

# 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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6<sup>th</sup> October 2023



*'Be praised, my Lord, for Sister Earth, our Mother, who nourishes us and sustains us,  
bringing forth fruits and vegetables of many kinds and flowers of many colours.'*  
**Canticle of Creation, St Francis of Assisi**

Dear Families,

In October, we are exploring 'stewardship' in our social teaching – looking after God's creation. This week we started by relooking at the **Laudato Si** – a letter written to the world by Pope Francis on caring for our earth. We shared this video with the children in assembly on Monday (<https://cafod.org.uk/education/primary-teaching-resources/laudato-si-for-children>) and we talked about action we could take to work to help our *wonderful world* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYXBJmrsxZU>). We feel that it is important to be hopeful (it can feel so glum) and to focus on the action we can take individually and collectively. We will focus on this over October.

On Wednesday, it was the feast of St Francis of Assisi and Pope Francis issued his second letter on global warming which is called **Laudato Deum**. For those who are interested, there is a summary on the CAFOD website and a link to the original letter. (Please click here: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/laudate-deum-explained>)

September has passed so quickly and been so very busy. We have had two residential trips, we hosted International Evening, held talks on restorative practice, phonics and class meetings! The Year 6 Boys football team had a successful match yesterday as well. The teachers are busy in the classroom and children have made a flying start to the year. Have a lovely weekend – the weather looks lovely and we look forward to a busy October!

Warm wishes

Jess Tweedie  
**Headteacher**

### Nut-Free School and Choking Guidance

Another reminder that we are a nut-free school. This includes the 'Nakd' brand fruit bars. Please check carefully before packing cereal-type bars in your child's lunchbox.

The Local Authority asks us to remind parents that depending on size, parents should halve or quarter cherry tomatoes, strawberries and grapes and raw carrots and cucumber must be cut into batons and not rounds.

### International Evening

We celebrated a wonderful International Evening on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, a welcome return for this very popular family social event. Thank you to all those who brought food to share, wore national dress and joined us to celebrate our globally diverse school population. Thank you to the PTA for organising the drink sales and to all the school staff who helped make the event such a success.



### Car Parking in the vicinity of school

We know that parking in the vicinity of school can be difficult in the mornings, but please could parents/carers be considerate of our neighbours. We have been sent pictures of a car (including registration number) completing blocking a driveway, the homeowner was unable to gain wheelchair access to their vehicle as a result.

## Year 4 Residential to Youlbury



Youlbury, September 2023



'Youlbury was so much fun! You got to do so many activities - some took your breath away. We did incline climbing, crate stacking, team building, archery and we had a camp fire in the dark! We cheered each other on when we had a challenge and everyone did really well. We liked the food which was really good and you could eat as much as you liked. The dormitories had bunk beds which were very comfy and we had our own bathrooms too.'

Year 4 pupils



Some of us didn't go to Youlbury so we did fun stuff at school like making PowerPoints about the River Thames to use in our Geography lessons and learnt about Pointillist painting in Art.

## **Winning Return to Year 6 Boys Manor Cup**

In March 2020, our all-conquering Year 6 boys were hot favourites to win the Manor Cup, but COVID kicked in and the game was called off.

Yesterday, we played our first match in the competition for over 3 ½ years at St Michael's School. The boys were good company and very mature walking down the hill; they then played in a positive supportive way (despite some embarrassing goal celebrations!) After an early injury, our fitness and perseverance prevailed in extra-time, with 2 very late goals deciding the match 3-1 in our favour. Thanks very much to the very important off-field support of Mrs Lalvani, Mr Rustom and Mrs Sweeney for walking down with us, providing fruit and washing the kit.

Mr J. Ingram

## **Flu Vaccinations**

### **Your child's annual flu vaccination is due 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

The annual school aged Flu vaccination programme is, this year, being offered to all children in Reception – Year 6. Flu can be a very unpleasant illness for children and sometimes causes serious complications. Children can catch and spread flu easily so vaccinating them also protects others who are vulnerable e.g babies and older people. This is particularly important as COVID-19 is still circulating and people at risk of flu are also vulnerable to the complications of COVID-19.

**For most children, the vaccination is painless and given by a quick and simple spray up the nose.** In some circumstances it is necessary to administer the vaccine by intramuscular injection, but this is always discussed with parents/carers beforehand. You may also choose for the vaccination to be administered by intramuscular injection if you object to the nasal vaccination on the grounds of its contents (eg Porcine Gelatine) or if the vaccine is otherwise unsuitable. The intramuscular injection, if required, will also be delivered in school on the date above.

### **How do I provide Consent for my child to receive the vaccine?**

It is important that you first read the information in the [Flu Leaflet Child flu vaccine - NHS](#) which includes details about the programme and the small number of children who may not be able to have the nasal spray. Due to the 'checking process' required please follow the steps below at least one full school day before the session to ensure your child can be vaccinated at school. Community clinics will be available across the county if your child has not been vaccinated in the school session.

1. **Click** the link <https://www.oxfordhealthimms.co.uk/Forms/Flu>
2. **Enter** the Unique School Code **OX123216**
3. **Complete** the form (one per child). Please complete even if you are REFUSING the vaccination\*.

