



The Ridgeway CE Primary School

'Building for Life'

Newsletter

18th September 2026

News from Mrs Blockley

It has been a busy and positive start to the term, and thank you to everyone who has been able to join us over the last two weeks. From our meet and greet sessions to our phonics and reading workshops, it has been lovely to welcome you into school and have the opportunity to share our plans with you. These sessions are a really important part of how we work together to support our pupils, so thank you for making the time to come along. We still have our KS2 Spelling Workshop taking place next week, which we hope you will be able to join us for, as well as the Phonics Workshop for Robins on 28th September.

We have also had our Harvest Festival service in Church this week. The children made us all very proud, and it was lovely to see them sharing their thanks for the hard work that others do. A big thank you to the Open the Book team, and of course to Sue, who led the service and shared the Parable of the Sower with us. The children always enjoy getting involved in the stories with the team, and we certainly have some excellent actors in school!

I was also really pleased to see all of our classes taking part. We haven't been back at school very long, and they are already rolling up their sleeves and getting involved. A very special well done to our youngest children. They may not have been the loudest, but they were certainly very brave to stand up in front of everyone after such a short time at our school. It was wonderful to see them take part.

We also had a fantastic response to our collection for the Wantage and Grove Foodbank. Thank you to all our families who supported this. We were blown away by your generosity and the amount that was donated.

As we get the new school year underway, it has been lovely to see everyone settling in and getting involved. There is lots happening over the coming weeks, and we look forward to sharing more with you as the term continues.

Mrs Blockley

Notices:

[@ridgewayprimary](https://www.instagram.com/ridgewayprimary)



Links to: [Diary Dates](#) & [Term Dates](#)



Sunflower Competition

Well done to everyone who took part in the Sunflower Competition. There were some excellent entries—and they all did better than Mrs Blockley

Congratulations to our winners!

1st— James

2nd— Aerin

3rd— Bobby

All our winners have received prizes which included a wild-flower medal, a sweet treat, seeds and pots. The seeds and pots were kindly donated by Charlton Garden Centre in Wantage.



Wren - Class attendance for the week: 99%

Another fantastic week in Wren's – thank you for all those parents who were able to drop-in on Wednesday, it was great to meet you all. We've been working hard in English - The Explorer by Katherine Rundell – the pupils have been writing their character descriptions for Fred. We will be applying similar skills to a description of the Amazon. Maths is a continuation of additive and subtraction problem solving. The pupils were amazing on Wednesday when we visited church for our Harvest service and delivered a wonderful poem. We have had a new batch of Netballs delivered so our PE this week was great fun. We wrote tour guides for a visit to a Mayan Civilisation in History – quite a fascinating topic. Homework books have been given out – you should find the TTRS and Spelling Shed logins inside the front cover. The GCP support guides for Year 6 should be given out in the next few days. Reading diaries can be handed in Monday to Thursday.

House Martin - Class attendance for the week: 98%

House Martins have continued from their excellent first full week and should be proud of their efforts in Week 3. We enjoyed sharing our harvest prayer during our school Harvest Service on Wednesday and did well in our Tag Rugby PE session, learning not only how to catch and throw a rugby ball but also how to pass the ball when running and how to sidestep an opponent. In English, we looked at how to use the 5 senses to describe a scene (the Roman amphitheatre in Pompeii) and we thought about how inner voice can tell you a character's thoughts and feelings. In Maths, we reached the end of our first unit, focusing on adding and subtracting numbers that bridge through 10. In History, we looked at timelines and began to figure out exactly why Emperor Claudius and the Romans wanted to invade Britain. In Art we used our shading skills to add to our plant sketches and in RE we thought about what possessions we value the most and how it would feel if we would have to give them all up and start a new life without them. Homework will be coming home on Friday as usual and I am running a KS2 Spelling Workshop after school next Tuesday.

Skylarks - Class attendance for the week: 98%

Skylarks have had a busy second week back at school. The highlight of the week was attending the harvest festival at church on Wednesday. Earlier in the week, the Skylarks did a fantastic job of supporting the Robins in practising their poem and they gave wonderful performance of it at church. In Science, the children took a break from learning about humans and explored the signs that Autumn was arriving. They explained how the weather starts to get colder, the nights get longer and that the most obvious sign is that the leaves change colour and fall from the trees. They went on a hunt for the very best autumn leaves and made 'leaf people' in Art. In English, the children have started a poetry unit based on the book 'Stanley's Stick'. After reading the story, the children were inspired to find their own stick and have explored all the wonderful things their stick could be. In maths, Year 1 have been learning to write two-digit numbers, focusing on understanding what the tens digit means. Year 2, have been solving some problems based on multiples of ten. es.

