

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 10th July 2026 | Issue 35

Dear Families

As we reach the end of another school year, we began the week reflecting on Jesus' invitation: *"Come to me... and I will give you rest."*

It is a fitting Gospel for the end of a long year. Jesus never promises that life will be easy. He knows that there will be challenges, moments of exhaustion and times when we wonder whether we have enough left to give. His promise is something deeper: that faith, community and shared purpose allow us to find strength, joy and rest, even when life is demanding.

It has certainly been a warm week, and our students and staff have shown tremendous resilience once again: Greyfriars grit! They have adapted brilliantly and have continued to embody the Greyfriars Way with kindness and determination (but maybe not enthusiasm!).

As I have welcomed our new teachers this week, I have found myself saying something I genuinely believe: there is no better place to work than a school. Schools are places of hope. They are places where lives are changed every single day, often through the smallest of moments. I truly love my job because every day brings another opportunity to see young people flourish. Children are hilarious!

Looking back across this year, I realise that this newsletter, and indeed the collection of newsletters from the year, stands as a testament to what we have built together as a community. Week after week they tell the story of a school alive with faith, learning, service and joy. They remind us that whilst education happens in classrooms, it also happens through relationships, opportunities and experiences (good and bad).



This week alone captures so much of what makes Greyfriars special. We have performed with the Bach Choir in the new Schwartzmann building, we have made a pilgrimage to St Frideswide's Well, explored history at Pevensey Castle, visited the Creative Industries, and continued to celebrate the extensive enrichment opportunities that have become such an important part of our curriculum. Our beautiful school garden, created through the vision and dedication of Ms Tokaji and our Enrichment team, continues to literally flourish, whilst our partnership with Meadow School is helping students understand how we can work together to create more sustainable spaces for everyone. We have also had our Art exhibition, which showed the magnificent work of children, the cooking skills of Ms Awanyo and the sense of community. It has been a joyful week.



Continued on the next page...

One of the highlights of the week was undoubtedly our Year 11 Celebration Evening. It was everything we hoped it would be: speeches that reflected on the journey our students have taken, joyful dancing, and even a surprise performance from Ms Shirley, who proved herself to be an outstanding singer! Perhaps my favourite comment of the evening came from the DJ, who told us that, having worked at many school leavers' events, Greyfriars was by far the coolest school he had DJed for. We shall happily accept that accolade! Here is my now annual selfie with Mr Strachan.



What struck me most throughout the evening was the overwhelming sense of community. There was laughter, gratitude, friendship and genuine affection. It reminded me once again that Greyfriars is not simply a place where students achieve qualifications; it is a place where they belong.

Although we are approaching the end of term, there is still much to look forward to. Our final week celebrates everything that makes Greyfriars unique: Culture Day, now one of the most iconic events in our school calendar, Sports Day, and our final day of celebration together. They are wonderful reminders that participation lies at the heart of who we are. They will all be documented in our new school year newsletter, again, as testament to the community.

As the summer holidays begin, I hope every family has the opportunity to rest, spend time together and make happy memories. Please do also take a moment to read the information below about Donnington Doorstep and the many activities available across the summer.

Finally, thank you. Thank you to our students, whose enthusiasm, kindness and resilience make Greyfriars such a joyful place to be. They make me smile every day.

Thank you to our staff, whose dedication goes far beyond what is seen. Schools operate so much on the vocation and good will of others. The people who stay after school to make sure rooms are decorated or to support families, your work is appreciated and noticed.

Thank you to our families, whose trust, encouragement and partnership make everything we do possible. Thank you for participating in different events over the year and for sharing your children with us. We are your school family.

I wish you all a peaceful, restful and joy-filled summer. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in September, ready to begin another chapter in the Greyfriars story.

Happy holiday.

Lyndsey Caldwell
Headteacher

WHAT IS GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ME THIS WEEK?

Gospel | Matthew 11:25–30



At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

"Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Reflection

Taking the Lord's yoke upon us means first of all: learning from him. It means always being ready to go to his school. From him we must learn gentleness and meekness: the humility of God who shows himself in his being a man. At times we would like to say to Jesus: Lord, your yoke is far from light. Indeed, it is tremendously heavy in this world. But then looking at the One who bore everything - who tried out on himself obedience, weakness, suffering, all the darkness -, then these complaints of ours fade. His yoke is that of loving with him. And the more we love him and with him become loving people, the lighter becomes his seemingly burdensome yoke (Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, 5 April 2007).

Prayer to mark our pilgrimage to St. Frideswide's Well

God of peace and strength, whose abbess Frideswide built a community of love and learning with the gifts of the Spirit and in the strong peace that comes from you: renew us with healing waters of salvation, increase in us courage and resolve and inspire us, like Frideswide, to teach your truth and bring hope to your world; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.



To view the St Edmund and St Frideswide (Greyfriars) parish website please click on the following link:

<https://www.greyfriarsoxford.uk/>

GENERAL NOTICES

Catholic Life | Mr Greer



It's been a busy few weeks for Catholic Life. Last Friday, our Year 7s went on a rewards trip/retreat to Youlbury. Students spent time in the great outdoors, having fun in some of the camp's activities and learning how to work as a team. It was a wonderful time of community and celebrating the year! We ended the day by walking over to the Carmelites monastery next door, learning about Carmelite monks and practicing their time of solitude and silence with them. It was moving for me to see all of our energetic Year 7s

take a moment to pause, to sit, and to pray as we look from Boar's Hill over the city of Oxford. It was deeply meaningful for them as well as for me.

Then, on Monday morning, the BBC hosted, one of our Year 12 students, and Rachel, one of our Governors, for an interview about our exhibition and campaign for lowering bus prices. We are so excited for the impact this news attention might bring! The head of the Oxford Bus Company even agreed to come and visit Greyfriars in September.



