



Respect

Responsibility

Kindness

Weekly Update

Building wisely for life

Friday 25th September 2026

Dear parents, carers and our wider school community,

It has been lovely to see our school community continuing to settle into the new school year, and I have been particularly delighted to see so many examples of our children demonstrating responsibility in different ways.

Building Wisely for Life

We continue to remind ourselves how we can 'build wisely for life' following Jesus' example of love. One of the ways we can 'build wisely' is developing a sense of responsibility and this is the value we are continuing to focus on this term.

Our question for the week has now changed to:

What does responsibility look like in the community?

The children are showing all the signs of developing a strong sense of responsibility, from our youngest children in Reception right through to our eldest children in Year 6.

It is particularly delightful to see the ways in which our older children take responsibility for helping and caring for younger members of our school community.

At lunchtime, our older children have been acting as hall monitors, helping younger children to cut their food and pour their water. We have also seen children taking responsibility for putting out and collecting play equipment, making sure that everyone has the opportunity to enjoy their lunchtime.

Our playground leaders have been doing a wonderful job too, spending time playing with our Reception and Year 1 children in their playground at lunchtime. These may seem like small acts, but they make a real difference to the children who are being helped and supported, while giving our older children the opportunity to practise kindness, responsibility and leadership.

Thank You – Meet the Teacher Meetings

A huge thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Meet the Teacher meetings.

Thank you also to our teachers for taking the time to share information about their classes and the year ahead. We hope that you found the meetings informative and useful, and that they helped you to feel more familiar with the routines and expectations for your child's class.

Parent and Teacher Consultations

Our next Parent and Teacher Consultation meetings will take place during the week beginning 12th October. Please see the dates and times at the bottom of the newsletter.

The sign-up sheets will be put up on the class windows on Monday. Please add your name to these.

If you do not usually come into school, for example because your child attends Breakfast Club, please email your child's class teacher with your preferred time range. For example, you might say that you are available between 4:00pm and 5:00pm.

You are welcome to ask for a specific time, but this may already have been taken, so giving a time range will help teachers to allocate appointments as fairly and efficiently as possible.

During these meetings, your child's teacher will be able to discuss how your child has settled into the new school year, and you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Mr Collis, who teaches Year 4 maths, will also have a sign-up sheet outside The Nest (the classroom that backs onto the field). Please do sign up if you would specifically like to discuss your child's progress in maths with him.

Year 6 Residential – Kilvrough

In early October, our Year 6 children will be heading off on their week-long residential trip to Kilvrough.

They will have the opportunity to take part in all manner of exciting activities, which may include caving, canoeing/kayaking and abseiling.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our children to put their responsibility and resilience into action. Being away from home, working together, trying new things and supporting one another will provide them with some fantastic opportunities to develop their independence and confidence.

We are really looking forward to hearing all about their adventures when they return!

Residential Trip for Years 4 and 5

Children in Years 4 and 5 will have received information about a residential trip being planned for them next June.

This will be a shorter trip of two nights at Youlbury, which is much more local to us. The children will have the opportunity to experience staying away from home while taking part in exciting activities such as zip wiring and archery.

These experiences are wonderful for children. They provide opportunities to develop independence, resilience and responsibility — all of which are important life skills that we want our children to develop as they grow.

Karate Taster Session

Next Friday, we have a Karate instructor coming into the school to give all children a 30-minute taster session, which I hope they will all enjoy. Information about lessons out side of school time can be found in the flyers below.

Harvest Festival

On Friday 9th October, we will be holding our Harvest Festival service at St Laurence Church, Appleton at 2:15pm.

More information about the service will be sent out shortly, but we wanted to give you a little advance notice so that you can put the date in your diary.

We hope to see many of you there as we come together as a school community to celebrate Harvest.

Appleton Stars

I have spent a very enjoyable time with our Appleton Stars both last Thursday and yesterday — what interesting children we have!

It is lovely for me to have the opportunity to get to know the children over a milkshake, biscuit and book, and, most importantly, to celebrate the ways in which they are showing responsibility in school.

