



Newsletter #29

Friday 29th April 2022

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It was lovely to see everyone who attended the Easter Hunt at the start of the holidays - and a huge thank you to everyone who helped out to make it happen! We had a wonderful day with the weather certainly in our favour and it was great to see so many children exploring the school grounds in our first big event for some time! 143 children came along to hunt down the clues and solve the puzzles, before claiming their prize. We are thrilled to have raised £416 at this event - more information on how this will be spent will be included in the next PALS newsletter.



Take a look at our school dates below as they include the provisional dates for the return of the usual summer activities!

The House Captains did an impressive job last term. They were finally able to implement our longer term vision of autonomous pupil responsibilities. The House Captains became the Chairpeople of our other pupil groups (Diversity Ambassadors, Peer Mentors and Digital Safety Leaders) while being overseen by myself. They have become very effective in running these groups with outcomes such as video assemblies, leaflets and even podcasts for the school.

The final group of Year 6 candidates are now undertaking their election drive for the summer term House Captaincy.

During the summer Mr Scott completed the next phase in our remodelling of the building to make the internal space more useful. Where there used to be a huge bottleneck in the combined Year 3 and 4 cloakrooms, there are now 2 breakout rooms for group and individual working. The children in Year 3 and 4 are beginning to use the new peg set up for their coats and bags. This has allowed for much more space and tidiness in classes. Year 3 pegs remain in the original cloakroom area while Year 4s are outside completely protected from any weather by the covered walkway (this has been checked through modelling of the plans over the last full year).

This week...

Assembly

This week assembly involved reminders about general safety and how the adults undertake risk assessments. I explained how it could be helpful for the children to try to think in the same way about the activities they do as part of learning how to keep themselves safe. Having the courage to try new things is very important but it should be balanced by always asking questions of anything which might appear risky: What could be the hazard? How could this hazard be reduced? Is it still safe to do? As an example I used the activity of rock climbing- a potentially dangerous activity made very safe by using the right equipment.

Next week we will be reviewing the use of internet connected devices again, especially outside school. Remembering that appropriate behaviour is always expected, especially in the virtual world.

Swimming Year 4

Following reports to us of a Facebook flurry on the topic, it's worth outlining the facts about the plans for swimming in Year 4.

It was planned, as in previous years, to return to Harwell pool for swimming lessons. Storm Eunice damaged the pool's roof and the managers were left trying to confirm a plan of action with their insurers. All parties were assured of a resolution until, the week before Easter, we decided it would be most prudent to switch venue in order to provide the activity without delay, as it is a required part of the curriculum. Harwell pool remains out of action at time of writing. Due to the cost of Didcot Wave being significantly higher than the cost of Harwell pool, we originally decided, after lengthy SLT and Office discussion, to walk to the Wave (a distance 0.4 of a mile further than the usual visit classes all make to Didcot Library). However, we have now secured coaches, at last minute, and for each of the sporadic dates offered by the Wave. This further inflates costs for us, far beyond those of the original Harwell plans and alongside other considerations such as additional training and additional staff time to accompany the groups. Thank you to those who emailed to support us, following this matter being comprehensively discussed and quickly enacted to provide swimming provision at no further delay. We welcome any voluntary contributions but emphasise strongly that these are only voluntary.

Year 2

We welcomed Sarah Gerrard to Class 6 this week. It already feels as if she has been with us for a lot longer! She has integrated very quickly and the children are doing very well, especially as she is so professional and approachable. Marco Hernandez starts with us in Class 7 in two weeks (after leaving his current school with a Year 6 class immediately after the SATs week). In the meantime the school has been very careful to ensure a comprehensive timetable of consistent teaching led by DHT Mrs Li-Koo.

New Life in EYFS

We've had a very exciting first week back at school in **Foundation Stage**, with the arrival of our eggs which quickly hatched into chicks. So far class 2 and 3 have 9 chicks each, with fingers crossed for a tenth each! Yesterday we handled them for the first time, and were surprised by how wriggly and noisy they were. They will be staying with two of our families over the long weekend, but we are really looking forward to seeing how they have grown next Tuesday. We'll be bidding them a very fond farewell next Friday as they all go back to the farm.



