



Our Lady's News

The RUAH



**Friday 24th
October
2025**

A message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a fantastic first half term at school. The children have settled in brilliantly and have been full of enthusiasm for their learning. From exciting lessons in the classroom to creative art projects and outdoor adventures, everyone has been working hard and showing great teamwork. It's been wonderful to see so many smiling faces each day and to watch the children grow in confidence as they take on new challenges

We've also enjoyed some special events this term, including a theatre visit for children in Early Years about The Gingerbread Man, fundraising for Macmillan Cancer Care, Harvest collections, wearing yellow to raise awareness for mental health and lots of fun activities that have brought our school community together. A big thank you to all our pupils, staff, families and friends for their support and positivity—it really makes our school such a happy place to be. We're so proud of everything the children have achieved so far and are looking forward to another exciting half term ahead!

Don't forget to come to our learning showcase on Monday 15th December at 8.45am to see what the children have achieved this term.

We hope you all have a wonderful half term and we look forward to seeing everyone on **Tuesday 4th November at 8.25am.**

God bless,
Ms Davies and all the staff

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Graded outstanding in all areas in our diocesan inspection in December 2024.



Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Important dates

Parents and Staff Association (PSA) Meeting

Thursday 6th November @3pm

Please come along and discuss fundraising ideas for our school - we need your help! Everyone welcome to attend.

Tuesday 4th November - children return to school

Friday 7th November - open morning for children new to Reception in 2026 @9.30-10.30am.

Friday 14th November - Children In Need fundraising day - wear your pyjamas to school for a minimum donation of £1.

Saturday 15th November - open morning for children new to Reception in 2026 @ 9am-10.30am.

Monday 17th November - fill the sweet jar and Christmas tree decoration competitions launched.

Friday 21st November - open morning for children new to Reception in 2026 @9.30-10.30am.

Monday 24th November - individual photographs and Christmas appeal starts

Friday 28th November - Christmas tree decorations due in

Sunday 30th November - first Sunday in Advent

Thursday 4th December - cinema night @3-5pm

Monday 8th December - Advent Mass in school @9.15am for the feast of the Immaculate Conception

Tuesday 9th December - Reception Class Nativity play @ 2pm

Wednesday 10th December - Years 1&2 Nativity play @2pm

Friday 12th December - Christmas Bazaar

Monday 15th December - learning showcase @8.45am - all parents welcome!

Wednesday 17th December - iRock concert @9am

Thursday 18th December - Christmas dinner

Friday 19th December - Nursery concert @11am

All dates are listed on the Autumn Term calendar that was sent home in September and on our website if you ever need to check anything.

www.ourladyscowley.co.uk



Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Nursery and Reception

Know it, show it, think it, prove it

The children in Nursery and Reception have all settled in really well. They have enjoyed reading a selection of fairytales, particularly the Gingerbread Man!

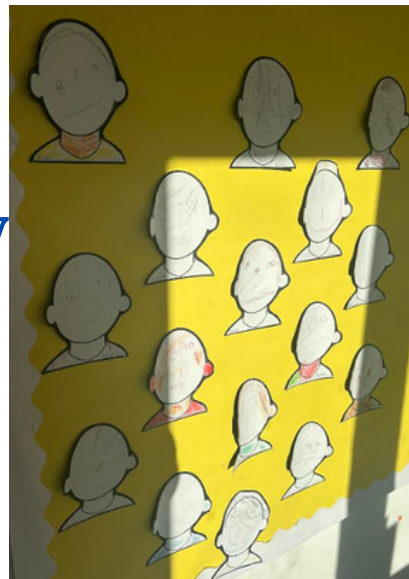
Learning after half term will focus on:

