

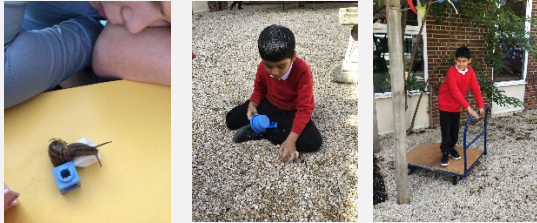
Botley School



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now settling into our routines and getting into some great learning. I have been in all the classrooms this week and have been impressed with how much pride pupils are taking in their work. I am also impressed with the fantastic use of vocabulary being used in conversation, especially some of our youngest pupils discussing arachnids with me this week.

The weather has also been kind to us, so there have been some great opportunities for outdoor learning, and the use of the quad by Cherry class.



Thank you for all the cake donations for MacMillan Cake Sale today. We raised over £60 which is very impressive for the first cake sale of the year.

This week we had our FOBS AGM. Thank you to the committee and the parents who attended, both in person and online. Extra special thanks go to our outgoing Secretary Amy Boyd, who has done so much for FOBS over very many years, and our incoming Secretary Hugo Marques. There will be quite a lot of excitement coming up with the preparations and requests for help with our biggest fundraiser, the Botley Fireworks. The event is being held on Friday 14th November this year. Please keep the date free and do let FOBS know if you are able to help or support in any way. As a reminder of what a special night it is, here is a photo from last year's display!



Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Reid

Apply for Year 7 Secondary place

The admissions portal for parents of year 6 pupils to apply for secondary school places is now open. Please see further details on the next page of the newsletter. There is an open evening for Matthew Arnold School on 2nd October starting at 5:30. Again, please see further information later in the newsletter.

Upcoming Events

- W.B. 29 Sept** – SEN profile meetings
- 2 Oct** – School Census day
- 9 Oct** – EYFS harvest stay & play
- 10 Oct** – Harvest assembly 9:15
- 12 Oct** – Oxford Half marathon school's challenge
- 14 Oct** – NSPCC workshops for years 2, 5 and 6 pupils
- 14 Oct** - Phonics parent meeting online 4pm
- 21 Oct** – Prospective Parent Tour
- 3 Nov** – INSET day
- 4 & 5 Nov** – Parent consultation meetings
- 7 Nov** – Poetry week assembly 9:15
- 14 Nov** – FOBS Fireworks
- 17-21 Nov** – Yr 6 Residential
- 19 Nov** – Prospective Parent Tour
- 21 Nov** – Yr 4 trip to Chedworth
- 27 Nov** – Yr 3 trip Ashmolean
- 11 Dec** – EYFS Christmas stay and play 9:15
- 11 Dec** – KS1 performance 4:00
- 12 Dec** – prospective Parent tour
- 12 Dec** – Workshare
- 17 Dec** – Xmas lunch/party day
- 19 Dec** – Christmas Assembly 9:15

Help from Kier

We are delighted that Kier have agreed to help the school to give a benefit to the local community while it completes the Botley Road/station works. So far, their team has tarmacked the strip at the edge of the car park, which used to have beautiful planters on, but which had become overgrown with weeds. They have also removed the unnecessary bollards from the school playground and tarmacked here too. We are grateful for their help and look forward to more Kier improvements which the school would otherwise struggle to afford to do.

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

To apply for 'Free School Meals' and pupil premium, please download the application form using the link below. If your child is in KS1, they will get a free meal anyway, but please still complete the form if you are eligible, as this also then provides additional funding for the school to use in other ways. If you are not sure if your family is eligible, please do speak to the wonderful office staff or Mrs Yasin, who will be able to help you.

[Free School Meals application form](#)

School Census Day and school meals

Next Thursday is School Census Day. This is an important day as the majority of our school funding is determined by what happens on this day. Part of that is our School Meals Census.

The more children who take a school meal on Thursday next week, the more funding the school receives. There is a special census day school menu – see below. For pupils in Reception, Y1 and Y2 and those who receive Free School Meals, we will provide a meal on Thursday unless you let the office know you definitely don't want this.

For KS2 children who pay for meals, lunches will be ordered like normal - if your child does not usually take a school meal, this would be a great day to try one out! Our new caterers are exceptional and the food being offered is the best I have ever seen in a primary school. The children are also really enthusiastic about it. As one said, 'It is like going to a café'. Please do encourage your child to have a school meal next week, particularly on Thursday.