Illness Absence

- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can return to school when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- Asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended in any education or childcare setting but if a child has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for **3 days**, after this they can return as long as they **do not have a high temperature**.

Coming up next term...

Wednesday 4th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 Production - 2pm (there are a small amount of tickets still available. Please come to Reception between 8.30-9.30am) PALS Summer Fete meeting at The Ladygrove pub at 7pm
Thursday 5th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 Production - 6.15pm (there are a small amount of tickets still available. Please come to Reception between 8.30-9.30am)
Tuesday 17th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 Natural History Trip (Class 5)
Wednesday 18th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 Natural History Trip (Class 4) EYFS Farm Visit (in school)
Monday 23rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SBS and DGS Transition Meeting 9 - 10am (in school) The DGS and SBS Transition Meeting for Year 6 parents, carers and pupils will be on Monday 23rd May from 9-10am in school. Children will need to come to class as normal to be registered. Parents/Carers please come to the main reception where you will be taken to the hall.
Thur 26th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Kilvrough Parent Info Meeting (after school)
Fri 27th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queen's Jubilee Celebration
Sat 18th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summer Fete
20th-24th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 at Kilvrough
27th-1st July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get Active Week for whole school
Weds 29th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sports Day (as part of Get Active Week) FS and KS1 in the morning. KS2 in the afternoon.
4th-8th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 4 at Hill End
Last Week of Year- day TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Leavers Party (BBQ and Water Fight included)
Last Week of Year- day TBC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Leavers Assembly- school hall

Notices

Parent Governor

We have a vacancy for a parent governor. Further details about nominations and elections can be found on our website here -

<https://www.ladygrove-park.oxon.sch.uk/headteacher-welcome/school-vacancies>



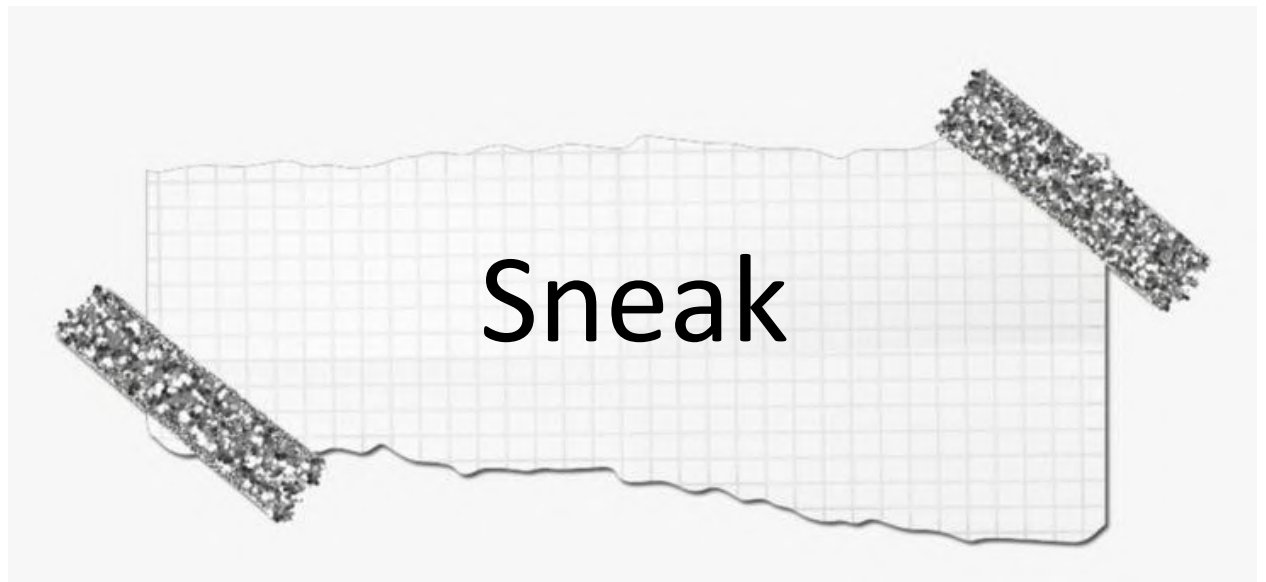
Word of the week!	See this week's 'word of the week' at the end of this newsletter
Class Photos	On Thursday, proofs of class photos went home with your child. Please order online to take advantage of free postage.



