

Newsletter

Issue 4

25 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

What a lovely and successful week we have had at Oliver's Battery!

Our **Open Afternoon** was a huge success. The school looked absolutely fabulous in the autumn sunshine, and our Year 6 pupils did an amazing job helping us to welcome our visitors. We were delighted by the positive comments from families, who were impressed not only by our wonderful grounds but also by the breadth of learning and experiences we offer.

A particular highlight was being able to showcase both our **Edible Playground and Forest School in action**. Visitors saw children harvesting crops, tasting freshly grown vegetables and helping to care for the area. There was even the opportunity to sample some of Mrs Homewood's delicious hedgerow jam! It was a lovely example of the rich, hands-on experiences we are so proud to offer our children.



Our Year 3 and 4 children also enjoyed a fantastic **Countryside Day** this week. I was thrilled to receive an email afterwards praising the exemplary behaviour of our pupils and the wonderful way in which the adults supported and engaged the children in their learning. The day gave the children a fascinating insight into the countryside, farming and the vital role these play in our everyday lives, as well as opening their eyes to the wide variety of jobs and opportunities within rural life.

It really has been one of those weeks that reminds us just how much is happening across our school and how fortunate we are to be part of such a vibrant community.

Finally, a reminder that **Monday is our INSET Day**, when school will be closed to pupils. Our teachers and teaching support staff will be continuing their professional development, with a particular focus on high-quality teaching practice, **metacognition and helping children to understand how they learn and become increasingly independent learners**.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend!

It was lovely to recognise the children in assembly today who, throughout the week, have caught the eye of the adults in school for being Ready Respectful and Safe.

Date	Friday 25 September 2026
 Butterflies	Hugo has tried really hard this week, particularly at raising his hand when he wishes to speak and standing out for his efforts in phonics. Percy has also been recognised as being consistently ready and respectful in all aspects of his school day.
 Ladybirds	Ebi always tries his best with his work, particularly in English this week, where he did a great job writing sentences about himself, just like in the book we have been looking at 'What makes me a me?' Well done.
 Bumblebees	Gael has worked so hard with his writing this week. He has thought really hard about what he is going to write and has produced some lovely work. Orla and Laurie have also produced some super writing this week and always listens well in class. They can both be relied upon to try her best with everything.
 Hares	Kit- He always quietly gets on with everything he is asked to do and can always be relied upon to make the right choices. He is kind, considerate and caring towards everyone around him. Kit takes time to present his work beautifully and meet the expectations set for him, showing a consistently positive attitude.
 Foxes	Lottie worked extremely calmly and carefully in our Maths lesson on Roman Numerals this week. She produced some beautiful work, taking time and care into her presentation and impressed us with her recall. She has also been excellent during our Morning Job, offering to help around the classroom and getting straight on with her Spellings independently.
 Heron	Oliver continues to impress me with his positive attitude to learning. In English, he has been working so carefully to self-check his spellings, and this has helped him use strong, ambitious vocabulary in his biography about David Attenborough.
 Kingfishers	A big well done to Samuel for always being keen to answer questions and contribute to class discussions. His confidence and willingness to share his ideas has been really noticeable this week. Well done also to Dylan for bringing such enthusiasm to his learning; showing good progress in retrieval tasks demonstrating an improving ability to remember and recall important knowledge. Keep up the fantastic effort, Dylan!



Top Table

The children chosen for the top table this week are: Max S – Bumblebees, Abraham – Foxes, Imogen F – Herons, Matilda M - Kingfishers

Housepoints – these are announced each week in assembly				
	 Oak	 Maple	 Birch	 Rowan
Points this week	240	291	221	222
Leaderboard	4th	2nd	3rd	1st

School Bike Bus - join our community!

There are 2 bike buses which run to the school every Friday (weather permitting). One bus runs from the bottom of Old Kennel's Lane through the Battery and the other starts at the bottom of Badger Farm near the cut through to Stanmore. A bike bus is an organised ride with stops along the way for families to join. Adult riders accompany both rides to ensure that children can practise their cycling skills in a safe, fun environment. All ages and cycling abilities welcome.

For more information (including route maps) visit:

<https://cyclewinchester.org.uk/bike-bus/>

If you would like to join message 07531 488038, email hello@cyclewinchester.org.uk or just come along and try it out.



Bikeability Half Term Cycling Training

If you're looking to get your child cycling this term, Bikeability are running cycle training courses at Weeke Primary School over half term. Sign up here:

https://shop.hants.gov.uk/products/learn-to-ride-1-2-ks1-year-r-1-2-weeke-primary-school-winchester-autumn-2026?srsId=AU7gw4VM3X2EXF3aJqpBkgVDBbtskEB2zcCjn3aOf1MXARyoMw_L8B1u



Harvest Festival

We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival in Assembly on **Friday 2 October** and would appreciate donations for the Winchester Food and Basics Bank. They are currently in need of donations of:

tins of soup, fruit, macaroni cheese, ravioli, meat, custard, rice pudding, Jams, Honey, Marmite, Peanut Butter, rice, pasta, noodles, cooking sauces and condiments, squash, fruit juice, cereals and porridge.

If you are able to donate please bring your items into school week commencing 28 September – thank you.

PTA Wreath Making Workshop

The PTA are running a Wreath Making Workshop on **Friday 11 December 7 – 9pm** here at school. The cost per ticket, to include all materials is £30. Mulled Wine, Prosecco and festive treats will be available on the night to buy. Please find attached a flyer with information on how to book your tickets.



Job Vacancy

Chartwells, our catering suppliers are looking to recruit a Unit Manager in our Kitchen- 25 hours a week – please see the office for more details.

Thank you all for your continued support and hope you have a wonderful weekend.

Yours faithfully



Miss Vittle
Headteacher

Dates for your diary - **new events in Blue** **Just Nursery Dates in Green**

ALL DATES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE TOO 😊 Just click here: [School Calendar](#)

INSET DAY

Ferny Crofts Parent Information Evening 3.+45pm

Harvest Festival

Parents Evenings

Parents Evening

Pumpkin Trail 3.30pm (more info to follow)

Year 5 trip to Ferny Crofts

End of Autumn 1

Start of Autumn 2

Autumn Disco

Flu Vaccines

School Photographer – Individual photos

MHST Emotion Regulation Workshop

Wreath Making Workshop

INSET DAY

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Monday 28 September 2026

Wednesday 30 September 2026

Friday 2nd Oct – please bring in a donation if you can

Tuesday 13th October 3-6pm

Wednesday 14th October 2:30 – 5:00pm

Monday 19 October 2026

Wednesday – Friday 21 – 23 October 2026

Friday 23rd October

Monday 2nd November

Wednesday 4 November 2026

Thursday 5 November 2026

Thursday 19 November 2026

Tuesday 1 December 2026 – 10.30am

Friday 11 December 2026

Friday 12 February 2027

Friday 25 June 2027

Monday 28 June 2027