

Botley School

Newsletter – 20th September 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a lovely week this week in school. The Reception children have now settled well into Ladybird Class and are happily exploring the variety of activities inside and out. This week they have been learning about where we live and our planet. The children loved using Google Earth to find our school and they could even see our skylights! We went on a walk around the school and explored the different places that we will visit throughout the year. The children particularly loved exploring the huts on the school field.



Year 5 visited the theatre today for performances linked with the Playmakers project that will be taking place early in the Spring Term. This will help them have more idea of what the stage looks like at the theatre when they are writing their own plays with the team. Later in the Spring term, they will be invited back to the theatre to watch some children's plays being performed, including one of their own.

Thank you to the parents who attended our parent meetings this week. I hope you found the information really useful. I have received feedback that some parents had not received the information about the meetings in time, and were unable to attend. We will look at how we can ensure the communication of these events is reaching everyone. If you were not able to attend, you can find the slides and class information on our website using the Class Pages. These can be found by using the 'Children' Toggle on the left of the home screen or by using this link: [Class Pages | Botley School](#) If you have any specific questions, please do ask your class teacher, or the school office and we will be happy to help you in whatever way we can.

Some other events coming up for parents include the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon, next Friday in the school hall at 3:15 and the Harvest Assembly 4th October at 9:15 in the school hall.

We will shortly be contacting parents of pupils on our special education needs register to set up meetings to discuss the support they will be receiving this year.

Finally, please do come to our **FOBS** meeting, this coming Monday 23rd September at 7pm.

We look forward to welcoming you to all these events.
Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Reid



Upcoming Events

23rd September – 7pm FOBS meeting

27th September – Macmillan Coffee afternoon and Cake sale

W.B 30th September – SEN Profile review meetings

3rd October – 8:45 – 9:30 EYFS Harvest Stay and Play

3rd October – 1:30 – 2:30 EYFS Harvest Come and Play for prospective families

4th October – Harvest Assembly 9:15

18th October – 9:15 Poetry Week assembly

5th November – Individual photo day

6th & 7th November – parent consultation Meetings

8th November – Bear trail and Fireworks Evening

18th November – Yr 6 Residential week

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

17th December – Panto in a Day performance for children

18th December – Christmas Lunch

20th December – Christmas Assembly

Notices and Reminders

Message from FOBS

Botley School Parent Teacher Association (Friends of Botley School - FOBS) will hold our first termly meeting this coming Monday, **23rd September at 7pm**. This will be an in-person event at the school, with an option to join online. Our main purpose is to raise funds for the school, and recently we have contributed to school trips, new laptops, books and other physical resources, play equipment and play area updates. We will be talking about fundraising for the next few months, with emphasis on the fireworks display on the 8th November, which is our main fundraising event. Please come along to see the PTA in action! We are all volunteers (mostly parents) and rely on parents and guardians to support our activities. Please scroll further down for the link to join via Zoom.

Harvest Assembly

We will be holding our annual Harvest Assembly on Friday 4th October at 9:15. Each class will be given time for a short presentation on the theme of harvest and parents are warmly invited to attend the assembly. We also ask pupils to bring in a donation on the Harvest Assembly day. This year, we will once again be collecting for the Oxford Food Bank (see more information further down the newsletter). They particularly welcome donations from the following list:

- Tinned fruit, baked beans, pulses etc
- Cooking oil
- Rice, pasta
- Tea, instant coffee, sugar
- Peanut butter, jam, Marmite
- Toiletries, nappies and sanitary products
- Breakfast cereals
- Rice pudding, tinned custard
- Sweet treats of any kind
- Surplus fruit and vegetables from allotments/gardens

Please make sure all donations are within the use by date before donating.

Choir Club

Choir Club with Mrs Reid will be on Monday afternoons from 3:20 to 4:00pm starting on Monday 23rd September. If your child is in years 3, 4, 5 or 6 and would like to join the choir, please do use the link to sign up for the club.

[Choir Club Permission form](#)

My Child at School (MCAS) – sign up now!

We are moving to MCAS for school communications from 1 October so we urgently need to get the last few families signed up. Please respond to the emails about this or ask Sarah (in the office) or Jenny (the Operations Manager) for help.

If you have signed up but not yet downloaded the app, please do so if at all possible. This will make our communications much more efficient.

Those who have not signed up at all yet will continue to receive an email each day with a password link. Please check your spam/clutter/junk folders if necessary and please sign up on receipt of the email as the links expire after 24 hours. It is quick and easy to do.

