



Charlton

Primary School



From Such A Seed

Term 3 2025-2026



Term 3 Newsletter

Our vision is to be an exceptional school where children flourish

Dear Families,

This term, we welcomed James Carter to school to embark on two days of poetry. James memorized us with his fascinating approach to poetry, and certainly kept us entertained and motivated! Each class took part in a workshop with him, and then wrote their own poems, which they were able to share in our special assembly. It was wonderful to see children continue their poetry writing at home and bring this in to share with James. Without the wonderful work of the PTA, we wouldn't have been able to offer this extraordinary opportunity, and I am incredibly grateful to this amazing group of volunteers for supporting the school in this way. Please take a look at the photos from this event which are included in the newsletter.

We have also been focused on science this term, with each class from Y1-6 working on their Science Fair projects. I have loved hearing about the many varied questions that the children are investigating and seeing their scientific skills in action- although I am less keen on the milk experiments!

We hope that you have a lovely half term break, and look forward to seeing you again on Monday 23rd February.

With very best wishes.

Sam Campbell and the Charlton Team

Follow us!



Charlton Primary School



Charlton_Primary

This term's attendance:
95.1%

School and Trust target:
96%



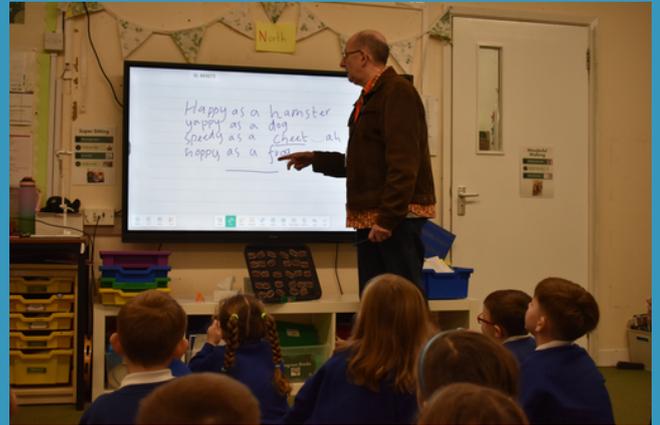
Polite Reminder

For the safety and wellbeing of our entire school community, please refrain from smoking or vaping near the entrances/exits of our school site.



Personal Development Opportunities across School

James Carter's Visit



Y5 Ashmolean Museum Visit

This term, Year 5 visited the museum in Oxford to kickstart their history unit focusing on Ancient Egypt. We had a fantastic time, exploring the galleries and trying to find all the items from Mrs Campbell and Miss Joyce's treasure hunt! The children also took part in workshops led by museum staff, learning more about ancient Egyptian artefacts. The children thoroughly enjoyed the journey to and from the museum thanks to the wonderful driver who played their favourite tunes!

Y4 OAA

Year 4 have braved the elements this term! They have certainly learned about which materials are waterproof. The wet weather has not dampened their spirits or the activities in the forest and they have still been able to enjoy a wide range of outdoor learning opportunities!

Y5 & Y6 Swimming Gala

On 27th January, Mrs Donnison took two teams of Year 6 swimmers to the leisure centre to compete in the annual swimming gala. We are so pleased to share that both the girls' team and the boys' team secured 1st place and really set an incredible standard. Staff from a number of other schools have commented on their incredible performance and their impeccable behaviour!



Y3 Oxford Science Museum

Year 3 visited Oxford Science Museum this term, taking part in many hands on science activities and hearing a fascinating talk in the auditorium.



Larkmead Vets visit to Year 1

This term, Year 1 have been reading 'How to wash a woolly mammoth', and have been working on writing some instruction on how to wash other (more domestic!) pets. To launch this with the children, we were lucky enough to have a visit from one of the vets from Larkmead Vets who talked to both classes about how to care for pets at home.



Visit from local vicar to Y1

Year 1 have also had a visit from the Reverend Katherine Price to help with their learning in RE. This term, they have been exploring the question that stories from the Bible might make us ask. Throughout the term, they have explored what parables are, and have learned the parable of The Lost Sheep.



