Kirtlington CE Primary School

Friday 24th April 2026

Message from the Headteacher

We are delighted to welcome everyone back for a lovely, bright start to the summer term. We ended the Spring term with a wonderful Easter Service – the children, as always, showing their best in marvellous singing, readings, poems and performances celebrating this special time of year. I hope you all then enjoyed a restful and refreshing Easter break with plenty of time to recharge.

It has been wonderful to return to school with the sunshine finally making an appearance, bringing a real sense of warmth and optimism to the playground and classrooms. The children have settled back in beautifully and there is a real buzz around school as they dive into their new topics with enthusiasm.

This Term's School Value = Service

Notices

As the weather improves, please remember to send your child in with a named sun hat and come with sunscreen already applied when appropriate.

Our school transition days, for the children to experience their new classroom settings from September, will take place on Tuesday 30th June (afternoon) and Tuesday 7th July (morning).

The Government has opened a consultation into the use of digital technology by children and whether steps should be taken to help protect children in the digital environment. They are keen to hear your views via their surveys by 26th May.

Attendance

Whole School: 96.14%

Rowan: 97.99%
Willow: 97.68%
Lime: 92.91%
Oak: 96.52%

A reminder of NHS guidance for illness and absence

iRock concert

Our Spring Term iRock concert was another belter! With great performances from all of our bands, we were so proud of the progress they have made and the confidence with which they played and sang. From our youngest band demonstrating great awareness and rhythm, to our more experienced musicians showing their flair and skill, they put on a marvellous show. We would like to thank the band leader Becki for her efforts over the last two terms, and welcome Luke for the Summer Term.

Earth Day

Wednesday 22nd April was Earth Day. The theme this year was 'Our Power, Our Planet', so Eco Council led an informative assembly exlpaining more about this to the rest of the school. They spoke about the importance of us each doing something small, consistently in order to protect our planet, such as turning of the tap when brushing our teeth and turning the lights of when we leave a room. The Eco Council came up with the idea of us each writing a pledge of something we can do at home look after our planet and hanging these on our Eco Tree.

Class pages

Rowan

What a fantastic start to the summer term. We jumped straight back in with a trip to Cogges Manor Farm. We enjoyed seeing and learning about lots of different animals, feeding the goats and making delicious Welsh cakes in a very old kitchen. We also took part in an Easter egg hunt and watched a puppet show. At lunch time, we were joined by three chickens who promptly cleaned up any crumbs. For Earth Day, we painted pictures of Earth using puffy paint and wrote a pledge to add to our tree of pledges to help the planet. We have had some new friends join our class this term and the other children have been looking after them wonderfull.y

In Maths, we have been continuing our work on the composition of numbers within ten, including doubles, and comparing groups of items. In Drawing Club, we have been looking at the book 'Farmer Duck'. We have drawn and written about the farmer and his house, then we imagined that the animals had discovered something in the ground - what could it be? Our topic this term is 'Animals', so we have been reading books about animal lifecycles and looking at different animals around the world. In our My Happy Mind lessons, we have been discussing scenarios where someone has been a good friend and someone has not been a good friend.

Lime

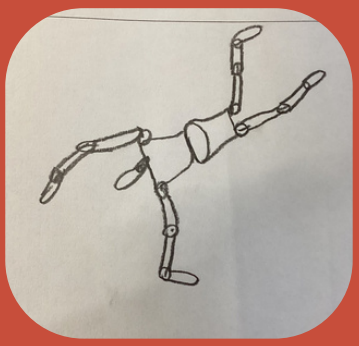
Lime Class have had a very positive start to the Summer Term. Last week in English, we wrote short recounts about the exciting things we got up to over the Easter holidays. The children showed great enthusiasm and confidence when expressing themselves. In Maths, we have begun our new topic on measurement, focusing on how to measure length and height accurately. In Science, we have started learning about habitats and living things. We explored the school grounds to investigate our natural environment, where the children had great fun discovering a variety of microhabitats and suggesting which creatures might live there. We have also been developing our sewing skills by learning how to use a running stitch to create patterns. Some children even challenged themselves further by incorporating cross stitches into their work!

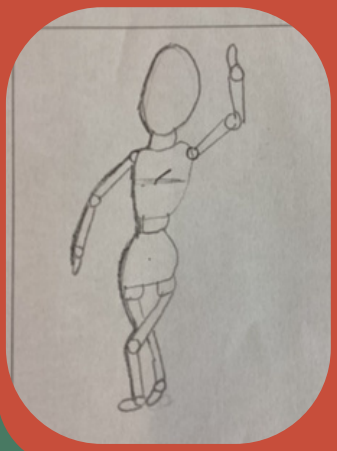
On Thursdays, the year 2 children have been enjoying Forest School whilst the year 1 children are doing Topic work. We have been looking at famous monarchs and how much power each had.
In RE, we looked at verses from the Qur'an written in English and Arabic and we have been comparing Islam with Christianity.