If you have any questions, please email operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk. Thank you!

Roller Skating Lessons for Botley School Community

Looking for a fun and active way to spend your Wednesday evenings? Isle of Skating is offering an exclusive discount to parents and staff of Botley School!

Participate in their roller skating sessions and join in:

- Ultimate Beginners: Perfect for those who have never skated before.
- Level 1: Ideal for skaters with some experience.

Both 6 week courses start on Wednesday, October 23rd at Botley School.

Use the code "Botley10" to receive a 10% discount on your registration.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity to learn a new skill and have a blast! Sessions are for 18+ only. Participants will need their own skates.

For more information or to register, visit www.isleofskating.com

Term Dates 2024-2025

Term 1

Thursday 5th Sept 2024 –
Fri 20th December 2024

Half term holiday
28th Oct-1st Nov 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
26th May - 30th May 2025

INSET DAYS

Monday 2nd September 2024
Tuesday 3rd September 2024
Wednesday 4th September 2024
Monday 6th January 2025
Friday 4th April 2025
Friday 23rd May 2025

Bank Holidays

Monday 21st April 2025
Monday 5th May 2025



Important information for year 6 parents

Just to let you know that applications can now be submitted for children to transfer from Year 6 to Year 7 at Secondary School for 2025/26.

Please visit the secondary school webpages for all relevant information and to apply online at: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions
Alternatively please collect a paper copy from the Botley school office if you are unable to access the internet.

The deadline for receipt of completed applications is **31 October** and National Offer day (this is when parents will be notified) is **3 March 2025**. Applications received after the deadline will be processed later in the year and are far less likely to secure a place at a preferred school.

Friends of Botley School

Dear all

Botley School Parent Teacher Association (Friends of Botley School - FOBS) will hold our first termly meeting on the 23rd September at 7pm. This will be an in-person event at the school, with an option to join online (link below). Our main purpose is to raise funds for the school. Recently we have contributed to school trips, new laptops, books and other physical resources, play equipment and play area updates. We will be talking about fundraising for the next few months, with emphasis on the fireworks display on the 8th November, which is our main fundraising event. Please come along to see the PTA in action! We are all volunteers (mostly parents) and rely on parents and guardians to support our activities.

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71312777923?pwd=c3TiLmKFt93jLOr03vqeZtobD9ko13.1>

Kind regards

Amy

**Are you looking for a Nursery or Reception place
for your child?**

**Find out what exciting learning opportunities
Botley School has to offer!**



Open Events!

**We have several events
for you to be able to
come visit our Early
Years and the school.**



**Harvest Come and
Play - Thursday 3rd
October 1.30-
2.30pm**



**Parent tour -
Wednesday 13th
November 2pm**

**Celebration Come and
Play - Tuesday 10th
December 9.30-10.30pm**

Thursday 9th January 3.30pm
Come along to have a cuppa
and we will help you apply for
the school place.

**To sign up for an invitation to
the events please email your
details to
earlyyears@botley.oxon.sch.uk**

**Was your child born
between
1st September 2020
and 31st August 2021?**

**Find out more about
Brilliant Botley on our
school website**

<https://www.botleyschool.org.uk>



**Don't forget to apply
for your Reception
school place between
1st November 2024 and
15th January 2025**

Dear Parent / Carer

As Autumn approaches, the mornings and evenings will be getting darker, meaning parents and children walking to and from school need to be even more aware of the potential dangers they face as pedestrians and the importance of wearing bright or reflective clothing to make it easier for other road users to see them.

It is never too early to start talking to your child about road safety as, having a good understanding of road safety skills, could one day save their life.

Our **Footsteps** guide will give you some ideas of how to begin to support your child in developing the decision-making skills that will help them become a pedestrian able to keep themselves safer when they eventually walk to school or a friend's home independently.

If they are ill-prepared, children are more likely to be killed or injured in a road traffic incident, as seen by the fact that the number of child pedestrians injured rises significantly around 10 -12 years of age – the time at which they begin to go out unaccompanied by adults.

The **Footsteps** programme is simple to use as it can be carried out in normal everyday situations such as walking to school or to the local shops. Rather than *telling* children what to do, you are encouraged to *ask* lots of open questions to make the children think about the decisions they are making. Making these decisions safely, while in the company of a supporting adult, will mean they will be better prepared for dealing with roads and traffic once they begin going out on their own.

