



Key Dates and Upcoming Events

Next Week (B)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 20th October		
Tues 21st October	Year 13 Geography Field Trip to Wytham Woods Gosford Hill School	9:00am - 3:00pm 4:30pm - 6:00pm
Weds 22nd October	A Level English Literature Trip 'A Doll's House' at Oxford Fire Station KAOS Production – 'The Cabaret on South Street' in the Hall	7:00pm - 10:00pm 7:30pm (Please see poster for details)
Thurs 23rd October	STEM & Business Careers Insight Day at Intertronics KAOS Production in the Hall	10:00am - 3:00pm 7:30pm
Fri 24th October	KAOS Production in the Hall	7:30pm

25th October - 2nd November	Autumn Half Term Break
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Following Week (A)		
Date	Event	Time
Mon 3rd November		
Tues 4th November	Year 9 History Trip to the Imperial War Museum and Old Operating Theatre, London (EHL, HFG + MGN) Bring a Grown Up! Textiles Workshop	7:30am - 4:30pm 4:00pm - 5:00pm
Weds 5th November		
Thurs 6th November		
Fri 7th November		

Please check your junk or spam inbox for any school-related communications

ALL

It has come to our attention that some school-related communications may have been misdirected to parents' and carers' junk or spam email folders. We kindly ask you to check these folders and mark any school emails as 'safe' to help ensure you continue receiving important updates.

Posted by – Mr Birchall

Boost your child's preparedness for their future!

ALL

Check out our new [Careers Activity Newsletter](#) that was sent out earlier this week. We share the latest resources on career insights, experiences and guidance on next steps that the students receive via Google Classroom and more. It's updated weekly, so bookmark the live link for the freshest info!

Posted by – Mrs Zajac

Year 11 and Year 13 Mock Examinations Timetables – November 2025

**Year
11 & 13**

Distributed with this bulletin are timetables for the upcoming Year 11 and Year 13 mock exams in November. The timetables can also be viewed on/downloaded from the school website through the following links:

[Year 11 Mock Examinations Timetable](#)

[Year 13 Mock Examinations Timetable](#)

Posted by – Mrs Gillingham

Importance of attending open days as a pre-step to applications

**Year
11**

If your child is thinking about college, apprenticeships or not confident they'll get the grades to stay at school... please go to the college Open Days to help firm up/check your plan A & B before making an application **by December**. The next Open Days in October are:

Sat 18th Oct	9.30-12pm	Oxford City College
Sat 18th Oct	9-11am	Activate Rugby GIRLS, Harcourt Hill Campus
Wed 22nd Oct	4.30-7pm	Banbury & Bicester College, Banbury
Sat 25th Oct	10-12pm	ACE Training, Kidlington (Bricklaying & Carpentry)

[Here is a link](#) to the live careers infosheet for parents and carers.

Posted by – Mrs Zajac

Bring a Grown Up! – FREE Family Learning Workshops at Gosford Hill School

Throughout the academic year, Gosford Hill School hosts a series of fun family-oriented learning sessions, during which we invite **primary school-aged children in Years 4-6** to 'Bring a Grown Up!' and try something new!

This Autumn term, come and create your own computer character, join us for a textiles workshop, learn all about Christmas traditions in France or have fun solving some Maths puzzles and quizzes, at one of our free family learning workshops.

ALL

Textiles Workshop – Tuesday 4th November

Maths Workshop – Tuesday 2nd December

French Workshop – Monday 8th December

[Please click here](#) to learn more or to book. Places are limited so please book sooner than later to avoid disappointment. All sessions start promptly at 4pm and run for an hour.

Please note that only one ticket is required to be booked to enable participation for one child and one accompanying parent. Should you need help with ticket booking, please give us a call on 01865 374971.

Posted by – Mr Birchall

Ghost-ford Hill School – Tuesday 21st October (4:30pm to 6:00pm)



Ghost-ford Hill School is back for another night of spooks and scares in 2025!

Our much-loved Halloween event returns for one night only on Tuesday 21st October. Children in Years 4-6 are invited to wear their best fancy dress and creep through our classrooms in search of sweets and treats. But beware... who knows what ghouls and goblins might be lurking in the corridors after dark?

ALL

Parents and carers are welcome to join the adventure or relax with a warm cup of tea or coffee. We'd love to see you there!

Please complete this short Google Form to register your interest in attending: <https://forms.gle/Wz166tVAuDe9jwSS7>

Posted by – Mr Birchall



Safeguarding

If you have a safeguarding concern within school hours, please send a message to the following email address: safeguarding@gosfordhillschool.org

ALL

If you have any safeguarding concerns outside of school hours please contact our local MASH Team (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) on **0345 050 7666**.

