Friday 5th June 2026

Long Wittenham C.E. Primary School

Show our love through kindness, determination and curiosity; strengthening ourselves and our community

Welcome back to the final term of the academic year. As always, the children have returned full of enthusiasm, eager to learn and ready for the exciting weeks ahead. It is hard to believe how quickly this year has passed, and we are looking forward to making the most of every opportunity between now and the summer holidays.

As we begin the final term of the year, every day of learning counts. There are many exciting opportunities ahead, including trips, special events and transition activities, and learning continues at a fast pace across all year groups, with new concepts and skills being taught right up to the end of term. Good attendance and punctuality help children make the most of these experiences and ensure they finish the year feeling confident, successful and well-prepared for the next stage of their education.

In assembly today, we introduced our PSHE theme for this term, *Changing Me*. The children began thinking about the different ways we grow and change, both physically and emotionally, and how we can approach these changes positively. Our Year 6 pupils also took the opportunity to ask for the school's help in selecting a song for their end-of-year Leavers' Service. We will see democracy in action on Monday as pupils cast their votes for their favourite choice. Whichever song is chosen, we are sure it will be a wonderful addition to what promises to be a memorable celebration at the end of term.

Changing Me

Oak Class Trip to Harwell Science Campus
Oak Class were fortunate enough to visit Harwell Science Campus this week, where they had the opportunity to learn more about the exciting work taking place there. The children represented the school brilliantly throughout the visit, demonstrating curiosity, excellent behaviour and thoughtful questioning. We received some lovely feedback about the children's attitude and engagement during the trip, and we are incredibly proud of the way they conducted themselves. Thank you to Mr Smith for organising such a valuable and inspiring experience for the class.

Class Overviews
Class overviews for this half term are attached alongside this newsletter. These outline what your child will be learning in each subject and provide a helpful insight into the topics being covered in class. We hope you find these useful in supporting conversations about learning at home. If you have any questions or would like further information, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Finally, I am delighted to share the wonderful news that Mrs McNamee is expecting a baby later this year. We would like to offer our warmest congratulations and best wishes to her and her family.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We look forward to a busy and enjoyable half term ahead.

Miss Clarke

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This Week's Learning

Acorn Class:
This week in Acorn Class, the children have been enjoying listening to poems from the book Commotion in the Ocean and have begun writing their own facts about a variety of sea creatures. In Maths, the focus has been on developing and assessing the children's fluency with key number facts, including number bonds to five. As part of their learning about the natural world, the children have also been exploring different animal habitats and investigating where animals live, including the fascinating deep ocean environment.

Mrs Beeton & Mrs Humphries

Birch Class:
This week, we began our final half term together by reading *Our Class is a Family* and discussing what it means to belong to Birch Class. We reflected on the values and qualities we would like to show in our last few weeks together. In English, we started reading *Tidy* and became detectives, searching for examples of untidiness around the school and deciding what should and should not be tidied, linking our discussions to animals and their habitats. In Science, we began our final unit of the year by investigating the question, *Do all animals move at the same speed?* In DT, we explored different fabrics and were introduced to weaving techniques.

Miss Clarke

Pine Class:
A huge well done to all of our Year 4 pupils who completed their Multiplication Tables Check this week. They have shown fantastic determination and have practised diligently to steadily improve their scores — we are really proud of their efforts. In writing, Pine Class have begun an exciting new book called *The Promise*. This story follows a young thief who begins to transform her cold, barren city by planting acorns. In our reading lessons, we are continuing to enjoy *The Last Bear*, with many thoughtful discussions taking place about the characters and events in the story. In Maths, we have successfully completed our unit on money, where the children have developed their confidence in handling and calculating with different amounts. Our new History topic is all about World War Two. The children have been incredibly enthusiastic, and it has been wonderful to see them sharing their prior knowledge — we already have some real experts in the class!

Mrs McNamee

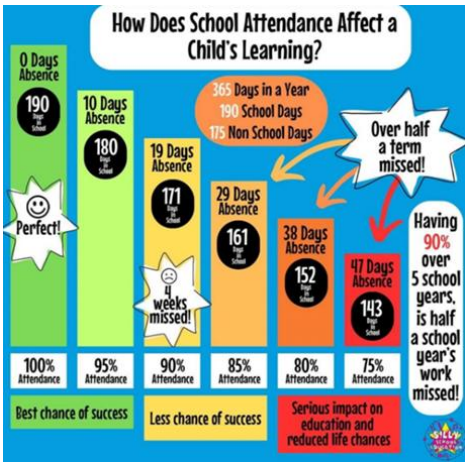
Oak Class:
This week, Oak Class have been busy across the curriculum. In English, the children explored persuasive writing, using emotive language and the subjunctive mood to strengthen their arguments. In Science, they investigated how space blankets are used both in space and here on Earth. In History, the children began exploring key themes within Black British history, and in Music they started learning *Ain't Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me 'Round*, a song associated with the Civil Rights Movement. The highlight of the week was our trip to Harwell Science Campus, where the children learned about cutting-edge scientific research, explored how satellite technology helps us monitor changes on our planet, and designed their own satellite missions to investigate the effects of climate change in the Arctic.

Mrs Greenway and Mr Smith

Attendance Update

Whole school attendance: 96.65%
Congratulations Pine Class 100% attendance.

If you are not sure if your child is well enough to come to school please check the following guidance: Is my child too ill for school? - NHS



Oxfordshire SEND Local Offer

Parents and carers can find comprehensive information about support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) through the **Oxfordshire SEND Local Offer**. It brings together guidance, services, and resources for ages 0–25, including help with identifying needs, accessing support, and understanding Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). Visit the Local Offer to explore what's available and how to access support: Oxfordshire SEND local offer | Oxfordshire County Council

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Dates for your Diaries 2025-2026	
Wednesday 15th April	Elite After School Football Club (every Wednesday, 15th April-15th July)
Monday 8th June – Monday 13th July	Forest School for Year 6s who haven't attended this academic year
Week beginning 8th June	Phonics screening check
Thursday 11th June	Acorn & Birch Classes – Earth Trust
Wednesday 17th June	Oak Class – Little Mermaid & Jr
Friday 19th June	Acorn Class Assembly 3:00pm
Monday 22nd June	Aureus Rising Y7 SEN Transition Day
Tuesday 30th June	iRock Concert 2:30pm
Thursday 2nd July	Rising year 7 transition day at Wallingford
Tuesday 7th July and Wednesday 8th July	Rising year 7 transition days at St Birinus, Didcot Girls' and Aureus
Friday 10th July	Celebration Assembly
Wednesday 15th July	Oak Class Performance 2pm & 6pm
Friday 17th July	Year 6 Leavers' church service End of term – break up at 1:30pm

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