

Newsletter 2 – Monday 23rd September 2024

It feels like the new term has really got up and running now we are entering our third full week of the academic year. In this newsletter you will find out more about our new multi-sports club being run by Mrs Seymour, our new Year 6 Active Playleaders, the upcoming elections for new school councillors and what's been going on at our newly expanded Forest School so far this term. You will also find information about a vacancy at Ewelme Village Pre-School, which may be of interest to some of you, our upcoming Harvest Festival and a primary school-aged cross country event taking place in Henley this weekend.

Key Stage 2 multi-sports club

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up to Mrs Seymour's new key stage 2 multi-sports club which is now running on Mondays after school. Last week's session was lots of fun with the children trying out If you haven't yet signed your child up but would still like to do so, please contact the school office – there are a limited number of spaces still available. Sessions run until 4.30pm.

Active Playleaders

Mrs Seymour has also been busy working with a group of Year 6 volunteers, who will be acting as 'Play Leaders' at lunch times, setting up games and activities for children who don't have anyone to play with or aren't sure what to do. There will be two play leaders each day, wearing the rather fetching high-vis jackets pictured on the right and they will be responsible for finding and setting up the necessary equipment and running the activities with any children who want to take part.

A big thank you to Mrs Seymour for her time and effort setting this up and training the leaders, and thank you and well done to the Year 6s who have volunteered to take on this responsibility.



School Council

Today in assembly we learnt more about the role of the monarch; the prime minister and their government; MPs and local councillors in making decisions and passing laws. This built on the mock election we held last July to coincide with the general election. We also discussed the famous Churchill quote about democracy and what this means.

The children will once again be voting for their school councillors over the coming fortnight but before they do they have been given an important constitutional question to consider!

“Democracy is the worst form of government, except for all the others.”

— **Winston S. Churchill**



Several children have asked if former school councillors should be allowed to run again. Rather than myself or staff deciding, we thought the best way to make this decision would be to hold a referendum that all the children can vote in. Therefore, before the main school council vote, all the classes will be asked to vote 'yes' or 'no' on the question: *Should pupils who have been school councillors before, be allowed to stand as a candidate to be a school councillor again?*

Once this important issue has been settled, the children will have a chance to put themselves forward as candidates and each class will hold a secret ballot, with the first school council meeting scheduled for Monday 7th October.

Looking for a Reception class place for September 2025?

Visit our vibrant, friendly school at one of our open events this October:



**Monday 21st
October at 9.30am**

**Thursday 24th
October at 5.30pm**



Open events

For children due to start school in September 2025 we are holding two Open Events and would be delighted to show you our School on either:- **Monday 21st October @ 9:30am** or **Thursday 24th October @ 5:30pm**

Please contact the School Office on 01491 839240 to register your interest or email office.3752@ewelme.oxon.sch.uk

Welly boots

Please don't forget that the children all need welly boots in school everyday. This is especially important during the wetter autumn and winter months when we still try to go over to the field as often as possible. Needless to say, the grass is usually wet and can be muddy from late September through to March or April so boots are a must to avoid school shoes getting dirty and mud being walked back into school. Please ensure your children have a pair of boots that fit in a plastic bag which can be kept on their peg. We have a limited number of spares in school but finding a pair that fit properly can be difficult and time consuming.



Pre-school staffing vacancy

Please see below details of a job vacancy that has arisen at Ewelme Village Pre-School. You can find out more information and arrange a visit by emailing ewelmepreschoolcommittee@gmail.com.

Ewelme Village Preschool



Registered Charity No1067529

Ewelme Village Hall, The Street, Ewelme, Oxfordshire

Tel: 01491 825483 Preschool

E-mail: ewelmepreschool@gmail.com

Website: www.ewelmevillagepreschool.org.uk

We have an exciting opportunity for an **Early Years Practitioner** to join our small, friendly and dynamic team at Ewelme Preschool from October Half Term. We are a warm and nurturing setting in the idyllic South Oxfordshire village of Ewelme, working with children from 30 months.

