



Middle Barton School Newsletter Friday 20th September 2024



Head’s News

Wildlife photography competition

This week's assembly has certainly inspired some children to become budding photographers. I already have a number of entries but would love to have a few more. I am going to extend the deadline until Friday 27th September. I am hoping that Craig Churchill (local wildlife photographer) will be coming in to judge the entries, so please make sure the photographs are taken by the children so the competition is fair. Keep sending them via dojo to me!
Some of our entries so far:



School Priorities 2024-25

Each year as a school we choose three main priorities that we work on to improve. This year we are focusing on writing and how we can increase the percentage of children reaching the expected standard for their year group. We are also looking at how we can improve the retention of knowledge in History, Geography and Science and finally we are going to 'revamp' the vision and values of the school so they fit with the current ethos of Middle Barton School.

Eco- School

Well done to Mrs Horner and the whole school! We are one of three primary schools that have made it to the finals of 'The Oxford 2024 Climate Awards'. We have made our way into the paper- The Oxford Mail ran an additional supplement on sustainability- see below.
Today's Oxford Times should also have a copy of the article.

Last year's results

Each year we publish statutory data. We were extremely pleased with our results from last year!

Early Years Foundation Stage

School % achieving and Good level of Development
80%

Phonics

Phonics Screening	School % at Expected Standard
Year 1	79%
Year 2	90%

KS2 SATS results

Subject	School % at Expected standard	National % at Expected Standard (2024)	School % at Higher Standard	National % at Higher Standard 2024 data
Reading	100%	74%	43%	28%
Writing	86%	72%	36%	13%
Maths	79%	73%	29%	24%
GPS (Grammar, punctuation and Spelling)	71%	72%	29%	32%
Combined	79%	61%	43%	8%
Science	100%	81%	N/A	N/A

Dates for the diary

<https://www.middlebartonschool.org/school-calendar-and-term-dates/>

W/C 23.09.24.

Monday – Sports Club Y3,4,5,6

Wednesday – Choir Y3,4,5,6

Thursday – Eco Y4,5,6

Friday – Football Y1,2,3,4,5,6

Wednesday 25.09.24. – Introduction to Early Years for parents 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Friday 27.09.24. – MacMillan Coffee Morning for village community 10.00am – 11.30am

30.09.24.-04.10.24. – Year 6 residential to Yenworthy

Wednesday 02.10.24. – CNPS U11 football tournament 3.00pm – 4.45pm – named children

Tuesday 08.10.24. – Y6 Junior Citizens

Tuesday 15.10.24. – Open Afternoon 2.30pm

Friday 18.10.24. – Flu vaccinations for all children

W/C 21.10.24. – Parent meetings

Wednesday 23.10.24. – CNPS U11 Cross Country 3.00pm – 4.15pm – named children

Friday 25.10.24. – INSET DAY – no children in school

28.10.24. – 01.11.24. – HALF TERM

Monday 04.11.24. – INSET DAY – no children in school

Tuesday 05.11.24. – new term commences

Morning run

It has been a great fortnight at Morning Run! Seventy children took part! That's nearly three quarters of the whole school! Well done everyone!

Oak class (very experienced in Morning Run) are leading by example - they fielded 25 participants. All the other classes are about equal in their number of runners but I am especially pleased with Acorn class, half of whom are new to the school and have not been afraid to give it a go!

Morning Run is open to everyone who wants to get a little fresh air and exercise before school. You can walk, run, jog or skip around the track once, or as many times as you can fit in before the bell rings!

Special mentions: Wilf, Isher, Orlaith Bo, Axel, Alfie G, William, Edith, Romy, Albie L, Xander, Jacob, Elise, Ben, Jayden, Fred, Noah, Ivan, Ramona, Steil, Henry L, Reggie, Layla, Isla-Grace, Millie, Isabelle B, Jess, Alex, Faith, Tom, Jane, and all of Oaks class

Acorn class stars: Isaac and Alice

Maple class stars: Molly and Dexter

Willow class stars: Amelia-Rose and Teddy

Oak class stars: Isabelle C and Asher

Stars of the week: Winston and Eva



THE OXFORD 2024 CLIMATE AWARDS Brought to you by
OXFORD CITY COUNCIL The Oxford Times Oxford Mail LOCALIQ

FINALIST

Sustainable Primary School



A word from our sponsors... Energy Saver App

OXFORDSHIRE County Council's Energy Saver App is the sponsor of the sustainable primary school of the year.

