

Botley School



Newsletter 21st March 2025

Well – what a week! We seemed to take over TV yesterday as pupils from Cherry and Lilac class were featured in news reports on both Meridian News and BBC south Today. Lilac class were filmed at the Playhouse Theatre for the showcase of a selection of plays written by primary pupils from across the region, with one play being chosen from each school. The photos show the performers acting out a play about a T-Rex being victimised by a unicorn and a frog because of its short arms and our winning playwrights! Use this link to view the [Meridian News](#) report.



Over on the BBC, we were incredibly proud to be featured as an example of excellent practice within our SEND Enhanced Pathway. The BBC crew arrived on Monday and spent the morning filming in both Cherry class, Lilac class and around the school, including interviews with a parent and myself. Unfortunately, there was a technical issue that meant that all the filming had to be reshot, so the crew came back again on Wednesday morning. The pupils and staff were amazingly accommodating with the disruption and I think the report shows just how brilliant our pupils, our staff and our provision is. Thank you to Ruth and to the school team for all their efforts. Use this link to watch the [South Today](#) footage. There is also an article on the BBC website which you can find using this link. [Enhanced pathways 'the way forward' for Oxfordshire SEND services - BBC News](#)

We have ended the week with a fabulous School Disco organised by our amazing FOBS crew. The children have been excited about it all day and, as I write, the pupils are having an amazing time with great music from our fabulous DJ and parent, Mr Christou. Thank you everyone who has volunteered to help with this event.



Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Mrs Reid

Community notice

It has been brought to our attention that there is a person who has been seen to approach older primary and secondary age children in the Elms Road Parade area and asking them for money. If your child walks to school or to the parade independently, please talk to them about stranger danger, keeping themselves safe, and advise them to speak to a safe adult if they are approached in this way.

Upcoming Events

28th March – Workshare afternoon

3rd April – 1:30 end of term

4th April - INSET day, staff only
Easter Break

22nd April – Start of Summer term

23rd April – Living in England Day

25th April – Yr 4 Trip to Hill End

1st May – Assessment period for KS1 begins

1st May – Farmer Gows Mobile Farm Visiting EYFS

5th May – Bank Holiday

12th May – SATs Assessment week for Year 6

19th May – Assessment week for rest of school

22nd May – May Celebration

22nd May – Workshare

23rd May – INSET Day Staff only

2nd June – Year 4 Multiplication check week

9th June – KS1 Phonics check week

2nd July – MAS transition morning for year 6 pupils

3rd July – Year 3 Acer Trust

performance at the Sheldonian

4th July – Sports Day Morning

9th July – Year 6 performance

9th to 10th July – Year 4 residential at Hill End

16th July – Transition morning

16th July – Botley Community concert

18th July – Year 6 Leaver's Disco

21st July – Botley's Got Talent

22nd July – End of term 1:30

Free Breakfast Club from 22 April!

We're busy planning for this. Have a think about which days it would be helpful for you to drop off early. Or come every day! Please email operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk if you have any questions.



Notices and Reminders

Can you help us shift more shingle?

A huge thank you goes to the five volunteers who helped us shift shingle into the Quad last Saturday. We're planning to do more next Saturday, 29 March. Please join us from 10am if you can! Email operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk beforehand or call 07896 988077 on the day.

Workshare

Next Friday we will be holding our Spring Term Work share afternoon. Parents are warmly invited to collect their children from their classrooms at the end of the day, and take some time to look at the work in their books and on display. This is a great chance to celebrate the progress and learning that has taken place this term. Workshare will be from 3:15 until 4:00pm.

Eid

We are aware that Eid will fall in the early part of the last week of term. We will authorise one day of religious observance absence for Muslim pupils, but please remember to complete an absence request form and return it to the school office.

Job opportunity in our office

Very sadly Sam O'Leary from the front office is leaving at the end of May. So we are advertising for a new person to work in the office on Mondays and Tuesdays. Please see [Receptionist/Office Administrator at Botley School, Oxford, Oxfordshire | MyNewTerm](#) if you are interested, and please forward to anyone you know who might like to apply for this role.