	<p>The deadline for orders is Thursday 12th May.</p> <p>Any orders after this deadline will need to be online only and you will then be charged postage.</p>
NumBots	<p>If your child uses the NumBots app at home it will need updating to v2.1.75 or above. This update has made it easier for your child to develop key fact recall in the 60-second skill rounds! This update also provides 30 skills to choose from instead of 20, amongst other key improvements. If your child has misplaced their log-in, talk to your class teacher.</p>
Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum	<p>Next month the Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum are running several focus groups and they are looking for parents and carers to join them. Click on the following link to find out more about the groups that they are running -</p> <p>https://mailchi.mp/a87a39414421/oxpcf-focus-groups-and-events?e=344589762f</p>
Art Competition - Wild Didcot family event 14th May 2022	<p>Sustainable Didcot's Wild Didcot Nature Art Competition 2022 is open for entries. Could you be our Nature Art winner?</p> <p>Enter before Wednesday 11th May 2022 to be in with a chance of winning some lovely prizes!</p> <p>Your theme/topic should relate to British wildlife in gardens and beyond in all its wonders (animals, minibeasts, plants, features e.g ponds and meadows), big and small.</p> <p>Prizes include wildlife books and crafting goodies.</p> <p>Please send us photos of your creations (any media) and tell us your age category. We may ask you to provide the original to display at the Wild Didcot Cafe on Saturday 14th May.</p> <p>Email your entries to sustainabledidcot@gmail.com or message us on Facebook or Instagram.</p> <p>Age categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tadpole: 2-5 yrs old Ladybirds: 6-8 yrs old Bumblebee: 9-12 yrs old Dragonfly: 13-17 yrs old Owl: 18+ yrs old <p>Find out more about the Wild Didcot Cafe event here: https://www.facebook.com/events/315693250658776</p>