Energy Saver App helps people save money on home energy bills (on average eight per cent or more than £200 a year) and reduce people's household emissions.

The app uses clever technology to analyse people's home energy usage data. It can then provide highly personalised insights to help people use less energy, save money on bills and reduce emissions.

Energy Saver App is available to all residents of Oxfordshire with a smart meter.

Dale Hoyland, Oxfordshire County Council's retrofit team leader, said: "We helped deliver the Energy Saver App, along with our partners at Metis, SMS, and other energy experts, to help people save energy and reduce their household bills."

"We are therefore delighted to be involved in the Oxford Climate Awards which are raising awareness of the great work being done around the county in tackling climate change and reducing emissions. Specifically, in sponsoring the sustainable primary school of the year award, we're delighted to see and support the positive action being championed with, and often by, the younger generation."

"However, it's not just schools who can improve their energy efficiency; we all have a responsibility to do what we can to tackle the climate crisis, and the Energy Saver App makes it easy for any Oxfordshire household with a smart meter to make a really positive difference, whilst saving significant money on their energy bills too. The free app brings smart meter data to life, providing simple, personalised suggestions on how to reduce bills – just with these insights alone, the average saving is expected to be at least seven per cent, equating to over £200, plus, we'll be launching other innovative features soon to save residents even more!"

"The app is independent of the energy suppliers, so there really is no catch, and we are delighted to be pioneering it here in Oxfordshire. You can download it today from the App Store or Google Play."

The Manor Preparatory School

THE Manor Preparatory School, in Abingdon, has been nominated. Throughout the school each year group incorporated aspects of environmental education into their curriculum and topics.

A democratically elected eco-committee, The Green Team, consisting of pupils across all year groups from reception to year 6 has been created,

allowing for pupils to come together and share their passion for positive environmental change.

With the help of the wider school community, The Green Team express ideas and work together to implement change within the daily operations of the school to include introducing food waste monitors at lunchtime, more recycling bins around

the school grounds and educating the wider school community on the importance of turning off lights.

A spokesman said: "We are thrilled to be finalists for this exciting award as it recognises our eco-council, Team Green, and all of the hard work they have put into making positive, eco-friendly changes in our school."

"We are very proud of the children and we wish all finalists the best of luck!"



Middle Barton School



MIDDLE Barton School, in Chipping Norton, sees sustainability as a whole school approach.

Vicky Walker, school business manager, said: "We are thrilled to be shortlisted for this award. It is another recognition of the hard work we have put into sustainable change at our school in recent years. Since our nomination we have received confirmation of our Eco Schools Green Flag Award via Keep Britain Tidy who confirm in their feedback

that the pupils and staff at Middle Barton School are committed to environmental education and youth-led eco-actions and are empowered to effect positive change. The award demonstrates our ambition and determination to effect substantial change and shows our many good examples of innovative and engaging cross-curricular environmental education."

"These have enabled us to skilfully integrate environmental issues into

our curriculum, enriching pupils' learning. Our pupils are educated, inspired, and empowered young people who are now carrying this passion into their homes and communities, sharing it with friends and family. We are creating passionate young environmentalists, who are passionate about protecting our planet and empowered to make a difference. We are excited for the children to know about this nomination and for their hard work and determination to be a more sustainable school to be recognised once again."

St Swithun's CE Primary School

ST Swithun's CE Primary School, in Oxford, offers a curriculum that embraces a sustainable future for their children.

In 2024 the governing board appointed a climate education specialist as an associate member with responsibility for sustainability.

In 2023 all teachers and teaching assistants undertook carbon literacy training to increase their knowledge on the climate emergency

and support them in bringing sustainability into their practice. In 2024 governors will also be trained.

The school has worked with their parent-teacher association, FOSS, to reduce its environmental impact, and is exploring how the relationship with St Swithun's church, which has been awarded eco-church status, can drive climate action.

Headteacher Caroline Knighton said: "The children will be so proud to hear that

our school has been shortlisted as they are incredibly passionate and motivated about sustainability.

