



St John's Primary School Newsletter

28th February 2025

World Book Day 2025

We will be celebrating World Book Day next Thursday 6th March. Throughout the school, we will be focussing our work around *The Barnabus Project* by The Fan Brothers. We will start the day with a whole school assembly where we will celebrate reading and finish with a **Story Swap**, where members of staff will visit different classes to read a story with them.

Your children are welcome to come to school;

- in pjs or onesies ready for a bedtime read;
- in a book character costume;
- wearing some book-related accessories (or self-drawn additions) with their uniform / PE kit;
- in their usual school uniform / PE kit.

Please do not buy a costume. We would much prefer that the children use their imagination, creativity and ideas to add an embellishment to their uniform. We would like to avoid football kits please.

We are hoping to have some of the token books in school on Thursday, but all children will receive a token to use at the bookstore of their choice.

On Friday, our Celebration Assembly will contain two additional certificates per year group for Attitude to Reading and Progress in Reading.



We will be taking part in **Red Nose Day on 21st March**. The children will take



part in some activities in the school day and are welcome to come to school in a **bright colour** – this can be **head-to-toe colour** or a **splash of colour** with school uniform. Please do be aware of the current sudden changes in weather, and ensure that anything worn is suitable for outdoor play. We would ask that football kits are not worn; red noses obviously can be.

There will be an opportunity to donate on ParentPay. We do ask that all children who take part donate, but the amount is entirely up to you. This money will go directly to Comic Relief.



Mrs. Burgess will be leaving us at the end of the term. If you would like to contribute to a farewell gift for her, there is an opportunity to do this on ParentPay.

Please read the following emails we have been sent and contribute if you can:

Wallingford Area Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan

I'm Rosie, I'm a Transport Planner for Oxfordshire County Council working within the Place Shaping service.

I am developing a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) for the Wallingford area, which is a document that will take a comprehensive review of the network for walking and network for cycling within the dedicated area and identify improvements. Following this, it will be compiled into a formal report and taken to our Cabinet for approval to become an official policy document that can be used to facilitate future funding opportunities.

I have been working with a steering group of local members to ensure this is being shaped the right way and that whatever improvements are identified reflect the needs of the community. One of the most important aspects of this has been routes to schools and so I wanted to flag that, as of Monday this week, there is a live consultation exercise. This comprises a "map and pin" exercise where anyone can drop a pin on a map to identify where infrastructure may be missing or improved. This is a really important exercise as it gives the community a chance to have their say on the network development and identify spots that otherwise may be missed.

The link for it, alongside more information, can be accessed here: [Wallingford Area Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan \(LCWIP\) | Let's Talk Oxfordshire](#)

Please do share this with parents and staff who travel to your schools and encourage them to have their say. **The deadline for this is March 24th**, with future outputs to come later on this year.

Kind regards,

Rosie

Rosie Lawrence (she/her)

Transport Planner; Place Planning and Coordination (South Oxfordshire) | Economy and Place

Dear Headteacher,

I am working with the Wallingford community to identify issues affecting safe walking and cycling around the area – and the conditions of walking and cycling routes have been highlighted. In particular connecting out from Wallingford to nearby villages.

My work is part of a wider EU funded project (Common Access) examining Littlemore and Wallingford (along with 4 other European countries) and the focus is **how transport links and provision of services reduces as people reach the suburbs and out into the rural areas – leading to a much higher dependency on car use.**

I am hosting an initial workshop for residents to talk through the issues they face with transport/ services and would love to hear from parents – especially with young children. How they feel about safety of the roads, crossing points, traffic speeds and how their needs are catered for are very important consideration for the project. It takes place next Wednesday 5th March at 1.30pm and offers a £20 shopping voucher for attendance at the full session.

Apologies for the short notice, but until recently, I didn't realise Wallingford had a primary school!

Kind regards

Katherine Jacob

Project Manager (England)

Twitter: [@livingstreets](#) | Instagram: [@livingstreets](#)



ONE OFF WORKSHOP (research)

What facilities / services are essential for a lively and successful community?

How close should these facilities or amenities be to your home to enable you to reach them on foot?

The interesting part is listening to each others' needs and the challenges people currently face in their daily lives.

Tuesday 4th March 1 – 3pm at Littlemore Hub, John Henry Newman School

Wednesday 5th March 1.30 – 3.30pm at Ridgeway Centre, Community Church, St Mary St, Wallingford

Location to be confirmed. £20 voucher for participating.

Find out more from Katherine.jacob@livingstreets.org.uk

Email to take part and get details.

Dates for your diary:

- 6th March World Book day
- **20th March Stay & Learn 2.00 – 2.30 & 2.30 – 3.00pm**
- **20th March 5.30 – 6.30pm Parent Forum**
- **21st March Comic Relief Red Nose Day**
- **27th March SATs Meeting for Year 6 parents**
- 1st April Life Bus visiting school
- **1st April Year 3 /4 Performance afternoon**
- **2nd April 2025 pm Easter Service at St Mary's**
- **3rd April Year 3/ 4 Performance Evening**
- **4th April at 1pm End of Term**
- 22nd April Start of Summer Term
- 24th April – Year 4 swimming starts at Didcot Wave for 6 weeks
- **1st May Year 5 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- 12 – 15th May – SATs Week
- **22nd May Foundation Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- 26th – 30th May Half Term Holiday
- **2nd June 2025 INSET - School closed for children**
- 12th June – Year 5 swimming starts at Didcot Wave for 6 weeks
- 12th - 13th June – Year 4 to Court Hill
- 16th – 17th June Year 5 to Youlbury
- **19th June Year 4 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- **27th June Stay and Learn 09:00 – 09:30 & 09:30 – 10:00**
- **3rd July Year 3 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- **10th July Year 1 Class Assembly 09:00 -09:30am**
- **11th July Sports Day**
- 15th July Reports home
- **15th July Year 6 Production afternoon performance**
- **17th July Year 6 Production evening performance**
- **22nd July Leavers' Assembly**
- **22nd July at 1pm School Year Ends**

Dates for your diary (continued):

- Monday 1st September INSET – school closed for children
- Tuesday 2nd September INSET – school closed for children
- Wednesday 3rd September – Autumn Term Starts
- Friday 24th October INSET – school closed for children
- Friday 22nd May INSET – school closed for children
- End of term Summer 2026 – Friday 17th July.

Stars of the week

Foundation - Archie, Oakley and Sophie

Year 1 - Isla L., Matthew and Tristan & Evie

Year 2 - Ted, Xander and Anna

Year 3 - Izzy, Teddy and Hannah

Year 4 - Alice, Rory and Polly

Year 5 - Luke B., Robin and all of Year 5

Year 6 - Lila, Elsie and Niamh.



JOIN US! ST JOHN'S PTFA

**Do you have a great idea for a fundraiser?
Love baking cake?
Have a talent for DJing?**

We are always welcoming new volunteers to help out at our events or sit on the committee

If you would like to be added to the volunteer lists, please add your details to the sign up sheet. You can do as much or as little as you like!

We are also looking for new committee members

**From September we will be needing a new Chair and Secretary, so if you'd like to get involved, please email:
stjohnsprimaryschoolpta@gmail.com**

If there are any parents who would like to become a School Governor, please might you inform the school office. Many thanks.