

Botley School

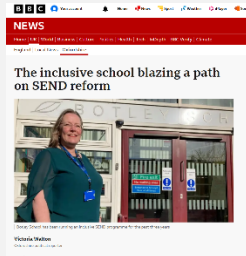


Upcoming Events

- 5th March** – World Book Day
- 9th to 13th March** – STEM week
- 23rd March** – School Eid al Fitr celebration day
- 25th March** – FOBS Disco TBC
- 26th March** – Workshare
- 27th March** – EOT 1:30

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you all had a lovely half term break. It is cheering to now be arriving and leaving school in daylight hours with the birds chirping for Spring. This has been an exciting week for Botley. Following the release of the government white paper on SEND reforms, and Oxfordshire County Council's decision to fund 20 more Enhanced Pathways across the county, we had a visit from Victoria Walton who is the BBC Oxfordshire Political Correspondent. She visited the school and met some of our staff and pupils on Tuesday, resulting in a great piece for the BBC local news with the fantastic headline 'The Inclusive School Blazing and Path for SEND Reform' If you haven't read the article, you can find it using this link to the [BBC Local News](#). We also featured in a section on Radio Oxford Morning show yesterday, where Victoria described our school as being like a 'warm hug'! You can catch up on yesterday's episode on the [BBC Sounds app](#) and listen out for the article around 1hour 50 minutes into the show. We are incredibly proud of the work we do for our SEND pupils in Botley and it is wonderful to have that recognised on a much wider scale.



Yesterday we also had a second visit from a Department for Education advisor. The purpose of these visits is to monitor how the school is progressing since the previous Ofsted in July 2024. I am delighted to say that Mrs Lowe-Rise was extremely complimentary about the school and can see that the improvements we have been making are embedded and having a real impact on outcomes for pupils, particularly in phonics. Thank you to all the staff who are so dedicated and passionate about making the educational experience at Botley the best it can be.



The rain thankfully held off today for year 4's fantastic trip to Cogges Manor Farm for an immersive Anglo-Saxon experience. The children explored how Anglo-Saxons lived by threshing and winnowing to make flour, building their own Anglo-Saxon houses, and cooking flatbreads. They also created clay runes and investigated Anglo-Saxon clothing, gaining a deeper understanding of daily life during this period. The staff at Cogges commented on how well behaved the children were and praised them for being excellent ambassadors for the school. It was a valuable hands-on experience that brought our history learning to life.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Reid

Ramadan

During Ramadan we have a designated prayer space for the children and staff at lunchtimes and we ask that the parents of any pupils who are fasting complete the online [Pupil Fasting Notification Form](#). A letter has been sent to all parents with the links to the Ramadan Fasting School Policy.

Parents dine with their child

Don't miss your slot to dine with your child!

Year 5 - 3rd March – **please arrive by 11:55** (please note change of time)

Year 6 - 10th March – please try to book by 3rd March

Please sign in at the front office on arrival, and wait to be taken up to the dining hall. When you've had lunch, the children will go and play on the playground and parents can stay to talk to Aspens staff and ask any questions, before being taken back down to the front office. (Parents don't get to go and play on the playground!)

The cost is £3.06 - great value for a healthy home-cooked main meal (adult-sized portion).

Please book in advance on ParentPay or with the school office, we will let each class know when their payment item is live.

Please consider coming, whether or not your child currently has school lunches. If your child brings a packed lunch, you can still have the hot meal and sit with them – and maybe encourage them to try it.

Let us know if you have any questions, on operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk or via Philippa and Sarah in the front office.

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March we will be celebrating World Book Day and invite children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character and bring their favourite book into school. We are planning some exciting events in school including author visits and a book swap. Further information was sent out today!

Fundraising alert!

