



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After school clubs will be changing in the New Year, a letter will go out with more information, but it should look like:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cooking	Cooking	Dance	Art and Craft	Coding Club
KS1	KS2	All years	All Years	All Years
Football	Football			
KS2	KS1			

This ensures there is an optional for all each day. We are looking into extended provision. Please complete the survey at: <https://forms.office.com/e/Y3g9fRwhbp>
Please book through the App

School Lunches Our supplier has increased the cost of school lunches to £2.60 per day, this will come in to place from January 8th.

Uniform update The new uniform items are on the way, we will send out a message when they arrive. Prices will be up on the website, and items can be purchased in cash from the office.

Advent Homework

Over the Christmas holidays, your child has been set a creative project. Each class has been given a key event over the Advent/Christmas period and it is for them to make an artwork, in whatever medium they wish, related to that theme. We will be using them to refresh the display in our reception area.



» Diary Dates

- 8.1.24 First Day Back for All
- 15.1.24 New Year Mass in School 1:30
- 16.1.24 Football Team Regional Competition at Swindon Town
- 31.1.24 - Bookie breakfast 08:15
- 1.2.24 Year 4 Mansfield College Trip
- 8.2.24 St Josephine Bakhita Class Mass at Bd Dominic Barberi
- 10.2.24 Break up for half Term 3:15

» Parish News

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for December 2023

For people living with disabilities.

We pray with Pope Francis that people living with disabilities may be at the centre of society's attention, and that institutions may offer inclusive programmes which value their participation.

Sacred Heart Church
Blessed Dominic Barberi Church
Our Lady Help of Christians

<https://sacredheartoxford.com/>
<https://www.bldominicbarberioxford.org.uk/>
<https://olhoccowley.co.uk/>

God Bless,

Mr P Higgins (Principal)
and the SJF Team



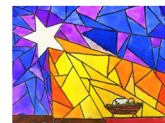
19th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have finally reached the end of our first long term here at St John Fisher, and my first as Headteacher. I would like to thank you all for your support so far this year, and wish you all a very Merry Christmas! I look forward to seeing everyone again on January 8th.

Christmas

The school has been a hive of activity over Advent as our children have been preparing for Christmas



Nativity Last week saw a fabulous Nativity performance led by the incredible acting of our Y2 children, with dancing and singing from EYFS and Y1. It was a thoroughly enjoyable performance, with the appearance of 'Flash' the donkey helping to create a lifelong memory for our children.



SCHOOL TRIPS

It may be close to Christmas, but classes have still been out and about.

Y5 have been extremely busy, visiting Mansfield College, but also having the opportunity to take part in a 'Roman Classroom experience' run by Oxford University Classics Department. They dressed and learnt as children did in Roman times.

Y4 were lucky enough to be invited to Headington School for their performance of Oliver! Which received rave reviews from the children.

Y6 have taken part in Junior Citizens, preparing them for Secondary School

Worship

Penitential Service/ Advent Mass

As a whole school, we began the season with Mass celebrated by Fr Ziggy at Bd Dominic Barberi, it was wonderful to see so many parents in attendance!

Fr Ziggy, Fr Harry and Fr Fanzwa also came into school to hear confessions and perform a Penitential Service with our KS2 children to help prepare them for Christmas.



»Christmas Fayre

Our FOSJF team put on a fantastic Christmas Fayre. The work Mrs Ball, Mrs Moss and Mrs Gibbons

put in after hours did not go unnoticed and led to one of the most successful fayres the school have

put on in many years. There are some big ideas for the Summer Fete with a return to a 'Big Event' Post-Covid in July.



Sports News

We have had multiple football fixtures, home and away these last few weeks, and have also visited Orchard Meadow for a Tag-Rugby Competition. Our children, as always, have represented us in the best way possible.

In the space of two weeks, our Y5/6 football team lost a thrilling Penalty Shootout in the final of the Oxford City FC competition, coming a very close second out of well over 30 schools.



Then the next week, they went one better and won a very close Oxford United Kids Cup competition, hosted by Swindon Town.

These are phenomenal achievements for a school our size, other schools in these competitions have full time sports coaches and are '3 form entry' so potentially have 180 children in Y5/6 to choose from, whereas we have 50! Luckily, we have the best 50 in Oxford to choose from.

School Partnerships

We have lots of people to thank for their work within our school this term, notably: Our Arch Readers, Mark and Hannah, who have been in school every Friday;

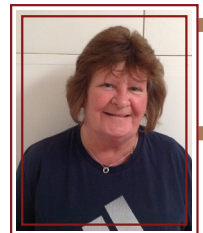
Cameron and his team at Oxford United for their support on a Monday throughout the school; Paul Tucker for taking over as our PE coach at extremely short notice; Playmakers who have been working in Y6 all term; One-Eighty, a fantastic Wellbeing charity who will be in school all year; Radley College, who work delivering PE and phonics interventions each week; Mansfield College and their students who are in supporting our Y6 students and Jo and Mhairi for their fabulous music provision in the school, our choir especially has been a fantastic addition.

»Staffing updates

■ Carol Giles – Carol is retiring after many years working at our school. She has been a friendly, hard working, and extremely positive presence in the school, and will be missed by all the children at staff. We wish her all the best for a long, relaxing and enjoyable retirement, and to come and see us all whenever she fancies! Thank you Carol!

■ Fiona Wickens – Fiona has been working in Y5 this term, and supporting our SLT with her expertise from many different schools within our trust. She is moving on to her next project at the PFMAC. We are very grateful for the positive attitude she has brought to school this term

■ Ellie-Kate McCarthy has started work with us this half term and will continue to do so throughout the school year, delivering dance lessons to all of our children as part of their PE provision, and if they enjoy it, snapping them up for her club.



Catholic Social Teaching

Solidarity and outreach work is a key aspect of our Catholic Social Teaching at SJF and we are very proud to have raised funds for our school community, Sobell house, World Gifts and Gifts for Giving this Christmas time.

SANTA RUN

Our Santa Run saw every child run (some non-stop!) for 20-30 minutes completing laps of the school, we raised several hundred pounds for our charities, and helped boost the stamina levels of our children!



Choir Performance



Our new school choir had their first performance of the year, at University College. It was very cold, but they sang beautifully, and this week are going to local care homes to continue to share their talents.

WORLD GIFTS

World Gift donations have been coming in throughout Advent, we are extremely grateful, and Ms McCarthy will work with her Faith Ambassadors to decide what will be purchased to help those across the world.

MINI VINNIES

Mini Vinnies have been collecting presents for those less fortunate, and have now met with Gifts for Giving and handed over all of the donations which will help bring lots of joy at Christmas time.



We have got the link on our website working again which shares the feed for you all <https://twitter.com/SJFOxford>