



Wroxton Primary School
Lampitts Green,
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11th November 2024

Dear Families

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. We have already had some exciting learning happening, including a visit from **Sir Teachalot**, who certainly 'taught a lot' to Kites last week. It was wonderful to see the young Legionnaires learning how to live and behave as the Roman army did and mastering the 'Turtle' marching technique. Don't forget, you can see pictures of our learning on our social media and websites which are updated by each class teacher, each week.

Coming up in the next few weeks we have the Choir performing at the annual Rotary Children Singing for Children concert, Kestrels visiting the Banbury Museum, A Greek visitor to Falcons and the Christmas performance by Eagles and Kestrels. Starting this Friday at 2.45pm are the Class Celebration Worships, this week with Falcons. So there will be lots to see and enjoy either in person or through our online sharing. We look forward to welcoming you.

Staffing

We continue to have team members across both of our schools managing ill health, bereavement and the other challenges of life in a greater proportion than any of us would ever wish. It is our priority to make sure that we have the best teaching arrangements we can for every class in each school.

As you are aware, Mrs Ruffle was planning on spending this year at St Mary's, however due to the need to support our Wroxton team members, she is ending her secondment and coming back to Wroxton, starting this week.

Over the next two weeks she will get to know Kestrels class, working with Mrs Blunden and from 25th November will become their main teacher with Mrs Blunden teaching them on Fridays. This allows us to better support Mrs Blunden during this period when her husband continues to receive intensive medical treatment. Mrs Blunden will move to work across classes to cover days off, enable Mrs Di Giono to have leadership time and give extra capacity and flexibility to the team. It will also give her the support and flexibility she needs at this time.

These changes will mean our children consistently have teachers they know, and we have capacity to cover in house should team members need time away from work. We share our love and prayers with Mrs Blunden and her family and all who face life's challenges at this time.

Mrs Heath was given a warm send off as she retired after 28 years as our lunch time supervisor on Friday. Miss O'Neill and Mrs Woodcock remember her well from their time as pupils and our pupil leadership team presented her with flowers, cake



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and a card from everyone at the start of her last service. We thank Julie for her service and wish her well in retirement, although she will still be part of the school team, continuing to clean school along with her Mum, Pam every day. Thank you ladies, we love having you with us.

As the days grow shorter and evenings are darker, please can we remind everyone about taking care as both pedestrians and drivers on the approaches to and from school. This is especially important for those older children with permission to walk down to meet parents off school site at the end of the day. We have reminded the children to take care and behave well, please, if this involves your child, can you reinforce this message. There have been one or two occasions of careless and unacceptable behaviour which is a potential risk to them and others. We don't want to remove this opportunity for some independence, they will need it next year at Secondary school, but should there be any more instances, we will need to request the relevant children are dropped off and collected from the classroom.

We are now 'live' with our new Management Information System, BromCom. Initially this should not have any direct impact on how you interact with school, but it there will be some changes over the coming weeks in how we communicate with you. After Christmas we will be moving the financial systems too, which is when we need to ask for a little more patience and support as we get things rolling smoothly. In the meantime, please be patient with the office team and accept our apologies if some aspects of the changeover take a little embedding.

We have now moved to a single Administrative team across both schools. Mrs Sullivan is the Business Manager for both schools, working with me on financial management, health and safety and strategic planning. Mrs Kelly Buckett is our Office Manager and leading on the BromCom project, HR and office systems. Kelly and Justine are supported by Yasmin Ahmed and, soon to join the team, Kirsty Brady. You may already have met Kelly and Yasmin, they will both be working some time at Wroxton whilst Justine is working at St Mary's.

Over the half term, we have continued the site development. We now have new and much more secure doors for the hall and the remaining entrance area refurbishment is almost complete. Thank you to everyone who has commented on what an improvement it, we are really pleased too. The children were heard to say, 'It smells so nice' – we assume this is the new wood in the doors and is another vote of approval!

We have also now started the replacement of all the lighting in school with greener, brighter and more economically viable LED lighting. This work has been completed in two classrooms and the entrance and the rest of school will follow. It is our hope over the coming months to get to redecoration of the classrooms too.



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Jade has a new cooker in the kitchen and Robert, our hard working site manager is busy making repairs and improvements wherever he can too.

Some people have asked if the rest of the gates / fencing are being done. The answer is yes, it is just that they are part of the planning for the music room building and as such can't be completed until the finalised plans for that are all signed off, but this will happen.

Mrs Makin and Miss O'Neill are working well with Mrs Stickley to continue to develop and improve breakfast Club and Night Owls. Dianne is spending one day a week at St Mary's looking after After School Club there and Lorraine is doing the same at Wroxton. This way we can support and develop the practice and provision at both schools and build our shared capacity to support each other.

Finally, THANK YOU to everyone for your support and kind comments when you visited our Harvest Food Market and the Class EXPO at the end of term. The children love doing things to share and the cooking was certainly one of those things! The generous donations have been shared with our community links to families and organisations needing them and we know are very much appreciated.

Upcoming events. Below is a comprehensive list of the dates for the rest of the term and going into the next. There are a few changes from the last letter, so please check carefully.

11-11	“Children Singing for Children” Join our choir as they perform in the annual Rotary Club concert at St Mary's Church. Details to follow
15-11	Children in Need Day 2.45pm Falcons Class Celebration Worship – all welcome
22-11	Reception Admissions Open Morning. Part 1 Visits for prospective families Sept 2025. Please contact the school office for further information.
26-11	Reception Admissions Open Morning. Part 2 Visits for prospective families Sept 2025. Please contact the school office for further information.
28-11	FOW School DISCO! Details to follow



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2-12	Kestrels Visit to Banbury Museum – details to follow
6-12	Greek Visitor to Falcons Class – details to follow
11-12	2.00 Eagles and Kestrels Christmas Performance
12-12	9.30 Eagles and Kestrels Christmas Performance
13-12	2.45pm Kites Class Celebration Worship – all welcome
17-12	Christmas Dinner. Details to follow
20-12	1.30 School CLOSES for Christmas Holidays
6-1-25	Spring term 1 starts School OPENS 8.35am
10-1	Friends of Wroxton visiting Panto in school. Details to follow
13-1	Bikeability course Y6 Junior Citizen.
20-1	Residential to Kilvrough Manor
14-2	3.15 School CLOSES for Half Term.
24-2	Spring term 2 starts School OPENS 8.35am

(Dates are subject to change for operational reasons)