Later that same day, Year 9 and Year 10 students went on a local pilgrimage to see Godstow Abbey as well as the well of St. Frideswide in Binsey. It was a hot day! But in the spirit of a true pilgrimage, students were patient and realised that the long walk was for the sake of something greater than themselves. We had a silent time of prayer in the church by the well, and it was powerful to see students having a moment of stillness / talking with God.



And finally, 8 of our Catholic Life Ambassadors travelled to London on Tuesday to join other Young Catholics for celebration of community organising. We talked about Catholic Social Teaching, heard what other schools around the country have achieved, and presented the work of our exhibition. The energy in the room was inspiring, and we are eager to continue to work with Citizens UK, Pope Leo, and the Church at large as we bring more justice to the world.

GENERAL NOTICES

Gardening Enrichment | Miss Tokaji

September 2025

Our school's once-neglected garden has been transformed into a thriving organic growing space thanks to the hard work and teamwork of students, staff, and the Woodwork Club.

The project began with everyone working together to clear weeds, tidy flower beds, remove old materials, and carefully redesign the area while protecting existing plants and creating a space that supports wildlife.



To prepare for planting, students improved the soil by adding compost and other natural materials, creating healthy growing conditions for vegetables, herbs, and flowers using organic methods.

The Woodwork Club played a key role by designing and building raised beds, planters, and other wooden features. Their craftsmanship helped create a practical and attractive garden while developing valuable hands-on skills.

The garden has also been designed to encourage biodiversity, with flowers planted to attract bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. This has created an important habitat for wildlife and provides students with opportunities to learn about conservation. Sustainability is at the heart of the project. Rainwater collection, careful watering techniques, and composting help reduce waste and recycle nutrients back into the soil.

Today, the garden is a colourful and productive outdoor space where students can learn about nature, sustainability, and food production, as well as enjoy a peaceful place to work and relax.

This fantastic transformation shows what can be achieved when a school community works together. Through teamwork, creativity, and a shared commitment to caring for the environment, an abandoned area has become a flourishing space that everyone can enjoy.



July 2026

GENERAL NOTICES

Pevensey Bay History Trip | Miss Nash

Students enjoyed an enlightening trip to the site of the Battle of Hastings where they engaged in hands-on learning at the visitor centre weighing replica shields and exploring the events that unfolded in 1066 by following the sculpture trail tour.

Students finished the day with quiet contemplation and prayer, listening to the story of William's arrival while taking in the sounds and scene of Pevensey Bay beach.



Message for Sixth Form | Ms McCabe

The final week of term:

Our Y12 have had a busy week back in lessons going through the final feedback from their exams. It is also really important that next week students collect their summer homework from their teachers so that they can return ready for the new year. Also coming up next week, we have lots of celebrations to mark the end of the year. Sixth Form students are a key part of these celebrations and it is important that they are in school so that we can celebrate their successes and achievements.

Academic Enrichment

It may be almost the end of term and some people might think it is time to wind down. Not Sixth Form! We have had a number of students taking advantage of incredible opportunities to build their engagement with their subjects outside of the curriculum. Zartasha, Zaara, Stuthi and Goodness spent 2 days on the NHS Microbiology programme. As well as learning about the work of microbiologists, they were able to carry out their own experiments and research. Bailie has also been at the Oxford University Neuroscience programme. This is an incredible opportunity to engage with lecturers, students and see first hand the work that is carried out.

A huge thank you!

The success of Sixth Form depends upon a team of people, the students and the families that support them. I would like to say thank you to all of the parents who I have met or spoken to on the phone, and who have worked with me to guide our Y12 and Y13 to be amazing. And, of course, to the students who have stepped up to the challenges and demands of A Levels and who we have watched grow throughout the year.

GENERAL NOTICES

Message for KS4 | Mr Weedon

End of Year Message for Year 10

As we come to the end of the academic year, we would like to congratulate all of our Year 10 students on their hard work, resilience, and commitment throughout the year. They have made excellent progress and should be proud of everything they have achieved.

We hope everyone has a safe, happy, and relaxing summer holiday, taking the opportunity to rest, recharge, and enjoy time with family and friends. We look forward to welcoming our Year 10 students back in September as they begin the exciting and important journey of Year 11.

Final Achievement Points Board for this Year

Registration form	Total Point Awards
10SA	10500
10MJ	10073
10CT	8095
10JOD	7702



Congratulations to Our Year 11 Students

Last night's Year 11 Prom was a tremendous success and a wonderful celebration of our students' time at school. It was fantastic to see everyone looking so smart and enjoying such a memorable evening with their friends and teachers. Their behaviour throughout the event was exemplary, and they were a credit to themselves, their families, and the school.

Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard to organise such a special evening and to parents and carers for your continued support. We wish all of our Year 11 students every success for the future and hope they enjoy a safe, relaxing, and well-deserved summer.

Uniform Donations

Thank you to everyone who has already donated school uniform to the school—we really appreciate your generosity.

As Year 11 students finish the school year, we would be very grateful for any further donations of good-quality uniform to help support families in our school community.



GENERAL NOTICES

Meadow School Enrichment | Miss Crowther

Our final Meadow School Enrichment session of the year took place on Wednesday, and it was a wonderful way to round off all the work we've done over the past two terms.

During the session, students worked together to explore ideas for transforming the area at the front of the school into a woodland-inspired space. Their imaginative suggestions included planting a variety of trees and flowers to create a welcoming environment for both people and pollinators. Although the project is still in its early planning stages, it was wonderful to see everyone contributing thoughtful and creative ideas.



The students enjoyed adding their designs to a site map and creating colourful signs ready to be displayed in the garden next year. As an extra surprise, a group of adorable baby ducklings arrived at the farm during our visit! The students were delighted to meet them and say hello, and also had the chance to feed the chickens and goats.