English as an additional language (EAL) at Botley School

At Botley School we are so proud of the diverse cultures and languages spoken by our community. The number of children who speak English as an additional language in our school directly affects the level of funding we receive each academic year. This funding helps us provide tailored support and resources to meet the needs of all our learners. In the next few weeks, we will be sending out a Microsoft Form for parents to update what languages are spoken within the family home. A pupil's first language is not English when the pupil:

- Has been exposed to a language other than English during early development, and
- Continues to be exposed to this language in the home or in the community

The home language usually refers to the language(s) regularly spoken in the pupil's home. A pupil may have more than 1 home language (speaking different languages to different family members) and the home language may change over time. If you have any questions, please speak to Miss Doran or email her at botleysenco@botley.oxon.sch.uk.

INSET Day

Please note that Monday 3rd November is an INSET day so the school will be closed to pupils.

Term Dates 2025-2026

Term 1

Thursday 4th Sept 2025 –
 Fri 19th December 2025
 Half term Holiday:
 27th – 31st October 2025

Term 2

Tuesday 6th Jan 2026 –
 Friday 27th March 2026
 Half term holiday:
 16th Feb – 20th Feb 2026

Term 3

Monday 13th April 2026 –
 Friday 17th July 2026
 Half term holiday:
 25th May-29th May 2026

INSET DAYS

Monday 1st September 2025
 Tuesday 2nd September 2025
 Wed 3rd September 2025
 Monday 3rd November 2025
 Monday 5th January 2026
 Monday 1st June 2026
 Monday 20th July 2026



Contact details

Office.2569@Botley.oxon.sch.uk
 01865 248573



E-mail: office@acertrust.org.uk
 Tel: 01865 519215

Apply now for Year 6 secondary school place:

The application portal is now open for families of Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school place for September 2026.

We strongly encourage families to apply online via the following link: [Year 7 - secondary school applications | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

If online applications are not possible, forms can be printed from the school office or completed digitally.

Key Dates:

The portal opened on 12 September 2025 and will close on **31 October 2025** (deadline for **on-time applications**).

Reminder for parents of the following important points:

- **Apply on Time**
Late applications will not receive an offer on National Offer Day (**2 March 2026**) and may reduce the chance of securing a place at a preferred school.
- **Address Updates**
If families have recently moved or are planning to move, they must upload proof of address (e.g. tenancy agreement, Council Tax bill, or exchange of contracts) alongside their application. They should also inform their child's current primary school to avoid discrepancies in the system.
- **Sibling Information**
Parents should include details of any siblings already attending the schools they are applying to.
- **List Multiple Preferences**
Encourage families to list more than one school preference (up to four can be selected).



The poster features the Matthew Arnold School logo at the top, which includes a yellow tree icon and the text 'MATTHEW ARNOLD SCHOOL' in red and yellow. Below the logo is the motto 'AMBITION. INCLUSION. COLLABORATION. KINDNESS.' in white. The main title 'OPEN EVENING' is written in large, bold, white capital letters. A yellow banner below the title contains the text 'THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER 2025 5.30 PM - 8.00 PM' in white. At the bottom, the location 'ARNOLDS WAY, OXFORD OX2 9JE' and website 'WWW.MASCHOOL.ORG.UK' are listed in white. The bottom section of the poster is a collage of four images: a QR code with the text 'SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS' to its left, a group of students sitting at tables, a football team in red kits on a field, and a student playing a guitar. The Acer Trust logo is in the bottom right corner.

FOOD FESTIVAL
By Aspens

Census Day
2nd October 2025

Beef Burger in a Bun
(Halal Available)

Or

Homemade Veggie Burger in a Bun

Both served with
BBQ Beans and Wedges

Dessert

Chocolate Shortbread Cookie

.....
Aspens



Could You Help a Child Discover the Joy of Reading?



The charity obtains enhanced DBS checks on all volunteers before placement
Charity Number: 1146275

ARCh Assisted Reading for Children is an award-winning Oxfordshire charity that transforms children's lives by helping them grow in reading ability, confidence, and wellbeing- all through the power of one-to-one support.

We're looking for more volunteers across Oxfordshire to spend a little time each week during the school day, supporting children one-to-one in a local primary school.