Posted by – Mr La Porte

Calling all brave students in Year 4-6!

Join us for a spooktacular night
of trick-or-treating at

GHOST-FORD HILL SCHOOL
(Gosford Hill School, Oxford Road, Kidlington)

Tuesday 21st October (4:30pm to 6:00pm)

This spooky season, children in Years 4-6 are invited to wear their best fancy dress and explore our classrooms in search of sweets and treats. Who knows what Ghouls and Goblins roam the Ghost-ford Hill School corridors at night-time? Parents and carers are welcome to accompany or sit back and enjoy tea and coffee.

Scan here
to register!



Gosford Hill School Admissions Open

for students joining us in September 2026



It's an exciting time to join
Gosford Hill School...

- Rated Good by Ofsted.
- Excellent GCSE and A Level results.
- We are the first school in Oxfordshire to be part of the Department for Education's Schools Rebuilding programme.



Apply online now:

www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/admissions

Gosford Hill School, Oxford Road, Kidlington, Oxfordshire, OX5 2NT

Kidlington Amateur Operatic Society



THE CABARET ON SOUTH STREET

Favourite show tunes in a brand new musical!

Thurs 23rd, Fri 24th
Sat 25th Oct 2025

7:30 pm

Gosford Hill School, Kidlington

Tickets: £15, 17yrs & under £10
VIP Tickets: £20, 17yrs & under £15



call 01865 375613, online at www.kaos.news

in person at Oxford Building Supplies High Street or
Anemone Florist Kidlington Centre

Registered Charity No. 1170572

Low noise and environmentally friendly KIDLINGTON FIREWORKS & LASER SHOW

Wednesday 5 November 2025

At Stratfield Brake



Gates open from 6pm

Freestyle fire show by Arron - before the display

No Parking Available

£1 discount for tickets bought in advance from
Exeter Hall and local businesses

Organised by Kidlington Parish Council

Kidlington Christmas Lights

Switch on!

2025



Thursday 27 November

Fun begins at 5pm, switch on 6pm

The High Street

Organised by
Kidlington Parish Council





KIDLINGTON SEND EVENT

Join us for a relaxed, supportive drop-in session:

Tuesday 21st October

11am - 1pm

Exeter Hall
Oxford Road, Kidlington, OX5 1AB
Drop-in Coffee Morning

Come and join us for a friendly coffee morning! Come and meet the OxPCF Team and other parent carers.

Grab a cuppa, have a chat, and share experiences in an informal setting. Do drop in, we'd love to say hello!

Drop in for a warm drink and a biscuit or two.

Hosted by Oxfordshire Parent Carers Forum
If you need further info or support to attend, please email info@oxpcf.org.uk

November Timetable All sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long £24 each or FREE with School Membership Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours (excluding Free Talk)	
Raising Self Esteem	3 Nov 10am
Decreasing Depression	3 Nov 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	4 Nov 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	4 Nov 7pm
Improving Family Communication	10 Nov 10am
Autism - Improving Communication	10 Nov 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	11 Nov 10am
Supporting A Child with ADHD	11 Nov 7pm
FREE ADHD Kids & Homework	13 Nov 6-7pm
Understanding Anger	17 Nov 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	17 Nov 7pm
Facing Defiance	18 Nov 10am
Anxiety Based School Avoidance	18 Nov 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	24 Nov 10am
Anxiety Explained	24 Nov 7pm

Gosford Hill School

Christmas Fair

Saturday 6th December 2025

2pm to 4pm in the Hall

Games • Craft Stalls
Tombola • Live Music
Refreshments

Free entry!



Gosford Hill School

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 10th December

Menu

Traditional Christmas Turkey & Festive Stuffing
or
Vegetarian Parcel (V)
or
Gluten Free Vegetarian Tortilla (V)

Served with Roast Potatoes,
Carrots Batons & Brussels Sprouts

Followed by
Chocolate Christmas Cupcake or a Clementine

Cost: £2.60

Please order via ParentPay by 27th November.





Bring a Grown Up!