A huge thank you to everyone at the farm for their support, encouragement and the many wonderful opportunities they have provided our students this year. It has been a pleasure to watch the students' confidence, teamwork and creativity grow throughout the enrichment, and we are already looking forward to seeing how their ideas develop when we return next year.

GENERAL NOTICES

Art Exhibition | Mrs Byrne

What a wonderful afternoon at our GCSE Art and DT Exhibition 2026.

It was fantastic to come together as a Greyfriars school community to celebrate the creativity, talent and hard work of our Year 11 GCSE Art and DT pupils. Their dedication and achievements were on full display, and they should all be incredibly proud of what they have accomplished.

A huge thank you to Mrs Awanyo, Mr Thomas, Miss Labiche and Miss Youngs for preparing the delicious refreshments and helping to make it such a special Greyfriars event.



Well done to all of our talented pupils, and thank you to everyone who came along to support them.



GENERAL NOTICES

Library News | Mrs Brett

Hello Champion Chapter Chompers! Here we are again! I can hardly believe that summer break is upon us already.

What a year it has been! The library has been so alive this year, it makes my heart burst. We have been reading, drawing, crafting, playing games, supporting each other, and working hard.

I want to thank all the wonderful student librarians who spent their time helping me make the library more awesome every day!



We are making steady progress, increasing both the number of borrowers (by 19.46%), as well as books borrowed (by 26.9%) this year. Well done, everyone.

A big shout out Year 8 students, who have done brilliant reading this year, both through Sparx Reader, as well as library books. YEAR 8 STUDENTS, YOU ARE OUR READING CHAMPIONS!!



Please DO NOT stop reading over the summer. Or if you don't read – START reading over the summer. Come to the library and we will help you choose a book you will love! And reading during the holidays could win you some fun prizes if you take part in our Summer Reading BINGO Challenge.



Top Three Winners will receive: A book of their choice to keep (price up to £12) / Stickers and bookmarks / Sweet treats / Surprise gift. **Participant rewards:** If you read at least 1 library book during the summer, you will receive a bookmark or stickers and MANY achievement points.

COME TO THE LIBRARY TO COLLECT YOUR BINGO SHEET.

Reading Champions will be announced at the Award Ceremony on Friday. Good luck!

Finally, to quote myself from one year ago:

“Have a **Readspiring** weekend and a **READSPIRATIONAL** summer 😊”

GENERAL NOTICES

Message for Year 8 and Year 9 | Mrs Reddy

As another academic year comes to a close, we reflect with pride and gratitude on everything our incredible Y8, Y9 students and form tutors have achieved together. Your enthusiasm, resilience, kindness and sense of community have made this year truly special, and we couldn't be prouder of all you have accomplished.

A heartfelt farewell goes to our wonderful form tutors, Ms Shirley (Y9) and Mr Scott (Y8), who will be moving on at the end of this term. Thank you for the care, dedication and unwavering support you have shown your tutees every day. Your encouragement, compassion and commitment have made a lasting difference, and your positive impact on our school community will be remembered for years to come. We will miss you greatly and wish you every success and happiness in the exciting journey ahead.

A special celebration goes to our fantastic fundraising champions—Manuela, Lushun, Julia and Axel. Week after week, you generously gave up your lunch breaks to organise fundraising stalls, encourage your peers and support an incredibly important cause, helping to ensure that no child starts the school day hungry. Your selflessness, teamwork and commitment embody the very best of our school values. Thank you for making such a meaningful difference.

A huge thank you to Yulanda (Y9), whose willingness to help, cheerful attitude and positive spirit have been invaluable across both year groups. No matter the task, you have always been ready to lend a hand, and your enthusiasm has brightened every project you've been part of.

Finally, a huge round of applause for Eve, Rosmelia, Yves, Taliyah, Kenedy, Ganuli, Alex, Joshua, Lexie and Sylvia. These students achieved the remarkable milestone of zero behaviour points this year. This achievement reflects your consistency, maturity and commitment to making positive choices every single day. Congratulations! You are exceptional role models, and we are incredibly proud of you.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this such a memorable year. We wish all of our students, families and staff a restful, happy and well-deserved summer break.

Sparx Maths

Total hours spent on
Sparx this year

12,002hrs

Number of questions
answered correctly

901,558

XP Champions THIS YEAR

Name	Year	Total XP
Miu Miu M	8	63,651
Seerat S	7	60,640
Sampson O	8	55,570
Rayan P	7	45,900
Aman A	9	44,329
Gaudencio F	9	43,312
Muhammad N	9	43,213
Aseda k	7	41,343
Mia E	7	41,076
Samayrah	10	40,845

GENERAL NOTICES

Message for Year 7 | Mr Cunningham

And just like that, we have reached the end of the year. It feels like only yesterday that our Year 7 students were walking through the doors for the very first time — a little nervous, a little uncertain, and full of potential. What a journey it has been since then. Over the course of this year, we have watched them grow in confidence, in character, and in community. They have risen to challenges, supported one another, and time and again shown us what they are made of. We could not be prouder.

This final week brought with it some truly special memories. The Youlbury and Carmelite retreat gave students the chance to step away from the everyday, to reflect, to connect, and to experience something genuinely meaningful together — and the stories and moments they brought back with them have been wonderful to hear. It was a fitting way to close the chapter on Year 7.

The results are in, and our achievement point league leaders for the year look like this, overall Year 7 amassed a staggering 62,198 achievement points this year! Congratulations to 7BN, whose consistency and focus led them to a fantastic victory this year!

7BN	17,476
7KR	16,843
7GKE	15,708
7ALW	12,171

In the individual league, our top ten is led by Mia, coming so close to the 1000 milestone!

