



# Newsletter #17

Friday 16th January 2026

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[Standard Termly Information](#)

## This week...

### Assembly

This week we held the hustings for the Spring Term **House Captains**. The Year 6 candidates gave speeches to the school over two assemblies. We are proud of them for doing this- it takes courage to stand up and speak to such a large group of people. It also takes courage to put yourself up for a vote, especially if it's your second attempt. This helps build great resilience needed for the challenges in life. The House Captaincy is very popular, most of the Year 6s put themselves up for the 18 places through the year. This is because we have added many responsibilities for House Captains over the years, including: chairing other pupil groups, presenting to governors in the evening, the Ladygrove News weekly broadcast (my favourite) and counting the house points (their favourite). Children across the school are now voting and the results will be announced very soon.

### Pupil Responsibility Groups

The main responsibility groups are now fully up and running. This week we held meetings with the Eco Warriors, the Diversity Ambassadors and the Peer Mentors. They are all working on their own projects. We will keep you updated as these are finalised.

### Outdoor Learning

This week we saw the upgraded Outdoor Classroom working to its purpose. Mrs Addison led a Forest School class in the pouring rain. The class were perfectly dry behind the new walls and lengthened roof. Mrs Addison also made use of our newly acquired resources gathered following the sad closing down last summer of Westminster College/Brookes Harcourt Hill teacher training premises. The children benefited from lots of bug collecting equipment, the same equipment that is used at Hill End.

## Coming Up

As a perfect segue, this is a reminder that the **Year 4** Hill End presentation takes place for parents on Wednesday 28th January at 3.15pm in the School Hall. Entry will be via the school hall doors (car park side).

Next week, don't forget that it is **Break The Rules Day** on Friday 23rd. The 'rules' you can break are listed in the Notices section below.

## Dates for Spring Term 1...

*Please keep checking these dates for any additions or amendments!*

Tuesday 20th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Year 6 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets!</li><li>Reception Drawing Club (selected pupils), 3-4pm</li></ul>
Wednesday 21st January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Reception and Year 1 PERFORM Drama Workshop, in school</li><li>Year 1 Sing &amp; Sign Club (selected pupils), 3.10-4pm</li><li>Year 5 &amp; 6 Crochet Club (selected pupils), 3.10-4.15pm</li><li>PALS Committee Meeting, 7.30pm on Zoom (see Notices section below)</li></ul>
Friday 23rd January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>PALS Break the Rules Day, see Notices section below</li><li>Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!</li></ul>

Tuesday 27th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 6 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets!</li> <li>Reception Drawing Club (selected pupils), 3-4pm</li> <li><del>Year 4 Hill End Parent Meeting, 3.15pm, details to follow</del> - Moved to 28/01</li> </ul>
Wednesday 28th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 1 Sing &amp; Sign Club (selected pupils), 3.10-4pm</li> <li>Year 5 &amp; 6 Crochet Club (selected pupils), 3.10-4.15pm</li> <li>Year 4 Hill End Parent Meeting, 3.15pm, in the school hall</li> </ul>
Thursday 29th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 1 &amp; 2 Poet visit (Simon Murray), in school</li> </ul>
Friday 30th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!</li> <li>PALS Quiz Night - see Notices section below</li> </ul>
Tuesday 3rd February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 6 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets!</li> <li>Reception Drawing Club (selected pupils), 3-4pm</li> </ul>
Wednesday 4th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 1 Sing &amp; Sign Club (selected pupils), 3.10-4pm</li> <li>Year 5 &amp; 6 Crochet Club (selected pupils), 3.10-4.15pm</li> </ul>
Friday 6th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!</li> </ul>
Tuesday 10th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 6 Cycle Training - remember bikes and helmets!</li> </ul>
Friday 13th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PALS Dress Up Day, details to follow</li> <li>Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!</li> <li><b>Last Day of Term 3 - normal finish time</b></li> </ul>

