

I hope you had a well earned rest during the summer break and are ready for the challenges of your new school year. In this edition you will find news on what's been happening at Oxfordshire Outdoors; a report on the Oxfordshire NCS programmes; an update on Campaign 22, which I hope you will be able to get involved with plus plenty of other relevant information to help you plan a stimulating and rewarding year of outdoor learning.

We look forward to seeing you soon at an Oxfordshire Outdoors Centre and to providing you with a high quality course. If you haven't booked with us then please get in touch.

As ever, if you need any further information please contact me at Kilvrough:

kevin@oxfordshireoutdoors.co.uk 01792 232743

Kevin Jackson Service Lead



Bookings 18/19

We have very limited availability in Jan and Feb 2019, these courses are now offered at **£225**, incl transport. First come first served, please contact the relevant Centre direct for further details.

Please note this offer doesn't apply to existing bookings, sorry!

Bookings 19/20 onwards

Bookings for the academic years 2019/20/21 and beyond are really taking off, however we still have dates available across all 3 Centres.

Please contact your chosen Centre directly to discuss availability, but don't delay as dates are now filling fast.

Are you willing to organise a share with another school, you can pair up if you wish. Please let us know as the higher occupancy helps keep course costs down and it helps us as well!



Kilvrough Manor 01792 232743

admin.kilvrough@oxfordshireoutdoors.co.uk

Woodlands 01497 847272

annie.clipson@oxfordshireoutdoors.co.uk

Yenworthy Lodge 01598 741266

admin.yenworthylodge@oxfordshireoutdoors.co.uk

In your course evaluations you made some very helpful suggestions. We've been busy addressing these to make the Centres more comfortable for your groups.

Yenworthy windows and storage containers

It's been a long wait and the really good news is that we have replaced all the windows. The work has taken a bit longer than planned, but its been well worth the wait. The old wooden frames have been replaced with shiny white double glazing which will mean an end to the drafts and weather proofing for years to come. A nice warm centre to look forward to!



We've also installed 2 storage containers for equipment, which solves another problem. Thanks to GW London for supplying these.

Together with some internal redecoration and external storage works, Yenworthy is looking very different and it's really pleasing to be able to report this.

We hope our visitors to Yenworthy notice the difference too. Please let us know what you think



Kilvrough windows

Another long wait The frames have been made Unfortunately the installation work has been delayed, but this will be rectified in the next few weeks

Your comfort

A delivery of replacement mattresses, scheduled for Sept 7th, means added comfort for your groups. Acting on your feedback we have replaced the older worn mattresses with newer lighter foam versions at all 3 centres. We know these will be good as we already have some in the centres and they have been well received by your groups

Oxfordshire Outdoors minibuses

We are changing our fleet, replacing 6 old buses this year with brand new ones on a lease arrangement. We are expecting delivery early in September, but this has just been put back, hopefully they won't be delayed for too much longer

Website updates

Make sure you check out the latest updates on the website which include new articles in our [Knowledge Base](#) and links to more general docs covering developments in the Outdoor sector.

Staff wellbeing weekends

Our offer in the [June 2018 newsletter](#) has generated discussions, are you and your team interested? Please have another look at the article and feel free to contact your centre to discuss further. We will design the course to suit your needs, you can be as adventurous or laid back as you like.....we will look after you.



Oxfordshire NCS programmes. With excellent weather; participants really buying in to the challenges; staff delivering effective support, they once again proved to be great weeks.

It's definitely a case of congrats all round for everyone concerned in the delivery of the programmes. It's been a great summer, really positive



close links with the Oxfordshire NCS team, providing a high quality week. Often what people don't see is the learning and development taking place across the board, for the participants, volunteers and staff alike it's a really powerful set of experiences which will serve them well in future



years. If you are working in a secondary school and are able to support the recruitment for future programmes please contact the [Oxfordshire NCS](#) team who I'm sure will be really grateful for your help, as will your students!

During the summer the National Citizen Service received a variable press, with some adverse comments from MP's. I'm not sure if they have witnessed what goes on first hand, but they would do well to see an Oxfordshire NCS programme in full flow.

