



Botley School

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been the best start to the new school year ever! The children have been so happy and calm, getting used to their new routines, teachers and teaching assistants. In our assemblies we have started by thinking out our school values of Respect, Resilience, Kindness, Creativity, Inclusivity and Teamwork and how these link to our school rules:

- We will treat everyone in Botley Community with **respect** and **kindness**
- We will ensure everyone feels **included** and part of the **team**
- We will work **creatively** and with **resilience** in our learning

The classes have all made their own charters for how they are going to support each other to keep to our values and our school rules. We have also discussed who helps us with this, including the staff and parents. If we can model these values and rules as adults, our Botley pupils will be so well supported in developing their social skills both for now and for their future.

Thinking of our value of **Teamwork**, we have also voted in our pupil leadership teams for this year: Pupil Council; Eco-Warriors; DEI Champions; Sports Leaders; and House Captains. The pupils who have been voted in came to the front in today's assembly, where they each introduced themselves and said why they wanted to be part of the Leadership Teams. I am really looking forward to working with all these groups this year.

As we start this year, there are quite a few events coming up, including the parent meetings in the week starting the 15th September. During these meetings, the teaching staff will introduce themselves and their teams and go through some of the curriculum plans and expectations for each year group.

We also have our first Friends of Botley School (FOBS) PTA meeting taking place on 22nd September. This is a great chance to come and have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit or two, meet the FOBS committee and find out how you can help. Our first big event will be our annual fireworks display on November 14th, so please do come and support our brilliant committee and school.

There are lots of reminders and notices below, including a letter from our chair of governors, Mrs Sue Miller, so please do take the time to read these, and keep an eye on the dates to the side of this text for the upcoming school events this term.

Have a lovely weekend.
Mrs Reid

**FOBS Meeting
Monday 22nd
7pm Botley
School**

Upcoming Events

- 8 Sept** – Yr4 start swimming
- 15 Sept** – KS1 parent meeting
- 16 Sept** – EYFS parent meeting
- 16 Sept** – Yr4 parent meeting
- 17 Sept** – Yr 3 parent meeting
- 18 Sept** – Yr 6 parent meeting
- 19 Sept** – Yr 5 parent meeting
- 22 Sept** – FOBS AGM
- 26 Sept** – Macmillan Cake Sale
- 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

Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to another school year! After a summer of wonderful weather, it now feels decidedly like Autumn, and a good time to return to school. Please can I extend a particular welcome to new children, parents and carers, as well as new teachers – I hope you will enjoy being at our happy and inclusive school.

The Summer term ended with a great set of assessment results for the Early Years, KS1 Phonics, the Year 4 Multiplication check and the year 6 SATs, which showcase the results of the dedicated school improvement that took place during the year. There will be further continuous development work and interventions this year to continue and build on this success. As you know, a new phonics scheme has already been introduced and there will be further emphasis on encouraging oracy in the school – something which is already proving to be a winner with the children! Other plans are in progress and Mrs Reid will update you as these are finalised.

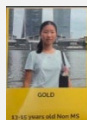
The Governing Body works with Mrs Reid to provide strategic leadership, helps set the school's vision and oversees budget allocation. We are all volunteers, and are made up of a combination of people from the local community who bring their experience and skills to the table, together with nominated parents and staff members. This term, there will be nominations for a parent governor, and more details of this will be sent out in due course.

Meantime, a list of governors can be found on the school website. If there is ever anything we can help with, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sue Miller
Chair of Governors

Piano Competition Update

You may remember that last term one of our past pupils, Yalan Fang, was entered into the prestigious London Youth Piano Competition Online. If you follow the link it will take you to her performance of a piece by Rachmaninov. [YouTube London Youth Piano Competition entry](#) I am thrilled to announce that Yalan achieved a Gold award for her wonderful performance. Huge congratulations to Yalan, and thank you to everyone who took the time to follow the link and support her achievement.



