



Newsletter

Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last two weeks have been rather full for all our staff, both logistically and emotionally. They, like you, received the news last Friday afternoon that Reception would be moving down to SS Mary and John for September 2023. It is the end of an era for Comper as we have known and loved it for a long time. As with all endings come change and with change there is always a sense of loss, uncertainty and being pushed out of our comfort zone. I think all of us in both school communities (staff, parents, governors and children) will have had one or all of these feelings over the last week as the news landed. Many of us will still be absorbing the news and contemplating the changes ahead. With every ending there is always a new beginning and I am excited about the new beginning and the opportunities for the children, families and staff that will be at SSMJ in September and also for the staff and families (current & incoming) that will remain at Comper. There will be lots of space at Comper and it will be a time for creative thinking and growth. The Nursery and Daycare staff are already bubbling with ideas about how we can develop and grow and we of course, welcome any ideas from our school community too. As always please email any of your ideas and thoughts to the [office email](mailto:office@comper.oxon.sch.uk).



This may be rather hard to see, but there has been much excitement in the big garden as there is a family of birds that have nested in the bird box that is nailed to the side of the main tree. We think they are Great Tits but if there are any ornithologists amongst you, please do come and help us identify them. The box has been up for some years (some think as much as 9yrs) and it has never been nested in until this year, so we are all feeling very excited. I think it is particularly lovely that this has happened this year, with the birds clearly feeling that Comper is good place to nest and grow their chicks and just as we all at the beginning of our own fledgling journey into the new. Strawberry class have been busy making binoculars and bird feeders and the adults have been busy trying to keep the children quiet enough around the little family that the adult

birds feel brave enough to come and go to feed and don't get scared off by all our excitement about having them there. Do come and take a peek after half term if they're still there.

Staffing update



We are very sad to announce that after nearly 13 years working at Comper, in many different guises along the way, Paris Fine is leaving us at the end of June. We are so excited for Paris that she is taking a step into the social services sector to work with children and families there, something that she has been interested in pursuing for some time. However, Paris is a highly competent Early Years Practitioner, leader and valued member of our staff team and is well loved by all the staff, children and families and we will miss her so much. We wish Paris every success in her new venture.



Phoebe will also be leaving us at the end of the academic year to move on to pastures new. Phoebe has not worked at Comper for as long as Paris, but she has had a massive impact on ensuring that Comper is a healthy and safe environment. She has also ensured that the website is up to date and live and has helped us to update and modernise some of our administrative systems. Phoebe has been a wonderful member of the staff team always so flexible and ready to turn her hand to anything. We will also miss her so much when she leaves us.



Naouel, who has been working as a lunchtime supervisor in Reception for the last year, will also be leaving us at the end of the academic year. Naouel is leaving to free up time to pursue further studies. Naouel has always been such a supportive and positive member of the team jumping in at short notice to support the team when we've had people off sick. The children and staff will miss Naouel very much and we wish her every success with her studies in September.



Attendance—Term 5

Good attendance supports good outcomes for children in the long term. We are aiming for children's attendance to be no lower than 96%. It's good to see an improvement in attendance figures for this term. Please see below:

Strawberry Attendance = 94.04 % Mango Attendance = 93.35 %
Peach Attendance = 85.10 % Pear Attendance = 93.17 %

Key dates for term 6

- ⇒ **Term 6 begins - Monday 5th June. There is no INSET day for Comper on the 5th June, we are open as usual.**
- ⇒ **Term 6 ends - Friday 21st July. This will be an early finish for reception children at 12.45pm for their celebration, please come and join your child to watch, take home at 1.15pm**

Daycare

Week 2 trips to Goldfish Bowl throughout the week

Tues 20th June Father's Day Stay and Play 9am - 10am & 12pm – 1pm

Thurs 29th June – All 3-year-olds transitioning to Nursery trip with Nursery to Florence Park AM & PM

Tues 4th July - Teddy Bear's Picnic in Comper Garden Parents welcome 9am – 10am & 12pm – 1.00pm

Fri 14th July - Whole School Celebration Picnic – Bring & Share 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Thurs 20th July – Class parties AM & PM

Nursery

Thursday 29th June – Nursery trip to Florence Park AM & PM sessions (+3-year-old daycare children)

Mon 10th July – Pear class end of year celebration 2.15pm (morning only children in pear class, please come back and join us for the afternoon celebration at 2.15pm. Parents need to stay)

Tues 11th July – Peach class end of year celebration 2.15pm (morning only children in peach class, please come back and join us for the afternoon celebration at 2.15pm. Parents need to stay)

Fri 14th July Whole School Celebration Picnic – Bring & Share 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Thurs 20th July – Class parties AM & PM

Reception

Thurs 15th June – Reception Stay and Play 9.00 – 10.00am

Thurs 22nd June -Mango Class - Natural History Museum, Oxford

Thurs 29th June – Strawberry Class - Natural History Museum, Oxford

Fri 14th July - Whole School Celebration Picnic – Bring & Share 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Tues 18th July – Reception to Meadow Lane AM

Thurs 20th July – Class parties

Fri 21st July – Reception end of year celebration 12.45pm – 1.15pm, all parents to stay please. (SSMJ pick up time is 1.30pm.)

Wishing you all a very sunny, safe and refreshing half term. We look forward to seeing you all back for our final term of the academic year!

Best wishes,



Catherine King