Information regarding the Flu Vaccination and Asthma and what to do if you change your mind is available below. Further information is also available at [www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/](http://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/imms/) including information about all our vaccination programmes.

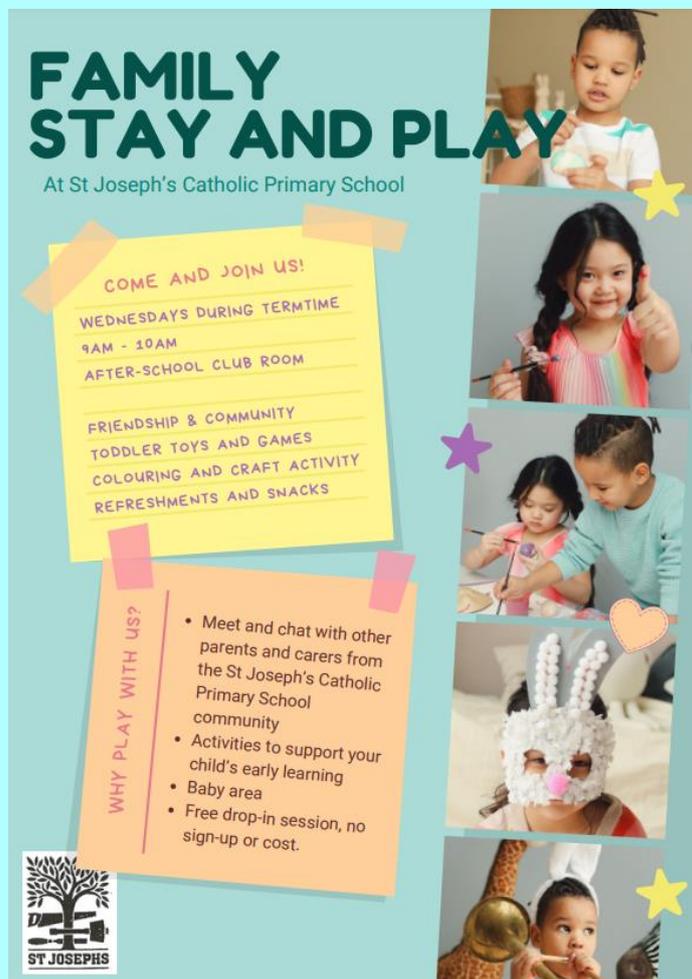
If you need to contact us, please email [immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk](mailto:immunisationteam@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk). If you require help to complete the Consent Form please call the Immunisation Team on 07920 254 400 and we will be happy to help you.

**School Nursing Team**

## **School Photographs – Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

Tempest will be coming into school on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October to take individual photographs of the children. Photos of sibling groups will also be taken during the school day. Should you wish to bring a pre-school age sibling into school (child not yet of school age) to have their photo taken with St Joseph's pupils, you **must** sign up in advance using the link provided. These photos will be taken between 08:20 and 08:50am and a limited number of slots are available.





### **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.

If you need help towards paying for school trips, please contact the office to arrange a confidential conversation with Ms Tweedie.

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)

### **Secondary School Applications Parents/Carers of Year 6 pupils**

The deadline for applying to secondary school is approaching, although you still have plenty of time if you have not completed your application yet. The application needs to be received by the County Council by midnight on **Tuesday 31st October**. Several of the secondary schools have been holding open events, hopefully you made it along for one or more of these. If you missed them, check the individual secondary school's website for information about any more that may be running, or speak to the secondary school to ask about a visit.

If you haven't yet done your child's application, we strongly recommend you start thinking about it. Please don't leave it too late.

You have an option to apply for up to 4 schools. We would urge you to enter 4 schools on your application. Applying for more schools will not reduce your chances of getting a place at your preferred school. Our home/school link worker, Kate Stratford, is available to help and support parents with their applications if you would find this useful.

## Dairy Dates

Date	Year Group/Class	Event
Monday 9th October	Year 2	Oxford Castle trip
Monday 9th October 7pm	All year groups	PTA Meeting via Microsoft teams or in person at school – link sent out via parentpay
Thursday 12th October	All year groups	Individual school photographs taken by Tempest
Friday 20th October	All year groups	Flu vaccinations
Monday 23rd – Friday 27th October	All year groups	Half Term break
Monday 30th October	All year groups	INSET (no pupils in school)
Tuesday 31st October	All year groups	INSET (no pupils in school)
Monday 6th November	6H	Junior Citizens
Tuesday 7th November	6T	Junior Citizens
Tuesday 7th November	All year groups	Parents/Carers Consultation Meetings with teachers
Thursday 9th November	All year groups	Parents/Carers Consultation Meetings with teachers
Thursday 7th December	All year groups	Advent Service
Friday 8th December	Year 4-6	Advent Penitential Service
Friday 15th December	All year groups	End-of-term Mass
Wednesday 20th December	All year groups	School finishes at 1:30pm

## Flyers and Information



**OXFORD UNITED  
IN THE COMMUNITY**

### Girls Only Football Camp October Half Term 2023



**GIRLS ONLY 4-13 YEARS OLD**  
**£99 FOR 5 DAYS**  
**£30 PER DAY**  
**23rd - 27th October 2023**  
**9AM - 3PM**

**Venue:** The Oxford Academy (indoor sports hall / dome)  
Sandy Lane  
Littlemore  
Oxford OX4 6JZ

**Book Now:** <https://ouitc.org/course/holiday-courses/>







**6-29 October 2023**  
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**6-29 October 2023**

Over 100 events across Oxford and beyond



A taste of the Festival...