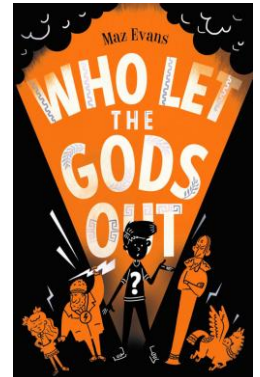
Mia	960
Esther	959
Amelia-Grace	955
Rugeisa	953
Aseda	923
Sadew	909
Elia	887
Bella	879
Shashwat	867

And now, as we look ahead, we do so with real excitement. These young people are ready for Year 8 — and Year 8 is ready for them. To our parents and families: thank you. Your support, trust, and partnership throughout this year has meant a great deal. None of what we achieve together would be possible without you. We wish everyone a safe, happy, and restful summer. You have all earned it. See you in September!

Weekly Book Review by Lian

GREAT SUMMER READ!

This book is great! It's the first part to a thrilling and humorous four-part book series. It focuses greatly on Greek mythology and puts into perspective the personalities of these deities in a simple and silly way.



I found it hilarious and I still do. It was a wonderful read and packed with thrilling adventure!

GENERAL NOTICES

Free School Meals

National Changes to Free School Meals from September 2026

The current transitional protection arrangements for Free School Meals will end in July 2026. This means that pupils who are currently receiving FSM will not automatically remain eligible from September 2026. To continue receiving Free School Meals, families will need to meet the revised eligibility criteria.

Expanded Eligibility from September 2026

From September 2026, **all children living in households that receive Universal Credit** will be eligible for Free School Meals, regardless of household income.

If you believe that your child is eligible for free school meals, please complete the following Google Form: [Free School Meals Registration Form](#)

5 Ways to Well-being

Click on the logo to find out more.



Building small actions into your daily life can make you feel good, and feeling good is an important part of being healthy. There are 5 ways to wellbeing that are proven to make a real difference to you.

free period products



In partnership with **hey girls...**

OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

Friends of Greyfriars (PTA)

Friends of Greyfriars is an open and important community of parent volunteers working alongside the school and teachers to benefit the school. It is like a PTA. It is a group that aims to ensure the best educational and enrichment experience for all its students. Friends of Greyfriars is a reflection of the school in the wider community.

By joining the Friends of Greyfriars you can help the school to build a far more effective and up-to-date teaching and learning environment, for the benefit of all its students. Everyone is welcome, parents, carers, staff, governors, past students, past parents, anyone and everyone who cares about the school. Please join us and be a Friend.

If you are interested, please contact Sophie Upellini via: s.upellini@gfcs.uk

GENERAL NOTICES



Greyfriars Catholic School
Invites you to a

FREE BREAKFAST!

**Get an energy boost before
class with a FREE breakfast -
don't miss out!**

When: Every week day
Where: School Restaurant
Time: 8:00am-8:30am

National School Breakfast Programme is delivered by Family Action.
Find out more at family-action.org.uk/NSBP.

Family Action. Registered as a Charity in England & Wales no. 264713.
Registered as a Charity in the Isle of Man no. 1206. Registered Company Limited by Guarantee in England and Wales no. 01068186.

School Lunch Accounts

Please remember to regularly check your child has enough funds in their ParentPay lunch accounts and if this is running low please top up. Students will be unable to purchase food in the restaurant if they do not have enough funds in their account.

Please note that we are a cashless school and cannot accept cash for lunch payments.



If you are having trouble accessing your ParentPay account, please contact the school.

Astroturf

Please remember that your child needs Astroturf trainers or turf football boots – see the picture adjacent for examples of the shoes that are permitted.

Students wearing the incorrect footwear will not be permitted on the Astroturf.

Football boots can be bought for as little as £4.99 via Sports Direct (Sondico ones).

We will hold some spare boots to lend to students if necessary, however, these are to be returned at the end of the lesson. This way we can ensure we always have a supply of boots for those students who forget theirs or are in the process of buying their own.

If anyone has spare Astro shoes that they would like to donate to the school, this would be much appreciated. These would be used or students to borrow as explained above.



GENERAL NOTICES

Dates for your Diary

13 July | Thorpe Park Reward Trip

15 July | Culture Day

16 July | Sports Day

17 July | Awards Assemblies / Last day of Term (early finish)

20 July | Staff INSET Day – No students in school

13 August | A Level Results Day

20 August | GCSE / BTEC Results Day

1 September | Staff INSET Day – No students in school

2 September | Staff INSET Day – No students in school

Donations

If you wish to make a donation to the school please click on the link.

DONATE

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club is open

Mon – Fri 8.00am - 8.30am in our restaurant.

Everyone is welcome to come and join us for breakfast club.
Breakfast is free. Start your day with friends and food!



Greyfriars Vacancies

If you are interested in joining the team at Greyfriars Catholic School, please email our School Business Manager, Sophie Upellini via: s.upellini@gfcs.uk
<https://www.greyfriarsoxford.org.uk/join-us/vacancies> or visit: to view all our current vacancies.

Archdiocese of Birmingham Vacancies



<https://www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/Pages/FAQs/Category/jobs>



You Tube

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

TUNNICLIFFE Education

Tunncliffe Education Summer HAF Clubs 2026

Free holiday activities and food clubs in Oxfordshire

Breakfast and lunch provided | Creative activities | Active fun | Supportive staff

- Performance and Circus Skills**
East Oxford Primary School
20-23 July 2026
A fun, active week of circus skills, games, movement and creative activities.
- Arts, Crafts and Dinosaurs**
Oxford University Museum of Natural History
21-24 July, 27-30 July, 17-20 August, 24-27 August 2026
Creative sessions inspired by dinosaurs, museums, nature and hands-on making.
- Science Explorers**
East Oxford Primary School
27-30 July, 10-13 August, 17-20 August 2026
Exciting experiments, investigations and practical science activities for curious children.
- Arts, Crafts and Learning**
Woodstock Community Hall
10-13 August 2026
Creative projects, crafts and enriching activities inspired by the local area.
- Arts, Crafts and Learning**
Cutehaven Community Centre
22, 24, 25 and 26 August 2026
A community-based club with crafts, outdoor learning and fun activities.

