

This week...

TVP Cyber Security Talk

Cyber Protect Police Officer Claire Walden finished her work with the school this week. We invited her into school last year and she has been working with the school on a number of levels. She talked to the older year groups last summer, she undertook audits of our technology such as our wireless network, then she completed multiple rounds of presentations with staff, finishing with a parent information evening on Wednesday. Thank you to those who were able to attend. Due to the nature of these sessions, the police do not share their presentations. However, Office Walden will be able to share the relevant links in due course, including how to check if your data has been shared by an organisation, as well as websites that demonstrate how to secure your own devices and that of your child. One of the key and vital take-aways was to lock down your email addresses with multi factor authentication and/or a passkey (rather than just a password).

Thank you to all those that attended our [Reception Phonics Session](#) this week, we hope you found it informative. If you weren't able to make the session, the slides have now been shared on the Google Classroom.

Year 6 learnt all about first aid this week thanks to the company, Save-Yu, with Gemma and Gary. We had an amazing time learning about how to help people by giving CPR. It really uplevelled our knowledge about the processes and tools we can use to save lives, and also medication such as inhalers. We learnt what Dr ABC means - *Danger, Response, Airway, Breathing* and *CPR*. We also learnt about the recovery position. We had lots of fun practising how to tie bandages. We found out that defibrillators can help people with a chance of surviving up to 50-70% if used in time, and discovered what to do when someone is choking. We also learnt not to give anyone else our own medicine otherwise it could make the situation worse.



Today, we have been celebrating [European Day of Languages](#). Each class chose a country to research; learning some greetings and phrases. Some even learnt some songs! This was then shared in a special assembly at the end of the day. A big thank you to Mrs Duran for organising the day.

We would like to say a big thank you to [Ian Davies Flooring](#) for their donation of old carpet tubes for our foundation stage garden. The children are very excited to use these in their play!

SENDCo Update

Over the next academic year, Catherine Wales will be working as Co-SENDCo alongside Carol Turner. The SENDCos' working days are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Assembly

This week we focused heavily on collaboration and demonstrated how working with others is really quite vital in life. We looked at examples such as olympic rowing, football and the biennial tradition in Catalonia of constructing Castells. We also saw how some jobs highlight team work as one of the most important parts of the role. We also discussed business collaborations such as when Ben

and Jerry's collaborated with Nike! In short, there are many reasons why it's important to develop and refine your collaboration skills!

Pupil Responsibilities

House Captains undertook a dry run of the 'Ladygrove News' this week and will start producing real transmissions to the school next week.

Applications have been coming in for Eco Warriors.

Last year's Peer Mentors met to plan the application process for Year 5 in the coming weeks.

Parent Governor Elections!

A letter was emailed last week via ParentPay about becoming a Ladygrove Park Parent Governor. This letter is also on our website alongside the Qualifications and Disqualifications of a parent governor document -

<https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/key-info/governors>

You can nominate yourself. Each nomination must be signed by the candidate stating they are willing to stand. We need no more than a 250 word personal statement saying why you would like to be a governor. If we have more than two governor nominations, ballot forms will be sent home on Tuesday 29th September. Further details are in the letter sent alongside this newsletter.

All nominations to be emailed to the school office by **9am on Monday 28th September 2026**.



What is a governor?

It's important to understand what you might be signing up for. It's a noble and voluntary role which does have a few commitments attached. You will join a highly capable, rigorous, collaborative and detail oriented team.

Timings: you need to be available for 6 full evening meetings a year, at least 3 committee meetings, have flexibility to occasionally visit the school during the school day to understand its workings and be contactable to staff.

Skills: you need to be able to ask searching questions to help verify what we do but you also need to be ready to support staff (because the job is hard)! You need to have a broad focus/wide picture approach, it isn't a role for someone who wants to change things specifically for their own child.

Resilience: you need to be ready to assimilate a lot of information. We ensure school is portrayed as a fun and motivating place of learning for children but what sits behind this is: policies, procedures, audits, data, regulations, scheduling and collegiate working. If you haven't been put off by this- amazing! The successful candidate will initially be rewarded with an in-depth tour and induction of the school, its processes, the challenges and the overall aims of the school.