Visit from PC Mike Dix

We welcomed PC Mike Dix to school this term. During his time with us, he met with Year 5 & 6 and talked to them about bullying, social media, anti-social behaviour, theft, free speech and the law. He also explored the theme of protective behaviours, through the initiative 'Stay True To You' which encourages young people to trust their own instincts and not be negatively led by others. The website link below has some great resources for parents, professionals and young people and we would encourage you to take a look.



Please click the image below to visit this website:

Swimming

This term, both Year 3 and Year 4 have taken part in swimming sessions.

Year 3 have just completed their block of sessions, which included a session focusing on water safety and what to do in the event of a water-based emergency.

Please take a look at the final pages of the newsletter to see some half term events at the leisure centre.

A Roman Centurion in Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about the Romans in their history unit this term, and were lucky enough to be visited by a Roman Centurion as part of this! During the afternoon, they learned about soldier formations and the effectiveness of the Roman shield!



Science Fair

Since the start of this term, Year 1 to Year 6 classes have been busy working collaboratively to plan and execute science investigations as part of our Science Fair. The children have selected their own line of enquiry, planned an experiment, carried it out and recorded their findings. They have then created posters to share their learning. 2-3 pairs from each class then took part in our Charlton Final, and winning pairs from each year group were then selected to represent Charlton in the Cambrian Learning Trust Science Fair Final which takes place next term.



Term 3 Extra-Curricular Offer

Something Crafty

Mondays and Tuesdays after school with Mrs Gillott



Board Games Club is absolutely fantastic!

-Edward Y3

Board Games Club

Mrs Thorne's board game club has met every Tuesday this term, enjoying a range of games and her selection of biscuits!

Netball Club

Miss Biles' Tuesday netballers have continued to hone their netballing skills this term. Netball training continues even when the weather isn't playing!



I can't wait to do Junk Modelling Club next term!

-Harrison Y2

Football Club

Mr Reeson's football club have been training this term in preparation for their match against Millbrook, which was unfortunately cancelled due to poor weather conditions.

Early Years

Acorns: This term, at Acorns, our topic has been "People Who Help Us". We have been looking at many different roles in our community. The role play area became a doctors' surgery, and we dressed up as fire fighters, police officers, doctors and nurses. We had a very exciting visit from Wantage fire station, where the fire fighters explained how they help us. The children were able to sit in the fire engine and look at all the special equipment on board.

Linking to our topic, we have put out fires - drawn with chalks or paints - with water squirters, made potions to make people better and have cleaned some giant teeth with toothbrushes! We have also welcomed a few new children to Acorns and have very much enjoyed getting to know them and their families.

Reception: Reception have been enjoying our theme of "Let's Investigate..." this term. We have been learning how to be curious and ask questions about materials, magnets, vehicles and robots. We've also embraced and explored the different weathers we've experienced in our outdoor area and at Forest Fun! Investigating ice, snow, rain and mud.

Key Stage 1

Year 1: This term Year 1 have been washing woolly mammoths in English! At least we have been honing our instruction writing skills and writing really clear, step by step instructions to tell you how to wash a woolly mammoth and leading to writing their own set of instructions how to wash a variety of pets. We have also practised using 'and' to join our ideas, plus using adjectives to make our writing sparkle! In maths, we have been busy learning all about 11-20 and now we are working on addition and subtraction within 20. In geography, we have been learning about the UK and using a compass. We have enjoyed learning about different stories from the Bible in R.E, plus loved finding out about the Parable of the Lost Sheep with a visit from Vicar Catherine. In DT, we are developing our skills when making moving pictures and can't wait to create our puppet theatres with moving parts!

Year 2: We've had a really busy and fun term! The children loved designing and making moving vehicles in DT, and in English they got creative writing about — and even making — a clockwork dragon. In maths, we've been working hard on multiplication and division. Our history learning has focused on Florence Nightingale, made extra special by a visit from the school nurse team, who told us all about their training and what life is like for nurses today. We've also been busy preparing for our science fair project, investigating which cloths are best at absorbing a spilt cup of coffee! We're really looking forward to sharing our posters and findings with you in the coming week.