Whether you're retired, working part-time, or looking for something meaningful to do alongside work, there's a place for you at ARCh. Full training, ongoing support, and resources are all provided- just bring your warmth and enthusiasm!

If you, or someone you know, might be interested, please get in touch – we'd love to hear from you!
info@archoxfordshire.org.uk
www.archoxfordshire.org.uk



VOLUNTEERS' WEEK

★

Get Involved

volunteersweek.org

[#VolunteersWeek](https://twitter.com/VolunteersWeek)

2nd - 8th June



GUITAR LESSONS

- Spaces available for beginner to advanced players. No need to own a guitar
- All styles covered - rock, pop, blues, classical, metal. Grades, performance, composition and theory all covered
- Lessons take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the school, with each 25 minute session taught on a 1-1 basis at £16 per lesson
- Fun, informative lessons tutored to inspire those interested in music!



For more information and to book a lesson please contact:

Lee Luland (School Guitar Teacher)

Email: LeeLuland@live.co.uk
Tel: 07872478886

Please note Lee has spaces for new students on Thursdays if any prospective parents would like to get in contact, Thank you

Piano lessons

Every week on Mondays and Tuesdays during school hours



For more information contact Diyana
Mob: 07707216175
Email: divchevcurr@yahoo.co.uk

Please note Diyana will have spaces for new students from September if any prospective parents would like to get in contact and reserve their place. Thank you

Every Wednesday during term-time 4.00 - 5.30pm

Outdoor Explorers



£8.00 per child p/w

Experience the magic of nature & the joy of outdoor adventure, together with your children, after school each Wednesday:

- Fun outdoor self-led activities
- Hands-on nature exploration
- Unwind, connect with the environment & make friends

www.hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ 01865 863510

CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

OCTOBER 2025

TECH & STEM CAMP

WITH TAKE HOME INVENTIONS!

GET READY FOR SPOOKY TECH FUN!

Robots



Inventions

Minecraft + LEGO



Engineering

VR



Tech Fun!

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2025

What's on?

Different activity theme each day, please check website for your specific camps activities



REVOLTING R•B•TICS



EERIE ENGINEERING



MYSTERY MINECRAFT



SPOOKY FILM MAKING



TERRIFYING TECH FUN

NEW Take Home Inventions



20th -31st October LIMITED SPACES

WHAT TO EXPECT:

At Next Thing Education, our goal is to ignite curiosity, fuel creativity, and empower young minds for the future!

This October, children will explore micro-robots, video game design, LEGO WeDo2, animation, augmented reality, 3D pens, movie making, VR, Minecraft Marvel, and even launch their own science rockets — with a Spooky Dress-Up Friday to finish the week!

★★★★★

"My son LOVED camp — he came home buzzing, with the things he made!"

Kate Sarjeant - Google Review

★★★★★

"My son had a wonderful time and was begging to go again."

Gill Coleman - Google Review

★★★★★

"Staff who truly care about children and will ensure that they enjoy the camp."

Wesli Shrimston - Google Review

5 days for only £175 (Save £25)

LIMITED SPACES, BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE TODAY!

W: www.nextthing.education T: 01442 873150

Dragon School, OX2 6SS
Ages 5-11, 9 am - 4 pm daily
£39.99 per day

Book now: www.nextthing.education

Scan me 



Girls aged 7-10 Years old

Do you want to have Fun,
Make New Friends
& Learn New Things?

Then join 2nd Botley Brownies

Tuesdays 6:15pm to 7:45pm

Contact:

secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com



ART CLASSES



A PLACE TO BELONG, GROW & CREATE

**BOOK A
TRIAL NOW!**

- Art Classes for Children 6+
- Teen Art Classes
- GCSE & A-Level Support
- Holiday Art Workshops
- Seasonal Family Workshops
- Birthday Parties & Events

COMMITTED TO SAFEGUARDING | OFSTED REGISTERED | CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED



07384 670391
 oxford@art-k.co.uk
 art-k.co.uk/class-oxford
 37 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JN



GIVE YOUR CHILD AN INVALUABLE LIFE SKILL AT WHITE HORSE LEISURE AND TENNIS CENTRE

Do you want to improve your child's water confidence and give them the ability to swim?

Discover how to kick-start your child's confidence in the water at better.org.uk/swim-school

BETTER



WHAT'S MORE, YOUR CHILD WILL...