Free School Meals and Pupil Premium

To apply for free school meals and pupil premium, please download the application form using the link below.

[Free School Meals application form](#)

Term Dates 2024-2025

Term 1

Thursday 5th Sept 2024 –

Fri 20th December 2024

Term 2

Tuesday 7th Jan 2025 –

Thurs 3rd April 2025

Half term holiday:

17th Feb - 21st Feb 2025

Term 3

Tues 22nd April 2025 –

Tues 22nd July 2025

Half term holiday:

26th May-30th May 2025

INSET DAYS

Monday 6th January 2025

Friday 4th April 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025



Contact details

Office.2569@Botley.oxon.sch.uk

01865 248573



E-mail: office@acertrust.org.uk

Tel: 01865 519215

DO YOU KNOW A GIRL WHO LOVES TO SING?

Could she be one of our next choristers?



FRIDESWIDE VOICES

TASTER EVENTS 2025
Be a chorister for a day!

Sat 15 March
Sat 17 May

Auditions in June



Abingdon & Witney College
Oxfordshire Adult Learning
* FOUNDED BY HERMANN & FRANCES KILGARD

Year 5 and 6 Maths for Parents

FREE 5 week course

Day: Mondays
Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm
Dates: 3rd March - 31st March
Online using Microsoft Teams

This course explains the current teaching methods used to help you feel more confident supporting your child.

The following topics are covered:

- Column Addition and Subtraction
- Multiples and Factors
- Long Multiplication
- Long Division

To book a place please contact Oxfordshire Adult Learning:
01235 216 278
Visit the website and search 'Family Learning'
www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk

Oliver & James
PROVIDING A FIRST-CLASS SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

CHARITY CAR WASH

WEDNESDAY 26TH MARCH FROM 12:30 - 16:30
at 4 Elms Parade, Botley, Oxford, OX2 9LG
Suggested donation of £5 but any amount welcomed.
Proceeds will be donated to raising money for
Cancer Research UK

DIGNITY
FUNERAL DIRECTORS



Come and try our engaging music courses
on Sunday 23 March - book now!

Children start their music journey with us between
the ages of 2 - 7 and can continue through to 18



Matrix Arts Centre
Sutton Courtenay OX14 4UA
www.matrixartscentre.org.uk



Music taster lessons! Matrix Arts Centre is offering families an opportunity to experience their music courses on Sunday 23 March. Parents of 2 and 3 year olds attend an information session; 4 – 7 year olds have a taster lesson. For more details and to book, please visit <https://www.matrixartscentre.org.uk/yamaha-music-school>

FOREST TOTS AT HILL END

Come and join us at Forest Tots for child led free play in the beautiful ancient woodland of Wytham Woods. Activities vary by season and include bug hunting, nature crafts, stories, mud kitchen, simple tool use, hammocks and campfire cooking.

Tuesday & Thursday mornings, term time

<https://foresttots.wordpress.com>


 BODY POLITIC, THE NORTH WALL ARTS CENTRE
 & DANCIN' OXFORD PRESENTS:

FAMILY DANCE PARTY

JOIN US FOR A 'HIP-HOPPING, TOE-TAPPING' DAYTIME DISCO FOR ALL OF THE FAMILY

DATES AND TIMES:

SPRING FAMILY DANCE PARTY
 SATURDAY 8TH MARCH | 10:30AM & 1PM
 ST JOHN'S CHURCH, KIDLINGTON, OX5 1DD


MAY FAMILY DANCE PARTY
 SATURDAY 10TH MAY | 10:30AM & 1PM
 CUTTESLOWE PAVILLION, CUTTESLOWE PARK, OX2 8ES

SUMMER FAMILY DANCE PARTY
 SATURDAY 5TH JULY | 10:30AM & 1PM
 ST JOHN'S CHURCH, KIDLINGTON, OX5 1DD

BOOKING INFO:
 Pay what you can, under 2yrs go free!
 01865 319450
 www.thenorthwall.com
 contact@thenorthwall.com







THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established in 2013 to provide children with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

