DUCKLINGTON
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

Nurture, Bloom, Rejoice

DUCKLINGTON
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Tel. (01993) 703651 Website: https://ducklington.oxon.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs H. Bramwell Chair of Governors: Mrs R. Buckland

Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy couple of weeks and it is still January! The children have been incredibly engaged with their learning; it has been a real joy to visit classes and see them immersed in the curriculum. Reception Class have begun their Forest School sessions and Year 2 enjoyed a visit to the newly refurbished Library in Witney, where they brought some inspiring books back to school with them. I always enjoy listening to the Year 3 children playing their violins on Thursday afternoons; they are making tremendous progress!

There is a definite buzz in the air with the Talent Show coming up next week; I'm incredibly excited to watch our talented (and very brave) children showcasing their skills. FODS will also be selling refreshments, with all proceeds from the Talent Show going to Oxford Children's Hospital.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Bramwell
office.3122@ducklington.oxon.sch.uk

Upcoming Diary Dates:

Wednesday 4th February – Talent Show
Thursday 5th February – Year 4 Trip to Hill End
Friday 13th February – Non-uniform day
Friday 13th February – Last day of half term
Monday 23rd February – Back to school
Friday 27th February – SEND coffee morning
Monday 2nd March - Tag Rugby Finals
Tuesday 3rd March – Year 2 trip to Woodstock Museum
Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Celebration Assembly Superstars

Here are our Celebration Assembly Superstars:

Cygnets: Esmee, Jaxson

Ducklings: Summer, Theo, Hudson, Azra

Owls: Ellis, Ashley, Toby, Adelaide

Mandarins: All of Year 2, Mehmet, Holly

Eagles: Seb, Olivia, Belle, Emily

Robins: Ariana, Henry, Ellis, Darcy

Kingfishers: Zoe, Ollie, Kiera, Henrie

Red Kites: Theo, Boyde, Nataniel, Elliot

Learning around school:

Nursery:

This week Nursery started their Dinosaur topic by becoming dinosaur explorers. They have dug dinosaurs out of mud to discover their different features and made their own fossils. In Maths, the older Nursery children have been finding out about number 4 by counting, subitising and making 4 from different quantities.

Year 1:

In our science lessons, the children have been learning about how plants grow. The children planted cress seeds and are keeping a diary to observe and record the changes as the plants grow over time. They are excited to come into class each morning to see what has changed and to discuss their observations.

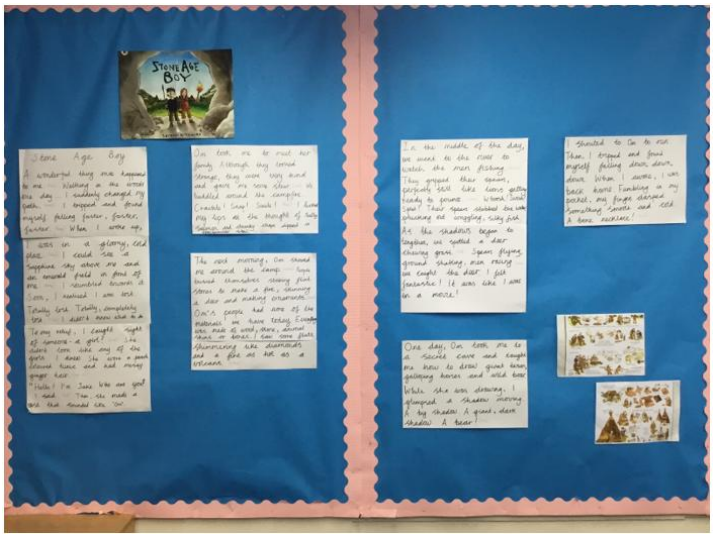
This term in RE, the children have been learning about Jesus and the ways He cared for and helped others. They created their own books, thinking carefully about his qualities and actions. The children added beautiful, thoughtful illustrations to bring their ideas to life.

Year 3

In maths, Year 3 have been learning about related multiplication and division facts. It's been amazing to see them applying their growing times tables knowledge to a range of different calculations and word problems.

In computing, we are learning about online safety. This week we have created road maps exploring the different emotions we might feel when using the internet for games, chatting, watching videos and learning.

In English, we have been reading Stone Age Boy which links with our history topic. We are now planning and writing our own stories.



Year 5

What a term it has been so far! Year 5 have started the Spring term with a bang.

We have been enjoying our new PE focus of this term, hockey, where we have been learning how to dribble the ball with control and then pass with power and accuracy. We have even taken these into mini matches, with great excitement!

In science, we have been learning about materials and their properties, with the most exciting lessons being on electricity and which materials are conductors and insulators. We even learnt to make a simple circuit out of own bodies to light up and power a special wand!

In maths we have been focusing on fractions – Mrs Chowne has been so impressed with our skills and focus in the lessons with some really tricky concepts and questions.

What better way to finish off the week with a Geography lesson to the desert – learning all about its physical and human features, where they are located and what the atmosphere is like there before heading outdoors into our outdoor learning sessions (which have been rather wet). We got creative and messy by making our own mud faces with natural materials and sticking them to the trees. We don't think they have survived the rain though!