Nursery: sparkle and shine

Reception: starry night



Nursery



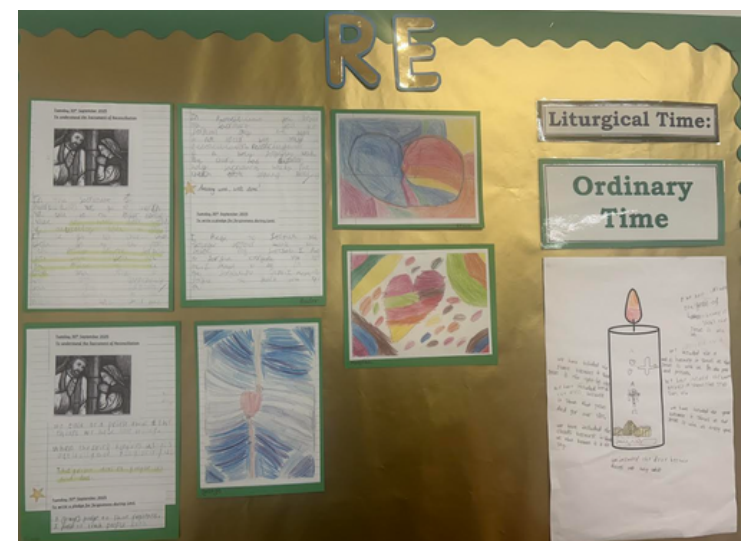
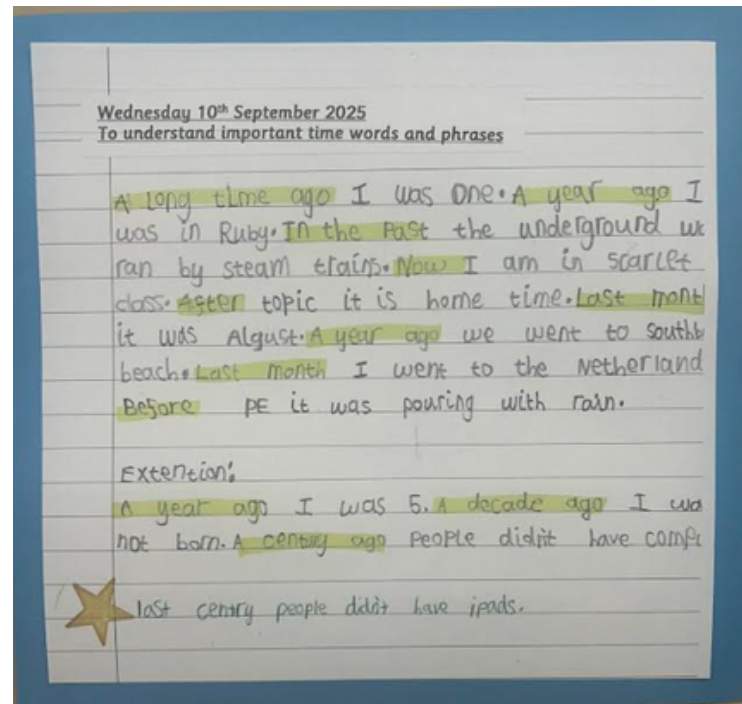
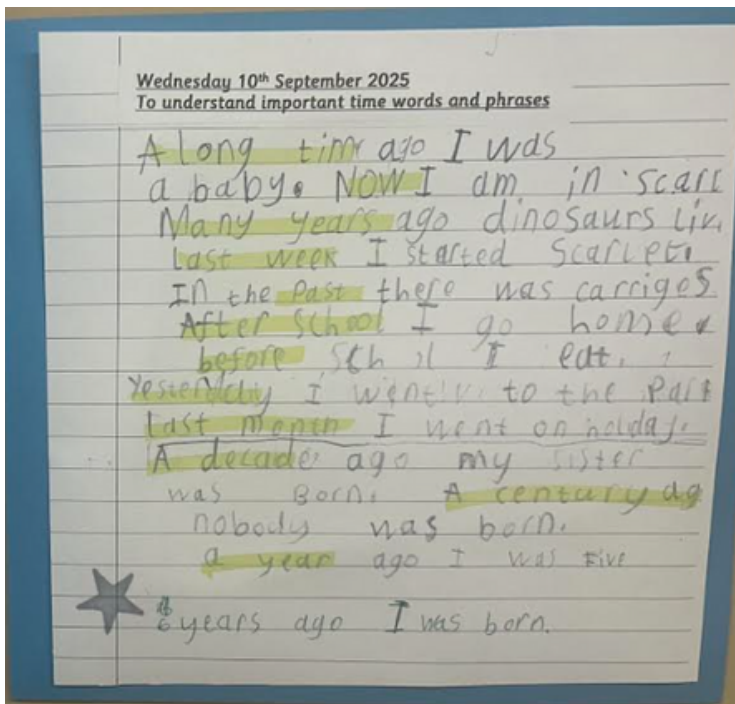
Reception



Years 1 and 2

Know it, show it, think it, prove it

Years 1 and 2 have enjoyed learning about childhood from the past and using words and phrases related to time in their extended writing. They have also enjoyed thinking about reconciliation and why it is important to forgive. Not only that, they have been recommending reading books to each other and the teachers!