Dates for Autumn Term

Please keep checking these dates for any additions or amendments!

Tuesday 29th September	PC Mike Dix Year 6 Police Talk "Stay True To You" which covers appropriate behaviours, social/personal safety and reporting (in school)
Wednesday 30th September	SBS Open Evening, 5.30-8.00pm (refer to SBS website)
Thursday 1st October	School CENSUS Day (see Notices section below)
Monday 5th October	Individual Pupil Photos - children to come to school in school uniform. If it is PE day, bring a pair of trainers to change into.
Wednesday 7th October	Year 1 & 3 PC Ben Talk by PC Mike Dix (in school)
Thursday 8th October	Aureus School Open Evening, 4.30-7.30pm (refer to Aureus School website)
Tuesday 13th October	Year 5 Planetarium - Refer to letter here
Thursday 15th October	- Year 1 & 2 PERFORM Drama Workshop, in school - PALS AGM, 7.30pm in school (all welcome)
Tuesday 20th October	Parent Meetings, 4.30 - 8.00pm - see Notices section below

Wednesday 21st October	• Parent Meetings, 3.30 - 6.30pm - see Notices section below
Thursday 22nd October	• PALS Non Uniform Day (in memory of Gill) - more details to follow • Last day of term - normal finish time
Saturday 31st October	• Year 6: Deadline for Secondary School applications (see below)
Monday 2nd November	• Start of Autumn Term 2 - All children start school: 8.40am FS-Y6
Monday 9th November	• Year 3 Life in Britain Workshop, in school. Refer to letter here
Wednesday 11th November	• Year 3 Life in Britain Workshop, in school. Refer to letter here
Thursday 19th November	• Roving Bookshop in school
Friday 18th December	• Last day of term - normal finish time

Notices

Attendance Please email the school office. Do not email the year group.	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. 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.
Parent Meetings	Our face to face parent meetings will be taking place in school on Tuesday 20th October and Wednesday 21st October (see times in the Dates for the Diary section above) On Monday, we will send out a Booking Link via ParentPay. You will be able to click on the link to book an appointment date and time. If you have more than one child in school, you will receive a different link for each child. Please note: If you do not receive a confirmation email once you have made your appointment, check your SPAM/Junk folder.
School CENSUS Day - Thursday 1st October	National School CENSUS Day is when a snapshot of school data is taken and the information is used to calculate our future funding. We would like to encourage all children in KS1 and Foundation Stage to take up a universal free school meal on this school day in order for us to get our maximum funding. We have swapped the Thursday and Friday menu choices this week. On Thursday 1st October, the menu will be: Fish fingers with chips or Cheesy Broccoli Frittata with chips, and an oaty cookie. On Friday 4th October, the menu will be: Greek Chicken Pitta or Greek Spinach & Cheese Whirl with herby rice, salad and Jam & Coconut Spong with custard. Meals need to be ordered in the usual way on the day during registration. KS2 children can also order this meal, payment made as normal via ParentPay, unless you are entitled to benefit related Free School Meals.
SEND - Oxfordshire Parent Carer Forum	We're pleased to share the next OxPCF & NDC CAMHS Parent Carer Webinar Series, with eight free online sessions running monthly from September 2026 to April 2027. Following our previous webinars with the NDC CAMHS team, this next series will explore a



range of topics you have told us are important to parent carers – from what to expect from the CAMHS NDC Service and parent carer burnout, to EBSA, masking, distress, online safety and eating difficulties.

Each webinar will include accessible, evidence-based information, practical strategies and an opportunity to ask questions directly to clinicians and other professionals.

Once a month | Online via Microsoft Teams | 12:00pm–1:30pm | Free

What's coming up?

[30 September – What to Expect from the CAMHS NDC Service](#)

Find out how the CAMHS NDC assessment pathway works, what families can expect at different stages and how you can prepare.

[23 October – Parent Carer Burnout and Looking After Yourself](#)

Explore the signs of parent carer burnout and realistic ways to manage stress and look after your wellbeing alongside caring for your family.

[18 November – Parenting Neurodivergent Young People as a Neurodivergent Parent](#)

Explore the strengths and challenges of parenting when you're neurodivergent too, with practical approaches for navigating family life.

