



## Principal's News

### Dear Parents/Carers

This week we slip into December, therefore the Christmas music can play, the decorations can go up and we can scoff mince pies (we might have started on these). As you can imagine, the children are getting very excited. We realise not all pupils celebrate Christmas or feel the same cheer this time of year, so we do stick to our normal routine as much as possible, but there is still plenty going on.



We know there is a lot of concern about Covid rates and new variants, intertwined with the desire to give children a great Christmas. Please see my separate [letter](#) for full details on Christmas events at Harriers.

As local rates are on the rise, please remember to:

- Keep children at home and get a PCR test, not a lateral flow test, if they have a cough, temperature or loss of taste/smell
- Remind children to wash hands regularly and practice good hygiene like catch it, bin it, kill it

As a school we are:

- Regularly conducting pragmatic reviews of our actions and procedures
- Wearing masks in communal areas
- Taking lateral flow tests twice a week at least
- Conducting additional cleaning of high contact areas

Have a great week and stay safe.

Kind regards,

**Alex Pearson**, Executive Principal

## Road Safety Week



During National Road Safety Week, we met with Councillor Reeves and Councillor Mallon to see how they can support our good work to keep everyone safe and to improve traffic and parking around the school.

Cllr Reeves said: "It is always a pleasure to visit Harriers Academy. The school rightly takes road safety very seriously and do fantastic work teaching pupils to be safe on the roads."

[Read more here.](#)

*Road safety is part of our real life skills curriculum.*

## Starting School

Don't forget, the deadline for on-time applications is **15 January 2022** for children due to start primary school in September 2022.

For further information and to apply see: [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/primaryadmissions)

## Statutory Consultation on Admissions

This consultation relates to the requirement for ongoing consultation every 7 years. **There is no proposed change to the admission arrangements in force**, apart from simplifying language. Read more and how to comment [here](#).

## Children in Need day



We raised a fantastic £370 for our fundraising 'glitz and glamour' non-uniform day. Children came to school wearing their most sparkly, sequinned, glittery or smart outfit for a small donation to this worthy charity. During the day, there were lots of fun activities and photo opportunities!



Thank you so much for all your kindness and generosity.

*Raising money for charity is part of our real life skills curriculum.*

## No Trading Cards

With immediate effect trading cards (including Pokémon cards) are banned from school; unfortunately they have caused lots of disagreements.

# Scholastic Book Fair



The book fair is at school **now** until the **7th December**.

The book stands will be located on the main playground from 8.30 to 8.55 am and from 3.00 to 3.20 pm.

Please come and buy some of the fantastic books on offer.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Meeting the firefighters



The local Fire and Rescue Service kindly visited Harriers to show the Year 2 children their fire engine and to talk about fire safety. The children were very excited to meet the firefighters, sit in the fire engine and even try out the fire hose!



## Household Support Fund

Households who may struggle to afford life's essentials over winter are being encouraged to talk to Citizens Advice about a new voucher scheme, set up by Cherwell District Council using money from the government's Household Support Fund.

It will help pay for vulnerable households' food, energy, and water bills - but other costs can be covered too, including clothing and replacements or repairs for white goods or essential transport costs.

Anyone who believes they will need this support is invited to contact Citizens Advice North Oxfordshire and South Northants (CANOSN).

The scheme is not only open to those on benefits. Instead, the funds are awarded based on a household's specific situation and needs.

People can call the CANOSN Household Support Fund helpline on **0300 303 0993**. They should leave their details in a voicemail and wait for a call back to be assessed.

More information about the scheme can be found [here](#).

### Additional help

If you would like advice and support with the costs of food and other household essentials, there is also a range of support available from:

[Oxfordshire County Council](#)

[The Sunshine Centre](#)

[Banbury Food Bank](#) (vouchers available from school; we encourage families who may be struggling to let us know confidentially via the class teacher or Mrs Stephens)

Check out our new webpage called [Household Support](#) (under the Parent Information/Health and Wellbeing tab) for further details of these organisations and others that can offer support.

### Term dates for 2022-2023

The term dates for the next academic year starting in September 2022 are online now: <http://www.harriers-aspirations.org/parents-information/term-dates-2022-2023/>

## Play Safe

Play Safe is a new national safeguarding campaign from the Football Association and the NSPCC to focus attention on the vital importance of safeguarding in football.