Browse the programme  
Book now



**Look into ideas**

**#IFOX2023**

**IF Oxford** returns as a social way for adults, teenagers, families and friends to create connections with science and ideas.

Get the magazine, meet and question experts, have fun and experiment this autumn:

**6-29 October 2023**  
if-oxford.com  
**#IFOX2023**

FREE events & features magazine: [www.if-oxford.com](http://www.if-oxford.com)

**Arts and performance**

Jericho Comedy at The North Wall (6 Oct),  
 Sonic Spider at Bonn Square (7 Oct),  
 Answer Machine Tape in St. John's (18 Oct),  
 Plastic Drastic Fantastic at Pegasus (21 Oct),  
 Star Soup at The North Wall (24 Oct),  
 Warning Notes (27-28 Oct) and  
 Feedback Loops at Oxford Playhouse (28 Oct)

**Interactive Festival zones**  
 Packed with hands-on activities for families, teenagers and adults on weekends, evenings and during half term:

Explorazone (7 Oct)  
 Science Wonder evening (10 Oct)  
 Tech Works (14 Oct)  
 Science @ the Shops (21-22 Oct)  
 BLAST! (23 Oct) Robots (29 Oct)

**Talks and conversations**

Can you reclaim your life from tech? (14 Oct)  
 Art and science of communicating care (16 Oct)  
 A lullaby of African Caribbean folklore and chant (28 Oct)

Join discussions on psychosis (9 Oct)  
 pain & pleasure... (10 Oct)  
 Pokémaths (11 Oct)  
 AI in healthcare friendships (12 Oct)  
 vaccines (19 Oct)  
 dark matter (27 Oct) and irrational brains (27 Oct)

**Why not start a new hobby?**  
 Learn coding with Glow Your Own and share postcards from home throughout the Festival

Discover histories of railways (7 Oct)  
 geology (20, 22 & 29 Oct)  
 science (21 & 28 Oct)

Try out experimental drawing (11 & 28 Oct)  
 languages (11 & 18 Oct) or robotics (29 Oct)

CREATION THEATRE  
CREATE A SCENE

SCHOOL OF CREATIVITY

PUT ON A PLAY  
IN A WEEK THIS  
OCTOBER HALF TERM!

PLACES AVAILABLE FOR  
6-8'S & 9-12'S

BOOK ONLINE OR CALL  
OUR BOX OFFICE ON  
01865 766 266



## Low cost and free activities for families to enjoy together!

You Move is brand new for Oxfordshire, providing low cost and free fun activities for families including weekends and school holidays



### It's quick and easy to sign up for You Move:

1) visit [www.getoxfordshireactive.org/you-move](http://www.getoxfordshireactive.org/you-move) to register or call your local activator for more information (info below)

2) we'll send you a You Move welcome pack and membership cards

3) your local Activators will be on hand to provide lots of support and advice

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



**Oxford City Activators**  
Ben - 07483 010720  
Gerti - 07485 311346



You Move is here to offer free and low cost activities for children on benefit related free school meals and their families

USE CODE  
BAT10  
FOR 10% OFF\*

**OCTOBER  
HALF TERM  
AT...**

ELITE CAMPS  
BOTLEY SCHOOL

MON 23RD - FRI 27TH OCT

EXTENDED HOURS

AGES 5 - 13

30+ Sports  
Elite Activities  
Arts & Crafts  
Fancy Dress

BOOK NOW

Ofsted Registered

\*Discount code expires 30.09.2023



## October Holiday Clubs St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

These clubs are open to children aged 3-11

Monday 23rd October to Friday 27th October

Activities include dodgeball, dance, drama, yoga, multi skills, ball games, art and crafts, team and confidence building activities and much more.



**Cost:** £35 per day  
All childcare vouchers accepted

**Timings:** 8am-5pm

To find out more or to book visit  
[www.rattleandrollperformance.com](http://www.rattleandrollperformance.com)  
or call 07722 014301



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SCAN ME

St Mary and St John Primary School  
East Oxford  
October Half Term

## ATHLETIC FOOTBALL GROUP

### O AFC GIRLS ACADEMY FOOTBALL PROGRAMME

- TRAINING EVERY THURSDAY 6:00PM-7:00PM
- STATE OF THE ART 4G TRAINING PITCH AT OXFORD HARLEQUINS, HORSPATH, OXFORD OX4 2RR
- PLAY AGAINST ACADEMY TEAMS AND COMPETE IN TOURNAMENTS
- TECHNICAL DIRECTOR WHO WAS JUST RECENTLY AT LEICESTER CITY

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