As in previous years during late July and early August Oxfordshire Outdoors hosted the week 1 element of the



week 1 element of the involvement from participants, who got stuck into activity programmes with such enthusiasm and commitment.

A big thanks too to the NCS core staff team and especially to the leaders and volunteers who attended the centres and made each week special for the young people involved.

Over the years Oxfordshire Outdoors has developed really



years.

So a **very big well done** to you all, we hope the rest of the programmes were equally enjoyable and successful.

This year we noticed that a couple of weeks were under subscribed, which meant young people were missing out on this great opportunity, which is a real shame.



Is a maxim I often use. Have a look at this important campaign and ask yourself the question , what would it look like for your school? Your community?

CAMPAIGN 2022: Where are we now?

The outdoor learning sector has made many strides in recent years towards collaboration and co-working to improve outcomes for the children and young people in our care. But we know we have to do more to:

- collectively develop and deliver our services around the needs of children and young people
- build sector capacity to deliver these services in a way that best meets the needs of commissioners, including schools and parents

This is important at any time but at a point when funding cuts threaten provision – particularly for those who may need support the most – it is a sector imperative.

To help tackle this the members of the [Outdoor Council](#), with strong input from Institute of Outdoor Learning, have started work on **Campaign 2022** – the working title for a public facing approach to taking adventure to all.

The campaign's aims are to:

“ensure that the 750,000 four-year olds entering reception classes in September 2022 will be guaranteed high quality outdoor learning throughout their school life and through a rich set of family, youth work and community experiences”.

The Outdoor Council and Institute for Outdoor Learning want the children born in 2017 to be a generation ‘born outdoors’. We want them to have experiences at every age and stage of their childhood that move them towards being a generation of ‘outdoor citizens’ when they turn 18 in 2035.

This will help create a generation

- of resilient and healthy adults with a respect for, knowledge of and skills in life outdoors
- where academic success has been aided by the impact of effective outdoor learning
- of future parents who know that outdoor education is a must have for their own children
- connected to nature in way that benefits their

physical and mental well-being

- better equipped to address the challenges facing the environment.

The Outdoor Council have committed to working with partners to shape the campaign for a soft launch this summer 2018 (as the group ‘Born Outdoors’ are in their first year).

There are 3 immediate and specific objectives for this work:

1. As part of their contribution to this work Institute of Outdoor Learning – with some support from Natural England – have started work on a progression framework for outdoor learning that looks at what a progressive ‘outdoor learning passport’ might look like from a child’s perspective. This will be tested with the outdoor learning sector, parents, young people and schools over the months ahead.
2. Recognising the import of ensuring that in 2022 this group of children are entering primary schools that need to be equipped to support outdoor learning the Outdoor Council has committed to a specific piece of work on developing the ‘outdoor learning’ primary offer. A scalable model - developed with primary school and education partners – that builds the capacity of every primary school to support high quality outdoor learning. We want to start testing this with a funded programme from September 2018 and are making fundraising bids to support this.
3. Lastly the Outdoors Council has committed to continuing to work in partnership to building the capacity of the sector. Alongside fundraising bids and leveraging political and other support the Outdoor Council aims to use Campaign 2022 as a route to help the sector further develop its offer and delivery

For more information on Campaign 22 you can follow [@outdoorcouncil_](#) on twitter and watch out for updates in Institute for Outdoor Learning mailings.

Campaign 2022 is for those that we work with now and for those that we hope to work with in the future.

Every child born outside and every adult a citizen of the outdoors

The question is: do you want to get involved?

In no particular order:

