

THE OTTER



THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Dear Families

Well, the half-term has simply flown by, but we managed to include a lot of learning and many great achievements and special memories into it.

We also had to say a temporary farewell to Miss Whitbread, who has now left the school to prepare for the arrival of her new baby. There is a great deal of excitement about this, as you would expect, and I hope we will be able to share the happy news with you very soon. Just in case you missed it, Miss Pascall will be supporting the school as SENDCo in Miss Whitbread's absence.

After Easter, Mrs Holland will officially take up the role of Deputy Headteacher. I am looking forward to continuing to make improvements around the school and develop new ideas, which Mrs Holland seems to have in abundance, with her support and leadership.

For now, I wish you all a HAPPY EASTER

Mr Geraghty

FOS May Fayre Meeting

On Thursday 16th April there is a meeting taking place to finalise the arrangements for the May Fayre and everyone is welcome. If you would like to volunteer to help with the preparations or assist on the day, please join us in school at 7pm. Many hands make light work and there are many tasks that can be carried out in the background, ahead the big day, to help things run smoothly.

To find out more, please join the May Fayre What's App group:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/BuzcuwSIEipKqAoSMk56q7>

May Fayre Gift Donations

To make the raffle at the May Fayre exciting for families, we would really appreciate any kind donations that can be used as prizes. If you know of anyone who owns or works for a company who supports charities, or would be happy to donate, please help us by asking them if they would be happy to provide a gift or gift vouchers. In the past, these have included Spa vouchers, meals, nights out, arcade fun, wellbeing, sports activities... the list goes on.

We really do appreciate everything the community does to support this big, annual event!

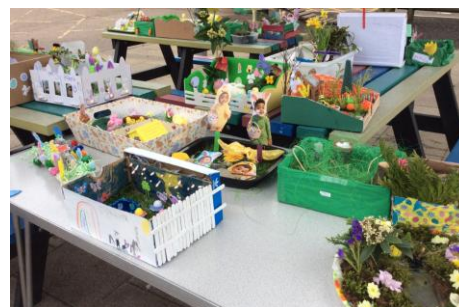
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Spring Garden Parade

Easter is always a lovely time to do something creative, and this year we invited the Key Stage 1 children to create a Spring Garden at home. This morning, in a very light drizzle, the children sat to present their creations to the rest of the school. It was so lovely to see the bright colours and unique ideas that the children added to their gardens, and it was equally lovely to hear the rest of the school sharing words of encouragement with the younger children. Well done to all involved (children and parents alike).



Local Traffic

We have been asked by a member of the community who reported a near miss at the mini-roundabout, to remind parents about the hazardous nature of the Church Lane exit from school as it meets Winchester Road. Please do take care out there!

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WaterAid Walk for Water

This week, Year 3/4 have been very busy collectively walking 155km round the school playground with heavy containers of water. They were shocked by the weight of these water containers, and it really brought alive the task faced by many women and girls globally who are held back by having to walk 5km or more for water every day.

Alongside this, in English, the children have been making leaflets to persuade members of the public to donate towards WaterAid, applying all the knowledge they have acquired throughout their English and geography lessons.

Here are some of the children's thoughts:

"It feels like I'm being compassionate and I feel like I'm helping." Huxley – Year 3

"It's very interesting to know how it feels to carry something so heavy. We don't have to carry that much normally." Sophie – Year 3

Thank you so much to all the parents who contributed to our fundraiser. To see how much we have raised or make a contribution, please click on this [link](#).

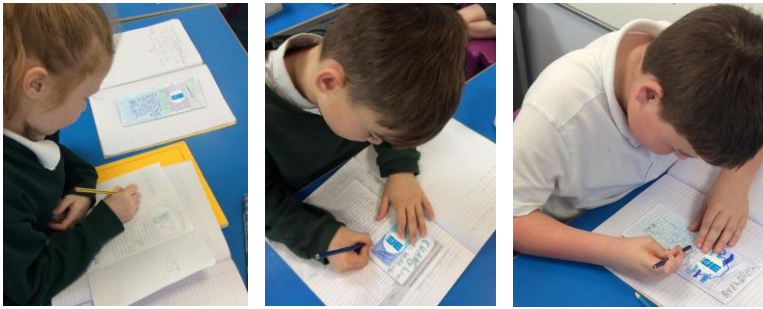


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LEARNING IN ACTION PHOTOS



Hedgehogs have been learning how to programme Beebots to reach the destinations on their maps.