[9 December – Emotionally Based School Avoidance \(EBSA\)](#)

Understand what may be behind school-related distress and explore approaches that can help children, young people and their families.

[20 January – Making Sense of Distress](#)

Explore what may sit behind distressed behaviour and practical, compassionate ways to understand and respond to your child or young person.

[24 February – Understanding Masking](#)

Understand why neurodivergent children and young people may mask, the impact it can have and how you can support them.

[17 March – Supporting Neurodivergent Young People to Stay Safe Online](#)

Explore online safety, gaming, screen time and digital wellbeing, with practical ways to support safer and healthier online experiences.

[21 April – Understanding Eating Difficulties in Neurodivergent Young People](#)

Understand some of the factors that can make eating difficult for neurodivergent young people and explore practical, supportive approaches.

Choose the sessions that are useful to you

You don't need to attend the whole series. You can register for as many or as few webinars as are relevant to you and your family.

Find out more about each webinar and register for your free space:

www.oxpcf.org.uk/events

Can't make it live?

Each webinar presentation will be recorded and shared afterwards on the OxPCF website, along with slides, a summary, anonymised Q&As and other useful resources.

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>

Admissions to Secondary School (Academic Year 27/28)

Year 6 parents can now apply online for secondary schools and the closing date is **31st October 2026**. To ensure your child transfers to the school that you consider most appropriate, you must apply before the closing date.

Remember to:

- **Apply online and on time.** Without an on time application you will not get an offer on national offer day on the 2nd March 2026. It will also reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school in the 2nd allocation. Deadline for applications is 31st October 2025.
- **Addresses:** If you are moving house or have recently moved please make sure you upload proof of address – tenancy

agreement or a contract of exchange document.

- **Preferences:** Provide more than one preference.
- **Remember to add details of siblings.** Please note that if you are applying for a place at DGS and have a son at St Birinus, this counts as a sibling and vice versa.

Please visit secondary schools websites for information about 'virtual' tours/parent meetings.

[Click on this link for easy access to the OCC website.](#)

For transport information click on this link <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/travelling-school>

You're Invited! Aureus School Open Events

Aureus School extends a warm welcome to all families interested in getting to know our school better. Come and explore what our school has to offer and learn about our educational approach.

Please go to our website to register for open mornings.

Open Evening Thursday 8 October - there is no need to pre-register for this - please just come along on the day!

www.aureusschool.org/3774/youre-invited-aureus-open-events

You're Invited!

Book Now!

Open Mornings

September 2026 - June 2027: 9am-10am



Aureus School
Cultivating ambition; high standards for all.

Scan to book a place





Open Evening 2026

Thursday 24th September 2026
4:30pm - 7:30pm
No booking necessary

Open Mornings 2026

Monday 5th October: 9:15am
Tuesday 6th October: 9:15am
Wednesday 7th October: 9:15am
Duration: approximately 1 hour
Booking essential

To book a place please scan the QR code



We look forward to seeing you

Didcot Girls' School, Manor Crescent, Didcot, Oxon, OX11 7AJ





ST BIRINUS SCHOOL

Inspiring Excellence through Care, Courtesy and Commitment



Open Morning School Tours

9am-10:15am

Tues 6th & Weds 7th Oct 2026
Mon 12th & Fri 16th Oct 2026
Tues 20th & Wed 21st Oct 2026

Our SENDCo will present about our general SEND provision at SBS for 15 minutes at the end of the tours on 7th and 21st October
NB - this is not an opportunity to discuss individual student needs

To book a tour, please scan QR Code or visit www.st-birinus-school.org.uk/openevents

We kindly request one adult per family for the tours



OPEN EVENING

Wednesday 30th September 2026
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

AUTUMN MENU 2026

		MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MENU KEY:
WEEK ONE 01.09.26 22.09.26 13.10.26	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	
WEEK TWO 08.09.26 29.09.26 20.10.26	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 	
WEEK THREE 15.09.26 06.10.26	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	 Added plant protein
	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	
AVAILABLE DAILY:		Jacket Potatoes with a choice of fillings, Salad Bar					 Chef's Special

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.