This Easter, we will be learning some beautiful seasonal music by Handel, Gibbons and John Ireland as well as some light-hearted pieces by Cole Porter and Aaron Copland. And, as always on our courses, we will be giving sessions on vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see www.oxbridgesingschool.com or email oxbridgess@gmail.com

7 & 8 APRIL 2025

ST. BARNABAS' CHURCH, JERICO, OXFORD

www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk



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: 1181007



LADIES CRICKET

Indoor Training	Outdoor Training
Monday 24th Feb - 31st March 20:00 - 21:30 Cothill School, OX13 6JL	Thursday 24th April - August 18:45 - 20:00 Cumnor Cricket Club, OX2 9QH

LADIES CRICKET FOR 15+ ALL WELCOME

@cumnorbears - [cumnorcricketclub.com](https://www.cumnorcricketclub.com)
 Whatsapp Annabel - 07720 606955



The next monthly **Forest Foxes Nature Social** will be held on 15 March from 2-4:30 at Hill End Outdoor Centre OX2 9NJ. Ten to twelve year-olds are welcome to join for adventure and friendship in the woods, around the fire. Admission cost- free.

Facilitator and volunteers are wilderness/Forest School trained and DBSed.

To book contact JuliaD@quaker.org.uk by **Monday 10 March**.




**EASTER HOLIDAY
SWIMMING
LESSONS**

MONDAY 7TH-FRIDAY 11TH APRIL

Confidence building: £60 per week (30 minute lesson)
 Beginners: £60 per week (30 minute lesson)
 Stroke improvement: £90 per week (45 minute lesson)

To book or for further information please email Abbie at swimminglessons@ola.org.uk

Lessons will run in the mornings between 10:30-12:15

Radley Road | Abingdon-on-Thames | OX14 3PS | 01235 524658 | www.ola.org.uk



EASTER Messy Church

Good Friday 18 April 2-4pm

Crafts Food Story

Specially for primary-age children with an adult — or bring the whole family!

FREE!

at St Andrew's, Orchard Rd OX2 9BH

Book your places: office@cumnor.org
 Parish office: 01865 861541

www.standrewsdeancourt.org.uk




**DISCOUNT £10
OFF PER BOOKING**

CODE: SCHOOLS

**GIRLS ONLY FOOTBALL
HOLIDAY CAMP**

EASTER HOLIDAYS

7TH APRIL TO 11TH APRIL
 14TH APRIL TO 17TH APRIL
 8.45AM TO 3.00PM

THE OXFORD ACADEMY
 Sandy Lane
 Littlemore
 Oxford OX4 6JZ



OXFORD UNITED WOMEN FC

All attendees will receive a free child and adult ticket to Oxford United Womens next home fixture after camp!



BOOK NOW
WWW.OFFICIALSOCCERSCHOOLS.CO.UK



Family Learning Online Workshops April - May 2025

Workshops are held online using Teams.

These workshops aim to help you feel empowered at managing those tricky situations knowing you are doing the best for your child and yourself. You will gain insight into how to strengthen your family's self-esteem and resilience; and practise strategies to encourage positive behaviour.

CODE	COURSE TITLE	START DATE	TIME
TCZV213P	Emotional Regulation	Tue, 29/4/25	13:00 - 14:30
TCZV207P	Developing Resilience	Tue, 6/5/25	13:00 - 14:30
TCZV209P	Positive Discipline	Tue, 13/5/25	13:00 - 14:30
TCZV211P	Setting Expectations and Routines	Tue, 20/5/25	13:00 - 14:30

Mystified by maths? Homework a nightmare? These workshops explain the current teaching methods used to help you feel more confident in supporting your child.

TCZV215P	Year 5 and 6 Maths - Multiples and Factors	Mon, 28/4/25	19:00 - 20:30
TCZV218P	Year 5 and 6 Maths Long Division	Mon, 12/5/25	19:00 - 20:30
TCZV220P	Year 5 and 6 Maths - Division with remainders expressed as a fraction or a decimal	Mon, 19/5/25	19:00 - 20:30

To enroll, contact Oxfordshire Adult Learning by phone.