We also now have our Star Writers work displayed on our celebration board. A huge well done to all the children who have been selected so far. It is wonderful to see their writing celebrated and shared with our school community.

Handwriting

We have recently introduced a new handwriting scheme, and some of the results we are already seeing are incredible!

The children have been working hard to develop their letter formation and handwriting, and it has been lovely to see the care and effort they are putting into their work.

During the Parent and Teacher Consultation meetings, we will be able to share the letter formation we use in school with you. This means that, if you would like to, you will be able to practise the same letter formation at home with your child.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and for the many ways in which you work alongside us to help our children grow, learn and flourish.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Emma King
Headteacher

Key Dates for Autum Term 1

Wednesdays & Fridays – School Library is open at lunch time

Wednesday, 23rd September – Rocksteady sessions started

Thursdays & Fridays – Rockakdemy sessions started

Monday, 5th – Friday, 9th October – Y6 Kilvrough Manor Residential

Tuesday, 6th October – Y5 Humanities workshop Abingdon School

Friday, 9th October – Harvest service at the church 2:15pm for children and parents

Monday, 12th - Friday, 16th October - Parent meetings

Thursday, 22nd October – School and after school club finish as normal

Friday, 23rd October – INSET day

Sunday, 25th October 2026 – The clocks go back one hour at 2am to 1am

Monday 26th – Friday 30th October – Half term

Monday 2nd – Friday 6th November – Y6 Bikeability

Wednesday 4th November – Whole School Immunisation Flu Vaccination

Friday 6th November – Individual School photo

Friday 6th November – Remembrance service for children only

Monday, 9th November – Reception Vision Screening

Wednesday, 25th November – Year 2 Oxford Castle trip

Thursday, 3rd December – Christmas Fair

Wednesday, 16th December – Christmas lunch

Thursday, 17th December – Pantomime trip Oxford Playhouse - Snow White

Friday, 18th December – School finish 1:15pm (JAG closed this afternoon)

Further information about any events listed will be available closer to the time.
Please do not use Parent Pay anymore.



WEEK ONE 13th April, 4th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July, 31st Aug, 2nd Sept, 12th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Vegetable & Bean Chili with Rice (VG) Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VG, GF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Lemon Oat Cookie (V, EF, DF) & Raisins	Beef Bolognese with Pasta (EF, DF) Veggie Bolognese with Pasta (VG) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) Carrots & Green Beans Iced Sprinkle Cake (V, DF)	Roast Chicken Breast (GF, DF, EF) Quorn Roast (V, GF) Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo (GF, DF, EF) Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding, Cauliflower & Peas Cherry Biscuit (V, EF)	Chicken Korma with Rice (EF, GF) Mac 'n' Cheese (V, EF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) Carrots & Sweetcorn Rock Cake (V)	Chicken Nuggets (EF, DF) Veggie Sausage Roll (V, EF) Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VG, GF) Chips or Pasta & Baked Beans Vanilla Ice Cream (V, GF, EF) with Pineapple

WEEK TWO 20th April, 11th May, 8th June, 29th June, 20th July, 7th Sept, 28th Sept, 19th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry with Rice (V, GF, EF) Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VG, GF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Vanilla Sponge Cake (V, DF)	Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce (GF, DF, EF) Veggie Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce (VG, GF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) Pasta, Peas & Broccoli Ginger Biscuit (V, EF)	Roast Lamb of Pork (GF, DF, EF) Quorn Roast (V, GF) Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo (GF, DF, EF) Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Carrots & Cabbage Shortbread (V, EF, DF) with an Orange Wedge	Creamy Chicken Risotto (GF, EF) Veggie Sausage Pasta Bake (V, EF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) Peas & Green Beans Sultana & Syrup Cookie (V, EF)	Flapper Dippers (DF, EF) Veggie Samosa's (VG) Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VG, GF) French Fries or Pasta Baked Beans or Sweetcorn Strawberry Ice Cream (V, GF, EF) with Melon

