinting, toning and shading with watercolours, with an emphasis on understanding how botanical art is still critical in the world of science.



Congratulations to our **Year 6 Cyclists** this week for achieving their Level 2 Cycle Training certificates. Well done to Ellie, Evelyn, Autumn, Zoe, Alfred, Jack and Sophie. A big thank you goes to our Cycle Training team for volunteering their time again this term. A letter has gone home today through ParentPay to the final Year 6 group so please keep an eye out for this in your inbox.

This week is **Children's Mental Health Week** and to support the theme of 'This is My Place' we have created a shared art piece in the hall, a 'Mindful Doodle'! All children and staff have had the chance to add their doodle this week and we think it looks amazing!

It was lovely to see all the pink, red and white across the school today for the **PALS Non Uniform Day**. Thank you for your donations and support. We will share the total raised after half term.



Assembly

The Peer Mentors finally had their chance to present their slides to the school in assembly this week. They explained to the children the difference between someone being rude, being mean and bullying. They explained how these things were all dealt with by the adults in the school and have to be reported. They focused on being able to identify if a person had been unintentionally rude, had been intentionally mean or was intentionally targeting someone on a regular basis without it being returned. We discussed how, in all these cases, it would be breaking the most important and serious of the school rules.

As it is the end of half term, here are our Star Awardees for the half term:

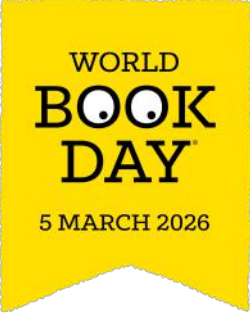
- ★ **Star Writers:** Nestor, Makoa, Brynmor, Lily, Emelia, Alarnah, Mila, Rebeca, Tommy, Antoni, Alana, Marco, Evelyn and James.
- ★ **Star Mathematicians:** Gabriela, Inayah, Barnaby, Hugo, Elizabeth, Josh, Keeley, Alessia, Kahleel, Alex W, Lucy, Savannah, Wayne and Hannah.
- ★ **Star Readers:** Emma, Sienna, Aayansh, Isa, Iris, Daisy, Mati, Brigitte, Oli B, Bea, Olivia, Claudia, Alfie and Neave O

Dates for Spring Term 4...

Please keep checking these dates for any additions or amendments!

Monday 23rd February	● Start of Spring Term 4
Friday 27th February	● Class 10 Swimming - Last one for Class 10. Remember towels and costumes!
Wednesday 4th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reception and Year 6 Weighing and Measuring. Refer to letter here.● Year 1 Sing & Sign Club (selected pupils), 3.10 - 4.00pm● Year 5 & 6 Crochet Club (selected pupils), 3.10 - 4.15pm
Thursday 5th March	● World Book Day - see you Notices section below
Friday 6th March	● Class 11 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!
Wednesday 11th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Class 14 Rewley Road Trip. Refer to letter here.● Year 2 Didcot Railway Centre Trip. Refer to letter here.● Year 1 Sing & Sign Club (selected pupils), 3.10 - 4.00pm● Year 5 & 6 Crochet Club (selected pupils), 3.10 - 4.15pm
Thursday 12th March	● Class 15 Rewley Road Trip. Refer to letter here.
Friday 13th March	● Class 11 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!
Monday 16th March	● Class Photos - more details to follow
Tuesday 17th March	● Year 6 Didcot Railway Centre Trip - more details to follow
Wednesday 18th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Year 1 Sing & Sign Club (selected pupils), 3.10 - 4.00pm - Last one!● Year 5 & 6 Crochet Club (selected pupils), 3.10 - 4.15pm - Last one!
Friday 20th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Class 11 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!● PALS Spring Disco - see Notices Section below
Wednesday 25th March	● Year 4 Production, 1.20pm - more details to follow
Thursday 26th March	● Year 4 Production, 9.15am - more details to follow
Friday 27th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Class 11 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!● Last Day of Term 4 - normal finish time