📞 01235 216 278

Visit the website and search 'Family Learning'

www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk

EASTER
PERFORMANCE
NETBALL CAMP

OXFORD

TARGET NETBALL ACADEMY
EST. 2024

SKILLS - STRATEGY - GAME PLAY

IMPROVE YOUR NETBALL SKILLS, STRATEGY AND DECISION MAKING WITH THIS PERFORMANCE CAMP.

TARGET NETBALL ACADEMY
EST. 2024

**Spaces are limited
— reserve your
place today and
improve your play!**

£60
PP

11th APRIL 2025

10-4PM 7-10yrs

LED BY CHARLOTTE DUNKLEY
OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL
targetnetballacademy@gmail.com
07469196478
SIBLING DISCOUNTS • EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS

**ABINGDON
AIR & COUNTRY
SHOW**

50th
ANNIVERSARY

SAT 14TH
JUNE 2025

ABINGDON AIRFIELD
/DALTON BARRACKS
10AM - 4.30PM
OX13 6JQ

CAR PARKS OPEN 7.30AM

PEDESTRIAN GATE OPEN 9.30AM

SHOWGROUND OPENS 10AM

**PUBLIC ENTRY & EXIT BY VEHICLE IS ON
BARROW ROAD - OX13 6JQ**

**TAKE A34 MARCHAM INTERCHANGE
ONTO GOZZARDS FORD / BARROW
ROAD.**

what3words: drifter.worms.developed

ADULT (16 YEARS +) £20 / £25 ON THE DAY

SENIORS (65 YEARS +) £10 / £15 ON THE DAY

CHILD (5-15 YEARS) £7 / £8 ON THE DAY

UNDER 5'S FREE

NOTE: ON THE DAY TICKETS CAN STILL BE
PURCHASED EITHER ONLINE OR BY CASH ON
THE GATE - NO CASH MACHINES ARE ONSITE!

More information and online tickets at www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk

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



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

Better is a registered trademark and trading name of G2 (Greenish Leisure Limited), a charitable unincorporated and registered society under the Co-operative & Community Benefit & Societies Act 2014, registration no. 277936. Registered office: Millgate House, The Royal Arcade, London, SE11 5SL. United Revenue Charity no. 3511156.



Family Forest Days this Easter



10am - 2pm

Tuesday 8 April & Wednesday 9 April

- * Pond dipping
- * Seasonal natural arts & crafts, including willow weaving
- * Follow trails and splash in the streams and explore
- * Wildlife Walk with Oxford University bird researcher
- * Wool spinning demonstration and have a go!
- * Whittling workshop (min age & extra charge)

£9 child / £11 adult includes a BBQ lunch



 @Hill_end_centre
  @HillEndOEC
  @Hill_End

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ 01865 863510

EASTER CRICKET Camp

OXFORD CRICKET CLUB

Easter cricket camps for young cricketers aged between 5 and 14

MONDAY 7TH – FRIDAY 11TH
9AM – 3:30PM

MONDAY 14TH – THURSDAY 17TH
9AM – 3:30PM

BATTING **BOWLING** **FIELDING**

Sign up: www.oxfordcricketclub.com

Easter Holidays **The North Wall Arts Centre**

THEATRE

Princess Smartypants **Ages 4+**

Tue 15 - Wed 16 April
11am & 2pm

Princess Smartypants does not want to get married. She wants to carry on making music with her menagerie of monstrous pets, but the King and Queen have other ideas....

Full of songs and madcap comedy, Princess Smartypants is a treat for all the family from The Wardrobe Ensemble (*The Star Seekers*).

Tickets £10 (£8 child)

NW Inventors **Ages 8-11**

Sensory Storytelling Drama Workshop

Mon 14 - Wed 16 April
9am - 12pm

Reimagine stories using all the senses; how can we bring stories to life through sound, smell, touch and sight? A torch as a lighthouse, baking paper as crispy Autumn leaves or perhaps a drum as a heartbeat! Let your imaginations run wild in this fun and relaxed drama workshop.

Tickets £60

Full bursaries available
Email Abie on waltona@thenorthwall.com to apply

Book now: thenorthwall.com