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 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](#)

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 also change over time. If you have any questions, please speak to Miss Doran or email her at botleysenco@botley.oxon.sch.uk.

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

Botley School in the Oxford Mail

Look out for Botley School in the Oxford Mail education supplement next week!

Start of the School Day

Thank you to everyone for such a strong start to the year in terms of attendance. Last year our attendance and lateness improved brilliantly, but there is still some improvement needed. As a reminder, the school day starts promptly at **8:45**. The school gates open at **8:30** and the school doors open at 8:40 to give pupils 5 minutes to get to class and learning starts at **8:45**. Please ensure your child is in school ready to learn in their classroom by **8:45** so they do not miss any valuable learning time. If you wish to make use of the free breakfast club, this opens from 8:00am each morning.

Talking of which... free breakfast club next week

The free breakfast club is open to all, from 8am every day. All pupils are welcome, for a healthy and filling breakfast, and a soft start to the school day. There is no booking form for next week, just turn up!

Break Time Snacks

This is a polite reminder that KS2 pupils are only allowed fruit or vegetable snacks at morning break. This is part of our commitment to encouraging healthy lifestyles and to ensure parity across the school. KS1 and Early Years have fruit or vegetable snacks provided at school through specific government funding for children in those years. KS2 do not have this provided but are expected to bring fruit or vegetables for their snack. Pupils bringing other food items onto the playground will be asked to put them in their bag for lunchtime.

Uniform

It is lovely to see so many of our pupils looking smart and ready to learn in their uniform. There are still some pupils who are not in the correct uniform at all times or who are wearing jewellery in school. Pupils will be asked to remove any items of jewellery and may be given spare uniform to wear if they do not have the correct uniform on in school.

Elms Road safety and access

This is our start of the year reminder to our community that driving up Elms Road at arrival or collection times should be avoided as this makes the area much more dangerous for all our pupils and families walking to and from school. Can I also remind everyone that Elms Road is residents only parking, and therefore no parents should be parking on the road. I regularly receive complaints from residents and walking parents about feeling unsafe because of inconsiderate driving and parking. Please do not stop in the middle of the road to allow pupils to get out of the car, as this causes traffic to build up which is dangerous for the children and families trying to cross the road. If there is a specific medical or accessibility reason why you need to park closer to the school, please contact the school office, who will forward your request to the appropriate member of staff.

Collection arrangements

Another start of the year reminder that pupils in school can only be collected by siblings who are 14 and over. This is within the policy for collection arrangements agreed by the governing board and is part of our commitment to safeguarding all our pupils here at Botley School. You can find the policy on the school website:

[collecting-children-from-school-policy.pdf](#)

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01865 248573



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



Could You Help a Child Discover the Joy of Reading?



The charity obtains enhanced DBS checks on all volunteers before placement
Charity Number 1146276

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





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 £15 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



Breast Walk Ever

AG INST
breast cancer

WALK FOR BREAST CANCER RESEARCH
Everyone can help find a cure for cancer

14th SEPT 2025
Wallingford
Oxfordshire

www.breastwalkever.org
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Approved with
FR Financial
REGULATOR

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for info & to sign up



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

Every Wednesday during term-time 4.00 - 5.30pm



Outdoor Explorers

Hill-End
A place of possibilities

£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



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

art-k

Does your child enjoy singing?

West Oxford Young Singers is run Jo Gill and Sue Baker from the County Music Service. The group meets on Wednesdays from 4-5pm at West Oxford Primary School, and is open to children in years 3-6 from any local school. We sing a wide range of songs as well as developing the children's singing and musical skills through games and other activities. We also perform regularly in concerts. Taking part costs £5.50 per week, paid half-termly, with the possibility of reduced fees for families who would find this unaffordable.

There is more information about the choir on [this link](#).

If your child would like to give the choir a try, they are welcome to come along for a free trial session next Wednesday, 10th September. Please get in touch with Jo (jo.gill@oxfordshire.gov.uk) directly to arrange this, or just bring your child along to West Oxford School at 4pm on the day. You are also welcome to email Jo with any other questions about the choir.