Full-time and part-time working patterns considered (up to 28 hrs/wk: 9am-3.15pm). Term time only. We offer a competitive salary, as well as opportunities for Continuing Professional Development.

We are looking for someone with:

- A minimum Level 3 qualification in Early Years or equivalent
- A creative practitioner with a passion for working with children
- An ability to work as part of a team
- Excellent communication and organisational skills
- An enthusiastic and caring personality

For further details or to arrange a visit, please contact us via:

ewelmepreschoolcommittee@gmail.com

Job Vacancy: Early Year's Practitioner



This post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act (1974) and does not require an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service Check. Applicants must be prepared to disclose any convictions they may have and any orders that have been made against them.

All staff are expected to be committed to the safeguarding of our young people and their welfare as per our Child Protection Policy.

Harvest Festival

School will be holding our annual Harvest Festival on Tuesday 1st October at 9am and all parents/carers are invited to attend. We will be collecting donations of non-perishable foods and toiletry items from this Wednesday (25th September). These can be taken down to the school hall at the beginning or end of the day or when dropping off or collecting from breakfast/after-school club. The last opportunity to donate will be at the end of the day on Monday 30th September.

These donated food items and toiletries will be taken to Wallingford Food Bank following the service on October 1st. The food bank ask that all donations have a use by or best before date that is at least 3 months away.

Forest School fun with Year 3 and Year 4



Sacred Heart Cross Country Championship



Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School in Henley are holding a cross country event on Sunday 29th September, at Jubilee Park, AFC Football ground. Parking is available at Tesco Car Park and first registration is at 9.40am with every year group's registration 20 minutes before their race.

The 1st place winner of each race will get a Cote Restaurant voucher, a medal and a certificate. Team race results will be announced after the final race. The winning school of the team races will get the championship trophy. Team

RACE TIMES				
Nursery boys	10.00	Nursery girls	10.05	200m
Reception boys	10.15	Reception girls	10.20	200m
year 1 boys	10.30	year 1 girls	10.35	580m
year 2 boys	10.45	year 2 girls	10.55	580m
year 3 boys	11.10	year 3 girls	11.20	945m
year 4 boys	11.35	year 4 girls	11.45	945m
year 5 boys	12.00	year 5 girls	12.10	1500m
year 6 boys	12.25	year 6 girls	12.35	1500m

racers are from y3 –y6 with 3 competitors in each team.

If your child would like to take part, please arrive in time to register at least 20 minutes before the relevant race time listed above.

Dates for the diary:

Further dates will be added as events are arranged and/or confirmed. *Click here to see the school's online calendar:* <https://ewelmeprimaryschool.com/calendar/>

UPCOMING DATES FOR DIARY:

Wednesday 25th – Monday 30th September – Harvest Festival donations can be taken to the school hall

Monday 30th September – Flu Immunisations

Tuesday 1st October – 9am: Harvest Festival in Ewelme Church

Monday 7th October – No multi-sports club

Monday 21st October – KS1 Multi-Skills Festival (with Y5/6 helpers)

Monday 21st October – 9.30am: Open morning for prospective reception parents for September 2025

Thursday 24th October – 5.30pm: Open evening for prospective reception parents for September 2025

Friday 25th October – INSET day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 28th October-Friday 31st October – Half-term holiday

Monday 4th November – 8.45am: Start of term 2

Monday 2nd December – Gymnastics Showcase at Village Hall

Tuesday 3rd December – Final Forest School sessions for Years 3 and 4

Thursday 12th December – Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 12th December – Final swimming session for Year 5 and 6

Tuesday 17th December – Whole-school trip to the pantomime at Oxford Playhouse theatre, 'Sleeping Beauty'

Friday 20th December – 12.10pm: End of term 2

Monday 6th January – INSET day (school closed for pupils)

Tuesday 7th January – 8.45am: Start of term 3

Please visit the school website to view term dates for 2024/25: <https://ewelmeprimaryschool.com/term-dates-2015-16/>