Key Stage 2

Year 3: This term has been science mad in Year 3! We have been to the Science Centre in Oxford and have been completing our Science Fair projects. The children have been so engaged in this, and it has been lovely to see. The Science Centre trip had many surprises, and the children showed amazing resilience when it came to the topple, bump and roll workshop. They all represented the school superbly.

In writing this term, the children had opportunities to create their own explanation text posters about tears and also show off their poetry skills. Maths has been mainly focused on multiplication and division but the children have also been practising their times tables through song.

Year 4: This term, the children have been working incredibly hard across the curriculum. In science, they have carried out exciting Science Fair investigations and are busy writing up their findings. In computing, they have explored the reliability of information online, learning how to stay safe and what to do if something makes them feel uncomfortable. In Design and Technology, they have also been developing their problem-solving skills by creating working alarm systems in the classroom. These alarms sound if the door opens – all designed to stop Mrs Rose and Mrs Garbutt from stealing the glue sticks! Well done year 4. You have had an excellent term.

Year 5: In DT, Year 5 have enjoyed tasting different flavours of scones and designed their own, before learning how to prepare and bake their own using their favourite ingredients. We look forward to tasting these creations on the final Monday and Tuesday of term in a classroom cafe setting.

The term started off with a fantastic trip to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford where Year 5 were able to explore Ancient Egypt for the day! They had the chance to explore the galleries, take part in an informative workshop and even handle some real artefacts from the Egyptian period, as well as seeing some mummies! The children were impeccably behaved and a real credit to the school. They listened well and asked interesting questions to the museum staff. It's been great to receive extra work and research that children have completed at home as well.

In our writing lessons the children have written some super character descriptions and news reports about an alternative version of a traditional tale. We have been thinking carefully about how to change our writing style to suit different purposes and how this can be achieved. Our science lessons have been dedicated to preparing for the science fair. The children came up with their own questions to investigate before planning and setting up their own investigations, recording results and considering how what they have found could be used to solve a real world problem. We can't wait for them to share their finished posters next week!

Year 6: It has been a busy and exciting term in Year 6, with plenty to celebrate! We have had the first week of Bikeability, where pupils showed great focus and maturity as they developed their road safety skills and confidence on two wheels. We also enjoyed a hands-on pizza-making session, which was a big hit and a great opportunity to practise teamwork (and enjoy the results!).

We were pleased to welcome PC Dix, who delivered an informative and engaging talk on keeping safe when out and about and online. The children asked thoughtful questions and showed a good understanding of how to make sensible choices. A number of our pupils also represented the school in a swimming gala — we are incredibly proud to report that both the boys' and girls' teams came first overall. An amazing achievement!

Alongside these events, pupils have taken part in inspiring poetry workshops and, of course, have continued to work extremely hard in class. In English, they have been writing gripping WWII narratives, while in maths they have tackled ratio, imperial and metric measures, and algebra with determination and growing confidence. Well done to all of Year 6 for their effort, enthusiasm and resilience this term — we are very proud of them.

Safeguarding Support



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AND ORAL HEALTH

STRESS/ANXIETY/LOW MOOD IN CHILDREN CAN NEGATIVELY AFFECT ORAL HEALTH



OVEREATING

Stress can trigger unhealthy behaviours such as overeating or consuming sugary or acidic foods which can lead to tooth decay



POOR ORAL HYGIENE

If children have low mood they are less likely to brush their teeth twice a day which can lead to gum disease and tooth decay

Dental conditions in children who suffer with stress/anxiety/low mood may cause:

Tooth Decay



Caused by lack of oral hygiene and increased sugary foods/drinks

Gum Disease



Caused by lack of oral hygiene and increased sugary foods/drinks

Teeth grinding



Caused by stress and anxiety
Can occur during sleep

Dry Mouth



Caused by stress which can slow saliva production and anti-anxiety medication

HOW TO REDUCE STRESS/ANXIETY/LOW MOOD



How to keep your mouth healthy

1



Brush your teeth twice a day, once before bed and one other time with a pea-sized amount of fluoride toothpaste. Spit don't rinse.

