



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

DRY SANDFORD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

April 2026

END OF TERM

It has been a lovely end of term this week with classes doing Easter-related activities throughout the week and our special Easter Service on Tuesday – we were so pleased so many of you were able to come along to watch.

A huge thanks to FODSS for kindly gifting an Easter egg to every child to take home! Massive thanks also to Miss Goodgame for organising the Easter Hamper and also to One Stop who donated two bottles of wine and an Easter Egg for our raffle – winners will be announced on Class Dojo!

We hope you all have a lovely Easter break and are able to make the most of the warmer weather. The new term restarts on **Monday 13th April** and we look forward to welcoming you all back then.



WANTED! GARDEN HELPERS – Saturday 28th March 2026 at 10am

Fancy getting your hands a bit muddy?!

We are on the lookout for enthusiastic volunteers to help us move topsoil, level the ground and sprinkle grass seed to bring our sensory garden to life. Wheelbarrows, shovels and rakes are especially welcome! This blooming project will help create a wonderful wellbeing space for all our children at Dry Sandford Primary School. Thanks in advance!



STAFFING UPDATE

We are pleased to announce the appointment of **Mrs Lucy Purvey** as our new **School Administrator and Finance Officer** who starts with us on Monday 20th April. Mrs Purvey will be based in the school office **Monday to Thursday, 9.15am to 2.45pm**.

Mrs Purvey will take over from Mrs Lyons, who leaves us today. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Mrs Lyons for her commitment, professionalism, and the significant contribution she has made to the smooth running of the school office. She has been an asset to the school community, and she will be greatly missed by staff, parents, and pupils. We wish her every success in her future endeavours.

Please note that after **2.45pm**, the school office will be unmanned. However, we are still here to support you. If you need anything, do pop by the office in the mornings or email us at **office.2565@dry-sandford.oxon.sch.uk**, and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

FOOTY KIDS

The Footy Kids Inflatable Football taster session was a big hit last week, and the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part!

The lunch club will now run every Thursday lunchtime up until the end of the summer. If you'd like your child to join, the sign-up details went home in bookbags before the end of term, or you can simply follow this link:



<https://enrolmy.com/footy-kids/activity/500-Dry-Sandford-Primary-School-Lunchtime-Football-Fun-Club?emyatb=4w7ygdi834>

Please also note that after the Easter break, the Multi-Sports Club will no longer take place on Tuesdays after school. Instead, the club will be moving to Friday lunchtimes. To book your child please follow this link:

<https://enrolmy.com/footy-kids/activity/524-Dry-Sandford-Primary-School-Term-5-Lunchtime-Multisport-Club>

We are currently exploring alternative club providers for the Tuesday after-school slot and will share more information as soon as possible.

Gym/Dance will still continue to run on Friday afternoons. To book, please follow this link:

<https://enrolmy.com/footy-kids/activity/523-Dry-Sandford-Primary-School-Term-5-Gym-Dance-After-School-Club>



TREASURER ROLE

We would like to share that our current Treasurer, **Mrs. Dunford**, will be stepping down from her role. We are incredibly grateful for all the time, care, and dedication she has given. She has done a fantastic job supporting the school, and we truly appreciate everything she has contributed during her time as Treasurer.

This means we now have an opportunity for someone new to take on this important role. If you are interested or would like to find out more, please get in touch with Mrs. Friday.

Thank you once again to Mrs. Dunford for her wonderful service.

THE BIG SING

On **Monday 23rd March**, our Year 5 pupils attended "**The Big Sing**", a morning of music and singing held at **Radley College** as part of the **Music Flood** initiative. They joined pupils from other local primary schools for an inspiring and enjoyable musical experience.



REMINDERS

- With warmer weather on its way, please could children come to school each day with a sun hat and a water bottle to help keep them cool and comfortable.
- We kindly ask families to support us in maintaining our school's uniform standards. As outlined in our school policy, nail varnish is not permitted in school. Please ensure that pupils come in with natural, varnish-free nails.
- Additionally, hair accessories should be kept to school colours only. This helps us maintain a neat, consistent appearance for all children. Thank you for your continued support in helping pupils meet our uniform expectations.
- Break time snacks should consist of fruit or vegetables, as these provide children with a healthy and nutritious option that supports their energy levels and concentration throughout the school day.
- Please continue to book all lunches through Arbor, including Home Packed Lunches, thank you!