- Develop social skills whilst having fun with new friends
- Feel motivated as they progress through stages
- Improve their confidence with every stroke
- And most importantly, learn a life saving skill

Better Swim School offers affordable lessons for all ages and abilities taught by qualified teachers with our own industry leading swim school programme. Our safe and friendly environment will ensure your child enjoys life long fun in and around the water.

Book now to secure your child's place at better.org.uk/swim-school

Edible Botley

Do you have an edible (for humans) fruit/nut tree/bush that is accessible from the pavement/public space that might benefit from a sign to enable any fellow humans to help themselves when ripe?

If so please contact Melissa Kinnear @

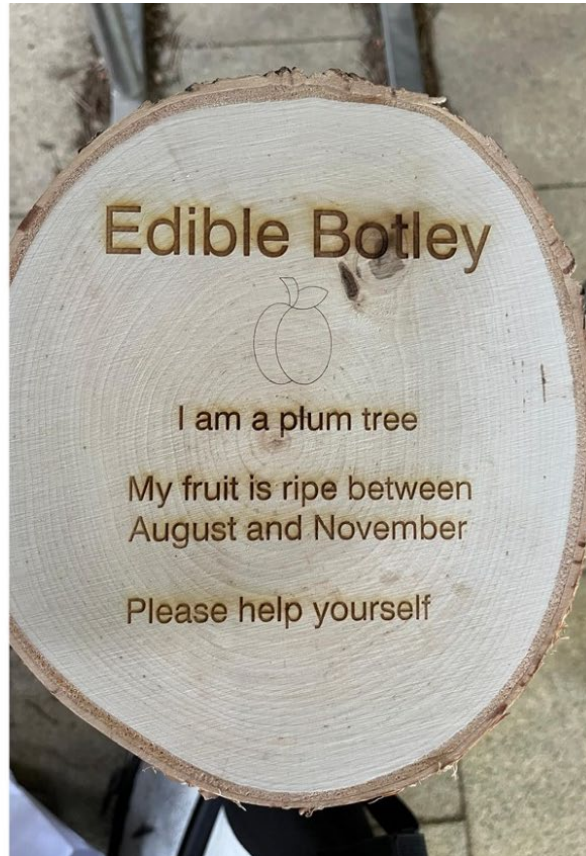
melissakinnear@yahoo.co.uk

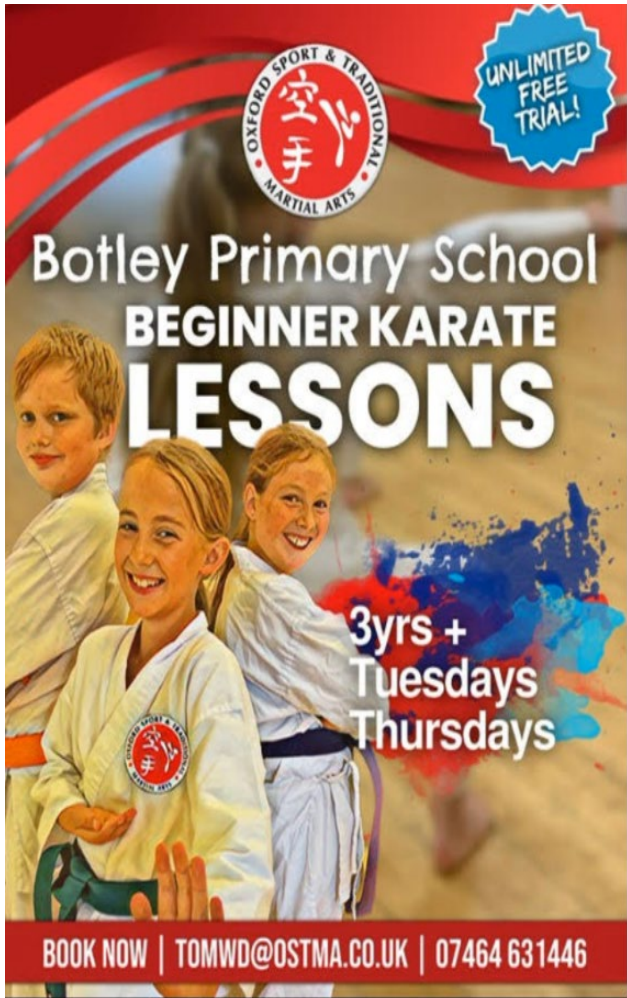
In the email please let her know:

1. the address for the tree/bush
2. the type of tree/bush (so she can work out when the fruit/nuts are ripe).

