



Dry Sandford Primary School
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Leading Lifelong Learning; Creating Caring Communities.

DRY SANDFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 2025

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Children's mental wellbeing is always at the forefront of our approach here at Dry Sandford. With it being Children's Mental Health Week this week across the country, it has been a great opportunity to further embed the principles and practices that we hope to instil in our children through a range of activities and messages to support strong mental health throughout the week.

If you would like to further explore this with your children at home, you will find a range of Top Tips, fun activities and useful resources on the Children's Mental Health Week website:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>



INTERNET SAFETY WEEK

Safer
Internet
Day 2025 | Tuesday
11 February

Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

With the national Internet Safety Day coming up on **Tuesday 11th February**, here at Dry Sandford we will be spending next week focusing on teaching children the knowledge, understanding and skills to help keep them safe online, at an age-appropriate level. Further information on how parents and carers can support their children with this, can be found here:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

FODSS THANK-YOU

A huge thank-you to **Friends of Dry Sandford School** for kindly purchasing this fantastic new welly rack for Barn Owls Class to use for their wellies. As you can see, it is already being fully used and it makes such a difference to the tidiness and cleanliness of the classroom after our muddy Forest School Sessions!

If you would like to get involved with FODSS fundraising, new faces are always welcome. To find out more, follow the Friends of Dry Sandford School Facebook page or visit:

<https://www.dry-sandford.oxon.sch.uk/friends-of-dry-sandford/>



LOVE YOURSELF DAY

A reminder that next **Friday, 14th February**, school will be celebrating the importance of loving ourselves! See poster below for further details.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council raised a fantastic **£73** from their recent **Toy Sale**. Many thanks to everyone who donated and attended. In their upcoming meeting with Miss Goodgame, they will be deciding how to spend the money and also starting to make plans for Easter. Watch this space!

WORLD DOWNS SYNDROME DAY & RED NOSE DAY 2025

With these two important fundraising events coinciding on the same day, we have decided as a school to support both in one go! So, on **Friday 21st March**, our pupil School Council representatives have chosen to organise a **Crazy Hair** (for Red Nose Day) AND **Odd Socks** (for World Downs Syndrome Day) day for the whole school. We are asking for a £2 suggested cash donation on the day with funds raised being shared equally between the Comic Relief and Downs Syndrome International charities. Normal school uniform should still be worn alongside. Please ensure that, if temporary colour is chosen as part of the crazy hair style, this returns to natural colour ready for the next school day.



GOVERNOR VACANCY

Our school governing body have a position available for a new co-opted School Governor.

If you are interested in joining yourself or know of a local member of the community or business who could offer the strategic support the school is looking for, please get in touch with the school office. Someone with an interest in supporting ideas for funding and grants for the school and/or health and safety would be a fantastic addition to the team. Further information about our governing body can be found on our school website:

<https://www.dry-sandford.oxon.sch.uk/governors/>

REMINDERS

- Many thanks for continuing to drive and park safely in the area and for being respectful to our neighbours.
- Please continue to support us in reinforcing our school uniform expectations: <https://www.dry-sandford.oxon.sch.uk/school-uniform/>
- In the case of unexpected absence, such as illness, please phone or email the school office on each day of absence. Many thanks.

ONLINE BEHAVIOUR SUPPORT WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS

If you're interested in learning more about the science behind children's behaviour and pick up strategies to support your child's behaviour at home, book a space on this valuable parenting workshop, led by a team of local behaviour specialists: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/workshop-for-parents-responding-to-behaviour-tickets-1144081792439?aff=oddtcreator>



DRY SANDFORD'S HALL OF FAME

Congratulations to the following pupils who earned certificates in Celebration Assemblies in January:



Learning & Caring Certificates:

Flora	Evie D
Evie M	Kai L
Damien	Bryony
Bodhi	Ky
Rayna	Tarka
Danielle	Richie
Harry	Rosie
Isabel	Holly
Lisa	Teddy
Alba	Ruby
Luka	Oakley

Headteacher Awards:

Leon
Kai O
Vivan
Nuala
Catalina
Muyeng
Connor
Ana
Otilie
Flavia
Abi

CALENDAR DATES:

Thursday 13 th February 2025	Weighing and Measuring Sessions for Reception and Year 6 Pupils (more details to follow)
Thursday 13 th February 2025	Vision Screening for Reception Pupils (more details to follow)
Monday 17th Feb 2025 to Friday 21st February 2025	HALF TERM HOLIDAY (school closed)
Wednesday 26 th February 2025	Footy Kids Taster Session for all classes
Wednesday 5 th March 2025	Class Photos
Thursday 6 th March 2025	World Book Day
Friday 21 st March 2025	World Downs Syndrome Day and Red Nose Day
Monday 24 th March 2025	Orchestra Day at Oxford Town Hall (selected KS2 children)
Friday 4 th April 2025 – 9.15am	Easter Service in school hall – families welcome
Monday 7th April 2025 to Monday 21st April 2025	EASTER HOLIDAY (school closed)
Monday 5th May 2025	BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)
Monday 26th May 2025 to Friday 30th May 2025	HALF TERM HOLIDAY (school closed)
Monday 2nd June 2025	INSET DAY (school closed)
Wednesday 23rd July 2025 onwards	SUMMER HOLIDAY (school closed)



We think you're fantastic just the way you are!

When: Friday 14th February

What: Come to school as YOU!

No uniform needed—wear whatever makes you
feel happy and comfortable

♥ Suggested donation £1 ♥

Safety Reminder:

Please ensure your outfit is safe and appropriate for school activities.

CREATIVE
COURAGE
FOR LIFE!



ENROLLING FOR THE NEW TERM STAGECOACH ABINGDON, DIDCOT AND WALLINGFORD

Singing, dancing and acting classes for 4 - 18 year-olds

Giving children and young people the Creative Courage to stand up on stage for over 35 years.

www.stagecoach.co.uk/abingdon
01235 390 810 / 07305 439 825
abingdon@stagecoach.co.uk

BOOK NOW



STAGE
COACH

TRAFALGAR
ENTERTAINMENT

Registered Performing Arts school and provider of the Stagecoach award-winning Creative Courage for Life programme.

RATTLE
&
ROLL
PERFORMANCE

February Holiday Clubs St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

These clubs are open to children aged 3-11

Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February

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
or call 07722 014301



ELITE Ofsted Registered

ELITE CAMPS ABINGDON

LARKMEAD SCHOOL, OX14 1RF

Date: Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb

Times: 9:00 - 15:30 or 8:30 - 17:00

Elite Activities

- Glow-In-The-Dark Dodgeball
- Nerf Wars
- Bubble Football
- Arts & Crafts
- Multiple sports and so much more...

BOOK NOW

01235 415 846
elityouthsports.co.uk

ELITE CAMPS

ABINGDON AIR & COUNTRY SHOW

25th ANNIVERSARY

SAT 14TH
JUNE 2025

ABINGDON AIRFIELD / DALTON BARRACKS
10AM - 4.30PM
OX13 6JQ

CAR PARKS OPEN 7.30AM
PEDESTRIAN GATE OPEN 9.30AM
SHOWGROUND OPENS 10AM

PUBLIC ENTRY & EXIT BY VEHICLE IS ON BARROW ROAD - OX13 6JQ

TAKE A34 MARCHAM INTERCHANGE ONTO GOZZARDS FORD / BARROW ROAD.
what3words: drifter.warms.developed

ADULT (16 YEARS +) £20 / £25 ON THE DAY
SENIORS (65 YEARS +) £10 / £15 ON THE DAY
CHILD (5-15 YEARS) £7 / £8 ON THE DAY
UNDER 5'S FREE

NOTE: 'ON THE DAY' TICKETS CAN STILL BE PURCHASED EITHER ONLINE OR BY CASH ON THE GATE - NO CASH MACHINES ARE ONSITE!

More information and online tickets at www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk



'SCIENCE IN A HEARTBEAT'

Fun Science for kids during the school holidays!