## Notices

<b>Attendance</b>  <b>Please email the school office.</b> <b>Do not email the year group.</b>	<p>If your child is not in school, you must notify us by leaving a message on our answer phone or by <b>emailing</b> <a href="mailto:office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk">office.2609@ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk</a> before 9am on each day of their absence. <b>Email is preferable as we are finding it increasingly hard to understand due to unclear messages and poor telephone signal.</b></p> <p>Please state clearly and concisely your <b>child's full name, class and their reason for absence</b> - <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>
<b>Parking at drop off and pickup</b>	<p>Please can we remind parents that no matter how much of a rush or how late you are, always park <b>safely</b> and with <b>consideration</b> for other road users and pedestrians. We say it regularly, but we are still witnessing dangerous parking around the school zebra crossings. A reminder that we are very lucky to be able to use the Didcot Town Football Club car park during drop off and pick up, which is just a short walk to the school. Many thanks.</p>
<b>After School Club on Wednesday 28th January</b>	<p>Please note that on Wednesday 28th January, children will need to be collected from ASC from the Nursery door (to the right of Reception Main Entrance) due to a Year 4 Hill End Parent Meeting taking place in the hall. Many thanks.</p>
<b>Authorfy Bookdrop Newsletter</b>	<p>Created in partnership with UK's children's publishers and the Open University Reading for Pleasure team, Bookdrop is a FREE half-termly digital newsletter for parents and carers about children's reading to support reading at home.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here for more information and sign up to their newsletter.</a></p>
<b>PALS Committee Meeting - Wednesday 21st January</b>	<p>The next PALS Committee Meeting will be taking place on Zoom next Wednesday 21st January at 7.30pm. Here is the Zoom Link to join (everyone welcome) - <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84505731304?pwd=gAG3Egga15FzSy2SPPsrra0XuMX4yr.1">https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84505731304?pwd=gAG3Egga15FzSy2SPPsrra0XuMX4yr.1</a></p>



### Friday 23rd January 2026 is Break the Rules Day!

Choose which rules to break (see list below). Suggested donation of 50p for each rule broken. Simply hand your donation to your teacher on the morning of Break the Rules Day.

- ★ Put squash in your water bottle
- ★ Bring in an unhealthy snack
- ★ Wear trainers for the day
- ★ Style your hair in a crazy style
- ★ Wear a temporary tattoo
- ★ Wear nail polish
- ★ Wear a hat in the classroom
- ★ Change your name for the day
- ★ Call your teacher by their first name
- ★ Bring in a cuddly toy

### The Ladygrove PALS Quiz night is taking place on Friday 30th January.

Arrival from 7.30pm, Quiz starts 8pm

£5 per person

Bring your own snacks and alcoholic/non-alcoholic drinks (and glasses!)

Please complete and return the quiz entry form along with your cash payment for the whole team, in a sealed envelope to the school office post box. Please mark your envelope as "PALS Quiz Night"

Teams can be a maximum of 8 people, 18s and overs only please. Smaller teams may be asked to combine. £5 per person. Cash prize for the winning team!

You will find the team entry form at the end of this newsletter and a paper copy will come home next week.



### External Clubs and Activities

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>

New additions this week include:

- ★ Scout Adventures Yowlbury - Holiday Activities
- ★ Oxford University Science Bazaar
- ★ Didcot Cricket Club Join Our Juniors
- ★ Premier Football February Half Term Holiday Course

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

 **CHICKEN SHACK**

Meatballs in Tomato Sauce with Rice 


Fishfingers with Chips

Option Two

Vegetable Pizza with wedges 


Vegan Spaghetti Bolognaise

Roast Chicken or Quorn Roast Potatoes and Gravy

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.



**Friday 30th January**

**Arrival from 7.30pm**

**Quiz starts 8pm**

**£5 per person**

**Bring your own snacks and  
alcoholic/non-alcoholic drinks  
(and glasses!)**

Please complete and return the below, with cash payment for the whole team, to the school office post box. Please mark your envelope as "PALS Quiz Night"

Teams can be a maximum of 8 people, 18s and overs only please. Smaller teams may be asked to combine. £5 per person. Cash prize for the winning team!

Team Captain Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Captain's Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in Team: \_\_\_\_\_ (maximum 8 people)

**All teams and cash payments must be returned by  
Tuesday 27th January**



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