



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

# DRY SANDFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

May 2025

## VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

We are looking forward to celebrating 80 years since VE day next Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> May. We are planning classroom-based activities in the morning followed by a special celebration picnic in school during the afternoon. Children are welcome to come to school wearing red, white and/or blue – please ensure clothes are appropriate and safe for school and no football or sports shirts.

We would appreciate a donation of £1 per child to go towards the costs of the event – please give your donations to class teachers or to the office.



## MUSIC FLOOD BIRMINGHAM CONCERT

Following on from our Mighty Orchestra performance at Oxford Town Hall in March, we have been invited to perform at **Birmingham Symphony Hall** as part of the National Music for Youth Festival on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July! It is very flattering to be invited (only a small subset of participants in the regional festivals get invited to perform) and we are thrilled to receive this recognition. This is really a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for everyone involved, the musical equivalent to a playing a match at Wembley Stadium!



Those children who took part in the Might Orchestra at Oxford Town Hall in March will have already received a letter with further information – please ensure reply slips are returned to the office by Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> May to secure your child's place.

## BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB BOOKINGS



Many thanks for your support in ensuring all places at Breakfast and After-School Club are booked and paid for at least 24 hours in advance. It has been a really positive week with no unexpected bookings which has enabled us to ensure resources and staff ratios are fully in place to improve the safety and experience for all children.

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE

Oxfordshire County Council require us to monitor both individual and overall attendance data on a regular basis. Our whole-school attendance rate is currently around 94%. We strive to meet the local authority's target of 97%. Thank you for your support in helping us achieve this. Every day of learning is important and we want your children here with us to enjoy all of the opportunities available to them every day. If we can support your child or family at all in this area, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mrs Friday.

## REMINDERS

- With the warmer weather we have been enjoying, please ensure your child comes to school with sun-cream already applied and brings a named sun hat and labelled water bottle, containing water.
- If you need to request a term-time absence, please remember to complete a Leave of Absence Form (available from the office or on our school website) and submit it to Mrs Friday through the office. Absences can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.



### DRY SANDFORD'S HALL OF FAME

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



#### Learning & Caring Certificates:

Nuala	Flora
Tarka	Ollie
Bryony	Ana
Austin	Ottilie
Ruby	Noahang

#### Headteacher Awards:

Ky  
Esmée  
Rayson  
Sofia  
Amelia  
Mila

## CALENDAR DATES:

Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	VE Day Picnic Celebration
<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>BANK HOLIDAY (school closed)</b>
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	National Key Stage 2 Assessment Week (Year 6 SATs)
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 Junior Citizens trip
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	House Sports Obstacle Challenge
<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>HALF TERM HOLIDAY (school closed)</b>
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June</b>	<b>INSET DAY (school closed)</b>
From Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> to Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Year 4 Multiplication Check will be completed at school within this time window

wb. 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Phonics Screening week for Year 1s
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Cotswold Wildlife Trip for Owlets and Barn Owls
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Whole School Transition Afternoon
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June – 5pm	New Reception Starters Parents Information Meeting
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July – 2pm and 6pm	KS2 Production Performances (all Eagle Owls and Snowy Owls children to return to school for 5.30pm ready for evening performance)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	School Reports sent home
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	House Quiz Challenge
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Music Flood Birmingham Concert
Monday 14 <sup>th</sup> July – 9.15am	Sports Day on school field – families welcome
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> July – after school	Year 6 Leavers Celebration Movie Night
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July – 9.15am	Leavers' Assembly in school hall – families welcome
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day of term – school finishes at normal time (3.05/3.10pm)
<b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July onwards</b>	<b>SUMMER HOLIDAY (school closed)</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b>INSET DAY (school closed to pupils)</b>
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	First day of new term – school reopen to pupils



**Go Wild This May Half-Term!**

**\*NEW\* WILD DAYS for 7-12 year olds**

Bushcraft, nature walks, campfire cooking, and den-building in the stunning surroundings of **Hill End** and **Wytham Woods**. From pond-dipping to minibeast hunting, our expert tutors will lead exciting hands-on activities, making learning fun while kids connect with nature and new friends.

**Booking Essential:** <https://hill-end.org/news/wild-days>

 HillEndOEC  
  Hill\_End  
  hill\_end\_centre  
 Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ   01865 863510




BODY POLITIC  
 THE NORTH WALL ARTS CENTRE & COMMUNITY HALL PRESENTS:

# FAMILY DANCE PARTY

JOIN US FOR A 'HIP-HOPPING, TOE-TAPPING' DAYTIME DISCO FOR ALL OF THE FAMILY

**DATES AND TIMES:**

SPRING FAMILY DANCE PARTY  
 SATURDAY 8TH MARCH | 10:30AM & 1PM  
 ST JOHN'S CHURCH, KIDLINGTON, OX5 1DD

MAY FAMILY DANCE PARTY  
 SATURDAY 10TH MAY | 10:30AM & 1PM  
 CUTTESLOWE PAVILLION, CUTTESLOWE PARK, OX2 8ES

SUMMER FAMILY DANCE PARTY  
 SATURDAY 5TH JULY | 10:30AM & 1PM  
 ST JOHN'S CHURCH, KIDLINGTON, OX5 1DD

**BOOKING INFO:**  
 Pay what you can, under 2yrs go free!  
 01865 319450  
[www.thenorthwall.com](http://www.thenorthwall.com)  
[contact@thenorthwall.com](mailto:contact@thenorthwall.com)




Ofsted Registered  
**MAY ELITE CAMPS**  
 ELITE CAMPS  
 Tue 27<sup>th</sup> - Fri 30<sup>th</sup> May  
 Larkmead School, OX14 1RF

**Elite Activities Include:**

- Soft Archery
- Laser Tag
- Parachute Play
- GITD Dodgeball
- Orienteering
- Arts & Crafts

**10% OFF EARLY BIRD**

**"100OFF"**

\*Code Expires 12<sup>th</sup> May

**BOOK NOW**

[www.eliteyouthsports.co.uk](http://www.eliteyouthsports.co.uk)