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>World Book Day Thursday 5th March</p> 	<p>World Book Day is on Thursday 5th March and we will be celebrating books in all their glory. The children (and staff) are welcome to dress up as an interesting adjective from their favourite book (e.g. sparkly, stripey, graceful, dazzling). We strongly encourage you to use what you already have at home to create these costumes. The children are welcome to bring in their book to share with their class. If they do not wish to dress up they can come in school uniform. Each class will be spending the whole day off timetable, exploring, reading and celebrating books. Teachers will be sharing some of their favourite books with the children and as always, children will be given World Book Day tokens on the day to purchase this year's World Book Day books, or towards another book of their choice at most book shops.</p> <p><u>Sponsored Read</u></p> <p>Alongside all the activities we will be completing in school on World Book Day, we are also encouraging the children to participate in a 'Sponsored Read' in the week running up to it. The children can read or be read to 'anything with words' - for example this could be a recipe book, an instruction manual or magazine/comic! We are asking that all sponsor forms and money (cash only please) are handed in on World Book Day. If your child completes this they will earn 5 Gold Stars! A sponsorship form has been sent home this week, please look out for these in your child's bag. The money we raise from the sponsored read will be used by the school to purchase new reading material for the children. Thank you!</p>
<p>Outstanding ParentPay Balances</p>	<p>Please ensure to login to ParentPay and make any outstanding payments for school meals, extended schools and trips. Many thanks.</p>
<p>Year 4 Swimming</p>	<p>A reminder that it is the last week of swimming for Class 10 on <u>Friday 27th February</u>. Class 11 start their lessons on <u>Friday 6th March</u>.</p>
<p>Year 4 Hill End & Year 5 Kilvrough Residential</p>	<p>Please continue to keep up with your monthly payments for Hill End and Kilvrough residentials. A copy of the letters can be found on our website here - https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/communications/trip-letters</p>
<p>PALS Spring Disco Friday 20th March 2026</p>	<p>Tickets are now also on sale for PALS Spring Disco, taking place on Friday 20th March 2026.</p> <p>Nursery and FS: 3.15 - 4pm Years 1 and 2: 4.15 - 5pm Years 3 and 4: 5.15 - 6pm Years 5 and 6: 6.15 - 7pm</p> <p>Tickets cost £4 per child.</p> <p>For more information and to book go to: https://forms.gle/yf1XL2VknstDnQ1s5</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"> ★ YouMove Free Early Years Activity Session - Born to Move ★ YouMove Make & Move - free movement and art sessions

🎵 Welcome to the New Term with Oxfordshire Music School!

We're excited to share our upcoming **after-school music classes** for children aged **7–11** in **your area**.

Our sessions are designed to build **confidence, creativity, focus, and teamwork**—all through the joy of music.

🎵 What We Offer

- ✓ **Fun, Active Music Lessons** – learn rhythm, melody, timing, teamwork, and performance
- ✓ **Confidence-Building Sessions** – express yourself and achieve new skills
- ✓ **Safe, Supportive Environment** – experienced tutors welcome all abilities

Guitar AND Drum Clubs - We have expanded our classes to now include **Drum lessons** at the **Didcot GWP District Community Centre**! visit www.oxfordshiremusicschool.co.uk for more details.



**OXFORDSHIRE
MUSIC SCHOOL**
Didcot - Wantage - Wallingford - Abingdon

**GUITARS
PROVIDED**

★★★★★
My son absolutely loves his weekly music club. It's amazing how much confidence he's gained by playing for fun with others

Kids Guitar Club
Guitar Lessons
After School and
Weekend Sessions
ALL AGES AND ABILITIES

Book your lessons here:
or contact us at:
oxfordshiremusicschool@gmail.com

www.oxfordshiremusicschool.co.uk

The poster features a photograph of four children (three boys and one girl) smiling and playing acoustic guitars. A QR code is located in the bottom right corner of the poster.