WEEK THREE 27th April, 18th May, 15th June, 6th July, 14th Sept, 5th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Spinach & Pepper Pasta (VG) Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VG, GF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Melting Moment (V, DF, EF) with Mandarins	Chicken & Leek Pie with New Potatoes (DF, EF) Sweet & Sour Veggie Noodles (V, DF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) Vegetable Medley & Broccoli Cinnamon Cookie (V, EF)	Roast Gammon (GF, EF, DF) Vegetarian Quorn Roast (V, GF) Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo (GF, DF, EF) Roast Potatoes & Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy Savory Cabbage & Peas Banana Cake (V, EF)	Pork Sausages with Gravy (DF, EF) Veggie Sausage with Gravy (VG, GF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) Mashed Potatoes (GF, EF) Carrots & Cauliflower Crunchy Cornflake Cookie (EF, DF)	Fish Fingers (DF, EF) Cream Cheese & Broccoli Pinnwheel (V, EF) Jacket Potato with Baked Beans (VG, GF) Chips or Pasta Peas & Baked Beans Strawberry Jelly (V, GF, DF, EF) with Peaches

Available Daily - Fresh bread, Salad Bar, and lots of Fresh water, as well as a choice of natural yoghurt, or fresh fruit as an alternative to dessert

Allergies advice: All our food is prepared in a kitchen where any of the 14 allergens may be present, and our menu descriptions do not include all ingredients. If you have an allergy please let us know before ordering. Full allergen information is available from your school. Any fish we serve will vary depending on availability. We only select fish from sustainable sources. Suitable for vegetarians or vegans (where available). Our fish and chicken dishes may contain bones.

KEY:
V: VEGETARIAN
VG: VEGAN

GF: GLUTEN FREE
DF: DAIRY FREE
EF: EGGS FREE



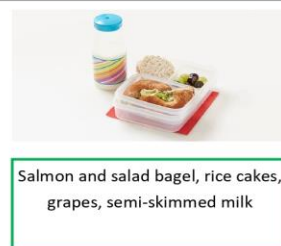
Healthy Lunch Boxes



- Eating a healthy lunch keeps gums and teeth healthy
- A healthy lunch box should include fruit, vegetables, carbohydrates and protein
- Choose foods in a variety of colours, finger foods and crispy snacks to make your lunch box more appealing

Lunch Box Ideas

See <https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>



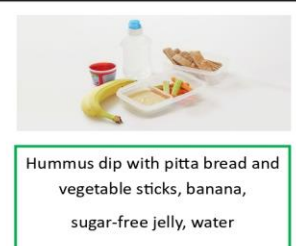
Salmon and salad bagel, rice cakes, grapes, semi-skimmed milk



Tuna and bean salad, satsuma, malt loaf, semi-skimmed milk



Spicy chicken and salad wrap, peaches/strawberries, homemade popcorn with cinnamon, sugar-free orange drink



Hummus dip with pitta bread and vegetable sticks, banana, sugar-free jelly, water

*Please note some people have food allergies. Check with your setting before sending in food.

Lunch box shopping list

Date: _____

Choose one or two items from each food group below or an alternative to create your own healthy lunch box

*Please note some people have food allergies. Check with your setting before sending in food.

Protein

- Chicken ☐
- Hummus ☐
- Eggs ☐
- Tofu ☐

Fruit & Vegetables

- Banana ☐
- Carrot ☐
- Blueberries ☐
- Cucumber ☐

Carbohydrate

- Bread ☐
- Chapati ☐
- Crackers ☐
- Pasta ☐

Dairy or alternative

- Cheese/soft cheese ☐
- Plain yoghurt ☐
- Plant based alternative ☐

Appleton Chess Club

My Background

My name is Rob Willmoth. I have played chess for 35 years. I am currently ranked in the top 100 players in the UK and have played in 17 consecutive British championships. I run chess coaching services that provide professional chess coaching in schools

What can Chess offer to Children.

- Potential for better performance in academic studies
- Enhanced problem solving
- Enhanced strategic thinking
- Enhanced self esteem
- Friendly forum for making friends
- Healthy competition in a safe environment

School Chess Club Lesson.

- Structured lesson plan by term ,from basic play to advanced play
- Regular grading system to assess performance.
- Weekly coaching on demonstration board
- Graded weekly games against other children
- Weekly recap on knowledge learnt.