This year we are raising money for a new climbing structure near the main playground. It should be exciting for the children and give lots of opportunities for fun, learning and adventure. We have started applying for grants, will be launching a Crowdfunder, and hopefully Kier will contribute but we will also need lots of help from FOBS (Friends of Botley School). The proceeds of the Fireworks event and the Discos will go towards this. FOBS would welcome other fundraising ideas and offers of help to make them happen! Please email fobs1930@gmail.com, or share on the FOBS WhatsApp group. Please help us to raise enough for an exciting large structure!

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](#)

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

'Rock and Pop' Music Lessons!

Exciting news! We are now welcoming Rocksteady Music School to school on Fridays. It's an incredible opportunity for the children to learn to play their favourite songs in their very own bands with a choice of drums, keyboards, electric guitar, bass guitar or vocals. As well as learning new musical skills, lessons also boost children's confidence, well-being, social skills, and teamwork. Lessons take place every week during school time.

These fun and inclusive lessons are taught by highly trained professional musicians who know how to inspire a life-long love of music. At the end of each term, the bands perform a concert for the school and their families, so you can see how far they have come!

Here's what you need to know:

- All instruments are provided.
- No musical experience necessary.
- Suitable for all ages.
- Lessons take place in school.
- All involved work towards an Ofqual qualification in Music.
- Your child will learn up to 300 instrument, band, and performance skills.
- You'll receive regular online parent timeline updates.
- There's a money-back guarantee for the first month.
- You can cancel at any time.

You can sign up for lessons online at www.rocksteadymusicschool.com.

If you have any questions about Rocksteady lessons, you can call **0330 113 0330** (local rate, office hours are Mon – Thurs 08:00 – 20:00, Fridays 08:00 – 18:00).

ROCK STEADY

WOULD YOUR CHILD LIKE TO PLAY IN THEIR OWN ROCK BAND AT SCHOOL?

98% OF PARENTS SAY THEIR CHILD LOVES OR ENJOYS ROCKSTEADY BAND LESSONS
*Parent Survey 2024

94% OF PARENTS SAY ROCKSTEADY IMPROVES THEIR CHILD'S CONFIDENCE
*Parent Survey 2024

Hi Parent or Guardian,
Is your child more excited about music this evening?
Apologies, that might have something to do with **Rocksteady Music School!**
Today your child got a taste of what it's like to perform in a band, and this letter tells you how they can be part of the fun every week.

What is Rocksteady?
Rocksteady band lessons give children the chance to play in their very own band through weekly rock and pop lessons. It's the perfect way to **learn new musical skills, make friends and have fun** - all at school! Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost **confidence, wellbeing, social skills** and even **academic achievement**.
Your child will learn to play songs instantly through listening and playing. There is no music theory involved and lessons are fun, inclusive and accessible. They will be making progress in every lesson and can also achieve an **Ofqual-regulated music qualification**, accredited by Trinity College London, without having to take a single exam!

Here's what else you need to know:

- Most lessons take place during the school day. There's no experience necessary and all instruments for lessons are provided.
- You can choose if they shine on vocals, keyboard, drums, guitar or bass.
- Proudly watch as your child performs in their end of term concerts, showing just how far they have come!
- Rocksteady band leaders are professional musicians who inspire a passion for music and support your child every step of the way.

Lessons are £44.98 per month with nothing to pay in August. There's a money-back guarantee for the first month and you can cancel at any time. Places are also shown on a first come, first served basis.
Visit rocksteadymusicschool.com to sign up.
Best wishes,

Rachel Hawker
Director of Education

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE ONLINE!

0330 113 0330
(Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com

Find out what some parents have said about Rocksteady!

0330 113 0330
(Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE ONLINE!