DRY SANDFORD'S HALL OF FAME

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



Learning & Caring Certificates:

Niyana
Emma
Flavia
Abi
Niyara
Isabella
Mia
Joey
Ruby
Noahang
Tuhina
Rose

Headteacher's Award:

Logan
Louisa
Ava
Ewan
Teddy L-C
Evie D
Darcey
Jasmine
Scarlett



CALENDAR DATES:

Thursday 16 th April	First Footy Kids lunchtime inflatable football club begins
Thursday 23 rd April	St George's Day (children welcome to wear red or scout/guide etc uniforms)
Monday 27 th April – Friday 1 st May	Eagle Owls residential trip to Kilvrough
Monday 4th May	BANK HOLIDAY – school closed
Monday 11 th May – Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs Assessment Week
Monday 25th – Friday 29th May	MAY HALF TERM – school closed
Monday 1st June	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Monday 1 st June – Friday 12 th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check
Monday 8 th June – Friday 12 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening
Tuesday 9 th June	Owlets and Barn Owls trip to the Story Museum, Oxford
Monday 15 th June	Music Flood Orchestra Day at Radley College (selected KS2 children)
Tuesday 30 th June	Snowy Owls trip to Science Oxford
Friday 17 th July	LAST DAY OF TERM – finish at usual time (3.05/3.10pm)

MASSIVE
TWEEDY'S CIRCUS
FROM THE TEAM OF GIFFORDS CIRCUS

"TWEEDY IS A MARVELLOUS COMIC" ← TIME OUT

"THE BEST CLOWN I HAVE EVER SEEN"
THE INDEPENDENT

"A CIRCUS CLOWN AND TRUE GENIUS"
THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

BE BIG NUMBER

like a pro!

Trifford, Oxfordshire
 Marston-Ty-Marsh, Gloucestershire
 Cheltenham, Gloucestershire
 Cradock, N. Wiltshire

PRESENTED BY **underbelly** BOOK NOW UK TOUR **26 March - 31 May**
[TWEEDY'S MASSIVE CIRCUS.COM](https://www.tweedyscircus.com)

Photograph by Craig Suggs

Go Wild this Easter!
 Monday 30 and Tuesday 31 March '26

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>

f HillEndOEC X Hill_End Instagram hill_end_centre

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NW 01865 863510

TRAMPOLINE

HEIGHTS CLUB

Wednesday Trampoline

15.45–16.30

Trials available

Beginners – Improvers

6 years+



White Horse Leisure Centre Abingdon email deb@heightsclub.uk

We Are OPEN

Easter Weekends
plus additional dates:

30th March, Monday, 10AM–3pm

3rd April, Friday, 10AM–5PM

6th April, Monday, 10AM–5pm

The Bounce Park Didcot
www.thebouncepark.com



Family Adventure Days

Weds 8 and Thurs 9 April 2026, 10am - 2pm

Step back in time this Easter at Hill End! Visit our Ancient Settlement village and fabulous roundhouse, and learn skills from years ago. Plus, explore 67 acres of springtime nature

- Make a stone age axe and watch a bronze casting demonstration
- Grind wheat to make flour and cook damper bread on a campfire
- Play 'wild boar' hunting game
- Wood whittling workshop (£5pp - bookable)
- Wool weaving demo and crafts
- 'Science and Folklore' guided walks



Please visit our website for full details:

<https://hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events>

@Hill_end_centre @HillEndOEC Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 7HU 01865 363510

£9.50 child
£11.50 adult
Includes lunch



Join us for another day of
music, drama, singing, voice work,
movement and performing!

30th March

9am – 3pm Ages 5–11

Venue: Horspath Village Hall OX33 1RT

£60 each

Book now!

<https://bookwhen.com/dramaclubs>



@PERFORMING_ARTS_WORKSHOPS
[Instagram.com/performing_arts_workshops](https://www.instagram.com/performing_arts_workshops)



Book now!

The SAXONS

28 March - 1 November 2026

Easter Holidays

28 March - 12 April
Also this Easter holiday
enjoy family-friendly
Easter crafts, science
fun and hands-on
Saxon-inspired
activities across
the museum.