Robin- Class attendance for the week: 100%

Another busy week for the Robins. Forest School started on Monday in which the Robins thought about how to keep themselves safe and what rules need to be followed. They then had plenty of fun exploring the area with the Skylarks. The children collected leaves which they then used to make leaf-people pictures. More time was spent outside during the week, weeding the veggie patch, harvesting raspberries, tomatoes and counting the flowers on the pumpkin plants. Continuing the harvest theme... Robins have learnt that Harvest is a time where Christian people say 'thank you' to God for all the food that is grown and how it can be shared with others less fortunate. On Wednesday, Robins joined the rest of the school at church to celebrate Harvest Festival. All the children walked sensibly down to the church with their Wren buddy and carefully delivered their donations to the Wantage Food Bank. They bravely stood up in front of the congregation and said their words to the Harvest poem they had learnt with Skylarks.

The Ridgeway Primary School

FOOTBALL
After School Club

SERIOUS 4
SPORT
SPORTS COACHING

Serious4Sport are specialists in delivering sport to children of all ages and abilities. Our Football After School Club is inclusive, fun and engaging with a range of new skills and games to be taught along with play.



TIMETABLE - TERM 1:

KS1: 3.15pm-4.15pm every Tuesday (term time)

PRICE: Term: £35.00

KS2: 3.15pm-4.15pm every Wednesday (term time)

PRICE: Term: £35.00

Spaces are limited

All of our coaches are DBS checked and have a number of years experience in coaching children from as young as 18 months upwards.



Bookings made via:

www.Serious4Sport.co.uk/schools-nurseries-cpd



THE CENTRE FOR
**EMOTIONAL
HEALTH**

The Parenting Puzzle

FREE 4 Week Course

Practical hints and tips

Reflect on your parenting style

Email
contact@growfamilies.co.uk
to book your place

Starts 12th November
Thursdays 9.30 - 11.30am
St John's Church Rooms, Grove

contact@growfamilies.co.uk • www.growfamilies.co.uk

Term Time Weekly Programme



Monday St Johns Church Hall, Grove
Toddler Stay and Play, 10-11.30am, for under 5 years
Bumps and Babies, 12.45 – 2.15pm

**suggested
donation £3**

Tuesday Grove Rugby club
Toddler Stay and Play, 10-11.30am, for under 5 years
Young Parents Group, 1-2.30pm, first Tuesday of the month

Wednesday East Challow Village Hall
Toddler Stay and Play, 10-11.30am, for under 5 years
Bumps and Babies, 12.45 – 2.15pm
Elmbrook Court Care Home, Wantage
Mini Stay and Play, 10.30-11.30am, first Wednesday of the month.
GroW Outside, Betjeman Park
10.30-11.30am every second and fourth Wednesday of the month in term time.

Thursday The Beacon centre, Wantage
Toddler Stay and Play, 10-11.30am, for under 5 years
Community Birth group, Grove Day Centre
First Thursday of the month, 7-9pm
Sessions led by midwives for pregnant women

Friday Wantage Library
Drop-in Session, 10-11.30am

For more info and to
book scan here
or go to:
www.growfamilies.co.uk



www.facebook.com/growfamilies

contact@growfamilies.co.uk

Managing Screen Time in Young Children

A practical workshop for parents

Are screens becoming a daily struggle at home?

Do you want things to feel calmer and easier?

It doesn't have to stay this way.

You'll learn how to:

Set clear limits without constant arguments

Reduce screen-related battles

Help your child play independently

Protect sleep and daily routines

You'll leave with:

Simple steps you can use straight away

A clear plan that works in real life

Confidence that things can improve



St. Amand's Primary School
St Mary's Rd, East Hendred, OX12 8LF



11th November, 6-7 pm

Led by **Dr. Blanka Kellermayer**, neuroscientist & peaceful parenting coach

No judgement. No guilt. Just practical strategies that work.