



Shine as Lights in the World
Philippians 2.15

26th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Allergies

At Wychwood, we are committed to ensuring that all children with medical conditions, including allergies, in terms of both physical and mental health, are properly supported in school so that they can play a full and active role in school life, remain healthy and achieve their academic potential.

We support the approach advocated by Anaphylaxis UK towards nut bans/nut free schools. They would not necessarily support a blanket ban on any particular allergen in any establishment, including in schools. This is because nuts are only one of many allergens that could affect pupils, and no school could guarantee a truly allergen free environment for a child living with food allergy. They advocate instead for schools to adopt a culture of allergy awareness and education.

A 'whole school awareness of allergies' is a much better approach, as it ensures teachers, pupils and all other staff are aware of what allergies are, the importance of avoiding the pupils' allergens, the signs & symptoms, how to deal with allergic reactions and to ensure policies and procedures are in place to minimise risk.

On Wednesday this week, we held an assembly for the Key Stage 2 children about allergies as part of our programme of allergy education and awareness. We reminded children why it was important never to share their food or to touch anyone else's food. We also discussed the importance of washing hands and not touching other children when we have food on our hands.

At Wychwood, we have 6 children who have allergies that require them to carry Auto-Immune Injectors (sometimes known as EpiPens). These children could have an anaphylactic reaction if they eat or come into contact with:

- Nuts (of all kinds)
- Pine Nuts
- Fish / Seafood
- Sesame

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We kindly ask that you discuss this with your children and reinforce the messages we shared with them above. [Anaphylaxis UK](#) has a huge range of resources to help you understand more about allergies and anaphylaxis and support you if you or your child has allergies.

Thank you for your support with this.

Curriculum Overviews

An overview of the curriculum for each phase this term is now available on the school website.

They can be found here: <https://www.wychwood-pri.oxon.sch.uk/blogs/curriculum-overviews/>

Fire Alarm

Some of you may know already that our fire alarm system went off on Thursday afternoon during our assembly. This was not a planned drill and was caused by the work that was being carried out on the roof. There was no fire and there was no danger of harm to the children or staff at any time.

The children were very sensible and followed our procedures well, assembling calmly on the playground so we could check everyone was safe. For children who asked me, I reassure them that we were just practising.

When we next carry out a fire drill, we will let the children know in advance as we usually do.

Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to taking the children in Reception and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) to St Mary's Church in Shipton next week on Friday 3rd October for our annual Harvest Festival service. We will aim to begin the service at 9:20am with the children and staff walking down together after being dropped off at school as usual. Parents and carers of children attending are invited to join us in the church for the service. We hope you can make it!

Secondary School Applications

Just a reminder that Secondary School Applications are open for Year 6 pupils. The deadline for applying for a Secondary School place is October 31st 2025. Here is a link to the online application form.

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/year-7-applications>

Office closure

A reminder that the school office will close early on Friday 3rd October at 2pm. Please make a note of this in your calendars as there will be no staff there to respond to queries from that time.

PTA update

Disco - one week to go!

We are really looking forward to our disco next Friday, 3rd October. Tickets are [on sale via Classlist!](#)

Please note that the discounted advance ticket price of £3.50 will only be available until Thursday evening when we close online sales.

We will also be selling tickets in the playground at pickup on Wednesday and Thursday next week, or you can buy at the office any time (cash only).

We will be welcoming DJ BigBug to the hall with his lights and decks.

This disco will follow the usual fun format, with Years 1 - 3 in the first session (5:15-6:15pm), and Years 4 - 6 afterwards (6:30-7:30pm).

Refreshments and face painting will be available to purchase on the night. We'll have fresh fruit (free), and provide plenty of water to keep everyone hydrated throughout (it's a good idea to bring a water bottle to refill too).

We also really need volunteers to help things run smoothly on the night, alongside some donations of cakes and traybakes if anyone can spare the time - thank you so much to all those who have signed up so far!

Please see the Classlist sign-up sheet for details of what we still need and sign up for anything you can help with - thank you.

Thank you very much everyone - we look forward to welcoming your children there!

Coming soon - Fireworks Night tickets

Preparations are well under way for our Fireworks Night extravaganza at **Shipton Cricket Club on Saturday 1st November.**

We plan to launch ticket sales next Friday, 3rd October... watch this space!

We will need a team of helpers to make everything run smoothly on the night - please save the date and be ready to sign up when the event goes live on Classlist.

Chastleton Teas - Sunday 12th October - cakes needed!

We are once again running the pop-up cafe at Chastleton House in a few weeks' time.

This is always a brilliant fundraiser, and we are so grateful to everybody who is able to provide us with delicious cakes to sell. Our bestsellers tend to be all the classics -

scones, victoria sponge, lemon drizzle, coffee & walnut... and tray bakes such as flapjacks and brownies always go down very well too.
Please make a note that we will be needing baked donations to be brought in on Friday 10th October.

Thanks so much for your support,
The PTA Team

Dates for the Autumn Term

Date	Details	Who
1 st October	Junior Citizen Visit	Year 6
2 nd October	Disco for FSU (during the school day)	Reception children
3 rd October	Harvest Festival (Shipton Church) 9:20	Year 1/2 & Reception & Parents
3 rd October	Cross Country Partnership event	Selected Yr 3-6 children
3 rd October	PTA Disco (Yr1-3, 5.15-6.15pm Yr 4-6, 6.30 – 7.30pm)	Year 1-6
7 th October	School Photographs	All
9 th October	Flu Vaccinations	All
12 th October	Teas at Chastleton House	PTA
13 th October	Football Partnership event (2.45- 4.45pm)	Selected Yr 5/6 children
20 th – 24 th October	International Week	All
27 th – 31 st October	Half Term	All
1 st November	Fireworks Night @ Shipton Cricket Club	All
3 rd November	INSET Day	All
11 th & 12 th November	Parent / Teacher Meetings	All
27 th November	Chipping Norton Pantomime	Year 1 & 2
4 th December	Reception Nativity (2.30pm)	Reception & Parents
11 th & 12 th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity (2pm both days)	Year 1/2 & Parents
19 th December	Church Service at St Mary's, Shipton	Year 3/4 & Parents

Thank you for your continuing support.

Katy Gent
Headteacher
Wychwood CE Primary School