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 @

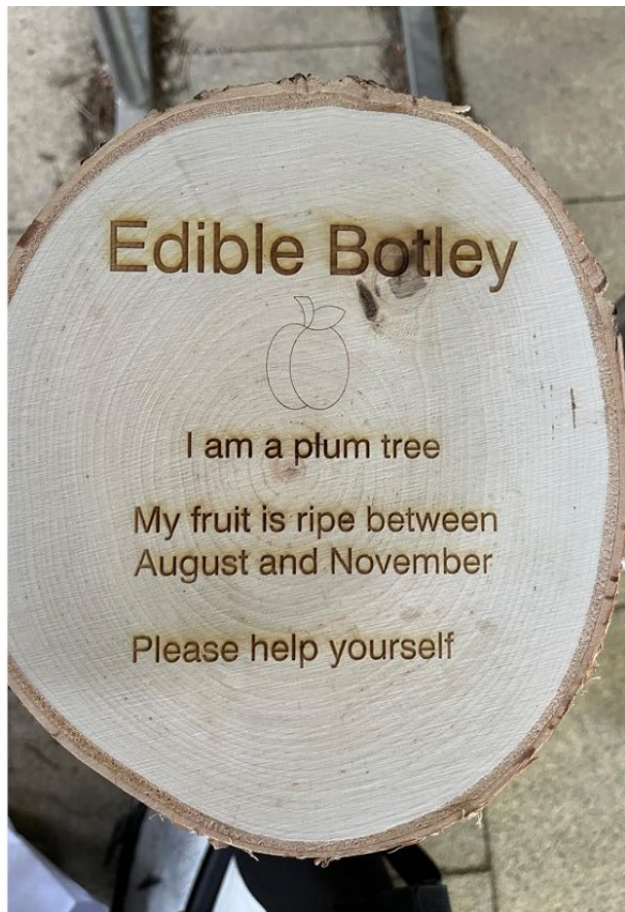
melissakinnear@yahoo.co.uk

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 +
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Thursdays

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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

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

OLIVER & JAMES
RAFFLE
 IN SUPPORT OF DEMENTIA UK
 DRAW DATE: 22ND SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 2PM

♥ **PRIZES TO BE WON:**

- Blenheim Palace Family Annual Pass
- Junkyard Golf Experience
- Snakes & Ladders Family Entrance
- Chiltern Valley Winery Tour & Tasting for two
- Oxford Cocktail River Cruise for two
- Wine Tasting Tour for two at Brightwell Vineyard
- Fairytale Farm Family Entry
- Oxford Playhouse Tickets for two
- Millets Farm Gift Card

£1 EACH OR £5 A BOOK ON SALE NOW!

Oliver & James Funeral Directors,
 4 Elms Parade, Botley, Oxford OX2 9LG

BOTLEY SKATEPARK
OPENING JAM!

6th September **12PM 'TIL 4PM**

LOUIE MEMORIAL FIELDS
ARNOLD'S WAY, BOTLEY
OXFORD, OX2 9EQ

COMPETITIONS AND PRIZES ALL AGES

NEW DATE ANNOUNCED

FCC COMMUNITY FUND CANVAS SS20 BOTLEY SK8S Botley and North Hinksey Parish Council

New classes on Mondays in Seacourt Hall September 2025

			
PRE-PRIMARY & PRIMARY BALLET	GRADE 1-2 BALLET	INTERMEDIATE FOUNDATION BALLET	RAD QUALIFIED TEACHERS
3-6YR OLDS	7-10YR OLDS	GRADE 3-4 LEVEL	OVER 15 YEAR ESTABLISHED SCHOOL
15:45-16:15	16:15-17:00	17:00-18:00	EXAMS AND SHOWS

oxfordcityschoolofdance@gmail.com 07913148332

OXFORD CITY SCHOOL OF DANCE

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