2



Eat a healthy balanced diet and reduce your sugar intake

3



Visit your dentist regularly, as often as they recommend

Copyright OCDS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation TrustCAMHS Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service

OXFORDSHIRE WE ARE WITH YOU FORUM

JOIN OUR SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY!

We Walking with You on your Parent/Carer journey
A warm, parent-led group for anyone caring for a child or young adult (up to age 25) facing mental health challenges.

Connect • Share • Learn Join us online or in person for relaxed, insightful sessions led by:

- Parent Peer Support Workers
- Social Prescribers
- CAMHS Mental Health Professionals

Explore topics around mental health and neurodiversity in a safe, welcoming space.

★ Plus: Special Guest Events Hear from professionals and services across the field! and getting out in nature.

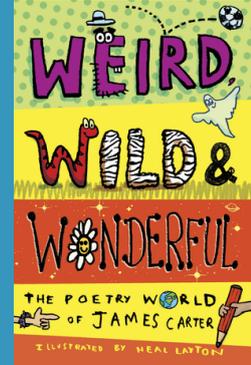
TO REGISTER FOLLOW THE LINK OR QR :

[WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/INVOLVE/MENT/OXON/WMY/](https://www.oxfordhealth.nhs.uk/camhs/involve/ment/oxon/wmy/)



James Carter's Poetry Visit

The PTA funded James Carter's two day visit to school at the beginning of this term. James' visit was a fantastic experience as he encouraged every child to take risks, be creative and play with words. The poems which the children wrote were amazing, and there were some real tear-jerkers when the children read them aloud in the BIG READ OUT assembly.



Next term, we are also funding a visit from Ian Brealey (The Doodlebug) who will come into school for two days in Term 4 and a further two days in Term 5. Ian will deliver motivational assemblies and a blend of art, maths and growth mindset. His sessions are designed to support children in taking risks with creative work, build resilience and learn how to overcome mistakes.



Thank you to everyone who joined us for the disco on 6th February, and to our fantastic team of helpers who helped to make the evening run smoothly. We are pleased to share that we raised approximately £1000 at this event!

Our next disco is planned for Friday 3rd July '26

Upcoming Events



Spring Non-Uniform Day
Thursday 26th March
2026

Community news & support

Dear Parents/Guardians

Growing up today brings more pressure and distraction than ever before. As parents, you want your child to feel confident, capable, and supported while learning how to navigate challenges, friendships, and expectations in a healthy way.

At **Matt Fiddes Martial Arts**, we provide a structured and supportive environment where children build confidence, discipline, and life skills while having fun and feeling part of a positive community.

We work closely with local schools and families to deliver a proven programme that supports both academic focus and personal development. Our curriculum is designed to complement your child's education and help them develop skills that carry through into everyday life.

For nearly **three decades**, we have helped thousands of children grow in confidence, focus, and resilience. Martial arts is not just about physical ability. It is about mindset, behaviour, and learning how to make positive choices.

Through our classes, your child will:

- Build confidence and self belief
- Learn respect for themselves and others
- Improve focus, discipline, and behaviour
- Develop teamwork and social skills
- Build strength, coordination, and fitness
- Learn how to manage challenging situations
- Enjoy learning in a positive, encouraging environment

Regular physical activity also plays a key role in supporting a child's health, energy, and emotional wellbeing. Our classes provide the right balance of structure, movement, and enjoyment.

All instructors are fully DBS checked and follow strict safeguarding procedures to ensure a safe and professional environment at all times.

We are currently running new beginner classes in the area, with limited places available. If you would like to give your child a confidence building experience that supports their development now and in the future, we would love to hear from you.

Matt Fiddes

Grand Master Matt Fiddes
8th Degree Black Belt

WWW.MATTFIDDES.COM



ATTENTION PARENTS!

