

Botley School

Newsletter – 22nd November 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

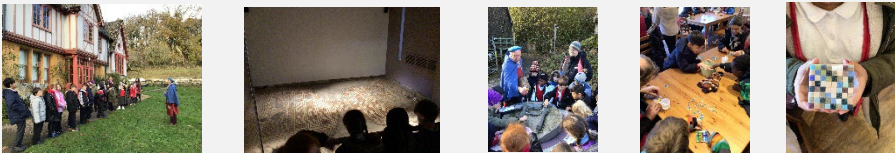
The past few weeks since half term have been incredibly busy with a number of enrichment activities for the school. Last week we welcomed speakers from the Oxford Dialogue Society with their 'Life of a Chickpea' presentation. The speakers included representatives from the Islam, Christian and Hindu faiths with a theme of Inclusivity and British Values. The Pudding they prepared for each child in year 5 and 6 included chickpeas and other ingredients that kept their unique identity but came together to make a delicious pudding.



This week, Year 6 went on their residential PGL adventures in Liddington. The pupils had an amazing time and managed the unexpectedly heavy snow on Tuesday brilliantly. They layered up so that they did not get too cold and could carry on with the activities. Our adventures included zip wires, giant swings, fencing, trapeze, archery, aero ball, abseiling, rock climbing, problem solving and crate stacking. The food was amazing and the evening activities just as fun with an ambush game on our first night, a balloon splash challenge on night two, a film night (when it was too cold for an outdoor campfire!) and a silent disco. The pupils themselves were excellent ambassadors for the school, showing all our values, but especially their teamwork, resilience and respect. Thank you to the pupils and to the staff who helped our children have such a fantastic experience. There are more photos available on the school website [PGL Adventures 2024 | Botley School](#), but here are a few to give an idea of the week.



Year 6 were not the only ones out on trips this week. Today, year 4 visited Chedworth Roman Villa, and it was like stepping back in time! The children were amazed by the beautiful mosaic floors and learned how the Romans used clever technology, like the hypocaust, to heat their homes. They were given the chance to create their own mosaic tiles, which was a fun and creative way to connect with Roman art. Exploring the ruins helped everyone imagine what life was like in Roman Britain nearly 2,000 years ago. The trip was a great chance to see history come alive and discover fascinating facts about the Romans!



A great way to finish a super week.

Have a great weekend!

Mrs Reid



Upcoming Events

29th November –Year 4 Cake Sale

2nd December – Yr 5 Bikeability week

10th December – 1:30 KS1 nativity performance

11th December – 4:00 KS1 Nativity performance

12th December – 8:45 – 9:30 EYFS Christmas stay and Play

13th December – Christmas Jumper Day

13th December –Year 3 Cake Sale

17th December – Panto in a Day performance for children

18th December – Christmas Lunch

20th December – Christmas Assembly

Notices and Reminders

Illness in school

There have been a number of pupils who have had a virus that includes high temperatures and headaches amongst other symptoms. This appears to be a new strain of the 'flu virus. We decided to look at the correlation between the pupils who have been ill, and the pupils who had the 'flu vaccination earlier in the term. Although some of the children who have been ill were vaccinated, the majority of those who have been ill did not have the vaccine when it was offered in school in September. This suggests that those pupils who are not vaccinated are more likely to get the illness. As a school, we recommend every child is vaccinated each year to prevent the spread of illnesses such as this, so please do consider this when the 'flu vaccine is offered next year in school. If your child has not been vaccinated and has not had the virus, we recommend discussing the vaccine with your GP or a healthcare professional.

Changes to payment methods

The school office will be moving away from taking cash payments in early 2025. To get ready for this, we need all children to have at least one parent set up on ParentPay so that lunches, clubs, trips, uniform etc can be paid for on ParentPay. Most families are on ParentPay but not all. We will be contacting relevant parents soon with the details of how to sign up for ParentPay, which is quick and easy. All children need to have at least one parent on ParentPay by mid-December.

Botley Bridges Xmas Hampers

The Botley Bridges Christmas Hampers are back! We'll be collecting and packaging food and gifts into hampers for local households who would find it helpful. We are open for donations, financial contributions, volunteers and hamper requests.

Together, let's spread some Christmas cheer in and around Botley!

WHAT TO DONATE:

Food items

- Tea / Coffee / Hot Chocolate / Squash / Soft Drinks (no alcohol)
- Christmas treats (Mince Pies, Biscuits, Selection packs)
- Jam / Marmalade / Honey / Syrups
- Tins or Jars - Fruit / Tuna / Baked Beans / Pasta Sauces / Soup
- Crackers / Biscuits / Rice / Pasta

Gifts

- For Adults - toiletries
- For Children
 - Bubbles / activity books / small craft sets / small construction sets
 - Books (for a variety of ages) / cards etc.



OTHER WAYS OF HELPING:

- To make a financial contribution, please go to our website <https://botleybridges.org/donate/> OR email treasurer@botleybridges.org for bank payment details
- To volunteer to take in deliveries, pack hampers or deliver, please contact Sue Dowe - sue@botleybridges.org / 07769 275084



DONATIONS DROP OFF:

- St Peter and St Paul's Church Hall, Botley on Wednesday 18th Dec 8am-7pm
 - Cumnor School, Botley School, West Oxford School or any Botley Bridges session during the week of 9-13th Dec
- If you cannot drop off at these times please email sue@botleybridges.org to arrange an alternative.

TO REQUEST A HAMPER:

- Fill in our request form <https://botley-hampers.web.app> or use the QR code
- Download Form from the website and send via email to sue@botleybridges.org
- Ask for a paper form from you local school or preschool and hand it in



For more information, visit botleybridges.org Registered charity number 1172139



Term Dates 2024-2025

Acer
TRUST

Botley School

THE OXFORD INDIE
BOOK FAIR

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER EXAMINATION SCHOOLS
 HIGH ST · OXFORD · OX1 4BG
 11am - 4:30pm

FREE ENTRY *Scan me for Directions*

OPENED BY OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY
 CHANCELLOR, ACTOR AND AUTHOR
PATERSON JOSEPH

From 7th January- learn Ballet with Olga



Children's Ballet Classes



📍 Botley Church Hall
 St Peter and Paul Hall

All levels welcome

Wednesdays

4.30- 5.15 pm 5-7 year olds

5.30-6.30 pm Ages 8-11 year olds

As a certified classical dance teacher and choreographer, I've taught in private dance schools, colleges, and adult education centres, offering a range of classes including ballet, folk dance, Pilates, and Gymnastics for ballet. I specialise in creating tailored programs for both adults and children, focusing on wellness, enhanced body awareness and physical improvement.

For further information, please contact
 Mrs Olga Seredenko: 07547577786

Discover Bucks Museum
 & Roald Dahl Children's Gallery

Discover Bucks Museum
 Church Street
 Aylesbury HP20 2QP
 discoverbucksmuseum.org
 01296 331641

Christmas Family Fun!

From 24 November - 21 December

Join us for Magical Christmas Tales with Santa, A Christmas Carol, Creative Crafts, Cake decorating and Fun Science Adventures!

For more event details, charges and to book please scan the QR code or visit discoverbucksmuseum.org

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

THE STORY MUSEUM



SEASON GUIDE

NOVEMBER 2024 - MARCH 2025

Galleries • Events • Workshops

(including Here Be Dragons! co-curated by
Gressida Cowell & Toothless)



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