



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
LANGFORD VILLAGE COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL
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22nd March 2026

Headteacher's Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can hardly believe that we are already just one week away from the Easter holidays, especially as we have packed so much into this short but very busy half term. It has been wonderful to see so many memorable moments, including a brilliant Red Nose Day last Friday. We have our exciting stargazing event this Tuesday, and I want to thank you for the fantastic support you have shown for our recent Book Fair, helping us to raise valuable funds for new books in school (finishes on Monday). We have also been incredibly lucky with the recent spell of beautiful weather, which has meant playtimes have been on the field, something the children absolutely love.

CELEBRATION - Oxfordshire Girls' Football Tournament

We are incredibly proud of our Year 5/6 girls' football team, who represented the school so brilliantly on Wednesday in the next stage of the Oxfordshire Girls' Football Tournament. They truly showed what it means to play as a team, supporting one another, working hard for every ball, and never giving up.

Competing against seven other schools, the girls demonstrated fantastic teamwork, determination and resilience throughout the afternoon.

We are absolutely delighted to share that they finished in second place overall, an amazing achievement against such strong competition. This means they have qualified as one of the top two teams and will now progress to the next stage of the tournament at Oxford City Football Club on Thursday 16th April.

This is a wonderful accomplishment and reflects not only their footballing ability, but also their commitment, sportsmanship and team spirit. We are extremely proud of every single one of them and are very much looking forward to cheering them on in the next round. It was also great to share with the whole school in celebration assembly last Friday. Well done, girls, we are so proud! 🏆

FOLVS Stargazing Evening - Tuesday 24th March

The FOLVS Stargazing evening is on Tuesday 24th March from 6.15pm - 7.45pm. Come and join us on the playground where we will have multiple telescopes where we can hopefully view the Moon, Jupiter and Saturn (if the clouds behave). We will also have some space-related arts and crafts activities, hot chocolate and finally, The Pizza Boys will also be there selling pizzas.

This event is open to all parents and children at Langford Village School only. Please dress accordingly for the weather. Children must remain with their parents and carers at all times, running around in the dark where there is expensive equipment is not permitted. Entrance is via the school playground. Please note that this event is weather-dependent, so if we have severe cloud on the day, we may need to cancel, but we will update accordingly if that is the case. Let's keep our fingers crossed for a clear and dry night! Hope you can join us!



Arrival to school

Please may I remind all families about our arrangements for arrival and collection at the start and end of the school day. For safeguarding reasons, all children should be accompanied by a responsible adult unless they are in Year 6, who are permitted to arrive at and leave school unaccompanied with parental consent. We ask for your continued support in ensuring children are dropped off and collected safely and punctually, helping us to maintain safe procedures for everyone.

Term dates

The term dates for 2026-2027 are now on the school website. I would also like to outline that at the end of each big term, the last day of term will now finish at 1.30pm to allow for additional staff preparation and training.

Staffing

I am pleased to share some staffing updates with you this week. A warm welcome to our two new lunchtime supervisors, Chelsea Stewart and Stacey Fairbairn, who have already settled in well and are supporting our children during the busy lunchtime period. I am also delighted to welcome Martyn Lay, our new caretaker, who will be working alongside Nick, our Premises Manager, to help ensure that our school site remains safe, well-maintained and welcoming for all. In addition, I am very pleased to welcome Zoe Baker to the Langford team as SEN Administrator and Headteacher's PA; she will play a key role in supporting both staff and families across the school. We are sure you will join us in making them all feel very welcome as they begin their roles with us.

At the same time, we are very sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Hargreaves at the end of term. She has made a significant and lasting contribution to the school, supporting both children and colleagues with great care and dedication. She will be greatly missed by the whole school community. We would like to thank her sincerely for everything she has done and wish her all the very best for the future. I hope to be able to update you with the final staffing arrangements for after Easter early next week.

Attendance

Over the past two weeks, whole school attendance has ranged between 93% and 94%. This remains below the national expectation and our school target of 96%. Every day in school makes a significant difference to children's learning, confidence, and friendships, and we greatly appreciate the continued support from parents and carers in ensuring pupils attend

regularly and arrive on time. To further support improvement, parents of pupils whose attendance falls below 90% and 50% will be receiving emails offering guidance and support to help increase attendance. By working together, we can ensure that all children have the best possible opportunity to benefit from the rich learning experiences taking place in school each day.

Thank you

Thank you to all our pupils who took part in the FOLVS Mother's Day and Special Person Sale, I hope everyone enjoyed their special surprises. It was also wonderful to see so many families attending Parents' Evening and leaving with smiles. I would also like to thank our families for engaging in events such as Red Nose Day and for contributing to such worthwhile charities. In addition, a sincere thank you to Ashling and FOLVS for organising all of our fundraising events, as well as to the families who will be taking part in the special Stargazing event next week.

Finally, the positive and happy ethos at Langford would not be possible without our dedicated staff. I am incredibly grateful for the hard work they put in every day to provide high-quality teaching and enriching learning experiences for all of our children. Of course, we must not forget our wonderful children, who are at the heart of everything we do, they truly are our world.

School finishes for the Easter holidays at 3:15pm on Friday. I hope everyone enjoys the sunshine over the weekend, and we are all looking forward to the run up to Easter next week.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Sarah Tomlin

Headteacher