



Shine as Lights in the World
Philippians 2.15

4th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week. The children have made a fantastic start to the new year and are settling well into their new classes and routines.

A special welcome to the families joining our school community for the first time. We are delighted to have you with us and hope you will quickly feel at home at Wychwood. Our Reception children have enjoyed a busy first two days, getting to know the staff, making new friends and exploring their new surroundings.

I hope everyone has a restful weekend after a busy first week back, ready for a full week of school next week.

If you need to speak to your child's class teacher, they are usually available for a brief conversation at the end of the school day. Alternatively, please email **parents@wychwood-pri.oxon.sch.uk** and we will be happy to arrange an appointment. This email address can also be used to report an absence or notify us of any changes to collection arrangements.

This week's newsletter is a little longer than usual as there is plenty to share at the start of the new school year. Going forward, you can expect a newsletter every Friday with key news, events and reminders.

Parent Introduction Meetings

We are pleased to be able to offer Parent Introduction Meetings once again. These meetings will be held by each phase in the school hall (please enter through the office) with the purpose of sharing information regarding the routines of the classroom and learning experiences and expectations for each class. Please see below under term dates for more information. For those of you unable to attend, we will share the presentations via our website.

School Social Media

We are delighted to be launching our new school Instagram account in the coming days. This will provide another way for us to share and celebrate the exciting learning, achievements and experiences that take place across the school each term.

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We would love to include photographs of our children in some of our posts. No names or other identifying information will be linked to any photographs, meaning individual children will not be identifiable.

As always, we will seek your permission before using any photographs. A consent form will be sent home next week for parents and carers to complete.

Celebration Assembly

Next Friday we will hold our first Celebration Assembly of the year for children in Years 1 to 6.

Each week, every class will nominate a **Learning Hero**, recognising a child who has shown a particularly positive attitude to learning. One of these children will then be chosen as the **whole-school Learning Hero** and will have the honour of wearing our special cape for the following week.

We will also celebrate other notable achievements across the school with achievement certificates and emails home from Phase Leaders. Staff may nominate children who have demonstrated something special, such as excellent effort, kindness, resilience or progress. Unlike previous years, these awards will not necessarily be given to one child from every class each week. We hope this change will make the recognition even more meaningful.

Children are also very welcome to bring in any medals, trophies, certificates, badges or other achievements from outside school to share and celebrate with the rest of the school community.

P.E. Timetable

Next week we begin to teach our full curriculum. For P.E., children can come to school in P.E. kits on the day they have P.E. Please remember that this is white t-shirt and/or green jumper/hoodie and navy shorts/skorts or joggers. We would like to avoid football kits please. For children with earrings, it is advisable that they do not have them in on P.E. days. If this is not possible, we ask that parents teach children how to tape earrings safely as this saves staff having to spend P.E. time addressing these needs. Thank you for your support with this. Key Stage 1 have been sent their PE days separately. See below for your child's P.E. days for Key Stage 2.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chestnut Oak	Oak Rowan Cherry	Rowan	Elm Maple	Elm Maple Chestnut Cherry

Key Stage 1 Forest School

Next week Key Stage 1 will be starting their Forest School sessions. A separate letter has been sent to Key Stage 1 families. Class teachers will be leading Forest School for Sycamore and Silver Birch and Mrs Hoadley will be leading Willow.

We are looking for parent volunteers to support our Forest School sessions. All volunteers will need to have a DBS check which we will help you apply for. Please contact the school office if you would like to do this.

Forest School afternoons are as follows:

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Silver Birch	Willow	Sycamore

After School Clubs

After school clubs for years 1-6 will start the week beginning 21st September. Look out for an email next week giving details of all the clubs that are running this term. This will include details of how to book your children onto each club.

Going Home Arrangements

If your child is going home with a friend or relative, please email the office on parents@wychwood-pri.oxon.sch.uk to let us know before 2.30pm.

Weather

Unfortunately, it seems the summer is now over and we are expecting the usual mix of sunshine and rain. Unless it is very wet, we still go outside for playtimes and so it is really important to **send your children in to school with a coat, even if the sun is shining in the morning.**

As part of OPAL, we will soon have storage in school for all children to keep a pair of wellies in school so we can use the field even when it's a bit muddy. Our Eco Council is planning a Welly Swap Shop soon, so look out for details of this next week.

School Uniform

Please see our uniform guidance below. Foundation stage do not need PE kit. You can purchase items of clothing at various supermarkets and clothing shops. For branded uniform, you can use this link- <https://wrealsports.co.uk/shop/my-school/wychwood-c-of-e-primary/>

White polo shirt or Wychwood branded polo shirt.

Grey or black trousers, skirts, pinafores or shorts.

Green Gingham dresses when it's warm.

Green jumper, hoodie, cardigan or fleece – all either with school logo or unbranded.

Black school shoes or black trainers.

PLEASE LABEL EVERYTHING!

Special Educational Needs

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's education, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. If you have further concerns, you can contact our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, Mrs Claridge. Her working days are Monday-Thursday. To make an appointment with Mrs Claridge, email the office at parents@wychwood-pri.oxon.sch.uk

Safeguarding Children

Every year and throughout the year we update our policies, skills and knowledge as a staff to ensure we are doing our utmost to keep children safe. If you have any concerns about a child in our school our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Gent. If Mrs Gent is unavailable Miss Sleight, Mrs Claridge, Mrs White or Mr Leader (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads) will be able to assist you.

Dates for the Autumn Term

Date	Details	Who
9 th September	Parent Introduction Meeting – 2.45pm	Foundation
14 th -16 th September	Author visit	All
15 th September	Parent Introduction Meeting – 2.45pm	Year 3/4
16 th September	Parent Introduction Meeting – 2.45pm	Year 1/2
17 th September	Parent Introduction Meeting – 2.45pm	Year 5/6
30 th September	Junior Citizens Visit	Year 6
2 nd October	Harvest Festival (Shipton Church) 9:20	Year 1/2 & Reception (and families)
2 nd October	PTA Disco	Year 1-6
6 th October	School Photographs	All
7 th October	Flu Vaccinations	All
17 th October	Chastleton House teas - PTA	All
19 th – 23 rd October	International Week	All
26 th – 30 th October	Half Term	All
7 th November	PTA Fireworks Night @ Shipton Cricket Club	All

Thank you for your continuing support.

Katy Gent
Headteacher