- With increasing recognition of the critical role of 'soft' skills – for example, resilience in educational attainment and overall wellbeing – it's time character education became more of a priority. [Wayne Norrie](#), chief executive of Greenwood Academies Trust, explains how this plays a vital role in supporting wellbeing amongst students, as well as boosting educational attainment
- The latest guidance from Govt on [charging for school activities and visits](#) is for local authorities; governing bodies; school leaders; school staff. It applies to all local authority maintained schools and the guidance outlines what schools can charge for including voluntary contributions and reduced charges
- OFSTED have published a report: [Obesity, healthy eating and physical activity in primary schools](#) , read the [Youth Sport Trust response](#). Can the Centres help you with this important topic?
- The [Sport and Recreation Alliance](#) issues ultimatum to secure #RightToBeActive for every child
- The [2018 Outdoor Learning Sector Conference](#) will be held on Nov 7,8,9th. Interested?
- The [Council for Learning Outside the Classroom Conference](#) will be held on Thurs Nov 22nd at the Black Country Museum
- The latest news on the [AALA review](#) update in which the HSE Board have requested more the removal of the AALR regulations and move to an industry-led; non-statutory; not-for-profit scheme underpinned by the Health and Safety at work etc. Act 1974, to provide assurance to users of outdoor activities. This will, if delivered, be the best option for our work
- Education Secretary sets [vision for boosting social mobility](#) and Govt's [New relationships and health education](#) report is published. Can your extra curricular activities programme, and in particular your outdoor learning curriculum contribute?
- The Scottish Govt initiative [Get Active, Stay Active](#) aims to cut physical inactivity by 15%
- Sport Wales launches its [Vision for Sport in Wales and Healthy and Active Fund](#) in which it recognises that getting everyone in Wales active can unleash a range of benefits - including better health and well-being and more connected communities
- Communities Minister [announces £250,000](#) to give more young people from diverse backgrounds across the country the opportunity to join national youth groups
- [Natural England](#) has reported on visits to parks are on the rise as city dwellers head outdoors. The government's [25 Year Environment Plan](#) aims to connect more people with the environment by creating more green infrastructure in towns and cities, helping people improve their health and wellbeing by using green spaces and encouraging children to be close to nature, with particular focus on disadvantaged areas
- The [WILD NETWORK](#) newsletter has some interesting features. Check out the Dangerous Dads initiative, might be something to think aboutwe would be happy to host a weekend at an Oxfordshire Outdoors centre.
- The [We are Ocean](#) report takes a look at our relationship with the sea

Groundwork South and TESCO Bags of Help projects in Oxfordshire

Some great news here Congratulations to the 3 schools and fingers crossed for Ladygrove Park too

Groundwork South administers the local funding of the Tesco Bags of Help scheme across Oxfordshire. Every two months, three community groups get the opportunity to be included in voting to win grants of £4000, £2000 and £1000.

The following Oxfordshire schools were included in the May and June voting round and have been successfully awarded grants:

- ♦ **John Mason School** in Abingdon, awarded £2000 for their Science Technology Engineering Maths Project - The project is designed to enable students to participate in new Science Technology Engineering and Maths related activities.
- ♦ **Langford Village School** in Bicester, awarded £4000 for their Langford Village Playing Field Project – This project is to improve the large school field, to make the facilities more modern and to help children become more active and enjoy a wider range of outdoor sports.
- ♦ **All Saints C.E. (A) Primary School** in Didcot, awarded £3698 for their Outdoor Gym Equipment Project - Providing fitness workouts for schoolchildren to develop aerobic fitness and physical wellbeing.

Ladygrove Park Primary School in Didcot, is in the current live voting round for July and August. Their Playground Makeover Project is aimed at refreshing the old and tired playground, and turning the muddy patches into a marvellous play area for all to enjoy.

Design your own project?

For more information on how to apply for a **Tesco Bags of Help grant** please contact your **local Community Enabler:**

Jennifer.rose@groundwork.org.uk

07702 532755 for Bicester, Henley on Thames and Banbury.

Madeleine.yarwood@groundwork.org.uk

077361 32695 for Abingdon, Faringdon, Didcot, Kidlington and Oxford City

Please use this link to obtain further information on the [Tesco Bags of Help](#) scheme

Don't miss out, get involved

Funding for Projects that Encourage Learning from the Land (UK)

Schools and not for profit organisations can apply for grants of up to £12,000 for projects that encourage young people to learn from the land and that link in with the National Curriculum. Projects funded have included wildlife habitat studies and outdoor classroom development. There are two funding streams, applications for up to £4,000 for pump-priming projects can be submitted at any time. Most awards made are for £1,500 to £2,500. Larger grant applications, for £4,000 to £12,000, are awarded twice a year with the next deadline being 31 January 2019. Apply to the [Ernest Cook Trust](#)