TRINITY
Trinity College London
Rocksteady Music School Ltd. Registered Company No. 1071028

Parent testimonials in speech bubbles:
 - Merlyn: "Rocksteady has created a space where young musicians can truly thrive. Not just musically, but personally as well."
 - Natalie: "It's a great experience for any child and I have been really blown away with what the children have achieved."
 - Ashleigh: "My daughter comes home excited to tell me what she has learnt. She has a confidence in her own abilities that she didn't have before."
 - Alex: "My son is full of praise and joy when he talks about his Rocksteady lessons. It's spot on for teaching music and making it fun."
 - Louisa: "My child struggles with school due to anxiety, but Rocksteady really boosts his confidence at a difficult time. I wish he could do it more than once a week!"
 - Rachel: "My child has an amazing time and really enjoys making new friends whilst learning to play the keyboard."

Banbury Museum & Gallery

31st January - 28th June 2026

Journey beyond the books to discover the art, music, games, and films inspired by J.R.R. Tolkien's incredible world!

Banbury Museum & Gallery
Spiceball Park Road | Banbury | OX16 2PQ
www.banburymuseum.org.uk

The Magic of Middle-Earth

Supported by The Patron's Circle

Botley Bridges Family Nurturing

A 4-part positive parenting workshop
to help create calm and happy families*

WEDNESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY AND
4TH, 11TH & 18TH MARCH 2026
12.45-2.45PM

Botley School, Elms Road, OX2 9JZ (NO parking available)

Join our workshops tailored for parents and caregivers of children aged 0-7. Learn practical strategies to navigate the ups and downs of raising children, building emotional resilience and raising a connected family.

<p>Part One</p> <p>Understanding children's behaviour Listening and communication Praise and encouragement</p>	<p>Part Two</p> <p>Praise & guidance VS criticism Child-led play Positive moments</p>
<p>Part Three</p> <p>Boundaries and parenting styles Time to calm down Dealing with stress and conflict</p>	<p>Part Four</p> <p>Choices and consequences Behaviour to ignore Looking after ourselves</p>

£20 per person for all 4 sessions (concessions available)
To book email coordinator@botleybridges.org

* Family Links Course - Developed by the Centre for Emotional Health
For more information, visit botleybridges.org Registered charity number 1172139

"The programme has helped me feel so much more confident about my parenting."



"..helped me open up and feel less alone with the challenges we've been facing as a family."



Botley Bridges Baby & Child First Aid

 TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2026
6-8PM BOTLEY SCHOOL, ELMS ROAD
OR THURSDAY 26 MARCH 2026 1-3PM
SEACOURT HALL, BOTLEY

Suitable for parents/carers/grandparents or babysitters
Email coordinator@botleybridges.org to reserve your space



Learn what to do in an emergency:
CPR, choking, bumps, bleeding, breaks, burns,
febrile seizures, meningitis awareness

£30 per person OR £55 per couple

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



Family Nurturing Sessions

Learn practical strategies to navigate the ups and downs of raising a family. We will cover:

- understanding children's behaviour
- listening and communication
- praise and encouragement
- praise and guidance vs criticism
- child-led play
- positive moments
- boundaries and parenting styles
- time to calm down
- dealing with stress and conflict
- choices and consequences
- behaviour to ignore
- looking after ourselves

The course is divided into 4 workshops which all inter-connect. 100% of all previous attendees have told us that it made a positive impact on their family.

The course is divided into 4 workshops which all inter-connect. 100% of all previous attendees have told us that it made a positive impact on their family.

Unfortunately there is no creche available but non mobile babies are welcome to attend.

Please use the free 2 hour car parking at Elms Parade as there is no car parking at Botley School during term time.



GUITAR LESSONS



- FREE TRIAL LESSON -

- 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: leelulandguitar@gmail.com
Tel: 07872 478886**

Piano lessons

**Every week on
Mondays and Tuesdays
during school hours**



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



TARGET NETBALL ACADEMY
EST. 2024

Working on skills,
tactics, match play
and fun!!

