

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford

*"Let us protect with love all that God has given us"*  
(Pope Francis 19.03.2013)



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12<sup>th</sup> May 2023



*'The light which comes from the Holy Family  
encourages us to offer human warmth to other families'* (Pope Francis, 2014)

Dear Families,

May is the month of Mary, it is a school tradition to crown Mary in celebration. This year it coincided with the feast day of Joseph the worker. We crown the whole Holy Family – a celebration of our own school family. It was a lovely event – the rain stopped and there was even some sunshine! Thank you to Father Mervyn for leading us in prayer, to the families who made our crowns, for all the flowers, to our wonderful Year 4 choir and to all the families, staff and pupils who joined us for this celebration. It was very special.

We have had a very full two weeks including several other celebrations! First and foremost, well done to all our focused and resilient Year 6 pupils for finishing their SATs this week. They have worked so hard and all the staff, especially their teachers are extremely proud of them.

We have had several other celebrations in learning including two Maths competitions where our school was ably represented by eight mathematicians from Year 4 and Year 5. There has been a 'She Plays to Win' chess competition with our growing girls chess team. And, as ever, celebrations learning continues in our classrooms and through our learning certificates. Mike Mullen, a BMX world champion was invited in as a guest speaker celebrating having a growth mindset (*I can't do it yet!*) to talk to Key Stage 2 about 'flearning' (as well as showing amazing stunts on a BMX bike). The summer term is always a term when pupils get into gear!

Wishing you all a warm and sunny weekend.

Jess Tweedie  
**Headteacher**

### **Crowning of Holy Family**

Thank you to all those who joined us for the crowning of our statue of the Holy Family on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. The children brought a beautiful array of flowers to lay in front of the statue, processing past prayerfully and peacefully. Year 4 provided a lovely choral soundtrack and the rain held off despite the forecast! Many thanks to Mrs Lalvani, Mrs Bale and Mrs Goodstadt who helped create the crowns and the stunning displays from the individual stems laid by the children.

Mrs Hanlon



### **Road Safety**

As the weather improves and the evenings are lighter, we know that our children will be spending more time outside. We all know the importance of keeping children safe when near roads and traffic and encourage you to download the Oxfordshire County Council's Footsteps guide, this is a short leaflet with some simple activities to help you support your child in becoming a safer pedestrian.

<https://www.365alive.co.uk/cms/content/footsteps>

### **Walk to School Week – 15<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> May**

Another way to support your child to become a safer pedestrian, is for them to practice with a parent or carer alongside. Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May is Walk to School Week and we are encouraging families (and staff!) to take part! Walking to school promotes inclusion, health, sustainability, mindfulness and friendships. We would like children to walk, wheel, cycle or scoot to school every day of the week. If your journey to school does not allow you to travel the whole distance on foot, you could try getting off the bus one stop earlier, or parking further away from the school gate and walking the remaining distance to school. Parking slightly further away from the school reduces congestion and air pollution at the school gates and improves road safety.

Mr Davis-James



### Coronation Lunch

The school hall was dressed to impress for lunch on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May, each pupil in our school had decorated a piece of bunting, many metres of which was then strung together by After-School Club. We had royal anthems playing throughout and a special dessert was provided to those having a school meal. Our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes added to the royal atmosphere by wearing the crowns they had decorated for the occasion!

Mrs Ravenhill



### PTA Easter Raffle and our SportsFest on 10<sup>th</sup> June!

Thank you to all those who purchased tickets for our Easter Raffle, and congratulations to all the winners! The money raised enabled the PTA to donate £350 towards the Year 6 trip to Paulton's Park later in May, significantly reducing the cost to parents. Thank you for all your support.

Our next event is SportsFest on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June (see below)

PTA Committee



### Maths Challenge

Well done to our Year 4 and Year 5 Mathematicians who represented our school at inter-school Maths Challenges. They were excellent representatives and showed focus and commitment. The Maths Challenge events contain a mixture of cerebral exercise (and some physical activity) but the aim is for the pupils to enjoy the challenges. There are mental maths quickfire questions and lateral thinking and problem-solving tasks. All of the children who participated will receive a certificate in celebration of their hard work!

Mr Callaghan



### BMX Academy Experience

On Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May we welcomed Mike Mullen to our school. Mike is a Former World Master Champion BMX rider and 6x BMX Halfpipe Champion. He delivered an inspiring assembly on the power of the word 'yet' and on applying a growth mindset to learning. Following the assembly to all of KS2, Year 5 took part in hour-long workshops, learning to jump, balance and trick ride BMX bikes.

The assembly included a display of tricks and a death-defying leap over Ms Fowler!







## **All about BMX's in school**

This report is about Mike, a professional BMX rider who came to our school and showed us a few of his signature stunts. He talked about his lifestyle when he was a kid and how much he adored bikes. I am going to tell you a little bit about him and the assembly we had and also some of the cool tricks that can be done with a BMX bike.