FREE Family Learning Workshops at Gosford Hill School 2025 - 2026

Suitable for children in Years 4-6

Autumn Term		
Computing	Weds 15th October	Explore the fascinating world of MicroBits
Textiles	Tues 4th November	Join Mrs North for a creative workshop in the Textiles Room
Maths	Tues 2nd December	Test your brain with some Christmas-themed Maths puzzles
French	Mon 8th December	Come and explore French language and culture
Spring Term		
Art	Weds 4th February	Get creative during this Valentine's Day themed workshop
German	Tues 24th March	Put your linguistic skills to the test to find hidden Easter eggs
Science	Weds 25th March	Use Science to help the Easter bunny solve problems!
Geography	Weds 22nd April	Come and learn about our planet on World Earth Day!
Food	Weds 13th May	Discover the power of teamwork in the kitchen
Summer Term		
English	Thursday 11th June	We all have an inner poet! A creative writing workshop
PE	Thursday 18th June	Enjoy tennis and rounders on our amazing all-weather pitch
History	Tuesday 23rd June	Have a go at solving a historical mystery with Miss Hall
Health & Social Care	Thursday 16th July	How healthy is your food? Find out with Miss Barnes...

We look forward to seeing you at one or all of these **FREE** workshops.

Scan the QR code today to book your place, or visit:
www.gosford-hill.oxon.sch.uk/community/bring-a-grown-up
Alternatively, you can give us a call on 01865 374971



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about MEMES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Memes may look like simple jokes, but, for many teenagers, they form a shared cultural language. Quickly created and reworked, they spread across social media platforms as images with text or short videos. Nearly eight in ten teenagers share memes (79%, YPulse), making them part of daily life. While memes encourage creativity and participation, they can also spread misinformation or reinforce harmful stereotypes.

SPREADING MISINFORMATION

While memes help to communicate complex topics, they can also spread misinformation. Memes may sometimes include content presenting false facts or biased viewpoints, especially around health, politics, or current events and, as they're designed to be shared quickly, young people may not question their accuracy.

EXPOSURE TO INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Memes are widely circulated, and not always age-appropriate, meaning young people may encounter explicit language, sexual content, or graphic imagery, even without searching for it. As memes spread fast on platforms like Instagram, TikTok, or WhatsApp, it's nearly impossible to filter them completely.

MASKED MESSAGES

Some memes are designed to be confusing or layered with hidden meanings, making them hard for parents, and, sometimes, other young people to understand. Online groups often create these memes to look like inside jokes, but they can sometimes conceal offensive, harmful, or misleading content.

HIDDEN HARMS & LOSING SENSITIVITY

When serious topics like violence, racism, or mental health are turned into jokes, children and young people may become less sensitive to these issues over time. While a funny meme may seem light-hearted, it can carry messages that belittle certain groups, encourage risky behaviour, or mock personal struggles. Repeated exposure through memes can make harmful behaviour seem normal or less important. Over time, this can blur their understanding of what is funny versus what is discriminatory, harmful, or damaging to themselves and others.

PERMANENT DIGITAL FOOTPRINT

Unlike spoken jokes, memes leave a trail. Created or shared memes can resurface later and be misunderstood, even if intended as harmless. Once online, memes may be copied, saved, or spread beyond a young person's control – digital actions can follow them into their future, shaping how they are perceived by peers, teachers, or even employers long after the original meme has been shared.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Talk regularly with young people and try to understand their online world – discuss what they find funny about the memes, and why. By listening without judgement, you build trust, making it easier for them to come to you if they see something harmful. Open conversations also help children and teens think critically about the messages behind memes rather than simply accepting them at face value.

MODEL HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

Show children and teens positive online behaviours, such as taking breaks from screens, avoiding late-night scrolling, and engaging in offline activities. Setting clear routines around screen time at home can help to reinforce healthy boundaries and reduce the risks of overuse. By modelling balanced technology use, adults can help children and young people see that digital entertainment, including memes, should be just one part of life.

TEACH DIGITAL LITERACY

Help children and young people learn to question where information comes from and whether it's reliable – developing media literacy skills prepares young people to understand and navigate through their future online lives. Show them how memes can sometimes exaggerate or misrepresent facts for laughs, and encourage them to check credible sources when memes claim to present truth.

FOSTER EMPATHY ONLINE

Remind children and young people that memes should never come at someone else's expense. Encourage them to think about how a meme might make another person feel before sharing or creating it. Highlight examples of positive memes that celebrate creativity without hurting others. Fostering empathy, respect, and kindness in digital spaces will help them become more aware of promoting a safer, more supportive online culture.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Cristina Moreno-Almeida is a Senior Lecturer in Digital Culture at Queen Mary University of London. She specialises in memes, online networks, and youth culture, examining how digital spaces shape identity and everyday life.



See full reference list on our website



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