



## Dear Parents and Carers,

It feels like this half term has gone by in flash and we are already closing in on Lent, with Ash Wednesday falling in Half Term. It has been a great start to the New Year at school and we look forward to a productive end of the Spring Term.

### Partnerships

I have been working closely with the headteachers of all of our fellow Blackbird Leys schools (and Rose Hill) to create a '**Cradle to Career**' partnership where over the course of the next few years we are going to work together to ensure every child in our area gets the same high quality enrichment opportunities as we do here at St John Fisher. It has been a great opportunity to work closely with the other primary heads, and Nora Ward at The Oxford Academy to utilise all of our partnerships for the greater good of the community.

Parallel to this, we have been working with the Littlemore schools to build links with the **Ellison Institute**. I met with them recently to discuss how they can help and support education in the area, and our Faith Leaders will be doing the same after half term.

## »Sports News

Lots of football has been taking place through the wind and the rain, and this week a group of children from our school got to take part in our first ever Futsal competition, with the children performing brilliantly and finishing 2nd.



We also took part in the Y5/6 Indoor Athletics competition at TOA – we dominated all of the track events, but sadly came second overall after the field events.

## Trips >>

### »Percussion Day

This week a group of children from our school visited the Dragon School to start a new partnership with the Oxford Philharmonic Orchestra. This will see the orchestra visit our school and deliver workshops to two year groups before a performance. The experiential day was fantastic.



### »Oxford High School/Radley/Mansfield/MCS

Our Oxford High, Radley and Mansfield college partnerships are all in full flow, with regular visits being used to build up the provision we can offer in school and make the most of the resources they have on offer



### »Ice Skating

Our Y6 children have visited Oxford Ice Rink for a fun and educational trip linked to their topic of Frozen Kingdoms, this was a great experience for the children who mostly managed to stay standing

### »Care Home

Our partnership with Longlands continues to grow – this month our Nursery children joined them for puzzles.





# RE News

## »Catholic Virtues

**Our virtues this term are:  
curious and active**



### Mass and Pilgrimage

A huge thank you to the whole Parish community and our wonderful priests for their support this half term in a variety of Masses and services both at school and church.

### We have also celebrated the feasts of St Josephine and St Brigid with school pilgrimages



### New Nursery Children

Our new nursery children have settled in well and the provision is thriving, we have a few spots available which will fill at Easter. Please hand in forms for any children who will be 3 in September when new places become available.



### Lieutenancy

As a school we hosted the Deputy Lieutenant of Oxford recently who spoke to the whole school about the Royal Family and how they support issues locally and nationally, all in line with our CST values.



### peep New Baby Group

On a Wednesday afternoon, we have been hosting a Peep baby group in St Anne's for babies who are not yet crawling. The group is growing, is free to attend, and finishes just in time for pickup! You can sign up by scanning the QR code.



## Staff News

We are sorry to announce that Ms Yasmin Haseeb is leaving us this half term. She has been with us for the past two years completing her apprenticeship and has made a huge contribution to our school. Her enthusiasm and willingness to learn new skills has shone. She is going travelling for a while, and we hope when she returns, she looks towards teacher training.



## Youlbury!

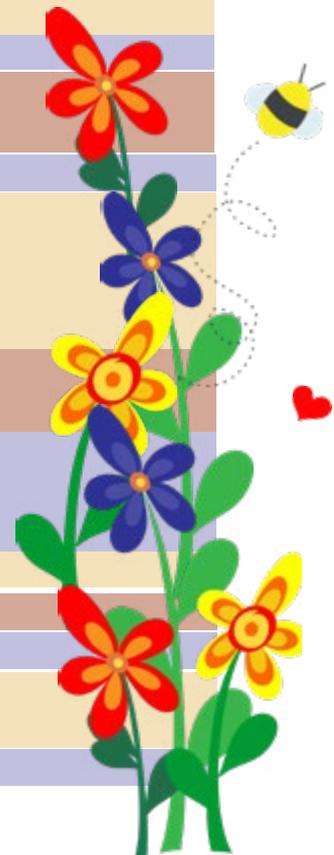
If your **Y4** child has signed up for Youlbury, please can you ensure that you have paid off the remained of your fees as soon as possible.

**We will have an information meeting on Thursday 12th March at 3.15pm**

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### » Diary Dates

23.02.2026	Whole School Mass – Blessed Dominic Barberi – 09:30
26.02.2026	Y3 library visit Y6 Girls – Regional Finals at Solihull Moors
27.02.2026	Y4 Ashmolean Trip Y5 Climate Change Workshops Begin
02.03.2026	Cafod Workshops in School
04.03.2026	MHST Meeting around Managing Behaviour
05.03.2026	World Book Day – Bookie Breakfast
06.03.2026	Youth Council - TOA
10.03.2026	Y4 Cricket at Orchard Meadow
12.03.2026	Penitential Service Youlbury Meeting
17.03.2026	Playmakers Showcase Y6
18.03.2026	Y4 Radley's Ball Festival at BBL Leisure Centre Y3/4 Girls Cross Country County Finals at Radley Curiosity Cube Y5 Parents Evening
19.03.2026	Y2 Library Visit Curiosity Cube Y6
20.03.2026	GAA Day at Horspath Y5/6 KS1 Cricket Curiosity Cube Y4
23.03.2026	Parent's Evening Rocksteady Concert
24.03.2026	Y6 Girls Futsal
26.03.2026	Y5 Bake sale Y1 Library Visit
27.03.2026	CLOSE AT 1PM



### » Parish News

#### For children with incurable diseases

Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

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

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

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

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God Bless,  
Mr Higgins and the SJF Team