Year 5/6 have been creating their own labyrinths for Theseus and the Minotaur.

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Year 1 children completing their science longitudinal study on trees



Otters have been making Easter nests.



Year 5/6 Netball tournament at Kings School. They played four games, losing one, drawing one and winning two!

Well done team.



Key Stage Two children competing in the cross-country at Fair Oak Juniors this week. The behaviour, enthusiasm and teamwork was fantastic – you made us very proud!

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Safeguarding – Online Gaming

If your child plays Roblox online, you may find the advice in this article useful.


[Parents should monitor children 24/7 on Roblox, says developer - BBC News](#)

New screen time guidance for parents of under-5s

Government answers parents' calls for support on screen time with new evidence-backed guidance.

This has been all over the news today, so just in case you want to read more of the detail, here is the link to the gov.uk website.

[New screen time guidance for parents of under-5s - GOV.UK](#)



April 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	6 April 10am
School Anxiety	6 April 7pm
Facing Defiance	7 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	7 April 7pm
Anxiety Explained	13 April 10am
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	13 April 7pm
Introduction to OCD	14 April 10am
What is ACT?	14 April 7pm
Decreasing Depression	20 April 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	20 April 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	21 April 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	21 April 7pm
FREE Decreasing Depression	23 April 7-8pm
Improving Family Communication	27 April 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	27 April 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	28 April 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	28 April 7pm

Please contact the school for free access to any of these courses.

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JOIN OUR HUGE

EASTER FUN - DAY

10AM TO 1PM
SATURDAY 11TH APRIL

ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, OTTERBOURNE

- HUNTS
- GAMES AND CRAFTS
- FACE PAINTING
- RAFFLE
- TOMBOLAS
- REFRESHMENTS

ENTRY £1 PER ADULT, CHILDREN FREE

INCLUDING OUR BRAND NEW...

TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC TRAIL

AROUND THE CRANBURY ESTATE

STARTING AND ENDING AT ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH.
TRAIL OPENS 9.3AM. LAST ADMISSION FOR TRAIL IS 12PM.



St Matthew's
Otterbourne



AFTER SCHOOL ART CLUB SUMMER TERM

Otterbourne Primary School

Mondays 3.30-4.30 pm

BOOK AND PAY ON OUR WEBSITE
WWW.FLYINGCOLOUREDUCATION.CO.UK

 07387325331  flyingcoloureducation.co.uk



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Try All Stars Cricket



- ★ A fun-filled first cricket experience for 5-8 year olds
- ★ Personalised t-shirt, bat, ball, and backpack included
- ★ Designed to support a wide range of abilities

SIGN UP TODAY
www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars



Try Dynamos Cricket



- ▶ Exciting way for kids aged 8-11 to play, learn, and make new friends
- ▶ Personalised New Balance t-shirt included
- ▶ Girls only sessions available

SIGN UP TODAY
www.ecb.co.uk/play/dynamos-cricket

Girls only Cricket



- ♀ Get involved at your local club today
- ♀ Over 35 clubs with girls only opportunities in Hampshire
- ♀ U11-16 Teams

FIND YOUR NEAREST CLUB
www.utliltabowl.com/cricket-board/women-and-girls/girls-cricket/



BRING YOUR SCHOOL TO THE ICC WOMEN'S T20 WORLD CUP 2026

Be a part of the unmissable action with your school, **£2 tickets** for all pupils and teachers to the below matches

LEEDS 10:30 Wednesday 17 June 2026 Australia vs Qualifier India vs Qualifier	BIRMINGHAM 18:30 Wednesday 17 June 2026 South Africa vs Pakistan	SOUTHAMPTON & EASTLEIGH 18:30 Friday 19 June 2026 New Zealand vs Qualifier
BRISTOL 10:30 Tuesday 23 June 2026 New Zealand vs Qualifier Sri Lanka vs Qualifier	MANCHESTER & TRAFFORD 14:30 Thursday 25 June 2026 India vs Qualifier	

Secure your seats, book on the school ticket link



WOMENS.T20WORLD CUP.COM/SCHOOLGROUP

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Winchester Hockey Club SUMMER OUTREACH PROGRAMME 2026 Introduction to Hockey

Taster sessions throughout
the summer term

10 week programme
beginning 23rd April

Run by our qualified,
professional coaches



Thursdays
6 - 7:30pm

Suitable for beginners



Kings' School

Open to children aged 6 - 11
years old

Open to non-members

Free to members of our outreach
primary schools

Contact outreach@winchesterhc.co.uk for details