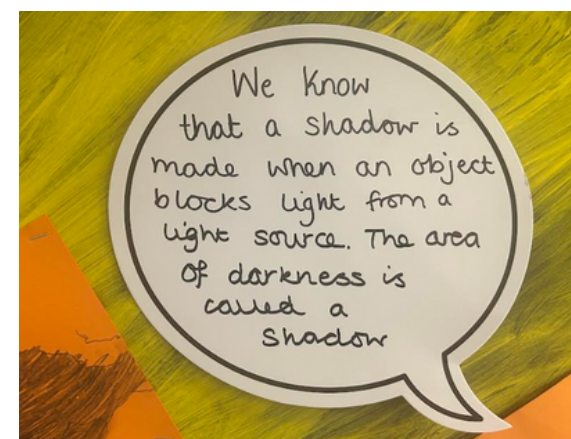
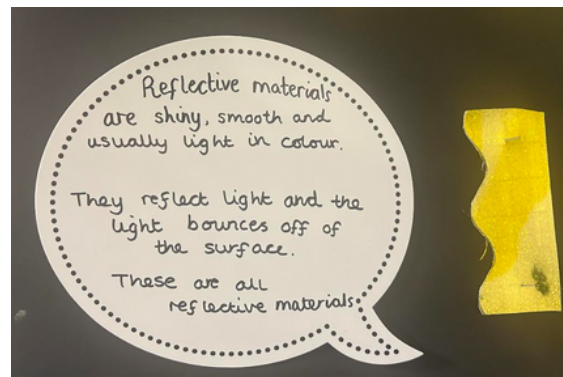


Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Years 3 and 4

Know it, show it, think it, prove it

A fabulous trip to Hill End allowed the children to become 'invaders' for the day and pretend that they were Vikings. In science the children investigated how shadows are created and what reflective materials are like.



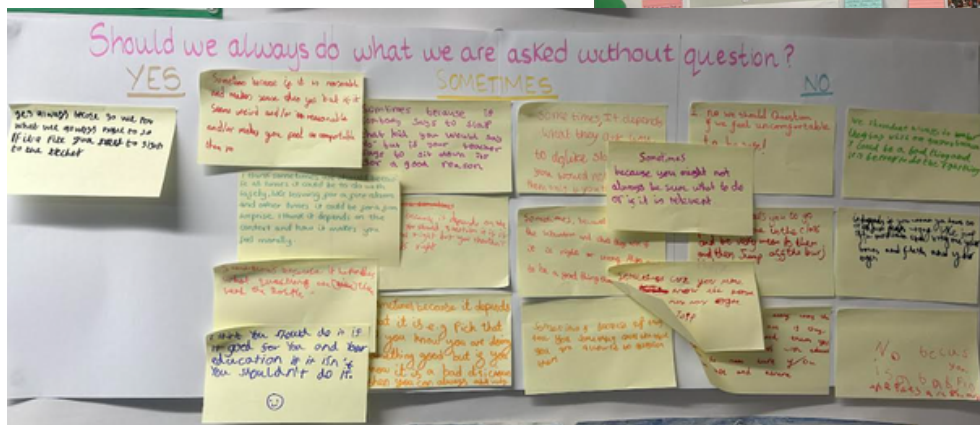
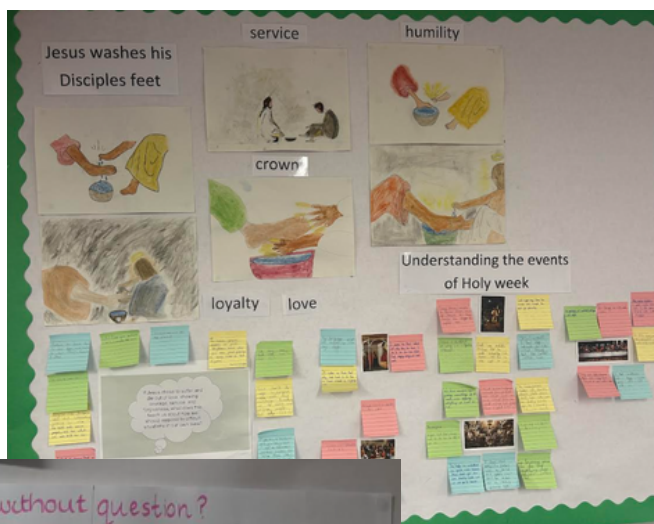
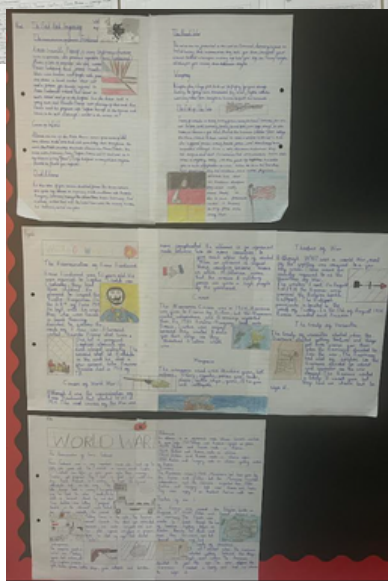
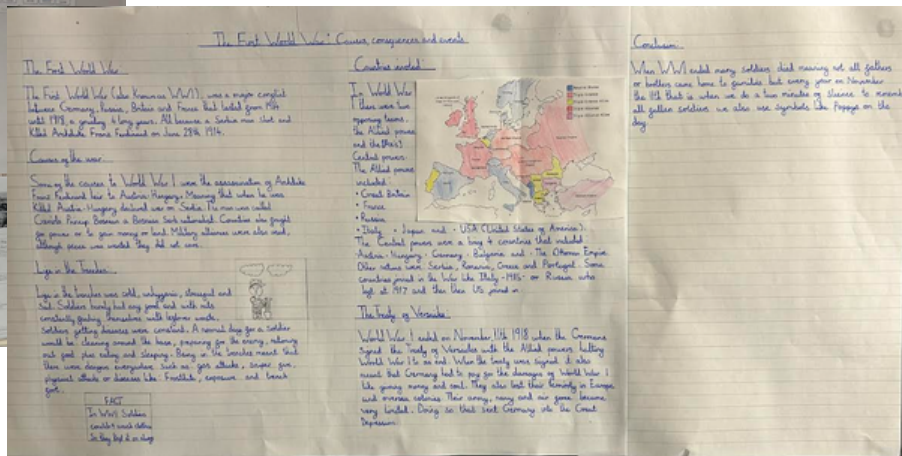
Years 5 and 6