Word of the Week

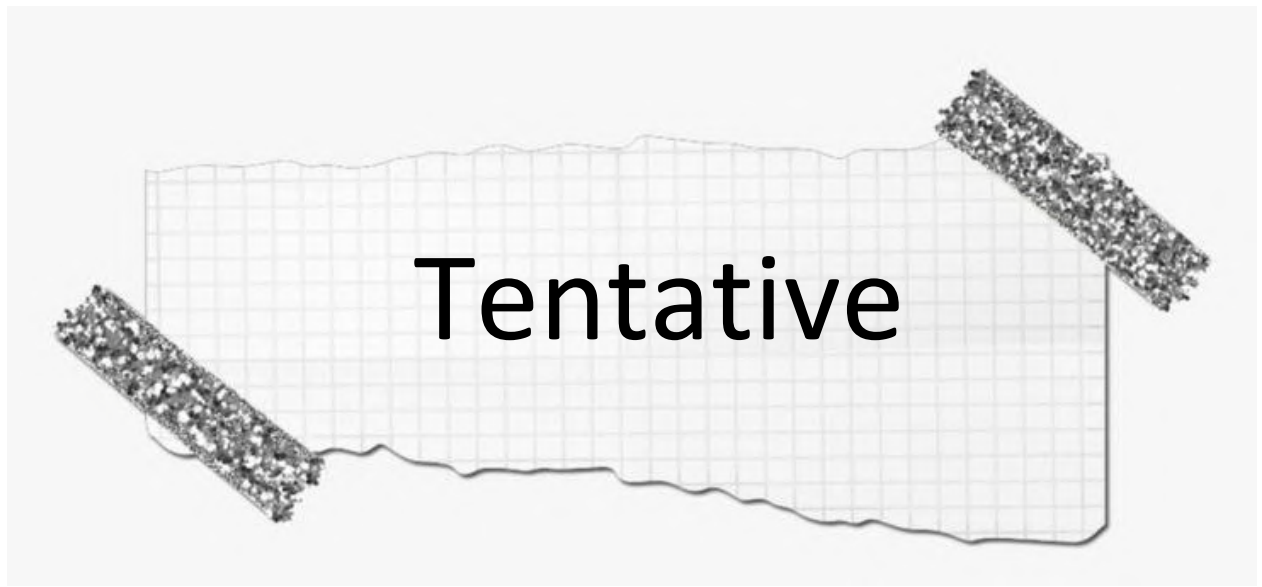
for Key Stage 1



 Meaning	 Challenge
To go somewhere very quietly.	Try and sneak in somewhere without anyone noticing.

Word of the Week

for Key Stage 2



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Meaning

Being careful and unconfident because you are uncertain or afraid.




Challenge

When is it good to be **tentative**?

Ladygrove Menu 2022



<div>Week One</div> <div>25/04/22</div> <div>16/04/22</div> <div>06/06/22</div> <div>27/06/22</div> <div>18/07/22</div>	Option 1	Tomato& Vegetable Pasta 	BBQ Chicken with Rice 	Roast Beef, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chinese Chicken Curry with Rice  	Breaded Fish with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Spanish Omelette with New Potatoes	BBQ Quorn Fillet with Rice  	Roast Quorn, Roast Potatoes & Gravy 	Sweet & Sour Vegetables with Rice	Vegan Mexican Roll with Chips & Tomato Sauce 
	Vegetables	Cucumber Rainbow Slaw	Sweetcorn Mixed Peppers	Cabbage Broccoli	Green Beans Carrots	Baked Beans
	Dessert	Carrot & Courgette Cake	Apple & Raisin Flapjack  	Fresh Fruit Station	Orange & Cinnamon Cookie 	Peaches

Week Two 02/05/22 23/05/22 13/06/22 04/07/22	Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	Spaghetti Bolognese 	Roast Chicken, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing & Gravy	Beef Burger in a Roll With Wedges & Tomato Sauce	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Vegetable Curry with Rice  	Vegan Spaghetti Bolognese 	Roast Quorn, Roast Potatoes, Stuffing, & Gravy 	Vegan Burger in a Bun With Wedges & Tomato Sauce 	Cheese & Bean Pasty with Chips
	Vegetables	Sweetcorn Cauliflower	Mixed Peppers Green Beans	Carrots Peas	Broccoli Sweetcorn	Baked Beans
	Dessert	Iced Sponge	Lemon Drizzle Cake	Fresh Fruit Station	Chocolate Brownie with Chocolate Sauce	Apple, Cheese & Crackers

Week Three 09/05/22 30/05/22 20/06/22 11/07/22	Option 1	Falafel with Lemon & Herb Couscous 	Chicken Fajitas with Rice  	Roast Turkey, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Pork Sausage Hot Dog with Potato Wedges	Fish in Batter with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Option 2	Cheese & Tomato Pizza 	Vegetable Enchiladas with Rice 	Roast Quorn, Roast Potatoes & Gravy 	Vegan Sausage Hot Dog with Potato Wedges 	Cheese & Red Pepper Frittata with Chips & Tomato Sauce
	Vegetables	Green Beans Carrot & Beetroot Slaw	Coleslaw Sweetcorn	Carrot Broccoli	Sweetcorn Tomato Salsa	Peas Baked Beans
	Dessert	Lemon & Mixed Berry Cake	Raspberry Jelly & Mandarins 	Fresh Fruit Station	Marble Cake	Chocolate Shortbread 

ALLERGY INFORMATION:
If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of cross contamination.