Suitable for ages 5 to 11.yrs
£35 per child (sibling discount available!)

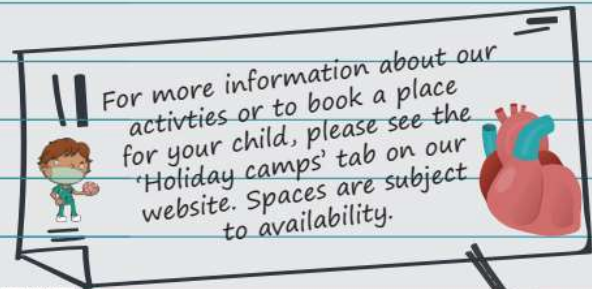
Bright Sparks Events

February Holiday Camps 2025: Venues and Dates



Monday 17th Feb	West Oxford Primary, Ferry Hinksey Road, Oxford, OX2 0BY
Tuesday 18th Feb	Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7JN
Wednesday 19th Feb	Begbroke Village Hall, Begbroke Lane, Begbroke, OX5 1RN
Thursday 20th Feb	Stockham Primary School, Stockham Way, Wantage, OX12 9HL
Friday 21st Feb	Caldecott Primary School, Caldecott Road, Abingdon, OX14 5HB

Daily - 9am to 3.30pm. £35 per child per day. Sibling discount available.



Call: 01865 522 775

www.brightsparksevents.co.uk



The **Library**
Abingdon

Racing Robots

Friday 21st February

Come along and experiment with
Racing Robots

30 minute sessions from 10.30am to 12.00pm

Ask at the Counter or call 01865 815005 to book

This event is suitable for children aged 7 yrs + with their parents or carers

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries



FREE!
AGES 5-7

Explore
LEARNING
Telling the Time
Workshop

Thursday 20th
February @ Abingdon
Library

Booking Essential. Please Call:
01865 595509



Submission deadline
4 April 2025

For Years
5, 6, 7 & 8

Enter today
for a chance to win £100 (runners-up win £50) and to see your artwork in an exhibition.

BEYOND BOUNDARIES

Take part in this exciting **ART COMPETITION**, breaking down boundaries between **art, science** and **people**. Get to know amazing people doing science and be inspired to make your own art!

For more details please visit:
www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/beyond-boundaries



BEYOND BOUNDARIES

Submission
deadline
4 April
2025

For Years
5, 6, 7 & 8

An exciting art competition inspired by science
Now accepting artwork entries!

The University of Oxford invites your school to participate in an art competition for Oxfordshire state school students, to create art inspired by the lives and research of scientists from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds. Your students can choose from one of six featured Oxford scientists, before creating an artistic response to their research (this could be a painting, drawing, sculpture, animation, dance, poetry, or any other artistic media) and writing a short statement about the artwork. Profiles and research descriptions of the scientists are available online at <https://www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/beyond-boundaries/>, along with examples of profiles and artwork from our 2018, 2020 and 2023 competitions.

WHY TAKE PART?

- **Prize money.** Winning entries (one from each year group) will receive £100, and runners-up will receive £50. Entries can be submitted by individuals or groups.
- **Public exhibition.** All submissions will be shared online (subject to permissions) and selected submissions will be displayed in a prominent Oxford location this summer.
- **Inspire students with diverse role models.** Show your school students real-life examples of scientists from a diverse range of backgrounds.
- **Foster creativity.** Help show how creative science and maths can be, and how STEM subjects are great for creative and curious people.

WHEN DO WE TAKE PART?

- **The competition is now open!** All artwork entries must be received by 4 April 2025.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

- **Encourage your school students in eligible year groups to participate.** Please share with parents and families too!
- **Build it into your class activities** – for example, projects in form time or class assemblies, art and science lessons, or take-home work.
- **Share the information** with art or science (or other relevant) clubs.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Visit <https://www.oxfordsparks.ox.ac.uk/beyond-boundaries/> for more details about the competition and how to submit your entries.



We can provide you with posters to promote the competition. Just get in touch!



Any questions?

Contact diversity@mpls.ox.ac.uk