

Botley School



Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the summer term at Botley. There is an attempt at some sunny weather breaking through, although I feel it needs to make more effort! When the weather does remember it is the summer term, please remember to help your child to apply sunscreen before they come to school in the morning and bring a sun hat. If they need to reapply sunscreen before lunch, they must bring in their own sunscreen bottle with a clear label showing their name and their class.

Today was our first ever 'Heart Day', raising funds for the Ocean Ward Charity which supports the Children's Cardiac Unit at Southampton General Hospital. Although the hospital is in Southampton, it also supports families from across Oxfordshire as well and is a cause very close to the hearts of families within the Botley community. For our Heart Day, the children came to school wearing pink or red and were asked to make a donation of £1 to the charity. During the morning the children displayed their fantastic teamwork and were photographed by a drone forming the shape of a heart on our field. Thank you to Kier who organised the drone photography for us.



After the photo opportunity we had a playground disco for break time (and again at lunchtime) with the children dancing away. As it is Botley, of course the Jerusalem dance was in full swing!



During assembly, we were privileged to have a special parent guest speaker. Rosie Piper is a cardiac nurse and came to give a brilliant assembly about the heart and how it works. She had pupil volunteers to come out and help her demonstrate how the heart pumps blood around the body so that oxygen can reach the lungs and carbon dioxide can be expelled from the lungs as well. The children listened brilliantly and I am sure if you ask them about it this evening, they will be able to tell you all about it! If they need a prompt, here are some photos to help. Thank you Rosie!



We finished the assembly linking the symbol of the heart to values such as love, caring, helping, kindness, friendship and supporting others. We talked about how it feels to know that we have done something special that will help the lives of other people. I know I am immensely proud of our caring Botley School community, who today raised £210.00 with more money pledged to come into school next week. Thank you to the School Council who helped to organise and plan the day, and all the school for taking part with so much love and enthusiasm. If you still wish to donate, you can do so at the school office next week.

Have a wonderful weekend
Mrs Reid

Upcoming Events

- 20-24th April** – Active Schools week
- 4th May** – Bank Holiday Monday
- 11th – 14th** - Yr 6 SATS tests
- 15th – 21st** – Assessment week – rest of school.
- 18th** – Yr 6 Junior Citizens trip
- 22nd May** – May Celebration and Workshare
- 25th-29th May** – Half term break
- 1-5th June** – Yr 4 multiplication check
- 8th – 12th June** – Yr 1 phonics check
- 19th June** – Choir Festival of Voices
- 24th June** - Matthew Arnold SEND transition day
- 1st July** – Yr 6 transition day
- 3rd July** – Sports day
- 9th July** – Yr 6 performance
- 9th July** – pupil reports home
- 10th July** – Yr 6 Leavers disco
- 13th July** – school transition morning
- 14th July** – winning house team party
- 15th July** – Botley community concert
- 16th July** – Botley's Got Talent
- 17th July 9:15** – Leaver's assembly.
- 17th July** - End of Term 1:30

New menu

Following on from parents trying school lunches with their child, our Easter Egg lucky plate week, and food samples at Workshare, the number of children taking school lunches is going up which is brilliant.

With the launch of Aspens' brand new menu we will be offering tasters on some days, so any child who has a packed lunch can have a free taster of the school meal.

Next week we will be offering tasters of **cheese and tomato pizza on Monday**, and **beef or veggie bolognese on Thursday**. It won't be a full portion, just a sample so they can see if they like the food and might want to have a school meal next time it's on the menu.

Please encourage your child to try the tasters – especially if you would like to spend less time making packed lunches! More tasters will happen in the following two weeks, details to follow.

Super Spring Sprint!

This May, we're taking part in a friendly inter-school competition with North Hinksey and West Oxford to get active and raise funds for our schools. Anyone who contributes to the fundraising can join in – whether that's walking, running, cycling, scooting or swimming – all adding to Team Botley School's total. The children heard all about this in assembly yesterday.

More details, including how to sign up and get involved, will be shared very soon. All money raised will go towards the new playground climbing structure.

Kier filming day – postponed, new date to be announced soon

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 £44.88 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 offered 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-9pm Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com

Find out what some parents have said about Rocksteady!

0330 113 0330
(Mon-Thurs 8am-9pm Fri 8am-6pm, local rate)
rocksteadymusicschool.com

BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PLACE ONLINE!