Sign up For Chess Club

ONLINE REGISTRATION ONLY

12 lessons commencing Afterschool from Wed 16th Sep, ending Wed 9th Dec at.....

Chess Club is for years one to six from 3.15pm to 4.15pm.....

Cost:- £8.5 (including V.A.T) per lesson. **Total cost for term is £102.**(12 Sessions).....

Online payments at <https://www.chesscoachingservices.net/online-payments/school-club>

Website: chesscoachingservices.net email admin@chesscoachingservices.net Tel 07956 297329



LOOKING TO BECOME MORE CONFIDENT?



Mondays
Term
Time

£6 A
Class

**BOOST YOUR CONFIDENCE WITH OUR
MF DANCE AFTERSCHOOL CLUB**

**SCAN TO BOOK
YOUR PLACE TODAY**



INSIDE LIFE & MIND

A free science fair for all ages
with stalls, activities, and talks



Scan or visit
bit.ly/insidelam

SAT 3 OCT 12:00–17:00

Life & Mind Building,
South Parks Road, OX1 3EL



“

The

Library

Oxfordshire

SHORT STORY COMPETITION

2027

Up to **3,000** words for adults & young adults
and up to **1,000** words for children.

The winning story in each category will
be published as an ebook for library
members to borrow!

ENTRIES OPEN: 14 SEPTEMBER

CLOSING DATE: 15 NOVEMBER

Adults: 18+

YA: 12-17

Children: 7-11

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/shortstorycompetition

”

FESTIVAL — OF — THE GIRL

Sat 3 & Sun 4 Oct

Business Design Centre,
Islington London



For 7-11 year old girls & their families

Activities range from: engineering to
sports, aerospace to visual effects,
vaccinations to gaming, mental health to
sustainability, medicine to dancing,
activism to mechanics and much more.



Although aimed at girls everyone is welcome!

Tickets via QR code or website
www.festivalofthegirl.com

SEND & Pay-what-you-can options available

FAMILY SHOWS AUTUMN 2026

The North Wall
Arts Centre

TINY IDEAS FESTIVAL

Page One Theatre presents

RISE AND FALL

Saturday 26 September 11am and 2pm

Meet all manner of balloons from small
floating moons to vast bouncing orbs!
Forever expanding and contracting,
balloons are free to float, fly and sway.
Hold your breath and go sailing away.

Rise and Fall is a poetic and intriguing
performance for young audiences about
holding on and letting go. Performed
by one dancer, Rise and Fall has toured
internationally and at UK venues including
The Royal Opera House.

AGES 2+



The Last Baguette presents

BIN RAT

Sunday 27 September 11am and 2pm

A rat-astic and realistic look into refuse and
recycling. Rummage through the rubble with
Bin Rat to discover where all the junk goes!
Scrape scraps off the streets in this interactive
puppetry show, & find out what literally
happens to litter.

The Last Baguette presents an entertaining,
accessible and eccentric work for family
audiences.

AGES 3-8



TICKETS: £12 (£8 children, under 2s go free)

BOX OFFICE: 01865 319 450 / thenorthwall.com

The North Wall, South Parade, Oxford, OX2 7JN

St John's

SECONDARY PHASE

Welcoming applications for Year 7 admissions

'Live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)



GROW FLOURISH FLY

Our vision for St John's CE Academy is clear across all phases. We aspire for every individual to grow in wisdom & character, to flourish in our vibrant community, to fly beyond expectations, and to 'live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10).

Secondary Phase Information Events - Sign Up

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/uFtpKwuTB1>



CAMBRIAN
Nurturing Growth - Inspiring Minds

Open Evening: Wednesday 30th September

Times: 4:30 – 6:00pm | 6:30 – 8:00pm

Open Mornings: Monday 5th to Friday 9th October

Times: 8:45 – 10:15am

With places in high demand, we kindly ask families to register using the link above.