BRAND NEW CLASSES LAUNCHING NOW IN WANTAGE!
MATT FIDDES WANTAGE | WANTAGE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL |
NEWBURY ST | OXFORDSHIRE | OX12 8DJ

AWARD WINNING PROGRAMS (AS SEEN ON TV)

MONDAY MIGHTY MATTS
3 - 6 YEARS / 17:00 - 17:45

FAMILY CLASS / 18:00 - 19:00
7+ YEARS

BOOK YOUR FREE TRIAL NOW!

Our award winning MIGHTY MATT'S programme is specifically designed to help teach 3 to 6 year olds the important qualities of Respect, Discipline, Self control and Confidence. They will also learn great character and self-defence skills.

Our FAMILY programme works hand in hand with a Child's school work, providing many benefits. Through dedicated intense work our students are taught that all worthwhile goals in life are possible.

Our award winning children's programme is specifically designed to help teach children the important qualities of Respect, Discipline, Self control and Confidence. They will also learn great character and self-defence skills.

WWW.MATTFIDDES.COM

FREE TRIAL / FREE UNIFORM / MONEY BACK GUARANTEED



OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY

FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-16 YRS

SCIENCE BAZAAR

Saturday 21 February 2026

9:30am - 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening
11:30am-4pm Open to all

Fun activities, hands-on workshops, experiments, talks, show, competitions and cafe



BOOK TICKETS



MORGAN SINDALL
CONSTRUCTION



www.brookes.ac.uk/sciencebazaar
sciencebazaar@brookes.ac.uk

 @OxfordBrookesPublicEngagementResearch
 @oburesearchpublicengagement

Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, OX3 0BP

NO PARKING ON SITE EXCEPT FOR ACCESS NEEDS

Community news & support

ATOM Festival of Science & Technology
14th - 25th March 2026

Inspiring workshops for kids
Tours: History of Science Museum + UKAEA + Harwell

Tue 17th March
"Predators"
Professor **Tim Coulson**
FameLab Academy

Sun 15th March
"Our Place in the Universe"
The Peagram Lecture
Professor **Brian Cox** CBE

FREE Science Market interactive event for all the family
Sat 14th March

atomfestival.org.uk

BOOK TICKETS ONLINE

OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY

FREE FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!
MOST SUITABLE FOR 5-16 YRS

SCIENCE BAZAAR

Saturday 21 February 2026
9:30am - 11:30am Relaxed autism-friendly early opening
11:30am-4pm Open to all

Fun activities, hands-on workshops, experiments, talks, show, competitions and cafe

BOOK TICKETS

MORGAN SINDALL CONSTRUCTION

www.brookes.ac.uk/sciencebazaar
sciencebazaar@brookes.ac.uk

@OxfordBrookesPublicEngagementResearch
@oburesearchpublicengagement

Oxford Brookes University, Headington Campus, OX3 0BP

NO PARKING ON SITE EXCEPT FOR ACCESS NEEDS

Short Courses
16th -20th February

Beginners 9:30-10:00 & 10:00- 10:30
Foundation Top up 9:30-10:00
Development (New,nearly there) 10:00-10:30

For more information please speak to a member of staff or visit
betterlessons.org.uk/onlinejoining

BETTER

50% OFF INITIAL PAYMENT

TAKE THE PLUNGE INTO WEEKLY LESSONS

Give your child the gift of confidence and safety in and around the water with Better Swim School.

Join weekly lessons with Better Swim School and get 50% off your first payment with code SCHOOL50.

Better Swim School

Terms and conditions apply. Offer open to new customers only for school children aged between 4-12 years. Offer ends on 07/08/2026. Full terms at better.org.uk/offer-terms. Better is a registered trademark and trading name of GLL (Greenwich Leisure Limited), a charitable social enterprise and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014 registration no. 27793R. Registered office: Middlegate House, The Royal Arsenal, London, SE18 6SX. Inland Revenue Charity no. XRI43396.

BETTER