Class pages

Willow

It has been a busy start to the new term in Willow class. In English, we have been exploring poetry, beginning with a nature walk to gather ideas for our own haiku. The class noticed so many lovely details outdoors, and these inspired some beautifully thoughtful writing. We then turned our attention to cinquains, using our favourite animals to help us play with balancing syllables and descriptive vocabulary so that our poems followed the rules! In maths, the class was brilliant last week as we revised multiplying and dividing three-digit numbers. This week we have begun a new unit on telling the time - please do keep practising this at home.





We have enjoyed expressing our creativity across the wide curriculum. Mrs Flintham has been leading some fantastic figure-drawing sessions in art, helping the children develop their observation and sketching skills. In music, we have been learning about pentatonic scales, and in PE the class has thrown themselves into samba dancing with great energy and teamwork. The children had a fantastic time yesterday exploring the National Railways map. They loved spotting places they had visited before and were full of excitement as they planned some epic train adventures for their future travels.

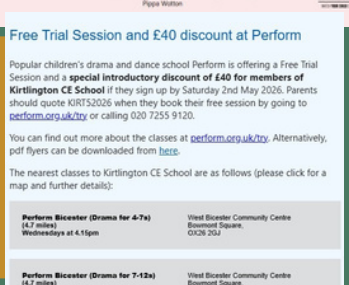
Oak

Oak Class has made a magnificent start to the Summer term and are already raring to go. We have launched our new History topic, Britain at War, where the children have been exploring the causes of World War I and discussing the reasons why people volunteered to fight. In English, we are thoroughly enjoying our class novel Shrapnel Boys, which has sparked both plenty of laughter and some thoughtful, in-depth discussions about viewpoints from the past that can feel uncomfortable today. Swimming has also been a great success, with the children showing enthusiasm, confidence and impressive skills in the water.

Across the wider curriculum, Oak Class has been engaging with a range of exciting learning. In RE, we have been considering how different religions understand what it means to live a good life, alongside exploring the concept of the golden mean. In English, we have been revising key elements of spelling, punctuation and grammar—particularly enjoying using colons to explain our dislikes in creative ways! Maths has seen us developing a variety of skills, including everyone's favourite: long division. In Science, we have begun our new topic on evolution and inheritance, focusing on what traits we inherit and how to identify adaptations in living things. A fantastic start all round!

Dates for your diary

4th May – Bank holiday – school closed
6th May – Y3 & 4 Multi Skills Festival at The Marlborough
w/c 11th May – Year 6 SATs week
15th May – Year 6 SATs celebration
20th May – Oak Class trip to Didcot Railway Center
22th May – May Day Dancing – 2pm at school
22th May – Term ends at 3:10pm
31th May – Lamb Ale – from 12pm at school
1st Jun – Term begins at 8:40am
3rd Jun – Lime Class Trip to the Science Centre
5th Jun – Woodstock u11s cricket day at Charlbury
9th Jun – Y6 Transition to The Marlborough (9:30am–12:15pm)
10th Jun – u11 & u9 Quad Kids at The Marlborough
19th Jun – Willow Class Trip to the Science Centre
22nd Jun – Whole school workshops with Oxford Opera
25th Jun – Class Photos
28th Jun – Kirtlington Village Fete
30th Jun – Y6 Transition to The Marlborough (9:30am–2:30pm)
30th Jun – Kirtlington transition afternoon (all year groups)
3rd Jul – Sports Day – 9:30–11:30 at the Village Hall Playing Field
6th Jul – KS2 Play – 6pm in the school hall
7th Jul – Y6 Transition to The Marlborough (8:25am–2:30pm)
7th Jul – Kirtlington Transition morning (all year groups)
7th Jul – KS2 Play – 6pm in the school hall
8th Jul – Y2 Multi Skills Festival at The Marlborough
9th Jul – Girls' Football Day at The Marlborough
10th Jul – Y6 Leaver's Service at St Mary's Church – 2pm
10th Jul – KSF End of Year BBQ – 4:15pm
14th Jul – iRock Concert – 9:30am
16th Jul – Term ends – 1pm finish


Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Kirtlington CE School** if they sign up by Saturday 2nd May 2026. Parents should quote KIRT52026 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try. Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from here.

The nearest classes to Kirtlington CE School are as follows (please click for a map and further details):

Perform Bicester (Drama for 4-7s) (4.7 miles) Wednesdays at 4.15pm	West Bicester Community Centre Bowmont Square, OX26 2GJ
Perform Bicester (Drama for 7-12s) (4.7 miles)	West Bicester Community Centre Bowmont Square,

Links to letters emailed out and local events and information:

Term dates 2026–2027