EASTER NETBALL CAMPS

OXFORD 1st April 2026 9-14yrs 09:00-15:00pm £40pp (sibling discount) Oxford High School, Belbroughton Road	OXFORD 8th April 2026 9-14yrs 09:00-15:00pm £40pp (sibling discount) Oxford High School, Belbroughton Road
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EMAIL TO BOOK!
Or google forms on
social media.
targetnetballacademy@gmail.com

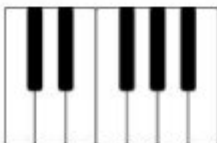




Music Open Day

Come and try our engaging music courses
on Sunday 15 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





Perfect for children not yet walking 0 - 6 years

The Nest

Phoenix Rising



Fridays, Term-Time

10am to 12pm

Register HERE or via website



Full list of Dates on our website below

A SEND Play group for pre-walking children age 0 - 6 yrs. No diagnosis necessary.

Baptist House, Broadway Didcot OX11

♥ Weekly Topic, with specialist guests

♥ Switch toys and sensory play

♥ Run by parents like you

Join Now

📧 imogen.Liddell@oxfsn.org.uk

🌐 www.cafelias.co.uk/pop-ups



East Oxford Parent Power

What path would you like to see your child take after high school?

We warmly invite you to our Parent Power meeting. We'll be joined by a representative from Oxford Brookes University for an information session.

Date: Tuesday 27th January 2026

Time: 6-8pm

Location: Rose Hill Community Centre Caroles Way Oxford OX4 4HF

We're meeting to discuss important topics that affect our families:

- 👉 Accommodation & Safety
- 👉 Mental Health & Wellbeing
- 👉 Your voice matters. 🗣️ Your ideas matter. 🤝 Together, we make change happen!

👉 Action Step: Click link [here](#)

To register your interest and find more information, contact:

Iram Woolley 07756 224022
parentpoweroxfordshire@thebrilliantclub.org



OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY



OXFORDSHIRE WE ARE WITH YOU FORUM

JOIN OUR SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY!

We Walking with You on your Parent/Carer journey
A warm, parent-led group for anyone caring for a child or young adult (up to age 25) facing mental health challenges.

Connect • Share • Learn Join us online or in person for relaxed, insightful sessions led by:

- Parent Peer Support Workers
- Social Prescribers
- CAMHS Mental Health Professionals

Explore topics around mental health and neurodiversity in a safe, welcoming space.

★ **Plus: Special Guest Events** Hear from professionals and services across the field! and getting out in nature.



**TO REGISTER FOLLOW
THE LINK OR QR :**



WWW.OXFORDHEALTH.NHS.UK/CAMHS/INVOLVEMENT/OXON/WHY/

ATOM Festival of Science & Technology
 14th - 25th March 2026

Inspiring workshops for kids

Tours: History of Science Museum + UKAEA + Harwell

Tue 17th March
"Predators"
 Professor **Tim Coulson**

Sun 15th March
"Our Place in the Universe"
 The Peagram Lecture
 Professor **Brian Cox** CBE

FameLab Academy

FREE Science Market interactive event for all the family
 Sat 14th March

atomfestival.org.uk

BOOK TICKETS ONLINE

OXFORD RFC
MINIS AND JUNIORS

Free taster sessions available for children aged 5-12
 Every Sunday, 10:30 - 12:00

WE ARE LOOKING FOR NEW PLAYERS

enquiries@oxfordrfc.com
 Oxford RFC, North Hinksey Village, OX2 0NA

ULTIMATE SURVIVAL **GO WILD FOR A WHILE!**

Exceptional outdoor survival camps for children aged 7 to 14 at
Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, Farmoor nr Oxford

ULTIMATEACTIVITY.CO.UK

EARLY BOOKING OFFER NOW ON!



GET SET FOR ULTIMATE EASTER & SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN!

Exceptional activity camps for children aged 4 to 14 at

Headington Rye Oxford, Oxford



ULTIMATEACTIVITY.CO.UK

**EARLY
BOOKING
OFFER
NOW ON!**

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

Previous attachment





Forest Tots

2 - 6 years 10.00am - 11.30am
Mondays (term time)



Let your little explorers experience the magic of the outdoors! Packed with adventure, creativity, and discovery Forest Tots will help your child grown in confidence & independence and encourage a life long love for nature.