Know it, show it, think it, prove it

Years 5 and 6 have been learning about World Wars 1 and 2 as well as considering the deep impact that it had on people who were evacuated. Their upcoming trip in November will see them experience what life in a bomb shelter was like!

In RE the children have been answering questions that require deep thinking and learning that questions like these can have lots of answers - everyone has the right to their own opinion.

They have also showed their skills in needle work and upcycled old clothes!



Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Attendance

Attendance Ladder How close is your child to 100%?		
0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

We cannot stress enough how important your child's attendance is at school. They really must be in school every day and on time.

Oxford City Congestion Charge



Hollow Way

Monday to Saturday

7am - 9am and 3pm - 6pm

Sports News from Mr French and Mr Spackman



Criteria for team selections

When selecting the children, Mr French applies the following RUAH criteria:

Respect - does the child show respect on the sports pitch before, during and after games?

Understanding - does the child have an ability to compete within the sport and show determination to succeed?

Can the child manage their nerves when competing against other schools?

Does the child show commitment to learning in all subjects?

Affection - does the child have the capacity to cope and manage emotions if results don't go our way?

Humour - does the child motivate team mates?

Does the child show positivity when winning and losing?

What this translates to is...

1. Behaviour for learning in the classroom (Mr French will ask teachers).
2. Behaviour around the school
3. Sporting ability and being a team player (We are heading in to a competition- this is different from learning a sport in PE)



The competitions have started and are already becoming a hot topic to talk about in school. Our Year 5 and 6 boys team have played a tournament where we were knocked out at the group stage but started their Manor Cup journey with a win.

The Year 5 and 6 girls got through to the semi finals in their tournament and have yet to play any league/Manor Cup matches.

In a new competition for this year, Years 3 and 4 have debuted their footballing careers. There have only been 9 out of 30 schools in Oxford that have chosen to participate in this league.

Watch this space for more sports news in the future!

Respect, understanding, affection, humour

Half Term Activities

The Gruffalo & The Gruffalo's Child are coming to Templars Square at intervals on Saturday 25th October



Saturday from 11:00-15:00

The Gruffalo and The Gruffalo's Child comes to Templars Square!

Public · Event by Templars Square Shopping Centre



Tuesday 28 October 2025 from 11:00-15:00

Spooky Storytime & Crafts at Templars Square

Public · Event by Templars Square Shopping Centre



Camp details

Inspired Holiday Camps

St Michaels School,
Marston Road,
Oxford,
OX3 0EJ [view map](#)

Venue Notes

27th Oct 2025 - 31st Oct 2025

We offer Early drop off from 8.30am

October Half Term Mon 27th October - Fri 31st October
10:00am - 4:00pm

Full week
£140.00

Single day
£32.50

Early Drop-off
£6.00 per day

[Book now](#)

Multi Sports Camp including football, basketball, cricket, tennis, netball, rugby, arts & crafts and many more.

School Years 1-7

Mr French runs this club!

IGNITE SPORT **OCTOBER HOLIDAY CAMPS**
THE COMMUNITY ARENA | OXFORD CITY FC | OX3 0NQ
27TH-31ST OCTOBER 2025

'HOOPS' FOOTBALL CAMP

GAME TECH

NEW GIRLS ONLY! GAMETECH

ART SMASH!

GIRLS ONLY! FOOTBALL

SPARKS

HALLOWEEN FUN DAY! ON 31ST

BOOK ONLINE - WWW.IGNITESPORTUK.COM
4-16 year olds | Childcare vouchers accepted | OFSTED Registered ✓