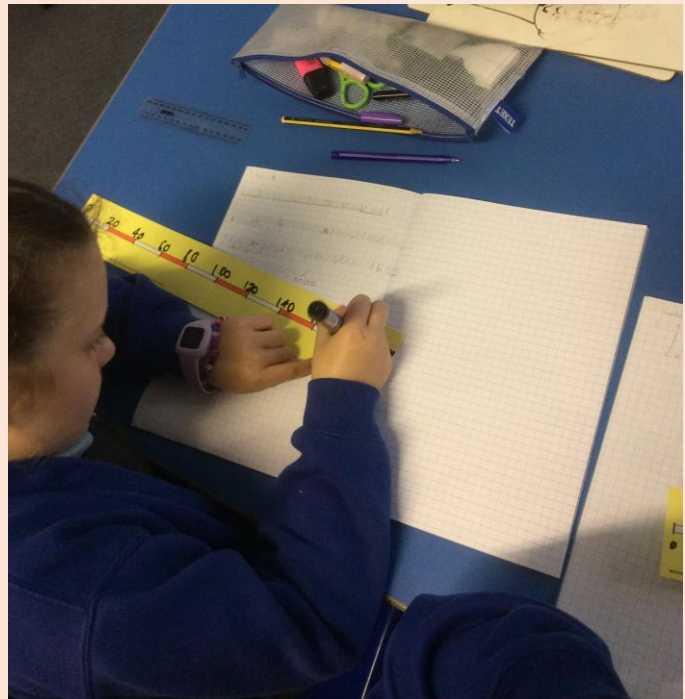
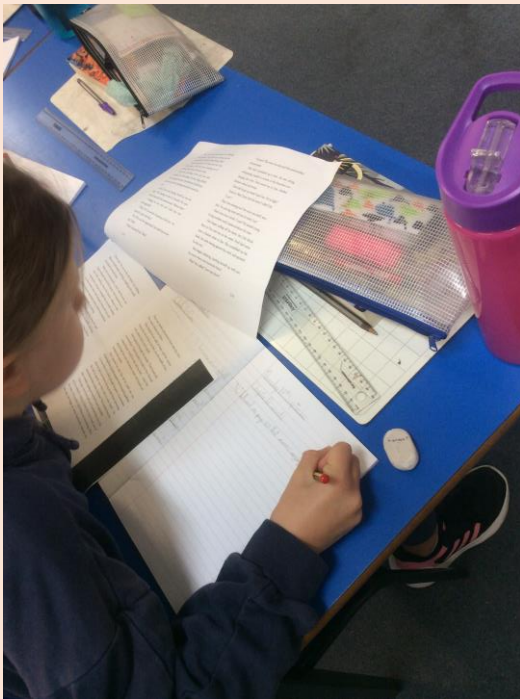
"Recent applicants for the Eco Crew said 'I care for the environment... I want to make a positive change'; and 'I would like to see this school 100 per cent sustainable with solar panels and heat pumps.' We are delighted to see their drive and determination recognised."





Oak Class

This week in Oaks, the children have been enjoying our class text of 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell and have been using their inference skills to answer questions related to the text. In Writing, they have been focusing on using modal verbs to indicate the possibility of something happening and using dashes for parenthesis to add extra information in their writing. In Science the children have been looking at life cycles of both humans and animals and have learnt how plants reproduce. The Year 6s have finished their first Maths topic of place value, where they explored negative numbers in many contexts, practised writing numbers up to 10 million and ordered numbers in both ascending and descending order. The Year 5s have also been focusing on place value and this week we have partitioned numbers up to a million in many different ways and have looked at number lines and worked out their intervals. In our PE lessons this week we focused on our footwork skills in Netball and applied our skills in a game of Hi 5 Netball.





Willow Class

Willows have been busy learning about ordnance survey maps and the symbols found on them in Geography. In English they have started to analyse a text, based on our book *The Whale*, looking for a range of language features. The children have started to design a piece of art based on the artist Keith Haring as well as learning about friction as part of their science topic on forces.





Maple Class

Maples are starting to really settle into routines! We have been continuing with handwriting as well as exploring the effect of different types of exercise on our heart rate. We have been working on dribbling while moving in basketball and are starting to shoot into the hoop! They are continuing to explore our world in hands-on activities with Mrs Horner outdoors and are becoming much more dextrous with the laptops. Well done, Maples!





Acorn Class

Acorn class have been taking part in a range of activities to support them in their transition into Reception and year one. We have been immersing ourselves in our class text called Old Bear. We have been making predictions and retrieving information from the story. We've loved being outside and using our outside area.

We have discussed families and who we live with and how families can all look different.





This week's eco news

This week in eco club we were collecting seeds for Mrs Horner, from the bee garden so we can plant more next year. We also cleaned out the quiet area from leaves.




Local information:

OSTMA LIONS

Life and safety skill programme for 4 - 6 year old boys and girls.

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Wednesdays | 6pm - 7pm
 St John's Church, Kidlington

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