And for the grown ups. . . you can build friendships, explore nature with your little one(s) and enjoy some woodland well-being for yourselves.

Please visit our website for full details:
<https://hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events>

**£8.00
per child**

 @Hill_end_centre
  @HillEndOEC
  @Hill_End
 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



Botley Primary School
BEGINNER KARATE
LESSONS

3yrs +
Tuesdays
Thursdays

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

WEEKLY NETBALL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

OXFORD | STARTING FEBRUARY

For keen netballers looking to level up

- 1.5 hours • Once a week
- Age groups on different days
- Monthly training blocks

WHAT WE FOCUS ON	WHY THIS IS DIFFERENT
Skills • Tactics • Confidence • Game IQ	✓ Complements club netball
Development for school, county & franchise pathways	✓ High-quality coaching
	✓ Designed for committed players
	✓ No clashes with club training

INTEREST NOW OPEN!

Email your interest:
targetnetballacademy@gmail.com

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. ****

Peppa 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. ****

Regum Bari

Previous attachment

Calm Yoga for Preteens

(approx 10 to 12 years old)

**A 4 week block of yoga classes
at West Oxford Community Centre**

Tuesdays 6.15 - 7.15
24 Feb, 3, 10 and 17 March
All 4 sessions for £50



- 🔥 Builds strength & flexibility
- 😊 Reduces stress & boosts calm
- 🧠 Improves focus & concentration
- 💪 Builds confidence & body awareness
- 🌙 Supports better sleep
- ⚡ Boosts energy & posture
- 💖 Encourages kindness & self-control
- 🌈 A healthy way to unwind



For further information and to book a place please
contact Lara at Lambert3323@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.calmyogawithlara.com>
Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/calmyogawithlara/>

Oxford Swim School



Easter Holiday Swimming Lessons

Tuesday 7th to Friday 10th April
4 day intensive course
30 minute lessons

Private Pool at Oxford High School
(Summertown)

Age 4 years upwards
Small tuition groups

Happy, caring atmosphere

Contact Caroline 01865 864537
caroline@oxfordswimschool.co.uk
www.oxfordswimschool.co.uk





WIN
a Jellycat bunny
and a £300
donation to
your school!

Creative fun for budding artists

in our Easter artwork competition

Let your imagination blossom this spring by drawing or painting a home fit for the Easter bunny!

- All entries will be displayed in our online gallery
- Competition closes at midnight on 29 March
- Winners will be announced on 31 March
- Full details can be found in our T's and C's



Scan the QR code to enter

Terms and conditions: Open to all primary school children in the UK. One submission per child. Prizes will be awarded in two categories - Under 7's and Over 7's.

Carter Jonas



Saturday 7 March 2026

12:00-16:00

Meet scientists, researchers and experts at this free family-friendly science fair filled with fun and curiosity.

Recommended for ages 7+

oumnh.ox.ac.uk



Museum of
**Natural
History**
University of Oxford



ELITE CAMPS BOTLEY

30th March - 10th April
Botley Primary School, OX2 9JZ

Elite Activities Include..

- Laser Tag
- Nerf Wars
- Soft Archery
- Crazy Golf
- Mini Olympics
- and much more..

10% Early Bird Code:
EASTER10
Code Expires 15/03/26

BOOK NOW

HAF Available

Ofsted Registered ELITE CAMPS



CAMP INFO

30th March - 10th April

Timings:
5-13 Years Old
Standard day: 9:00 - 15:30
Extended day: 8:30 - 17:00
4 Years Old
Half day session: 9:00 - 13:00

BOOK NOW

eliteyouthsports.co.uk
info@eliteyouthsports.co.uk
01235 415846

Funded Places Available
This camp has limited funded places available through the Holiday Activities and Food scheme (HAF) for children 5-13, on benefits related free school meals. Check your eligibility and register at eequ.org