Discover Buckinghamshire's Saxon past in this major new immersive exhibition at Discover Bucks Museum

Why visit?

- Meet the Saxons through engaging films, sounds, and immersive experiences.
- Hands-on interactives and digital storytelling bring history vividly to life.
- Discover real artefacts and try the fun family trail and creative activities.

A great day out for curious minds and young explorers!



Opening Fun Day!

Saturday 28 March, 10am - 5pm

Join us for our fun family opening day featuring re-enactors, storytelling and hands-on crafts. Meet Saxon warriors and craftspeople, hear stories inspired by real discoveries, and take part in activities for all ages — the perfect way to bring the Buckinghamshire Saxon world to life.

Make a day of it and visit the Roald Dahl Children's Gallery this Easter holiday for hands-on discovery and amazing science inspired by Roald Dahl's stories.

For more details, charges and to book please scan the QR code or visit discoverbucksmuseum.org



SAXONSCH

Discover Bucks Museum, Aylesbury HP20 2QP
01296 331441 | discoverbucksmuseum.org



Buckinghamshire County Museum Trust Registered Charity No. 113346

THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established in 2013 to provide children with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

This Easter, we will be learning some beautiful seasonal music and, as always on our courses, we will be giving sessions on vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see www.oxbridgesingschool.com or email oxbridges@gmail.com

30 & 31 March 2026

OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE

www.oxbridgesingschool.com

Easter Holidays

The North Wall Arts Centre

NW Explorers

Ages 0-7

Family Dance Party

Cotteslowe
Saturday 11 April
10.30am & 1pm

Join us for a 'hip-hopping, toe-tapping' daytime disco for all of the family. Featuring bubbles and balloons, movement activities and dance games, sensory play and face painting! With DJs playing party classics, for you and your little ones.

Tickets Pay What You Feel

NW Inventors

Ages 8-11

Make a Musical

30 March - 1 April
9am - 12pm

Explore different ways of making music and devising theatrical stories, then work together to combine your new skills and create an original mini-musical!

Our holiday workshops for children focus on building confidence, developing drama skills and having fun!

Tickets £60



Full bureaux available

Email Abie on waltona@thenorthwall.com to apply

Book now: thenorthwall.com



School holidays filled with fresh air, freedom and adventure!

Active Adventures at Youlbury is the ultimate outdoor adventure club.

- For children aged 8 - 16.
- Thrilling challenges every day.
- Nature based activities and exploration.
- Epic team games and bonding.
- Inspiring a love for the great outdoors.



BOOK NOW
Join the adventure!

www.scoutadventures.org.uk/events

**Hello
Easter Holidays!**



Longer days, lighter mornings and a fresh little window to reset as a family. This Easter break, let's move more, eat well, and feel good together with no pressure, just progress. Here's a few tips to get you started;

Activity 1:

Get active as a family

Park trip, bike ride, or follow along movement video



Activity 2:

Try a mini "mission"

A nature walk, screen free hour, new fruit/veg, or learn some new dance moves



Activity 2:

Keep it simple with food

Why not bake something wholesome together like Easter carrot cupcakes or wholemeal hot cross buns



Our free Beezee Families programme is here to help you feel healthier and happier as a family. Hop into a healthier you this Easter holidays and see the difference all year round!



Want more healthy lifestyle support?

Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.*

Scan here
or
Click the link



oxf.maximusuk.co.uk

*Our courses are designed for families with children aged 5 and up.

**EGG-VENTURE
FUN DAY**

A cracking day of outdoor fun for the whole family at Youlbury!

**MONDAY
6TH APRIL
10AM-4PM**

EGG HUNT

AEROBALL

SOFT TOMAHAWKS

CRAFTING

**£5
PER PERSON
(FREE FOR
UNDER 5s)**

Extra adventure available:
Aerial trek, archery,
campfire activities, climbing,
leap of faith and zip wire.
£2.50 per activity

Food and drinks available
to purchase all day

Open to members
and non-members

Book now:



Scout Adventures Youlbury, Boars Hill,
Oxford OX1 5HD

Advance booking is recommended. Limited spaces available!



**OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY
BADMINTON TRIALS**

Radley College Sports
Centre
Sunday 3rd May
10am - 1pm



All levels welcome
- both community
and county places
offered!

See age group timings & book now:
bookwhen.com/nb-trials

Sutton Courtenay

Environmental Education Centre

A journey of learning and discovery



Family Event 'Find the Fox Cubs'

30-31 March; 1-2 April; 10am-2pm

A springtime adventure - follow the trail and help mother fox find her missing cubs to earn an Easter treat! Including a craft activity and live storytelling. Suitable for 4-11 years.
£10 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Day Camp, Unbelievable Birds

Wednesday 8 April; 9:30am-3pm

A day camp for 8-12 year olds at Sutton Courtenay learning about the incredible features of birds.
£37 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Pond Dipping Workshops

Thursday 7 April; 10am- 11:30am and 1-2:30pm

Easter pond dipping fun for families with children 4-11 years - come and be amazed at what lurks below the surface!
£10 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Night Safari

Friday 22 May; 7:30-10pm

Bring your children aged 8+ and discover what amazing animals come out at night on the nature reserve. We'll be checking the small mammal traps, listening for bats with the bat detectors, shining a light on the newts in the pond and more.
£10 per person. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Plus monthly Saturday wildlife clubs – Nature Tots (18 months to 4 years with an adult); Nature Explorers (4-7 years with an adult); Young Rangers (8-11 years unaccompanied); Teen Rangers (11-17 years unaccompanied). Visit the website for upcoming dates and booking.



Visit our website to book or for more info:



bbowt.org.uk/events

01235 862024 or sceec@bbowt.org.uk

bbowt.org.uk

More nature everywhere



ASTON MARTIN
HERITAGE TRUST

The museum will be offering **free flow tickets** during these dates in April 2026:

Wednesday 8th April

Thursday 16th April

Visit us between the hours of 10am - 4pm - **no booking required.**

There will be family friendly activities available during the day.

Entry to the museum is **£6 per person**, children under 6 are free.

No tours available on these days.

EASTER AT THE WHITE HORSE LEISURE & TENNIS CENTRE

Easter Weekend Opening Hours

Good Friday- 7:00-18:30 (last entry 17:30)
Saturday 4th Apr- 7:00-17:00 (last entry 16:00)
Sunday 5th Apr- 7:00-17:00 (last entry 16:00)
Easter Monday- 7:00-18:30 (last entry 17:30)

Please note ALL swimming lessons will continue to run as normal!



Toddler Splash

Alongside our regular sessions on

Tues 13:00-14:00

Weds 11:00-12:00

Thurs 13:00-14:00

we will be running extra sessions on

Tues & Thurs

14:00-15:00

Open to all Tennis Camps

We will be running camps suitable for children aged 6-11 years, that are either new to tennis or those looking to improve on their skills.

Tues 7th, Weds 8th & Thurs 9th April
9:00-15:30
£47.25 per day

Children will be supervised over the lunch hour. A packed lunch & snacks must be provided.
To book, please visit our website or BETTER UK app.

For further information please contact our Tennis Manager Sue-sue.auger@gtl.org

Kids swim for £1
everyday Monday-Friday
during our 9-10am swim
sessions.

£1



Aqua Splash

Our inflatable sessions suitable for both adults & children aged 5 years+ run

Mon 30th March, Wed 1st, Mon 6th & Wed 8th April
12:00-13:00 & 13:10-14:10

Children under 8 years **must** be supervised by a competent adult swimmer.

Buoyancy jackets will be supplied and **must** be worn.

Junior Gym

Juniors aged 11-15 years can use our gym daily Mon-Fri 9:00-18:00.

All those attending our gym for the first time will be **required to undertake an induction** before their first session. Those who have already had an induction will be able to book.

Our usual weekend junior gym sessions will continue to run
Sat & Sun 9:00-17:00

Follow us to stay updated-



[whitehorseleisure](https://www.instagram.com/whitehorseleisure)



The White Horse Leisure & Tennis Centre



Foundation Swimming Intensives

Mon 30th March-Thurs 2nd April
9:30-10am for non swimmers
10-10:30am for those looking to improve on their skills
£40 for 4 days

Development Swimming Intensives

Mon 30th March-Thurs 2nd April
9:30-10am or 10-10:30am
For those looking to improve their skills
£40 for 4 days

Get your kids booked in and get them summer ready!