Tunncliffe Education Summer HAF Clubs 2026
Oxford and surrounding areas

Learn | Explore | Grow

STEVENSONS

Summer Shopping

Your uniform is supplied through our
Oxford Branch

Address:
245 Banbury Road,
Oxford,
OX2 7HN

Contact:
oxfordbranch@stevensons.co.uk

Please note we are a cashless branch.

Opening Hours:
Monday: 9:30am - 5pm
Tuesday: 9:30am - 5pm
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: Closed
Friday: 9:30am - 5pm
Saturday: 9:30am - 5pm
Sunday: Closed

Online

Shopping online at www.stevensons.co.uk is easy!

You can select home delivery or opt for convenient Click & Collect from your local store.

Our in-stock items are typically dispatched within 48 hours.

Plus, with our 365-day return policy, you can shop with confidence knowing that returns are hassle-free.

In Store Opening Hours

Will be open for pre-booked fitting appointments from Monday 13th July - Friday 21st August.

We recommend booking a fitting appointment so we can offer you dedicated one-to-one service during the summer period.

Walk-in customers are welcome. Saturdays are a great option for visiting without an appointment, and our team will assist you as soon as they are available.

Please visit our website to check extended opening hours over the summer.

The Great DRAGON Adventure

Set off on a thrilling Dragon Quest this summer at Discover Bucks Museum in Aylesbury and turn your museum visit into an unforgettable family adventure.

Can you brave the dragon quest and discover the treasure?

Discover, play and explore all day long!

22 JULY - 1 SEPT 2026
All included in your Roald Dahl Children's Gallery ticket!

- ★ **The Great Dragon Adventure** - Children will love tracking the dragon, having fun with the hands-on challenges and exploring the Museum
- ★ **Roald Dahl Children's Gallery** - hands-on discovery and amazing science inspired by Roald Dahl's stories
- ★ **The SAXONS** - an immersive exhibition
- ★ **Museum Galleries** - discover 200 million years of Bucks history in our family-friendly museum galleries
- ★ **Sensory Room**
- ★ **Outdoor toys and games** in the museum garden
- ★ **Craft Shop and Garden Café** with kid's lunchboxes available or bring a picnic

For more details, charges and to book please scan the QR code or visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury HP20 2QP
01296 331441 | discoverbucksmuseum.org

Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust is a company registered in England and Wales with charity number 1183345 and VAT registered no. 190263031.

Discover Bucks Museum
A Roald Dahl Children's Gallery

The Great DRAGON Adventure

22 JULY - 1 SEPT 2026

Track the dragon. Complete the quest. Reclaim the treasure.

A fun-filled summer of exploring, discovering and adventure

Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury HP20 2QP
For opening times and ticket prices visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

THE LEYS FESTIVAL ONE PEOPLE ONE PLACE

is co-created by residents of the Leys and the Cultural Programme at the University of Oxford.

GET INVOLVED!
11 JULY 2026



THE LEYS FESTIVAL ONE PEOPLE ONE PLACE

OPEN EVENING

Thursday 16 April

The Leys College (Activate Learning) Cuddesdon Way, OX4 6HN

Free food, music, and a chance to meet the group who have made the Festival since 2024. You can sign-up for a stall or to volunteer, or just come along and tell us what you want from your local community festival.

Everyone welcome

Regular Festival meetings are on Thursday evenings 6-8pm usually at The Leys College, come along and make sure the Festival belongs to the whole community every idea, and every offer of help, however small, makes a difference.

2026 meetings are:
16 March
9 April, 16 April (OPEN EVENING), 30 April
14 May, 28 May
11 June, 25 June
8 July

Find out more at <https://linktr.ee/LeysFestival>



HOLIDAY CLUBS of oxfordshire

BASED AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY SPORT, IFFLEY ROAD

**4-12
YEAR
OLDS**

WWW.HOLIDAYCLUBSOFOXFORDSHIRE.CO.UK



August 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long

£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

School Anxiety	3 Aug 10am
Anxiety Explained	3 Aug 7pm
Facing Defiance	4 Aug 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	4 Aug 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	10 Aug 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	10 Aug 7pm
Introduction to OCD	11 Aug 10am
Decreasing Depression	11 Aug 7pm
What is ACT?	17 Aug 10am
Improving Family Communication	17 Aug 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	18 Aug 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	18 Aug 7pm
FREE - Raising Self-Esteem	20 Aug 7-8pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	24 Aug 10am
Understanding Anger	24 Aug 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 Aug 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	25 Aug 7pm

Free

Holiday Activities and Food

for eligible 4-16 yr olds
who get benefits-related free school meals.

- Climbing
- Crafts
- Sports
- Cookery
- Dance
- Dodgeball
- and more



Find a club for you
eequ.org/hafoxfordshire

fun, friendship and adventure

Department
for Education



GIRLS MUAY THAI Summer course

6 week beginner
programme

Every Friday @ 10am-11am

24th July - 28th August
(Summer holidays)

Location: OXRAD Sports
Centre, OX3 0NQ

**ONLY 8 SPACES
AVAILABLE**

Ages 13-17

**£65 FOR FULL
COURSE
£55 EARLY BIRD
(ENDS 1ST JULY)**

A safe, structured introduction to
Muay Thai for teenage girls.

- ✓ Confidence building
- ✓ Fitness & coordination
- ✓ Muay Thai technique
- ✓ Pad work & controlled drills

Head Coach:
Lucy Heald

[07398246814](https://www.facebook.com/07398246814)

[@siamsistersmuaythai](https://www.facebook.com/siamsistersmuaythai)

Additional Support Courses for Parents

Three new courses offered by FACE, separate from the school membership.

