



**September 2024**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back everyone to what promises to be a fantastic new year at St John Fisher. A special welcome to all of our new families, we hope you have settled in well during what has been a calm and purposeful start to the year.

I am glad people like the new entrance way, hopefully we will see signs of life regarding the zebra crossing this term.

#### PHONICS AND EARLY READING WORKSHOP

This Tuesday, at 09:00, Ms McCarthy will lead a phonics and early reading workshop for our EYFS and KSI parents, we highly recommend attending if you are a new parent at school. A letter should be in bookbags.

#### SWIMMING

Swimming is up and running and a roaring success. Swimming is a requirement on the National Curriculum, so you can't just opt your child out. It would be like opting out of maths or English, it isn't allowed.

Our Monday and Tuesday swimming clubs had very few people last week, so it is a good chance to sign up for very small group swimming!





## » Catholic Virtues

**Our virtues this term are:**  
**Active and Curious**

### MASS & PRAYER AREA

Thank you to Fr Harry for a wonderful start to the year with his whole school Mass. We have beautiful new altar from Rye St Antony School and have started to develop a prayer area on our field with some pews which they have given us. Thank you so much to Mr Chwialkowski for his help in getting them here.

### TRIPS

#### Earth Trust

Our first trip of the year has taken place with Year 5 visiting Earth Trust to learn all about their biodiversity – It was a great day and has proved to be a great partnership.



#### Story Museum

Year 3 had a very successful and enjoyable day at The Story Museum, the other classes will be visiting soon to be inspired by the environment there.

#### Bus Travel

I have managed to strike up a deal with the Oxford Bus Company who are going to allow our children to travel to school trips for free on their buses, as currently it costs £130 for a class and teachers to take a return bus journey. It is a trial of 12 classes until Christmas, but hopefully I can persuade them to keep it up. They don't offer this to any other schools, so don't mention it to any of them if you know people who work there, but it will mean that trips should be cheaper and more opportunities to travel into town are available.



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<https://twitter.com/SJFOxford>



## »PE and Dance

Ellie Kate has started her dance lessons, but she is now providing extra fitness workshops in small groups which children will get a chance to attend throughout the year.

We also have Ryan working with us on a Tuesday delivering whole class PE lessons and our football teams should get started soon

## »Food Donations

We hope to be able to have a selection of food available on tables outside the front for people to take each Monday as we are receiving donations from Waitrose and Bookers each weekend. These are for everyone, but please share.

## Allotment

There is not a giant mole living at the front of the school, we have instead got Earth Trust booked in to create an allotment area at the end of the month where each class will have a chance to grow vegetables.



## OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL

We have formalised a new partnership with OHS this year who will come and pick up our Y5 children and take them to their school for science workshops in their lab every week. This is a great opportunity, and it is wonderful to develop these new links.

### Bookie Breakfast And Book Fair

Reading is always at the forefront of our minds, so it was great to see so many parents and children enjoying their free bacon sandwiches and croissants at our Bookie Breakfast. The Bookfair was also a great success.



Staff News

Mrs Sarah Woodhams, our new SENDCO, has started, please come up and introduce yourself, she wont bite.

Newsletter



## » CLUBS

Clubs are up and running, and our new Wraparound offer is live. I know there is a little confusion about what to book, I find the app as annoying as most of you, we are looking at how they can simplify it for us.

You either book wraparound (if you are staying post 4.30) or you book a club (if you are staying until 4.30)

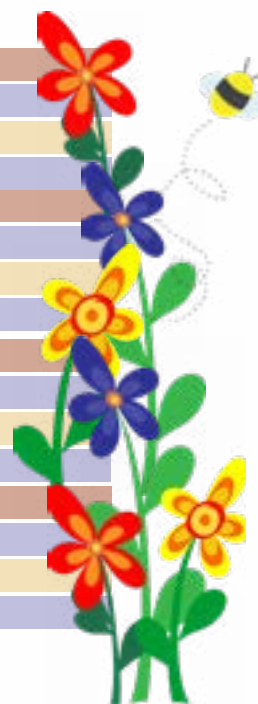
If you book 'wraparound' you can join the clubs if they aren't full.

We might change it to Club, then 'post club wraparound' if it continues to confuse people

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Forest School	Cooking	Dance	Art	Irish Dancing
Cooking	Swimming	Swimming		Coding
Swimming				

## » Diary Dates

17.09.2024	Year 3 Story Museum Trip
19.09.2024	Flu Immunisations
20.09.2024	Year 6 theatre trip
24.09.2024	Phonics Workshop – 09:00
24 – 26.09.2024	Year 5,4,6 Trips to 'Curiosity Cube'
27.09.2024	Year 2 and Year 6 Mass at Bd Dominic Barberi 09:30
03.10.2024	Year 1 Mass at Bd Dominic Barberi 09:30
04.10.2024	MacMillan Coffee Afternoon 2:30
06.10.2024	Harvest Mass in School 1:30
16.10.2024	Parents Evening
21.10.2024	Parents Evening
24.10.2024	Year 3 Mansfield College Trip
24.10.2024	Year 4 Story Museum Trip
25.10.2024	Break up for Half Term 3.15



## » Parish News

**Pope Francis Prayer Intention for September 2024**

*We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climate change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.*

**Sacred Heart Church** <https://sacredheartoxford.com/>

**Blessed Dominic Barberi Church** <https://www.bldominicbarberioxford.org.uk/>

**Our Lady Help of Christians** <https://olhoccowley.co.uk/>

God Bless,

Mr Higgins and the SJF Team

