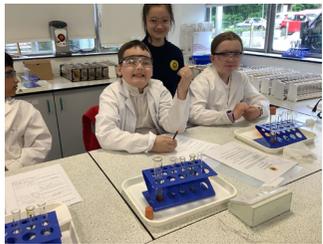




Catholic Virtues

Our virtues this term are: **Eloquent and Truthful**

Oxford High School



It seems that Ms Onamusi and Mrs Risby, with the help of our wonderful Y5s, have charmed the staff at Oxford High School into increasing their outreach work. Last week OHS sent a coach to collect our whole year group and then spent the day conducting science experiments in their lab, I have been promised that their beaming faces will be in the Oxford Mail soon. Agents Onamusi and Risby are working to solidify the partnership and plan many more visits.

» Diary Dates

- 3.6.2024 INSET – School Shut
- 4.6.2024 Good Shepherd Mass – Year 5/6 at Our Lady's
- 5.6.2024 Police Talk – KS2 – Online Safety
- 7.6.2024 International Day
- 11.6.2024 Year 6 Christchurch and Ashmolean Trip
- 12.6.2024 Oxfordshire Cricket in School
- 12.6.2024 Y5 Baseball at TOA
- 13.6.2024 Year 5 Christchurch and Ashmolean Trip
- 13.6.2024 Year 6 Oxford University Science Day
- 14.6.2024 Year 5/6 Cricket Festival
- 18.6.2024 Year 1 Natural History Museum and Mansfield College Trip
- 20.6.2024 KS1 Beach Trip
- 21.6.2024 St John Fisher Day – Own Clothes – Tombola Prize
- 24.6.2024 Year 5/6 Quad Kids at Horspath Athletics
- 24.6.2024 Tennis Day in School



» Parish News

Pope Francis Prayer Intention for May 2024

For the formation of religious and seminarians

We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

Sacred Heart Church
Blessed Dominic Barberi Church
Our Lady Help of Christians

<https://sacredheartoxford.com/>
<https://www.bldominicbarberioxford.org.uk/>
<https://olhccowley.co.uk/>

God Bless,
Mr P Higgins (Principal)
and the SJF Team



May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope everyone has recovered from the joy spread out across the city last weekend with Oxford United's victory. It was amazing to see the school full of yellow and blue on Monday.

Staffing News

This summer we will be losing our SENCO Rebecca Clark who is leaving us to be closer to home and her beloved grandchildren. She has done a fantastic job over the past three years supporting not just our SEND children and families, but everyone at school. She has a positive energy which she brings to work each day, even as her workload increases, and I am extremely grateful for the support that Becky has given me personally this year as I am learning my role. She will be missed by all, but most importantly has built a superb foundation for someone else to come in and continue her work.



The Big Sing!

Our choir have been practicing for many weeks now for 'The Big Sing' and on Tuesday evening performed incredibly. A huge thanks goes to Ms Tordoff and Mrs Gill for organising and practicing for the concert and ensuring everything went smoothly on the day. The choir has been one of the best things we have done this year at St John Fisher and goes from strength to strength.

Worship



*** MARION SERVICE ***

Monday's Marion Service led by Father Harry was a delight. The children sang beautifully and dealt wonderfully with the heat.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS

A huge good luck and congratulations to all of our children receiving the Sacrament this weekend. They have prepared purposefully and I know will make all their families proud.



International Day

Our International Day is planned for the first Friday back, June 7th, we will try and build on what we did last year, with students dressing in traditional clothes, or representing their home nations and with families bringing in food from these areas. A letter will be sent this week, but if anyone wants to come in and teach a class a traditional dance or song, or read a story from their home country, please speak to your class teacher, otherwise it'll just be my mother-in-law saying prayers in Welsh (nid bod unrhyw beth o'i le ar hynny)

Sports News



POKÉMON SMALL SCHOOLS FINALS

Last Friday Miss McCarthy and I, along with some very proud parents, took our Year 4/5/6 football team to Derby County FC for their Small Schools National Finals. It was a beautiful day in the sunshine, and although results on the day weren't quite what we wanted, the memories will live with the children forever. To play in a professional stadium as games were commentated on online will be something to cherish, even if they couldn't say our children's names properly! It has truly been an exceptional year for our football teams, and I have even had a dad volunteer to come and help run the team and training next year!



MANSFIELD COLLEGE

Year 2 have now had the opportunity to visit Mansfield College to continue our partnership. They visited the Natural History Museum where they took part in workshops and then continued to the college for a tour. Year 1 will visit after half term which will mean that every child from Y1-6 has been inside the University this year.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are aware of the need for wraparound care to last until 5:30 in the evening and we are working on two different angles for September to arrange this. We have a private company who are interested in hiring the space and running it, and will survey parents regarding this, but the alternative is that we staff it within the school.

Booking and Fees

A letter will go out on Friday, but we are having issues with parents not booking their children into clubs and just using it as a 'drop-in' without informing us. This does not work logistically for us, as we cannot manage excessive numbers on our staffing ratios, and ultimately a cooking club with 30 children when only 15 have booked on doesn't really work for anyone.

After half term, we will be capping certain clubs. To do this, we will have to have a standardised fee for all children for those clubs.

More notably however, we will be using a 'late-charge' for those who have not booked onto the club, the same will occur for breakfast club.

Hopefully this will encourage people to use the app and book onto the sessions. We are also seeing some parents not clearing the debt on their account, or ignoring historical debts. The warning process will be set out in the letter, but ultimately, these children will not attend until the balance is clear.



WEMBLEY

Due to our partnership with Oxford United in the Community and Cameron's work within the school each Monday, we were invited to send two of our children to Wembley for a VIP experience day. Part of the reason I am so keen on building links within the city is so that we can snap these opportunities up! They had an amazing day, as I know everyone at Wembley that day did.



SATS Week

This is the bit where I say how proud I am of the Year 6 children and how calm and focused they were during the last week. I know that headteachers always say that, but it was genuinely true. Our children were incredibly resilient, and every single one gave it their all. We couldn't have asked for a better group, well done everyone! It is just a shame that G&Ds turned us away!

»Staffing updates

- As I have mentioned, Mrs Clark will be leaving us in the summer.
- We have also just had three very successful teaching placements finish at school, with Ms Trujillo, Mrs Byerley and Ms Wilkinson completing their placements.
- Not quite staffing, but expect a flurry of young people next term as we have multiple work experience placements joining us.

Follow us on twitter for daily updates <https://twitter.com/SJFOxford>