One aspect of the campaign is prompting parents to ask questions:

- Do you know your child's club Welfare Officer?
- If so, do you have their telephone number in your phone, as well as that of the NSPCC?
- Are you up to speed with your child's club's safeguarding policies and procedures?
- Do you regularly check-in with your child to see what they are enjoying/not enjoying and why?

More information can be found here: <https://www.thefa.com/PlaySafe>

## Dates for your Diary

**30 November - 7 December:** Book Fair.

### Nativities in December

**Tuesday 7@**1:30pm, **Wednesday 8@**9am & 1:30pm, **Thursday 9@**9am: Key Stage 1.

**Monday 13@**9.15am and **Wednesday 15@**9.15am and @2:15pm: EYU (and Nursery).

**Friday 10 December:** PTFA Christmas Gift Wrapping/Children's only room.

**Monday 13 -Thursday 16 December** at 3 pm: Carols on the playground (Y6: Monday; Y5: Tuesday; Y4: Wednesday; Y3: Thursday).

**Tuesday 14 December:** Santa's Grotto.

**Wednesday 15 December:** Christmas Dinner and Jumper Day.

**Friday 17 December:** Christmas Party Day; Last day of term, 1.30 pm finish.

Please see the [Latest arrangements for Christmas events letter](#) for full details of events and Covid measures in place.

Term and holiday dates for this academic year 2021-2022 are online: [Term Dates](#)

## Gift bank



Christmas is an expensive time of the year for all and this year feels more so than ever! Whilst we all want Christmas to be magical and special for the children, the reality is that it isn't always financially achievable.

Please speak to us if you are struggling this Christmas. We want to help. We are looking to put together a collection of children's presents, to make available to our parents to give to their children this Christmas.

If you would like to have access to this, please speak to your child's teacher. All information will be handled completely confidentially.

If you feel you can donate a small gift, please hand it in to the office or your class teacher.

## IT Technician required



Location – Wykham Park, Banbury

Salary – £22,183- £27,741 per annum, depending on experience.

Hours – Full time, Permanent 37 hours a week.  
Closing date for applications: Monday 6th December 2021 at 5pm.

[Click for a full job description and how to apply](#)



Another great way to see what we are learning at Harriers is to follow our [Facebook](#) page or our [Twitter](#) page.



## Community Activities

# MULTISPORT XMAS CAMPS

**FA Qualified Coaches  
DBS Checked  
First Aid Trained**

St Leonards primary school:

20th - 23rd December  
9 am - 3 pm £15  
9 am - 4 pm £18

All Four days (9 am - 3pm) - £55  
All Four Days (9 am - 4 pm) £65  
if you child is eligible for free school meals, use code "MARCUSRASHFORD" to receive free entry and a free lunch!"

Book Places at - [www.eventbrite.com/o/banbury-united-football-club-33875487049](http://www.eventbrite.com/o/banbury-united-football-club-33875487049)

BUFC in the community | [communitycoach@banburyunited.co.uk](mailto:communitycoach@banburyunited.co.uk)  
07481559333 | [bufc\\_community\\_coach](https://www.instagram.com/bufc_community_coach)

Children who are on free school meals get a 100% free place at Multi Sports camps as well as receiving a free nutritional lunch thanks to Marcus Rashford (HAF) Funding!

Parents simply do this by visiting [Eventbrite](#) and picking the days they wish to attend and using the promo code: "MARCUSRASHFORD".

# BUFC BALLERS

**FA Qualified Coaches  
DBS Checked  
First Aid Trained**

Bloxham schools  
Dewey Centre  
OX15 4NJ:

20th - 23rd  
December  
10 am - 2 pm £12

All Four days (10 am - 2pm) - £40

Book Places at - [www.eventbrite.com/o/banbury-united-football-club-33875487049](http://www.eventbrite.com/o/banbury-united-football-club-33875487049)

BUFC in the community | [communitycoach@banburyunited.co.uk](mailto:communitycoach@banburyunited.co.uk)  
07481559333 | [bufc\\_community\\_coach](https://www.instagram.com/bufc_community_coach)

Book these BUFC courses on [Eventbrite](#)

Please note that the Marcus Rashford funding does not apply to this course. However, the Cherwell district council FAST card means you can get 20% off. Using code "FAST".