Autumn Winter
2025 2026

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

WEEK ONE

03/11/25
24/11/25
15/12/25
19/01/26
09/02/26
09/03/26

Option One

Creamy Coconut &
Chickpea Curry
Served with Rice

Beef Lasagne with
Garlic Bread

Roast Chicken, Roast
Potatoes and Gravy

BBQ Chicken
Pasta

Fishfingers
with Chips

Option Two

Vegetable Curry served
with Rice

Vegetable Lasagne with
Garlic Bread

Quorn Roast with Roast
Potatoes and Gravy

BBQ Quorn
Pasta

Cheese and Bean Pasty
with Chips

Vegetables

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Baked Beans

Dessert

Cheese and Crackers

NEW Apple Crumb Cake

Fruit Medley

Jelly with Mandarins

Cookie

WEEK TWO

10/11/25
01/12/25
05/01/26
26/01/26
23/02/26
16/03/26

Option One

Classic Cheese and
Tomato Pizza
with Wedges

Spaghetti
Bolognaise



Roast Chicken or
Quorn Roast Potatoes
and Gravy

Meatballs in Tomato
Sauce with Rice

Fishfingers
with Chips

Option Two

Vegetable Pizza with
wedges

Vegan Spaghetti
Bolognaise

Vegetables of the Day

Plant Balls in a Tomato
Sauce with Rice

Cheese Whirl
with Chips

Vegetables

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Peas

Dessert

NEW Gingerbread
Cookie

Chocolate and Beetroot
Brownie with Chocolate
Sauce

Fruit Salad

Sticky Toffee Apple
Crumble

Vanilla Shortbread

WEEK THREE

17/11/25
08/12/25
12/01/26
02/02/26
02/03/26
23/03/26

Option One

Jacket Potato served
with Cheese

Beef Pasta
Bolognaise

Roast Chicken with
Roast Potatoes and
Gravy

Mild Caribbean Chicken
with Rice

Fishfingers
with Chips

Option Two

Jacket Potato served
with Baked Beans

Tomato Pasta

Quorn Roast and Roast
Potatoes and Gravy

Caribbean Stew with
Rice

Cheese Omelette
with Chips

Vegetables

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Vegetables of the Day

Baked Beans

Dessert

Oaty Cookie

Pear Crumble

Fruit Salad

NEW Jamaican Ginger
Cake

Cookie

MENU KEY



Added Plant Protein



Wholemeal



Vegan



Chef's Special

ALLERGY INFORMATION:

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.

You're Invited!

Open Mornings

March, May and June 2026



Aureus School

Cultivating ambition; high standards for all.

Monday 9th February 2026

EMAIL
info@afso.org.uk

TEL
01235 754700

WEBSITE
afso.org.uk

Dear parents, carers and community

We are writing to share important news regarding Autism Family Support Oxfordshire (AFSO).

After careful consideration, the board of trustees have made the difficult decision to begin the process of dissolving AFSO as a registered charity, due to a significant fundraising deficit that has made it impossible to sustain its mission. **AFSO is set to formally close on 31st March 2026**, unless a funder, organisation or benefactor steps forward with significant support to secure the continuation of services.

This decision has not been taken lightly and comes in light of longstanding financial challenges. Over a significant period of time, the trustees and leadership team have sought to secure the organisation's funding and future - including funding applications, income generation, appeals, and cost reduction options. Despite these efforts the charity faces a significant funding deficit beyond 31 March 2026. The decision to begin the closure process reflects our strong commitment to closing the charity responsibly and with care towards our staff, families, and creditors.

We recognise that this news may be upsetting for the families, supporters and partners who value AFSO's work. We are committed to handling our closure with transparency, care and respect. Our focus between now and 31 March is on supporting staff and families as sensitively as possible through this transition.

Between now and the closure date, we are focusing on ensuring the charity closes in a **planned, responsible and compassionate way**. This includes:

- Informing the families, professionals and funders who engage with AFSO.
- Providing clarity about what the closure means and when changes will occur.
- Meeting our legal and charitable obligations.
- Minimising distress and uncertainty to staff and families as far as possible.

As part of this process, please note that:

- **AFSO will not be providing Easter activities in 2026.**
You may wish to access alternative holiday activities from Short Breaks providers – please visit: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/children-and-families/information-parents/breaks-disabled-children> and search the Family Information Service Directory provided by Oxfordshire County Council: <https://fisd.oxfordshire.gov.uk/kb5/oxfordshire/directory/home.page>
- **All donations collected through our January JustGiving fundraising appeal will be refunded.**

We are deeply grateful to our supporters, donors, staff, volunteers, and partners over the past 48 years. We know how valued AFSO has been, and how deeply this news will be felt by the autistic individuals and families we have had the privilege to support. Everyone involved is incredibly proud of the care, understanding and community that AFSO has provided over the years.

We will continue to share updates over the coming weeks. If you have questions or require further information, please contact us by email at info@afso.org.uk.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liz H', is displayed on a light gray rectangular background.

Liz Hickingbotham

Chair of trustees, Autism Family Support Oxfordshire