Once this information has been gathered she will start crafting signs for all the trees/bushes in Botley!

Looking forward to harvesting with neighbours!





OXFORD SPORT & TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS

UNLIMITED FREE TRIAL!

Botley Primary School
BEGINNER KARATE
LESSONS

3yrs +
Tuesdays
Thursdays

BOOK NOW | TOMWD@OSTMA.CO.UK | 07464 631446

Could you inspire the next generation of cyclists?

We are searching for **Cycle Instructors** to join our expanding **Bikeability** team.



We are looking for confident communicators to deliver fun and inspirational cycle training in schools.

If you have loads of enthusiasm to share and are looking for rewarding work to deliver during school term time, we would love to hear from you.

Role: Variable Hours Contract

Hourly Rate: £13.20 plus holiday pay. We have an employee benefits scheme too!

Training and Support: we provide full, free training and ongoing support including nationally recognised qualifications.

For more information, please contact:
jobs@outspokentraining.co.uk, 01223 473820

www.outspokentraining.co.uk



Iranian Community Network (ICN)

English Language Classes & Digital Skills

2025 Hybrid (Online_Offline)

Designed to help you to improve English Language with everyday digital skills

Practical classes with interactive instruction to help you feel comfortable, communicating in English and integrating into your local community.

To reserve a place, please text or email us your contact details

We operate under GDPR rules and regulations, your information will be stored securely and in confidence.

admin@icn-uk.org or Text **07951 035096**

WWW.ICN-UK.ORG
 CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1198007

TRY A CLASS FOR FREE



Now showing, CONFIDENCE!

Drama, dance & singing classes designed to help 4-12 year olds shine

**** My son has adored his first term at Perform. He has blossomed and I've seen his confidence grow every week. ****
 Pippa Wotton

PERFORM

Play is a POWERFUL THING

Perform classes help boost children's **confidence, concentration, coordination** and **communication** skills, as well as being lots of fun.

Our expertly designed drama, dance and singing sessions for 4-7s and 7-12s are run by experienced teachers, hand-picked for their warmth and approachability. They'll be with your child every step of the way - inspiring and encouraging them to develop vital life skills as they discover the joy of performing.

What does Perform offer?

- Performing arts-based games and exercises
- Focus on a different social skill each week
- Small classes and feedback on your child's progress
- Specially created scripts, videos and apps
- End of term presentation for family and friends

Ready to try for free?
 Your child's first class is free, so why not give it a go? Classes take place all over, have a look online or call us:



perform.org.uk/try 020 7255 9120

** Perform helps develop all key areas of a child in a fun, supportive and engaging way. It gives my daughter a brilliant sense of fun, community, purpose and pride in her achievements. **
 Begum Bari



October 2025

October Holiday Clubs



Open to all children aged 3 to 11 years, with funded places available for children in Reception to Year 6

Activities include dodgeball, dance, drama, yoga, multi skills, ball games, art and crafts, team and confidence building activities and much more.



LOCATION:
St Nicholas' Primary School, Oxford

COST:
£38 per day
All childcare vouchers accepted

DATES:
Monday 27 to Friday 31 October

TIMES:
8.00am to 5.00pm



Scan the QR code to book

In Year 6?
Join our Young Leader Programme running over Half Term focused on leadership, initiative and creativity

rattleandrollperformance.com

07722 014301

New classes on Mondays in Seacourt Hall September 2025



PRE-PRIMARY & PRIMARY BALLE

3-6YR OLDS
15:45-16:15



GRADE 1-2 BALLE

7-10YR OLDS
16:15-17:00



INTERMEDIATE FOUNDATION BALLE

GRADE 3-4 LEVEL
17:00-18:00



RAD QUALIFIED TEACHERS

OVER 15 YEAR ESTABLISHED SCHOOL

EXAMS AND SHOWS



oxfordcityschoolofdance@gmail.com
07913148332



Go Wild This October Half-Term!

Monday 27 & Tuesday 28 October

WILD DAYS for 7-12 year olds

Bushcraft, nature walks, campfire cooking, and den-building in the stunning surroundings of Hill End and Wytham Woods.

From pond-dipping to minibeast hunting, our expert tutors will lead exciting hands-on activities, making learning fun while kids connect with nature and new friends.