Learning to cope with traffic is a practical skill, which cannot be learnt in the classroom. As parents / carers, you are the best people to help your child develop this knowledge as you spend the most time out and about with them.

Please follow the link to the **Footsteps** guide [Walking with children | 365Alive](#) and start giving your children the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safer on our roads.

Remember – Be Bright Be Seen.

Oxfordshire Fire & Resue Service Road Safety Team
Oxfordshire County Council





Oxford Food Hub supports over **200** charities and community groups with free deliveries of food. We work with food banks & larders, children's hospices, homeless shelters, refugee support, women's refuges and more.

Sharing surplus,
reducing waste

Our food is surplus food, intended for landfill. We collect it from many different wholesalers, supermarkets and farms for free, and ensure it reaches those who need it. We saved **518** tonnes of food from ending up in landfill this year*.

*stats are approximated and based on Nov 22-Oct 23 (our financial year)

We get a lot of fresh produce from our wholesale and supermarket suppliers, but the charities we deliver to often require long-life items, too. Here's a list of items that we don't get regularly from our usual suppliers:

Tinned fruit, baked beans, pulses etc
Cooking oil
Rice, pasta
Tea, instant coffee, sugar
Peanut butter, jam, Marmite
Toiletries, nappies and sanitary products
Breakfast cereals
Rice pudding, tinned custard
Sweet treats of any kind

200+

charities supported
across Oxfordshire

500+

tonnes of food
saved every year



oxfordfoodhub.org

01865 236420

admin@oxfordfoodhub.org

Confidence Building Fun

Try a **FREE** drama, dance and singing class

— Hannah has thrived at Perform. It is her favourite thing to do and has given her so much confidence, fun and communication skills.
Haley Fuller

PERFORM
WATCH YOUR CHILD SHINE

Boost your child's social skills

Perform's drama, dance and singing classes use the performing arts to

- Build confidence
- Boost concentration
- Enhance coordination
- Develop communication skills

Why try Perform?

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

— I think the whole Perform experience is absolutely brilliant. You get so much for your money and feel part of something really special. *Lucy Holmes*

PERFORM
WATCH YOUR CHILD SHINE

Try Perform for FREE
Your child can come and try a class for FREE and there's no obligation to join afterwards. With almost 500 Perform schools, find your nearest and book online at perform.org.uk/try

perform.org.uk 020 7255 9120

Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Botley Primary School** if they sign up by Saturday 25th January. Parents should quote BOTI2025 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at perform.org.uk/try. Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from [here](#).

The nearest classes to Botley Primary School are as follows (please click for a map and further details):

Perform Oxford (Drama for 4-7s)
(1 mile)
Wednesdays at 4pm

West Oxford Community Centre
Botley Road,
OX2 0BT

Perform Oxford (Drama for 7-12s)
(1 mile)
Wednesdays at 5.05pm

West Oxford Community Centre
Botley Road,
OX2 0BT

Perform Abingdon (Drama for 4-7s)
(5 miles)
Saturdays at 9.30am

The Northcourt Centre
Northcourt Rd,
OX14 1NS

Perform Abingdon (Drama for 4-7s)
(5 miles)
Thursdays at 4pm

The Northcourt Centre
Northcourt Rd,
OX14 1NS

Perform Abingdon (Drama for 7-12s)
(5 miles)
Saturdays at 11.15am

The Northcourt Centre
Northcourt Rd,
OX14 1NS



Suitable for children aged 5 to 11 years
£35 per child, per day.
Sibling discount available
See back for dates & venues!

Firework Science



FUN SCIENCE ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS






Fully Funded School Support Course

www.studysmartuk.online

Next Start date 30th September

CACHE Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
CACHE Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
CACHE Certificate in the Principles of SEN
Levels 1, 2 & 3

Six Week Course
Mon - Fri
9:30 - 11:30am
12:30 - 2:30pm
4 - 4:30pm
(last optional session for reflection and support if needed)




Festival of The Girl 2024

For 7-11 year old girls and their families

Saturday 5th and Sunday 6th October
Business Design Centre Islington, North London
including a SEND session and FoTG Awards

Activities and workshops range from:
Aerospace engineering to gaming,
Sports to body confidence,
Experiments to activism,
Mental health to sustainability,
Politics to coding
Art to friendships and so much more.




Although aimed at girls everyone is welcome!

Get your tickets now via our QR code or website www.festivalofthegirl.com

