



West Kidlington
Primary & Nursery School

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Friday 21st October 2022

Dear Families

We break up on Friday 21st October at normal school hours. I will share with children in assembly our expectations about reading through the holiday, helping without being asked and being kind.

Thank you for being so generous with **Harvest** donations and the chocolate/bottle **tombola**. We are very grateful.

We will open school after half term on **Monday 31st October**.

Mrs Gardner

We say goodbye to a huge part of the school today. Mrs Gardner has lived and breathed West Kidlington for 26 years. We will miss her knowledge, care and hard work. I know that lots of families have had great service from Ellen – above and beyond. She cares deeply for everyone in the school. The support I have had in my role from Ellen has been crucial. We had a deserved send off on Friday evening last week and our assembly on Friday shared some of her highlights. We wish her the very best with her retirement, please enjoy family and the garden.

Mrs Akers

Mrs Akers always maintained that she would leave when Ellen did; sadly, she has been true to her word. Lesley has deep-rooted connections with the school and she will be sorely missed. We have made it very clear to Mrs Akers she is warmly welcome back to visit the school at any time. She has helped run a very important part of school life. Thank you for working so hard!



COVID-19 vaccinations

You can get your child aged five to 11 vaccinated against COVID-19 during the half term school holiday. This includes children aged five and over (who turned five on or before 31 August 2022) who will be offered first and second paediatric (child) doses of the vaccine, with at least 12 weeks between doses. Children who turned five on or after 1 September 2022 can only get a first and second dose of the vaccine if they are either:

- At high risk due to a health condition or because of a weakened immune system
- Living with someone who has a weakened immune system

The NHS wants to support you to make an informed choice with more information available here [COVID-19: A guide for parents of children aged 5 to 11 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/)

You can book an appointment via the National Booking Service or by calling 119 for dedicated children's clinics, including The Kassam Stadium, Oxford.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

SKIPS Halloween Fundraiser

On our first day back after half term, please remember to bring a pocket full of change with you at pick up! Celebrate Halloween with SKIPS and take part in a couple of games and snatch up some sweet treats to take home. All the money raised will go directly to charity-run SKIPS Pre-school. Please come along and have some fun and help raise vital funds for SKIPS!

Location: Outside SKIPS Pre-school

Date: Monday 31st October

Time: Straight after school

Cost: Games are 50p a go and Cakes are 50p each

If you would like to donate some cakes for us to sell, we would gratefully receive these on the morning of the event. Please bring them to SKIPS. Thank you.

School Photographs

We will be organising individual school photographs of children on Tuesday 1st November. This will be children from Nursery all the way to Year 6.

If you wanted to have a family photo that involves children who do not come to the school (pre-school or secondary) we are inviting Families to arrive at the front of school at 8am on this day. This would make a great Christmas present!

Reading at home – KS2 children

Miss Ellis has placed on the school website an alternative way to get important reading messages to Families. Please can you take just 10 minutes to watch this video. There will be something for every family and one small thing could make a difference to your child's reading.

<https://www.west-kidlington.oxon.sch.uk/information-for-parents/supporting-learning-at-home/reading-1>

Road Safety

With increased amounts of traffic nowadays, the safety of children on our roads has never been more important and so it is vital that children learn how to be safer pedestrians and road users. The guidance that we shared last week has been resent today. It is really worth a read. The children's journey to and from school is not straight forward and our school is near a busy road.

We hope that your children enjoy half-term and you might get some type of rest.

Kind regards

Mr Isherwood