

Last week...

On Friday evening, our **LPPS Choir** took part in the annual Big Christmas Sing. Organised by the Oxfordshire Music Service, the event was a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to come together with choirs from other schools to celebrate the festive season. The atmosphere was warm and welcoming, the live band was exceptionally talented, and the audience joined in beautifully with the carols. Each school delivered an impressive performance, making it a truly memorable occasion for everyone involved.



This week...

This week, **Year 2** took to the stage to perform their Nativity, '*Tinsel and Teatowels*'. The children were fantastic and have worked incredibly hard throughout the term practising their lines. We are all extremely proud of them, and we hope it's a performance they will remember for many years to come. A big thank you for your support with amazing costumes and to the staff for putting together such a fantastic production.



Congratulations to our **Year 6 Cyclists** this week for completing their Level 2 Cycle Training course this term. A very well done to David, Vada, Sahib, Leah, Harry, Neive, Ethan, Lilly, Joel and Hannah. We will be sending out a letter to the next Year 6 group soon so please keep an eye out for this in your inbox.

Our **Nursery** was bursting with festive cheer this week at their Christmas Craft and Sing-Song! Parents and carers joined the fun, rolling up their sleeves to create snowman paintings, colourful Christmas wreaths, pinecone decorations, and deliciously decorated biscuits. They ended on a high note as everyone gathered together for a heart-warming sing-along, filling the room with smiles, laughter, and plenty of Christmas spirit!

The **LPPS Choir** shone once again at the Didcot Town Carol Concert on Wednesday evening. Their wonderful performance helped create a magical festive atmosphere for everyone who attended. A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who came along and supported, the event raised an impressive **£539.38** for the Mayor's charities. What an amazing achievement for our community!

A very big thank you for all your donations yesterday for **Christmas Jumper Day**. With your support, we have raised a fantastic **£492** which is to be split between Save the Children and PALS.



It was lovely to see **Year 4** parents and carers at their Art Gallery today. To support our enquiry question this term; *"What is creativity?"* and inspired by the theme 'Winter', the children used various skills to produce some beautiful artwork. We hope you enjoyed seeing their hard work (and a mince pie too)!

The **PALS Raffle Draw** took place this afternoon at school. Congratulations if you won a prize! If you were not at the draw and you have won a prize, PALS will get in touch to let you know. Prizes will be held in the school office for you to collect. Please ensure to collect these before we break up next week. Many thanks.

Assembly

This week's whole school assemblies focused on the 'spirit of Christmas'. The children were asked to reflect on *Kindness* at this time of year and to consider what acts of kindness they would try to carry out over the next few weeks.

Severe Weather

We don't have a crystal ball but we thought it would be timely to remind everyone of the arrangements for severe weather events.

Winter arrangements: *keep this just in case you need to refer to it over the coming months.*

In case of severe weather (ie. heavy snow) we base the decision about closing the school on the appropriate ratio of staff to children. If a small number of staff cannot make it to school safely then we rearrange timetables and classes to ensure there is enough supervision. If a larger number of staff are absent, we will be forced to close the school. We attempt to make this decision well before school starts, then communicate it immediately via the School Jotter App first, shortly followed by the local authority website. In very rare cases, we might need to close only part of the school- depending again on the availability of staff - this is very much a last resort because the organisation can be very complicated and lead to communication issues. Furthermore, it is also possible that we might need to close the school during the day, if an unexpected weather front closes in very quickly. Again this is not preferable because it leads to complicated implementation. In this case an appropriate number of staff will remain to supervise children until they can be picked up. We also communicate school closure via local radio stations but because they only announce the information periodically it is always better to have the **School Jotter App** up to date on your phone (or check the local authority website). Please also remember that our premises risk assessment ensures that we grit the most commonly used pathways. We can't grit the entire site and it would be more treacherous to do so. Therefore we put a lot of emphasis on teaching the children to alter their play style to suit the conditions.

Governors Corner

At the termly Full Governing Body meeting last night, the Chair of Governors, Imran Lokhon, and all of the governors expressed their pride in the school's learning performance achievements across all areas at the end of last academic year. The children achieved above national results in the FS Good Level of Development, the Year 1 and Year 2 Phonics Screening Checks, the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check; and the Year 6 Reading, Writing, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling and Maths SATs.

Dates for Autumn Term 2...

Monday 15th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursery and Reception Christmas Lunches - all other year groups require a packed lunch
Tuesday 16th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 & 2 Christmas Lunches - all other year groups require a packed lunch Reception Sing Song to parents and carers, 2.30pm
Wednesday 17th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 3 & 4 Christmas Lunches - all other year groups require a packed lunch
Thursday 18th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 & 6 Christmas Lunches - all other year groups require a packed lunch

Friday 19th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 Christmas Story for parents and carers, 8.45am - refer to letter sent 19/11 Last day of Term 2 - normal finish time
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Dates for Spring Term 1...

Please keep checking these dates for any additions or amendments!

Monday 5th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of Term 3 - all children return to school.
Friday 9th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!
Friday 16th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!
Wednesday 21st January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reception and Year 1 PERFORM Drama Workshop, in school
Friday 23rd January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PALS Break the Rules Day, details to follow Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!
Tuesday 27th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 Hill End Parent Meeting, 3.15pm, details to follow
Thursday 29th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 Poet visit, in school
Friday 30th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes! PALS Quiz Night - details to follow
Friday 6th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes!
Friday 13th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PALS Dress Up Day, details to follow Class 10 Swimming, remember towels and costumes! Last Day of Term 3 - normal finish time

Notices

Attendance Please email the school office. <u>Do not email the year group.</u>	<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>
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<p>SEND Witherslack Group Emotional Dysregulation Free Webinar</p>	
<p>Current Year 5's - Kilvrough Residential 2027</p>	<p>Just a reminder to keep up with your payments for the 2027 Kilvrough residential, to help make payments manageable. Many thanks!</p>
<p>Outstanding ParentPay Payments</p>	<p>Please ensure to login to your ParentPay accounts and make any outstanding payments for Extended Schools, trips or school lunches.</p>
<p>SJ Multisports Christmas Camp</p> 	<p>SJ Multisports will be running their Christmas Camp on 22nd and 23rd December. Leaflets have now been handed out. If you would like to book a place, please visit https://sj-multisports.classforkids.io. For any queries, please contact sjmultisportscamp@gmail.com</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 New additions this week: ★ WR Sports Christmas Camps</p>

Admissions to Primary School - Apply Now!

Admissions to Primary School (Academic Year 26/27): If your child was born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 (inclusive), you need to apply for a primary school place for September 2026. You can now apply online. Please visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions for further information. NB The deadline line date for online applications is 15th January 2026.

Please remember the following:-

- It is the responsibility of parents/carers to apply for a school place by the deadline of 15 January 2026
- If your child is attending nursery classes within a primary school, you must still apply for a place in the main school
- You can list three different schools in order of preference. We strongly advise you to use all three preferences
- We advise you to enter your catchment (or designated) school as one of your preferences
- Attending your catchment school does not entitle you to free home to school transport if it is not your closest school and / under 2 miles away
- If your application is late, you are far less likely to get a place at one of your preferred schools.

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.

Thinking of volunteering? Good for you.

15th Didcot Scout Group are looking for volunteers to support our cubs, beavers and our trustee board.

Volunteering is good for young people, and good for you too.

We'll give you the support and training you need to shine, as well as the chance to have fun, meet new people, and learn skills for life.

**Contact our volunteer team at
15thdidcot@gmail.com to find out more.**

**scouts.org.uk/volunteer
#GoodForYou**

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