### *Mike the Ex-professional biker*

Mike is an ex-professional BMX rider who participated in many BMX competitions. When he was 11 years old he became fascinated by bikes after watching a TV show called BMX beat. Mike was not really interested in regular sports. He is known as a former world master halfpipe champion, and has won two world champion titles representing the UK. He is now a senior athlete mentor that has his own BMX academy and goes to schools to give kids talks and perform tricks. He happened to visit my school!

### *A spectacular assembly*

In the assembly, Mike talked about how he became interested in BMX riding and how he failed a couple of times when he first got a BMX bike for Christmas. BMX stands for bicycle motocross, and it is an off-road sport bicycle used for racing or stunt riding. There are so many cool but dangerous tricks people can do on them.

### *Fantastic tricks!*

One stunt that can be done on a BMX bike is a 360, using a dirt jump at a skate park. When setting up for the BMX 360, you should be in a standard "attack" position which is when your knees are slightly bent, pedals parallel to the ground, arms slightly bent, and weight slightly back. As you approach the take-off, you need to bend your knees a bit more so that you can begin your transition from the bottom of the take-off to the top. This is when you can start to "pop" by extending your knees and arms and bringing the bike up with you ready to turn and spin in the air. However, this can be difficult if there is too much spin and not enough pop or balance! It can be hard and dangerous to land some BMX stunts correctly, and it takes a lot of practice but Mike was able to do this over one of a staff member's head using a ramp because he is an ex-professional BMX rider.

**Report written by a Year 5 pupil**

## **Chess – She Plays to Win**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May 3 girls from our school took part in a national tournament run by 'She Plays to Win' a non-profit organisation whose aim is to encourage more girls to learn, play and benefit from chess. The girls produced a great result, placing our school in 10<sup>th</sup> place. Well done Chiara, Cecilia and Rosanna! We would like more players to take part in the next tournament which will take place after half term – look out for sign-up details.

Dr Varney

### **St Joseph's Pupil Profile**

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been **Curious** and **Active** this past fortnight

RO – Mrs Oates	<b>Cillian</b>	RSM – Mrs Sekulic/Mrs McLachlan	<b>Evron and Jake</b>
1MA – Miss May	<b>Lucjan</b>	1ML – Miss Mleczko	<b>Alex</b>
2C – Miss Cook	<b>Cyra</b>	2S – Mrs Smith	
3D – Mr Dillon		3M – Mrs Montes	<b>Tony and Amelia</b>
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter		4R – Mrs Ravenhill	<b>Jacob and Livvy</b>
5I – Mr Ingram	<b>Leo and Aeron</b>	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	<b>Zidaan and Saood</b>
6H – Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon		6T – Mr Turner	<b>Sajjad</b>

### **Learning Charter Champions**

Congratulations to the following pupils, our **Learning Charter Champions** this past fortnight

RO – Mrs Oates	<b>Nikolas</b>	RSM – Mrs Sekulic/Mrs McLachlan	<b>Haniya and Ariana</b>
1MA – Miss May	<b>Charlie and Asiya</b>	1ML – Miss Mleczko	
2C – Miss Cook	<b>Elizabeth and Hamza</b>	2S – Mrs Smith	
3D – Mr Dillon		3M – Mrs Montes	<b>Theo and Emilia</b>
4D/H – Mrs Dandy/Mrs Hunter	<b>Lydia and Sam Seb and Nataniel</b>	4R – Mrs Ravenhill	<b>Yada and Zahra</b>
5I – Mr Ingram	<b>Eder</b>	5R – Mrs Rashleigh	<b>Joao and Sofia</b>
6H – Mrs Haines/Mrs Hanlon		6T – Mr Turner	<b>Kai</b>

### **Practical Help and Signposting**

Sadly, things at the moment are difficult for many of our families. Bills all seem to be rising, and everything is getting more expensive. We want to make sure that all our families have support in place if it is needed. Even if your child is not eligible for Free School Meals, we may be able to help with uniform from our vast stock of good-quality second-hand items, we are able to refer to local Food Banks and signpost families to other sources of help, advice and support.

If you are struggling, please contact our home/school link worker, Mrs Kate Stratford. Her contact details are below. Mrs Stratford will be happy to talk to you in confidence to see what support we can offer.