Full access to all three courses for £6.99/month

Complete at your own pace, cancel anytime.



Building Emotional Resilience

Work through six stages of directed
exercises to help your child (and yourself)
improve emotional resilience.



Facing Defiance

A specific strategy aimed at supporting
parents of children aged 5 to 12 with ADHD,
ODD or just very challenging behaviour.



You & Your Teen

A skills building course for one parent and
one teen (12 years old and above) to learn
how they can both improve their
communication with each other.

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Online Courses for Parents page

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Donnington Doorstep Family Centre has reopened its **free Youth Club** for young people in OX4.

We offer a safe, welcoming space with activities, support, and a free hot meal each session.

Open **Tuesdays & Wednesdays**

Please see our poster for parental permission details.

PARENTS to COMPLETE FORM

[YOUTH CLUB Registration Form – Fill out form](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY!

Our SEND future, together.

Join one of our interactive webinars **this week** and help shape SEND services in Oxfordshire.

Hear about the draft SEND Strategy and the emerging SEND Reform Plan, what these changes could mean for you, and help influence the future of SEND services.

MEET SENIOR LEADERS & HAVE YOUR SAY

This is a rare opportunity to hear directly from senior leaders from across the Local Area Partnership and ask the questions that matter to you.

JOIN ONE OF OUR INTERACTIVE WEBINARS

TUESDAY
7 JULY
7:00 – 9:00PM

OR

THURSDAY
9 JULY
12:00 – 2:00PM

Both webinars cover the same content – you only need to attend one.

Don't make it live? Don't worry – both webinars will be recorded and shared afterwards.

Book your place today!

Find out more and book at:
www.oxpcf.org.uk/send-strategy
OR
letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/send-strategy-2026

Your voice. Your experience. Our future.
Let's create an Oxfordshire where every child and young person with SEND can thrive.

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS CHANCE TO INFLUENCE DECISIONS THAT AFFECT YOUR FAMILY. We hope to see you there!

Is your child up to date with their vaccinations?

We have finished our school visits for this year but vaccinations can still be given in a clinic. Please check your child has received the vaccines below.

Either ask at your GP surgery or check for an email from school.immunisations@nhs.net

Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) – Two doses are required which are usually given before children start school.

Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) – One dose is given in Year 8

Tetanus/Diphtheria/Polio(Td/IPV) also known as the 3 in 1 or Teenage Booster – The 5th and final dose is given in Year 9

Meningococcal ACWY (MenACWY) – One dose given is in Year 9.

How can I book an appointment?

Our website has all the information you need to Consent and to book an appointment in a clinic

<https://oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/parents/>

Have a question?
Contact the Immunisation team

Email:- immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Further information about vaccinations can be found using the links below

[Immunisations for young people - your questions answered \(publishing.service.g.o.uk\)](#)

[Vaccine Knowledge Project - Oxford Vaccine Group](#)

[Vaccinations - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

ULTIMATE ACTIVITY CAMPS

GET SET FOR ULTIMATE EASTER & SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN!

Outstanding holiday day camps with over 40 activities every week

For ages 4 to 14

Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm

EARLY BOOKING OFFER NOW ON!

At Headington Rye Oxford in Oxford

Ultimate savings when you book early!

ULTIMATE SURVIVAL

GO WILD FOR A WHILE!

Fun and adventurous outdoor summer day camps, fully-immersed in the natural environment

For ages 7 to 14

Mon - Fri 8am - 6pm

EARLY BOOKING OFFER NOW ON!

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, Farmoor nr Oxford

Ultimate savings when you book early!

OXFORD UNITED IN THE COMMUNITY www.ouitc.org

GIRLS ONLY PREMIER LEAGUE KICKS TUESDAY IN OXFORD YEAR 7 - YEAR 13 5:00PM - 6:00PM

Leys Pools and Leisure Centre, Pegasus Road Oxford OX4 6JL

FUN AND SOCIAL FOOTBALL FREE TO ATTEND.

Contact Us plkicks@oufc.co.uk

Premier League Kicks OXFORD UNITED

Rugby Club

Great work so far, everyone, in our Rugby Club. We have been very impressed by your enthusiasm and ability to pick up new skills so quickly - and we're only in week 3!

As a reminder, we have worked on the fundamentals of rugby play:

- Run forwards, pass backwards
- Shoot the ball from the hip like a rocket
- Evasion - Stepping and swerving
- Chicken scratch on touch
- Retreating in defence

We'll continue to build on these skills in the coming weeks.

We plan to enter teams into the England Touch Schools Championship in the Summer Term - so something very exciting to work towards. Take a look at this video for some more details about the Touch game.

If you are interested in doing a bit more rugby, then please consider coming along to Oxford Quins RFC. We train at the Horspath Sports Ground, OX4 2BR on a Wednesday evening at 6-7pm or 7-8pm (depending on age group). And we play fixtures on a Sunday. It was a proud week for us at Quins, as Grey Follau was picked for England's Six Nations squad. Look out for him on TV in the coming weeks.

GREG FISILAU
ENGLAND SIX NATIONS CALL-UP

Bring your Boots!

Running on grass is so much easier if you are wearing studs. If you have them, please remember to bring your rugby or football boots along.

If you don't have any boots but would like some, please speak with Miss Kenford.

We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday!

From Laura and the Quins coaching team.

Blackbird Leys COMMUNITY LARDER

What is a community larder?

A membership programme that provides:

- Access to utility discounts and social tariffs
- Local business discounts
- Little larder club
- Meet new people in a friendly environment

Who can join? Anyone who wants to prevent food waste and save money. It is not means tested.

Where does the food come from? A Didcot based charity, providing surplus food, training and opportunities to young people and organisations.

£10 P/YEAR ANNUAL JOINING FEE + **INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP FROM £3.50 A WEEK** + **FAMILY MEMBERSHIP FROM £7 A WEEK**

An individual membership provides up to 10 items of non-perishables (paste, tins etc.) per week plus free fruit and vegetables. A family membership is twice as much.

We offer hot drinks in our back room to all members and volunteers, this is from around 12.30.

Want free food and a bunch of other benefits? Sign up today! www.sofea.uk.com

Registered Charity Number 1055182

Parent Power

We support local parents living in the OX4 area

Our team of Parent Advocates (local parents), Donna, Kerrisa and Kylie, can support you with:

- Practical and emotional support
- Connecting with your child's school or local organisations, such as attending parents' evenings with you.
- Connecting you to a network of parents so you can support each other.
- Help and support with form filling

Need help? Want to get involved?

Get in touch with the team:
Email: donna@oxfordhub.org

Oxford Hub

oxfordhub.org/parent-power

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Created by Young women, for Young Women

DefendHER

Join us for a powerful day of movement, learning and connection. Designed by our Training Ground Artists, these workshops will help you build confidence in your body, develop practical skills, support your wellbeing, and connect with other young women in your community.



WHAT TO EXPECT:

- Hip hop dance workshops
- Personal Safety and Self-Protection
- Specialist guest talks
- Yoga and wellbeing activities
- Creative sessions and discussions
- Opportunities to meet and connect with other young women

These workshops are for young women and those who identify as women ages 14-19 years old



Book here

Join Us
AUGUST 6, 2026

Thursday 6th August, 10-3pm
Pegasus Theatre, OX4 1RE
£15

For more info email
education@bodypoliticdance.com
or call 07791905851

www.bodypoliticdance.com



CAMHS AND SPORT IN MIND

WELLBEING ACTIVITY DAY

TUESDAY 4th AUGUST 2026

AGES 9-14

BLACKBIRD LEYS LEISURE CENTRE

Come along and try a variety of fun sports activities, meet new people, build confidence, and have a great day in a supportive and welcoming environment.

Supportive Steps CAMHS

Sport In Mind

NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

BE ACTIVE. BE YOU. BELONG.

Supporting your mental health through creativity

scan here to sign up

Weekly drop-in sessions
Wednesdays 12-1:30 pm
term time only

For more info contact:
hello@ark-torg.org or 01865 772095

MySpace (online)

MySpace (Online) is a weekly creative wellbeing group for 10 to 14 year olds who are struggling with school attendance due to emotional challenges. The sessions run in a drop in / out style supporting individual interests and needs.

Oxfordshire Community Foundation
Supported by

ARK·T
Creativity Changes Lives

JOIN US...

RAF Air Cadets recruiting now!

If you love aircraft, action and adventure, then the Air Cadets is for you. The Air Cadets is a UK-wide cadet force sponsored by the Royal Air Force. As a cadet, you'll get the chance to do things that others only dream about such as adventurous training, camps, drill and real flight experience.

So if you're aged 12* - 17 and you're looking for a challenge call 0345 600 6601 or log on to www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets

*You must be in Year 8 (England & Wales), S2 (Scotland) or Year 9 (Northern Ireland).

2210 (Cowley) Sq

Sandy Lane West, OX4 6LD

www.aircadets.tv/2210 Come join us on 20th of

April at 8 pm! RSVP: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/6jMhPH4LRE>



For more information about joining the Air Cadets call:

0345 600 6601

or go to

www.raf.mod.uk/aircadets

Make new friends
Have fun
Earn BTECs

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



EASTER & SUMMER 2026

The Wow Camp

SCIENCE, LASER TAG, VIRTUAL REALITY, ANIMAL WORKSHOPS, STREET DANCE, ROBOTS, INFLATABLES

STEM. Creativity. Physical Play
All in one camp

HMRC TAX-FREE CHILD CARE ACCEPTED

www.nextthing.education

SCAN TO BOOK!

EASTER & SUMMER CAMPS

Tech-powered camps, packed with **WOW** experiences!

Example camp activities
Camps run 9 am - 4 pm

ROBOT LAB	LEGO ENGINEERING	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	3D CREATIONS	ANIMATION
COOL CIRCUITS	CRAZY CODING	MOVIE MAKING	MINECRAFT REDSTONE	VIRTUAL REALITY

NEW FOR EASTER - WOW EXPERIENCES

INFLATABLES	ANIMALS	STREET DANCE	SCIENCE	LASER TAG
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Activities vary by location. Please visit our website to see what's running at your venue.

WHAT TO EXPECT:
At Next Thing Education, our goal is to ignite curiosity, fuel creativity and empower young minds for the future!
Blending hands-on tech exploration with unforgettable WOW experiences, we inspire children to invent, create, and discover. Led by DBS-checked, friendly and supportive instructors, kids build confidence while diving into exciting activities, challenges, and real skill-building adventures.

LIMITED SPACES - BOOK NOW!

WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150



TRY LOVE RUGBY

WANT TO PLAY RUGBY? TRY OUR FREE FOUR-WEEK INTRO TO RUGBY FOR GIRLS & YOUNG WOMEN

CONTACT GIRLSRUGBY@OXFORDHARLEQUINS.ORG



Give your child an unforgettable school holiday filled with fresh air, freedom and adventure!

Set within 42 acres of stunning woodland in rural Oxfordshire at Yowlbury, Boars Hill, children aged 8-16 will take part in a daily programme of non-stop outdoor action. With expert instructors leading the way, creating a safe and supportive environment where children run, climb, explore, and build confidence while unplugging from screens and having a blast with friends in the great outdoors!

What's on offer:

- High-energy adventures such as archery, ziplining, and climbing.
- Fun team building games and problem-solving challenges.
- Survival skills such as shelter building, backwoods cooking and fire lighting.
- Connect with the natural world with mindful activities, outdoors arts and crafts, wildlife spotting, and nature walks.

When is it:

- Running throughout school holidays - February, Easter, May, Summer and October (see website for dates).
- 9am-5pm daily.
- Early drop off (from 8am) and late pick-up (until 6pm) available.
- Participants can attend individual days, or the entire week.

Pricing:
£35 per day, per child. Save 10% on a 5-day block and each additional child.

Book now and join the adventure!
www.scoutadventures.org.uk/events
activeadventures@scoutadventures.org.uk
Scout Adventures Yowlbury, Boars Hill, Oxford OX1 5HD

Scout Adventures is owned and operated by The Scout Association (Charity number 26101) (England and Wales). Registered address: The Scout Association, 100 St. Peter's, Dagenham, London, England E9 6TH.



TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW!

AMAZING LEGO DISPLAYS
NEW 6 RETIRED LEGO SETS
BUILD CHALLENGES
ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES
CHARITY TOMBOLA
MILLIONS OF LOOSE BRICKS
PLUS SO MUCH MORE!!

11TH JULY
KINGS CENTRE
OXFORD BRICK FESTIVAL

MORE LEGO THAN YOU CAN DREAM OF

Are you at risk of losing your home?

We can help you to avoid eviction

Our Housing Support Service Team can help keep a roof over your head by providing you with the tools to manage your money, navigate benefits, be independent, and avoid homelessness. Our team will help you gain control of your situation by working alongside you, to fully understand the challenges you are facing, so we can tailor our support. This free service is for individuals and families over the age of 16, who are residents in Oxfordshire.

Get in touch

- enquiries@connectionsupport.org.uk
- 01865 711267
- connectionsupport.org.uk

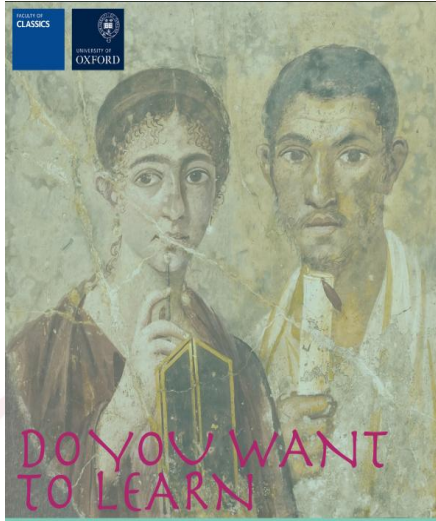
Drop-in details:

Visit our website to download the referral form

Connection Support

LOCAL EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
CLASSICS



DO YOU WANT TO LEARN LATIN?

OXFORD LATIN TEACHING SCHEME
2026—2028

The Faculty of Classics at the University of Oxford is offering state school pupils FREE Latin teaching to GCSE-level.

If you are interested in learning the language of the Romans, CARPE DIEM! and see overleaf for more details.

FREE

PRE-LOVED SCHOOL UNIFORM

POP-UP SHOP

DROP IN SUPPORT AVAILABLE DURING THIS SESSION WITH THE PARENT POWER TEAM

Open every Monday from
12th January
12-2PM

Templers Square Shopping Centre



FOR MORE INFO CONTACT KYLIE 07707918532
KYLIE@OXFORDHUB.ORG

uKids

UKIDS HOLIDAY CAMPS HELD AT ST MARY & ST JOHN PRIMARY

Ofsted Approved

TAX-FREE CHILDCARE VOUCHER ACCEPTED

10% SIBLING DISCOUNT

FULL WEEK DISCOUNTED RATE

STANDARD DAILY RATE
£45 Per Day

REDUCED FULL WEEK RATE
£39 Per Day

LATE PICK UP
+£6 Per Day

MASSIVE MOMENTS

BRAIN BUSTERS

OPERATION OUTDOORS

CRAZY CRAFTS

SUPER SPORTS

RECEPTION - YEAR 7
4 - 12 YEARS

8:00 AM - 5:30 PM
LATE PICK UP UNTIL 6PM

WWW.U-KIDS.CO.UK/CAMPS/OXFORD-HOLIDAY-CLUB

CALLING ALL YEAR 11 - YEAR 13

SOCIAL FOOTBALL DURING YOUR EXAMS!



EVERY MONDAY
8:30PM TO 10:00PM
BICESTER

EVERY TUESDAY
6:30PM - 8:00PM
OXFORD



Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!

YouMove is brand new for Oxfordshire, providing low cost and free fun activities for families including weekends & school holidays.

Enjoy a fantastic range of activities including swimming, badminton, activity packs, children's holiday activities & so much more!

Find out more here:



YOU MOVE

YouMove is here to offer free and low cost activities for children on benefits related free school meals and their families.



MASSIVE MOMENTS

- ✓ Inflatable Obstacle Course
- ✓ Bouncy Castle
- ✓ Inflatable Football Darts
- ✓ NERF Wars
- ✓ Laser Tag

CRAZY CRAFTS

- ✓ Drawing & Painting
- ✓ 3D & Model Making
- ✓ Camp-Themed Crafts
- ✓ Seasonal-Themed Crafts

BRAIN BUSTERS

- ✓ Lego Challenges
- ✓ Engineering Challenges
- ✓ Science Discovery Zones
- ✓ Puzzle Games

SUPER SPORTS

- ✓ Dodgeball
- ✓ Football
- ✓ Tag Rugby
- ✓ Soft Archery
- ✓ Darts
- ✓ Mini Olympics
- ✓ Tri-Golf
- ✓ Netball
- ✓ Cricket
- ✓ Hockey

OPERATION OUTDOORS

- ✓ Exploration Games
- ✓ Bushcraft & Survival Skills
- ✓ Outdoor Team Challenges
- ✓ Nature Science