BARTHOLOMEW SCHOOL

Preparing students for a bright, exciting, and happy future

Head of School: Mr Adam Wood

Deputy CEO & Executive Headteacher: Mr Craig Thomas

Witney Road, Eynsham, Witney, Oxfordshire, OX29 4AP

Email: head.4054@bartholomew.epatrust.org

Tel: 01865 881430

Website: www.bartholomew.oxon.sch.uk



EJE/KXW

Monday 14th September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers of Year 6 pupil

Bartholomew School Year 7 Open Evening 2026



You are warmly invited to join us for our **Year 7 Open Evening on Thursday 24th September from 5.00pm to 8.00pm.**

Choosing a secondary school for your Year 6 child is an important step, and we hope that visiting Bartholomew will give you a real sense of how your child can flourish and be happy here. During the evening, you can meet our students and staff, explore our subject departments and facilities, and enjoy refreshments in our award-winning Food Hall.

[Book here for Bartholomew School Open Evening.](#) Entry is timed and only one ticket is required per family. We recommend allowing approximately one hour for your visit. On arrival, you will receive a map with a suggested route for your self-guided tour and information to help you find out more about the school. The Head of School talk will be pre-recorded as part of our promotional film.

Open Mornings

Following our Open Evening, we also invite you to join one of our **Open Mornings on Tuesday 29th September or Thursday 1st October.** These provide an opportunity to see Bartholomew during a normal school day. Following a brief welcome, student-led tours will begin at **9.10am and 10.20am** on each day and will last approximately one hour. [Book your Open Morning place here.](#)

Further admissions information

Throughout the application and transition process you can keep updated via our [Admissions page](#). From the day of our Open Evening, you will also be able to watch our new school film and pre-recorded Head of School talk from Mr Wood, view our new prospectus, and find information about the admissions process and key dates.

Visitor information

Parking is limited and we recommend that you arrive on foot or using public transport if possible. If you are travelling by car, there is limited parking at the Bartholomew Sports Centre and public car park in Back Lane.

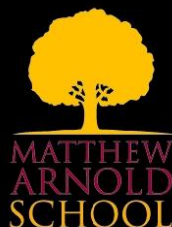
If you have accessibility needs, please contact us in advance so we can support your visit. For any questions, please email: office.4054@bartholomew.epatrust.org

We look forward to welcoming you to Bartholomew School.

Yours sincerely

Ms E Elder

Head of Year 7 and Transition



AMBITION. INCLUSION. COLLABORATION, KINDNESS.

OPEN EVENING

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2026 5.30 PM - 8.00 PM

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS

ARNOLDS WAY, OXFORD OX2 9JE

WWW.MASCHOOL.ORG.UK



Acer
TRUST

How can we support your child's development?

Where Play Meets Potential

We see play as a child's play. We understand the important role it has in a child's positive learning and development. That's why our programmes are designed around play, fun and friendships.

Life Skills

We give children the opportunity to learn about and practice important life skills for taking care of themselves and others, and to build confidence, resilience and leadership skills.

School Readiness

Starting school can be daunting for kids. Our programmes help our children up for the best possible day at school and create an environment where friendships can thrive outside of the classroom.

Social Development

Monash University research found that our Adventure Programmes scored highly on learning outcomes relating to identity, social connection and wellbeing. 60% of children reported that our programmes helped them look after themselves and their friends.

Thank You Child for our Support. An Important Study for Junior Adventure Group. A Report of Education Monash University, 2024.

New to JAG? Register & Book Now!

Create your account online in minutes to book **Wraparound Care** and **Holiday HQ**, unlock flexible payment options, and enjoy exclusive offers. **Let the adventure begin!**

Family Support



Payment Options

- Two Free Childcare Voucher (FCV) with 1500 top-ups
- Payment Plan: Spread the cost monthly
- In-Cash Plan: Secure future bookings



Booking Options

Book off-site day HQ, school Wraparound Care

Key Links

Find your local JAG school or venue

<https://www.junioradventuregroup.co.uk/locations>

Register Online

[junioradventuregroup.co.uk/register](https://www.junioradventuregroup.co.uk/register)

Contact Us

hello@junioradventuregroup.co.uk



Scan here to learn more



Wraparound Care at your school

RISE THEN SHINE **STAY AND PLAY**



Learn more and register today