Booking Essential: <https://hill-end.org/news/wild-days>

HillEndOEC
 Hill_End
 hill_end_centre

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ 01865 863510

£9.50 (child)
£11.50 (adult)
ticket includes lunch

Autumn Adventures - Family Days

Wednesday 29 & Thursday 30 October

10am - 2pm

Come and enjoy the great outdoors at our wonderful site this half term!

* natural arts / willow weaving * Halloween jokes trail *

* campfire & s'mores * conkers * woodcraft *

* explore & play *

hill_end_centre
 HillEndOEC
 Hill_End

Hill End Centre, OX2 9NJ
01865 863510

Registered charity: 1173987

www.hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events



BOTLEY'S HEALTH & WELLBEING FESTIVAL

27 SEPT 25

WHAT'S ON

- Fitness taster sessions
- Health talks & wellbeing demos
- Local nutritionists, therapists, fitness coaches & wellness brands
- Family-friendly activities
- Food stalls & refreshments

Everyone welcome
Free entry!

For more information visit:
www.botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk/news

LOUIE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELDS
10:00 - 14:00

Local Wellbeing / Health Businesses & Providers
Get involved

Stall spaces & demo slots available

Reserve yours now by filling in this form
<https://forms.gle/yA2jv4Koz3sACoMWA>

Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council

LOUIE MEMORIAL PLAYING FIELDS 10:00 - 14:00

Kick off the weekend with a celebration of health, fitness, and community!

Whether you're curious about yoga, keen to try a new sport, or simply want a fun day out, this free festival has something for everyone.

BOTLEY'S HEALTH & WELLBEING FESTIVAL
27 SEPT 25

• Participate
• Wear trainers

ACTIVITIES		
9:00 PARKRUN (5KMD) @ Harcourt Hill Kick off your day with a run or walk with the local parkrun community	10:00 FESTIVAL OPENS @ Louie Memorial Fields Stalls and activities open to the public (Till 2pm)	10:00 RUN AND RESET With Najwa Stretch, breathwork & guided meditation
10:25 BREATHWORK With Lynn	10:50 CIRCUIT TRAINING With Eloise Fun, energising circuit workout	11:15 DANCE FITNESS With Fitsteps Based on ballroom and latin dances
12:00 FOOTBALL MATCHES Botley Boys & Girls v Cumnor Minors Then the 2 teams combine to take on the public - join the fun!	13:00 CIRCUIT TRAINING With Eloise Another chance to get moving with Eloise's circuits	13:20 YOGA With Najwa Express yoga for all abilities
13:40 DANCE DEMO With Fitsteps Finish the day with upbeat latin and ballroom dance moves!	ALL DAY FAMILY GAMES by Decathlon	ALL DAY SMOOTHIE BIKE Blend your own smoothie using pedal power

FOOD		
POP UP CAFE Refreshments throughout the day	PLANTED PLATES Healthy, delicious vegan food	HEDGEROW BAKERY Lower-sugar cakes & treats

Bring cash

STALLS		
NAJWA HUSAINI Yoga workshops and demos	NOURISH AND THRIVE Science-based nutrition & health coaching	THE MOVE CLINIC Injury prevention & movement therapy
ASPIRE PERSONAL TRAINER Expert PT advice and tasters	HILL END OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTRE Nature-based family activities	BOTLEY COMMUNITY WALKS Local walking groups
CUMNOR FIT FOR THE FUTURE Promoting local walks and nature	UNBOUND RELATING / NYLA.COACH Life coaching and relationship support	NURTUREYOURSELF NOWOXFORD Wellbeing coaching
JO HOBDEN MASSAGE Taster massages	DECATHLON Family games and sporting activities	HEART REIKI Reiki taster sessions
THE ATLAS CLUB Personal Trainer focusing on men's mental health and breaking down the toxicity and unhealthy standards that exist in the fitness industry	ACTIVE COMMUNITIES TEAM Programmes that support being more active and moving more and delivering holiday activities.	RALEIGH PARK CLINIC Allied and Complementary Healthcare Clinic with 27 Practitioners offering a range of healthcare services for both physical and mental wellbeing.
FITSTEPS DANCE Energetic dance fitness demos	OVER OVERWHELM! Coaching service and overwhelm retreats	ELOISE Circuit training classes

Brought to you by:

Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council

For more information contact: clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk