# PHOENIX INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL
## 22nd November 2026
www.phoenixinfant.co.uk

**Welcome to this week's newsletter! It's lovely to share our children's achievements, school news and upcoming events with you. Thank you for being part of our wonderful Phoenix community.**

**We are so proud of our newly elected school MPs! Today, they met our local MP, Michael Payne, who officially opened our school parliament and presented the children with their special MP badges. They asked brilliant questions and were keen to learn more about his role. MP stands for Member of Parliament. MPs listen to the people they represent, raise their concerns in Parliament, help make laws and question the Government about its work. Our Phoenix MPs will put these ideas into practice in school by listening to other children, sharing their views and helping us think about how to make Phoenix even better. A huge well done to everyone who stood in our school elections—it takes courage to put yourself forward!**
**Next week, our school MPs will be gathering children's views and ideas about our OPAL play areas. They will then meet with Mrs Harper to explore which areas we could develop next. We are excited to hear their suggestions and give children a voice in shaping their playtimes! We will also be developing our MPs' board, adding the children's photos and a little information about each of them so our school community can get to know their representatives.**







## CHILDREN IN NEED UPDATE

**Wow! We have now raised an amazing £1,269! Thank you to everyone who donated, sponsored or supported the children. Your generosity means so much.**

**Medals will be sent out over the next few weeks, including to families who donated cash. Thank you for your fantastic support!**

## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK · 16-20 NOVEMBER



**We started the week wearing odd socks! This week, the children have been learning about 'Break the Silence' and how we can all help stop bullying. Miss Gossington also led an assembly to support this important learning. We reinforce this message in everything we do, through our school values and Time to Talk jars, but this week has given us a special opportunity to continue the conversation.**

We have been exploring what bullying means: hurting someone on purpose, more than once, when they find it difficult to make it stop. This is different from an accidental bump or a one-off disagreement, but children should always tell an adult if anything makes them feel hurt, worried or unsafe—they do not need to wait for it to happen again.

Our message is simple: tell a trusted adult, ask for help so you are heard, and show kindness to anyone who feels left out. If children see bullying, they can help safely by telling an adult rather than joining in. At home, you could ask: 'Who could you talk to if you or a friend felt worried?' Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns.

**A little conversation at home**

**For a fun way to start a conversation at home, watch and sing along to Andy and the Odd Socks' 'Who's Wearing Odd Socks?!' together. Their song for Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying Week 2026 celebrates difference and individuality—a lovely link to our own odd socks start to the week!**

**Afterwards, you could ask: 'What makes you special?', 'How can we help everyone feel included?' and 'What could you say or do to be kind today?' Remind your child that everyone deserves kindness and that they can always ask a trusted grown-up for help if something makes them feel worried or upset.**

For practical advice and support at home, visit the Anti-Bullying Alliance's advice for parents and carers.

## THANK YOU, JACKSONS!



**A huge thank you to Jacksons for their generous donation of large loose parts for den building and construction! We are looking forward to seeing the children's ideas take shape as they build, create and work together. The loose parts will be out for the children to enjoy in the coming weeks. Thank you, Jacksons, for helping to make our playtimes even more exciting!**

## LUNCHTIME PLAY TEAM VACANCY

**We are looking for a kind, caring and approachable Play Team Member to support lunchtimes and OPAL play. You will help children enjoy safe, active and creative play, as well as a pleasant lunchtime eating experience. Applications close on Monday, 7 December 2026. Please see our website Phoenix Infant and Nursery School - Vacancies for the online application form and return your completed form to the school office email address listed in the advert. You can also request an application pack from the school office.**

A little Christmas magic awaits — book a visit to Santa's Grotto!

**REMINDER -**

**Book your Santa's Grotto tickets here:**

**https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofphoenix/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=126540**

## CAN YOU HELP?

**Thank you for your Christmas raffle prize donations—please keep them coming! Prizes from families and local businesses are warmly welcomed, whether it's a bottle of wine, chocolates, a gift set, a voucher or another lovely treat. Every donation, big or small, helps make our raffle extra special. The funds raised help pay for buses to subsidise school trips, Year 2 T-shirts and other extras for our children. Tickets will go on sale at the end of next week! Thank you for your continued generosity and support.**

**Thank you, as always, for being such a kind and supportive Phoenix community. Have a lovely weekend!**

**Mrs Harper and the Phoenix Team**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Autumn Term**

**F2 Christmas Performance (Puffins and Finches) – Tuesday, 8 December 2026 at 2.00pm**

**Rock Steady Concert – Wednesday, 9 December 2026**

**Nursery Christmas Crafts and Christmas songs – Thursday, 10 December 2026 2.00pm**

**Santa's Grotto – Saturday, 12 December 2026 book here - https://www.pta-events.co.uk/friendsofphoenix/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=126540**

**KS1 Christmas Performance (Woodpeckers, Hummingbirds and Kingfishers) – Wednesday, 16 December 2026 at 2.00pm and Thursday, 17 December 2026 at 9.30am**

**Pantomime/Party Day, including Christmas dinner – Friday, 18 December 2026 (pantomime in the afternoon)**

**Last Day of Autumn Term – Friday, 18 December 2026**

**Spring Term**

**Back to School – Monday, 4 January 2027**

**Safer Internet Day – Tuesday, 9 February 2027**

**INSET Day – Friday, 12 February 2027 – School closed for children**

**Half Term – Monday, 15 February 2027 to Friday, 19 February 2027**

**First Day of Term – Monday, 22 February 2027**

**World Book Day – Thursday, 4 March 2027**

**Easter Disco – Friday, 19 March 2027**

**F2 Parents' Evenings (Puffins and Finches) – Monday, 22 March and Wednesday, 24 March 2027**

**KS1 Parents' Evenings (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers and Woodpeckers) – Tuesday, 23 March and Thursday, 25 March 2027**

**Last Day of Spring Term – Thursday, 25 March 2027**

**Summer Term**

**INSET Day – Monday, 12 April 2027 – School closed for children**

**First Day of Summer Term – Tuesday 13 April 2027**

**Half Term – Monday, 31 May 2027 to Friday, 4 June 2027**

**Year 1 Phonics Screening – Week commencing 14 June 2027**

**Year 2 Residential Trip to Gulliver's Valley – Thursday, 17 June 2027 – details to follow**

**F1/F2 Sports Day (Nursery, Finches and Puffins) – Wednesday, 23 June 2027 at 10.00am**

**KS1 Sports Day (Hummingbirds, Kingfishers and Woodpeckers) – Thursday, 24 June 2027 at 9.30am**

**Carnival – Friday, 9 July 2027 – after-school fundraiser for children**

**Year 2 Leavers' Assembly – Tuesday, 27 July 2027 at 2.00pm**

**Last Day of Term – Wednesday, 28 July 2027 – End of academic year**