Toddlers World

Our Toddlers World sessions, suitable for children under 5 years, will continue to run through the easter holidays-

Tues 31st March 9:30-11:30

Tues 7th April 9:30-11:30

Friday 10th April 9:30-11:30

Please note we will not be running a session on Good Friday

Toddlers World is the perfect place for young children to play, explore, & create in a safe & welcoming environment.

Accompanied by a parent or guardian, our sessions feature a range of exciting activities including a bouncy castle, soft play, a role play area, baby zone, quiet corner with books & games/puzzles and seasonal crafts & colouring.

Babies (non-walking) £2.50 Toddler £6



Toddlers World Easter Party

Join us Friday 27th March for our special Easter-themed Toddlers World party!

Enjoy Easter crafts, music, balloons, and a chocolate treat to take home.

We'll also have our inflatable slide, along with all your favourites - soft play, bouncy castle, role play area and baby toys - perfect for little ones to explore and enjoy.

Hop on in for a morning of play, creativity, and Easter fun!

Book your space today!

Scan QR code for membership options



To book please visit our website or download our BETTER UK app

F. I. R. M

(Fundamentals in Reading Music)

Ever wished you had learnt to understand the basics of reading music, or you need to refresh your knowledge of how reading music works?

Join this 10 week course on Wednesday Evenings from 7.30 – 8.30pm

In ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

22nd April - 20th May and 3rd June – 1st July 2026

Led by Paul Herrington FVCM; LRAM; ALCM; AVCM
(MD for the Wootton Warblers – Keyboard Player at St. Peter's Church)

Topics covered will be:

Rhythm: Beats, Pulse, Time Signatures, Note values;

Pitch: Clefs, Staves, Key Signatures

The Course is open to Singers and Instrumentalists.

There will be Singing at the sessions, but do not let that put you off – the VOICE is an instrument!

Materials will be provided, but a pencil and rubber is needed.


FEE for the 10 weeks is £30 per person and payable at the first session

Cheques payable to Mr. P Herrington, or cash accepted

Apply by e-mail to pamadama1948@gmail.com or call 01865-730834

Minimum number for the course is 5.


TERM TIME CLASSES HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS



Holiday Art Workshops

FOR AGES 5-12

Springtime Wonders

Book here...  Each Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of Easter holidays

North East Abingdon Community Association, Peachcroft Centre 10:30am-2:00pm

07411686935 | ABINGDONWITNEY@CYGNETSARTSCHOOL.COM



ST EDMUNDS FC UNDER 6 TASTER SESSIONS

WE ARE RUNNING FREE TASTER SESSIONS FOR UNDER 6S (SCHOOL YEAR 1), AHEAD OF ESTABLISHING A SQUAD FOR THE 2026-27 SEASON

WHERE: WOOTTON COMMUNITY CENTRE (OX13 6DA)
WHEN: THURSDAYS 17:00-18:00
DATES: 16 APRIL, 23 APRIL, 30 APRIL, 7 MAY

REGISTRATION REQUIRED:
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/3BR24Z86](https://tinyurl.com/3BR24Z86)

Egbert's Adventures

FREE DOWNLOADABLE ACTIVITIES

SCIENCE
ART
ENGLISH
CRAFT



www.egbertsadventures.com

- **Easter storytime & sustainable craft.** Wednesday 01 April 1.00 – 2.00 pm. Book at the library, by calling 01865 815005 or by email to Abingdon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk
- **Explore Learning drop in Maths workshop** (using shapes to design a superhero, telling the time, worded problems). Thursday 02 April 11.30 – 12.30, ages 4 – 11

- **Come along and experiment with our racings robots.** Tuesday 07 April, 30 minute sessions available from 1.30 to 3.30 pm. Pre booking essential at the library counter, by calling 01865 815005 or by email to abingdon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk
- **Build a Lego bridge and race the Sphero under the bridges.** Friday 10 April, 60 minutes sessions available at 10 am and 11.15 am. Pre booking essential at the library counter, by calling 01865 815005 or by email to abingdon.library@oxfordshire.gov.uk