Mrs Kate Stratford

Home/School Link Worker and Deputy DSL

Tel: 01865 763357


Mobile: 07500 802732

Email: [kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:kstr3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

## Dairy Dates


Date	Year Group/Class	Event
w/c Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6	Cycling Proficiency
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6	Retreat Day
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	EYFS	Vision Screening
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	All year groups	Mass for the Feast of the Ascension
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Liturgy group	Good Shepherd Appeal Mass
w/c Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Year 6	Cycling Proficiency
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May – Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Year 4	Play performances
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3	Play performance
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6	Year 6 trip to Paultons Park
<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>Half term break, school closed to pupils and staff</b>
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>INSET day – school closed to pupils</b>
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	All year groups	Internet Safety Week
Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	All year groups	PTA Sportsfest event
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Key Stage 2	Empathy Week Assembly
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June – Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3	Camping residential
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> June – Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 6	Stone Farm residential
29 <sup>th</sup> June	All year groups	Mass for the Feast of St Peter and St Paul
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Class 6H	IMPS trip
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Class 6T	IMPS trip
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	All year groups	International Day
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> and Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Play performances
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July (TBC)	All year groups	Sports Day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July (TBC)	All year groups	Sports Day (weather reserve date)
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Leavers Mass
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6	Leavers Assembly
<b>Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July</b>	<b>All year groups</b>	<b>School finishes for all pupils at 1pm</b>

## Flyers and Information




Through CAP Life Skills I learned about budgeting and changed my habits. Because I'm spending differently now, I save so much money. Last year I was able to go on holiday with my kids.

**Beverley | CAP Life Skills member**



This has been the best thing I have ever done! I've made friends and have gained loads of confidence.

**Jenny | CAP Life Skills member**




CAP are serious, highly professional, deeply committed and, above all, they will treat you as a human being of infinite value, who just needs some help to find your own way forward.

**Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury and CAP's patron**

### New ways to live for a brighter future

Join our friendly community group and gain skills to lift the pressure of life on a low income



I'm a huge fan of CAP. Why not invest in learning how to budget and put in place a simple system? There's nothing better to start you on the path to having more money in your pocket.

**Martin Lewis  
Money Saving Expert**

**Book your free place by contacting**


**Course info**

8 week course starts:  
Tues 9th May 2023, 10:30 am  
at:  
The Venue, Cowley  
To book contact:  
Helen on 07926 596225  
or hgallagher@caplifeskills.org

**New ways to live for a brighter future**

Join our friendly community group and gain skills to lift the pressure of life on a low income

Find your nearest course  
[caplifeskills.org](http://caplifeskills.org)



Oxford's next **CAP Life Skills** Course is starting in Cowley in May 2023.

Life Skills is a safe, welcoming place where group members can discover new ways to lift the pressure of life on a low income. The course is free of charge, and includes sessions on budgeting, shopping on a shoe-string, eating healthily, staying on top of your home energy bills, and maintaining good relationships during stressful times.

The first session will start on May 9th at 10.30 am, and will run for 8 weeks each Tuesday until July 4th, with a break for half-term. The course will be held at The Venue, 242b Barns Road, Oxford, OX4 3RQ. A free lunch will be provided each week.

To join the group, text Helen Gallagher on 07926 596225 or email [hgallagher@caplifeskills.org](mailto:hgallagher@caplifeskills.org)

## Join Girlguiding - we help all girls know they can do anything!

We have groups meeting across north Oxford and have spaces in 3<sup>rd</sup> Marston Brownies for girls aged 7-10 to start after Easter or in September 2023. If your daughter wants to have adventures, make friends, get creative and explore the outdoors, then contact Hannah via [northoxfordandmarstondistrict@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:northoxfordandmarstondistrict@hotmail.co.uk) for more information!



# Real Kingdoms

eventbrite

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07830084877

tickets at  
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real kingdoms  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/409223276837>





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**SCAN ME!**



If you are pregnant or have a child under 6, you can also sign up to join our database to be invited for future studies: [bit.ly/RegisterBabylab](http://bit.ly/RegisterBabylab)  
Questions? Contact us:

[www.babylab.brookes.ac.uk](http://www.babylab.brookes.ac.uk) [babylab@brookes.ac.uk](mailto:babylab@brookes.ac.uk) 01865 483 676







## FREE ENTRANCE AND FREE ACTIVITIES

### **NORTHWAY AND MARSTON PLAY AND ACTIVITY DAY**

**SATURDAY 15TH JULY 2023**

**11AM UNTIL 3PM**

**NORTHWAY RECREATION GROUND,  
OXFORD. OX3 9RU**



**Tricky Trails Biking \* Go Kart Party \* Groovy Su \*  
Body Zorbing \* Giant Bubbles \* Bright Sparks Science \*  
Smoothie Bike \* DIY Face Painting \* Ride on Time \* Art  
Avalanche \* Climbing Wall \* Tots of Mess \* Muzo  
Akademy II \* Science Oxford \* Parasol Project \*  
City Council Sports & Communities Teams \* Oxford  
University Chemistry Outreach Team and more!!!**

This is a Family themed event and as such NO Childcare is provided /  
Please do feel free to bring a picnic although food will be available to  
purchase on site / Please walk or use Public Transport for the event as  
there is NO parking on site / This event will be photographed and  
filmed.

**For further information contact - [www.oxonplay.org.uk](http://www.oxonplay.org.uk) / 07436  
270267 / [martin.gillett@oxonplay.org.uk](mailto:martin.gillett@oxonplay.org.uk)**



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