Sporting news:

Last Monday, our Year 6 hockey team enjoyed taking part in the Witney Partnership Hockey Tournament. In some very damp conditions, they came second in their group and went on to finish an impressive third place overall. It was a fantastic effort from all

players, showing real teamwork and determination throughout the tournament. Well done, Year 6!

Keeping our children safe at drop-off and pick-up

I wanted to share some important reminders about parking and drop-off procedures to help keep all our children safe.

I've noticed that some children are being dropped off at the school gates and getting out of cars while parents wait in the vehicle. **This poses a safety risk** as children may need to cross between moving vehicles, and it can also cause congestion for other families trying to park.

How you can help:

- Please use the car park spaces available and walk your child to the main entrance
- If you're using the bays around Aston Road, please be mindful that these can get very congested during busy times
- **Walking to school** is a great option if you're able to - it's good for health and helps reduce congestion around the school

Evening safety reminder: With the darker evenings continuing, if your child walks home after a club, please consider providing them with reflective clothing or accessories to help keep them visible and safe.

Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all our children safe.

SEND

Mrs Wells will be holding a SEND coffee morning on Friday, 27th February at 8:45 am in the Hall. This is a great opportunity to meet Mrs Wells, chat with other parents and give your views on workshops you would find useful.

Online Safety:

Please click here to access free courses and parent guides.

Attend Today, Achieve Tomorrow

Every School Day Counts!

Attendance:

Good attendance is directly related to a child's enjoyment and achievement at school and it is vital to promote successful learning.
At Ducklington Primary School, our current school attendance is 94.8%, which is in line with national averages. Every time your child misses school, they also miss important learning opportunities and every time they arrive late, they miss some of their lessons.

Why is attendance at school and punctuality important?
Every second counts!

90% attendance may sound good. However, this is the equivalent of missing a half day of schooling each week. If this continues over every five years a child spends at school, a child with 90% attendance will miss half a year's schooling.
A child with 80% attendance will lose a full year of schooling over the same period.

FODS
CHALLENGE 2026
THE CHALLENGE
We are challenging all pupils to raise £20.26 by the end of February half term!
HOW?
Any way you like! We can't wait to see your creative fundraising ideas!
The aim is to raise £20.26 but there is no minimum or maximum amount to take part.
WILL THERE BE PRIZES?
Yes! Prizes include:
-a non uniform day for the class who raises the most money
-most creative fundraising ideas and more!
FUNDRAISING IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED
-Sell something you have made (cakes, crafts or art)
-Read-a-thon (get sponsored for every book you read)
-Sponsored walk, swim, cycle or run
-Car wash
-Helping with chores at home
-Sponsored silence
-Toy sale
Or surprise us with your own fundraising ideas!
*All funds can be donated via ParentPay
*Please tell us how you raised it using the google form link on ParentPay to be eligible for creativity prizes!

FODS
Disco
NO MOBILE PHONES
FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY
4.00-4.45 PRE SCHOOL/RECEPTION
5.00-6.00PM YEARS 1, 2 & 3
6.15-7.15PM YEARS 4, 5, & 6
TICKETS £6
AVAILABLE NOW ON PARENTPAY
INCLUDES GLOW STICKS, 2 SNACKS & UNLIMITED WATER/SQUASH
PLEASE ADVISE OF ANY DIETARY REQUIREMENTS WHEN BOOKING

FODS
NON UNIFORM DAY
Friday 13th February
Please donate £1 via ParentPay or bring £1 to school

Jan 2026
upcoming
FODS EVENTS
JAN/FEB 2026
Challenge 2026
30 JAN
Disco
4 FEB
Talent Show
(FODS selling refreshments)
13 FEB
Non Uniform Day
MARCH
Wonderlicious bars for sale
30 APR/ 01 MAY
Book Fair
For FODS questions or to volunteer at an event please email chairfods@hotmail.com
Events and dates are subject to change - please check the latest newsletter for FODS updates

RATTLE & ROLL PERFORMANCE

Ofsted Registered

February 2026

St Nicholas' Holiday Club

Open to all children aged 3 to 11 years

Activities include dodgeball, dance, drama, yoga, multi skills, ball games, art and crafts, team and confidence building activities and much more.

LOCATION:
St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

COST:
£38 per day
All childcare vouchers accepted

DATES & TIMES:
8:00am - 5:00pm
Monday 16th to Friday 20th February

HOW TO BOOK:
Scan the QR code to book and use code HHSNIC to take you straight to the club or visit our website

rattleandrollperformance.com
enquiries@rattleandrollperformance.com
07722 014301

Follow us on social media

Vicky's After School & Holiday Club Ltd

Providing quality & accessible childcare for children aged 4-11 years within a safe, fun & stimulating environment

Tax free childcare vouchers accepted!

February half term

Monday 16th - Friday 20th February

8:30am - 5:00pm

Location: Aston & Cote Primary School

MESSY PLAY

SPORTS

BAKING

STEM

OUTDOOR PLAY

GAMES

NERF WARS

ARTS & CRAFTS

BOOK NOW!

Contact Vicky Hickman

078887711454

holiday@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

Bring your own packed lunch & a light tea will be provided

£42 per day

Fun for ages 4-11