



Newsletter - Date of Issue 18th December 2015

Dates for your Diary

Event	Date
INSET DAY	4 th January 2016
Children return to school	Tuesday 5 th January 2016
Bowling (Rewards experience)	Wednesday 6 th January 11am-1.30pm
Bowling (Rewards experience)	Thursday 7 th January 11am-1.30pm
Bowling (Rewards experience)	Friday 8 th January 11am-1.30pm
Reading afternoon Year 2	Monday 11 th January 2.45pm
Bedtime & Biscuits	Monday 11 th January 4.45pm-6pm
After school clubs restart	Monday 11 th January



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Christmas Production

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 staged a great performance on Monday and Tuesday of this week. The children performed brilliantly and we would like to thank parents and carers for all their hard work on the children's costumes.



Cinderella Pantomime

On Wednesday 16th December, the School had the pleasure of welcoming M&M Productions to perform Cinderella. The evening was enjoyed by all and we would like to thank parents and carers for their support in this event.



News Article in The Oxford Times

How can you teach children about climate change, reduce your energy bills for 20 years and raise £50,000 for local community projects at the same time?

Answer: Install 384 solar panels on the roof of your school.

That is exactly what Orchard Fields Community School in Banbury did and now has the largest solar power scheme run by any primary school in Oxfordshire.



After going live in November, the school can now sell its electricity back to the national grid at a profit which it will pass on to the community. In return, the school will receive discounted renewable electricity for two decades. Orchard Fields is one of 23 solar schools which have hooked up to get direct energy from the sun in a scheme being run by Oxford's Low Carbon Hub.

These installations will prevent the emission of up to 5,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year, and the schools project will also generate up to £50,000 a year in community-benefit funds for further community energy projects. And as a bonus, some 11,000 children get a great way to learn about climate change first hand.

Orchard Fields chairman of governors John Christie said: "This project has been an invaluable exercise in educating our pupils on the importance for us all to explore the possibility of using renewable resources for our energy."

The Orchard Fields project is notable not only for its size but a technological innovation: it uses a new "export limitation" device which allows it to generate the maximum amount of clean energy possible over the year without overheating the cable between the school and the substation, which has previously caused problems. Individual schools often struggle to raise the capital to install a small power plant, but working with Low Carbon Hub in a community-benefit model, schools can get solar energy at no cost to themselves. Schools project manager Anthony Simpson said: "Solar projects are an inspiration to children and staff, and also provide a uniquely effective educational resource. "Children can monitor how much energy the panels are generating relative to the weather and gain a better understanding of climate change, renewables and community energy."

Reminder for Nursery Parents

The deadline for applying for your child's place in Reception is **15th January 2016**. Even if your child already attends Nursery here, you still need to apply online at: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/admissions-primary-infant-and-junior-schools> to ensure you secure your place here at Orchard Fields. Please call the school office on 01295 263324 if you have any questions.

Reward Experience

Children who have achieved over 96% attendance up to Friday 18th December will be rewarded with a trip to MFA Bowl in Banbury. Lunch will also be provided for the children.

There will be another reward experience in the week beginning the 11th April for these children who have achieved over 96% attendance from the 5th January to 25th March.

Reception and Year 1 will be attending on the Wednesday 6th January.

Miss Shires, Miss Stuart, Miss Fowler, Mrs Ward and Miss Giles will be attending on Thursday 7th January.

Mr Delarue, Mrs Foreman, Mr McLeod and Mrs Ruffle, Miss Hill will be attending Friday 8th January.

Christmas Lunch

On Wednesday 16th December the children enjoyed their Christmas lunch. They had fun listening to Christmas songs, pulling their crackers and wearing their party hats.



Christmas Fair

Thank you to all who attended our Christmas Fair - a lovely time was had by all. We would like to send a special thanks to the Anna Munday and Ben Campbell (PTA members), for helping to set up the fair, and for helping to make sure that it all ran as smoothly as it did.

Christmas Raffle

We would like to thank everyone who supported and entered our Christmas raffle. Below is a list of the winners and the prizes:

Samuel Munday – Kindle Fire 7	Miss Wareing – 2 bottles of wine
Rebecca Munday – Food hamper	Hannah – Christmas Pudding
Ben Campbell - £20.00 cash	Taylor Harvey – Turkey voucher for Betts Butchers

Holiday Message

At the end of another busy term, we would like to take this opportunity to thank parents and friends for supporting the work of the school over the last few months. A great deal of hard work has been done by pupils and staff, but parents in particular play a vital role in ensuring that the school continues to be successful. We would like to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas holiday and we look forward to the children returning on **Tuesday 5th January 2016**.