TRINITY
Rocksteady Music School Ltd. Registered in England No. 1011212

My child is full of praise and joy when he talks about his Rocksteady lessons. It's spot on for teaching music and making it fun.
Alex

It's a great experience for any child and I have been really blown away with what the children have achieved.
Natalia

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.
Ashleigh

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!
Louisa

My child has an amazing time and really enjoys making new friends whilst learning to play the keyboard.
Rachel

Rocksteady has created a space where young musicians can truly thrive. Not just musically, but personally as well.
Merlyn

Family Nurturing Sessions



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

Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre

A journey of learning and discovery



Family Event 'Find the Fox Cubs' 30- 31 March; 1-2 April; 10am- 2pm

A springtime adventure - follow the trail and help mother fox find her missing cubs to earn an Easter treat! Including a craft activity and live storytelling. Suitable for 4-11 years.
£10 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Day Camp, Unbelievable Birds Wednesday 8 April; 9:30am-3pm

A day camp for 8-12 year olds at Sutton Courtenay learning about the incredible features of birds.
£37 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Pond Dipping Workshops Thursday 7 April; 10am- 11:30am and 1-2:30pm

Easter pond dipping fun for families with children 4-11 years - come and be amazed at what lurks below the surface!
£10 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Night Safari Friday 22 May; 7:30-10pm

Bring your children aged 8+ and discover what amazing animals come out at night on the nature reserve. We'll be checking the small mammal traps, listening for bats with the bat detectors, shining a light on the newts in the pond and more.
£10 per person. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Plus monthly Saturday wildlife clubs – **Nature Tots** (18 months to 4 years with an adult); **Nature Explorers** (4-7 years with an adult); **Young Rangers** (8-11 years unaccompanied); **Teen Rangers** (11-17 years unaccompanied). Visit the website for upcoming dates and booking.



Visit our website to book or for more info:



bbowt.org.uk/events

01235 862024 or sceec@bbowt.org.uk

bbowt.org.uk

More nature everywhere



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY BADMINTON TRIALS

Radley College Sports
Centre
Sunday 3rd May
10am - 1pm



All levels welcome
- both community
and county places
offered!

See age group timings & book now:
bookwhen.com/nb-trials

NATIONALBADMINTON.ORG.UK

ULTIMATE
ACTIVITY
CAMPS

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!

Book by 15.00 for Easter camp & 15.00 for Summer camp

Family Learning

Families Learning Together

Abingdon
& Witney
College

Oxfordshire
Adult
Learning

A FACULTY OF ABINGDON & WITNEY COLLEGE

We offer a range of **FREE** community courses for parents and carers across Oxfordshire.

If you are a school, early years setting, family/community centre or charity please get in touch and we can arrange to deliver one of the courses below at your centre or even create a bespoke course to meet the needs of your stakeholders.

Courses include:

- Family Learning ESOL
- Keeping up with English and Maths
- Year 5 and 6 Maths for Parents
- Phonics and Reading for Parents
- Managing Feelings and Behaviour
- Effective Communication for SEN



07795 551021



OAL@abingdon-witney.ac.uk

www.abingdon-witney.ac.uk

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!
Book by 15.04 for Forest Centre & 16.04 for Hill End Outdoor Centre



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>

@Hill_end_centre @HillEndOEC @Hill_End
 Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ 01865 863510

£8.00 per child

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



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/WMY/

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 21st April 2026

Time: 6-8pm

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

University Isn't just about a degree — it's where confidence, independence and future careers take shape.

Join us to explore how sports, societies and student life build real-world skills like leadership, teamwork and communication. We'll also share practical tips on preparing for university — from managing your time to living within your means.

Start the journey early. Step in prepared.

Show up with confidence. 🏆 Action Step:

[Click link here](#)

To register your interest and find more information, contact:

Iram Woolley 07756 224022

ParentPowerOxfordshire@TheBrilliantClub.org



OXFORD
BROOKES
UNIVERSITY





6 WEEK
COURSE



Play basketball at:

OXFORD HOOPS
CHENEY SCHOOL
CHENEY LANE
HEADINGTON
OXFORD
OX3 7QH

SATURDAYS
9 to 11 AM
6 WEEKS COURSE
STARTS 25-APRIL



SLAM JAM IS BASKETBALL ENGLANDS OFFICIAL JUNIOR PROGRAMME DESIGNED FOR CHILDREN AGED BETWEEN 5 AND 11.

The programme is jam packed with fun basketball games, festivals and rewards and gives children a great way to learn the basic skills of the game!

Find out more at:
basketballengland.co.uk





Oxford Children's Book Group

**Snarks, Rhymes & Riddles
at the Treacle Well, Binsey**

**A FREE Fun Family event to celebrate Alice's
Day 2026**

JULY 5th 2.00-4pm


St Margaret's Church, Binsey, OX2 0NG



Enjoy Crafts, Games, Book Stall and Storytelling at the
Treacle Well...

NB. All young people under 18 must be accompanied. Limited parking available and please note there are no toilet facilities. Further information: OCBG - 01865-862640.

COME & TRY NETBALL



INTRODUCING NEW SESSIONS FOR YEAR 4, 5 AND 6!


ABINGDON CENTRE JUNIOR NETBALL CLUB

ALL PLAYER LEVELS WELCOME! ★

MONDAYS 6 - 7PM
JOHN MASON SCHOOL, ABINGDON

A FUN AND FRIENDLY CLUB FOR PLAYERS AGED 8 - 18.

★ **CONTACT:**
acj.netball.club@gmail.com
TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR FREE TASTER TODAY!

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

WEEKLY NETBALL DEVELOPMENT SESSIONS

OXFORD | STARTING FEBRUARY




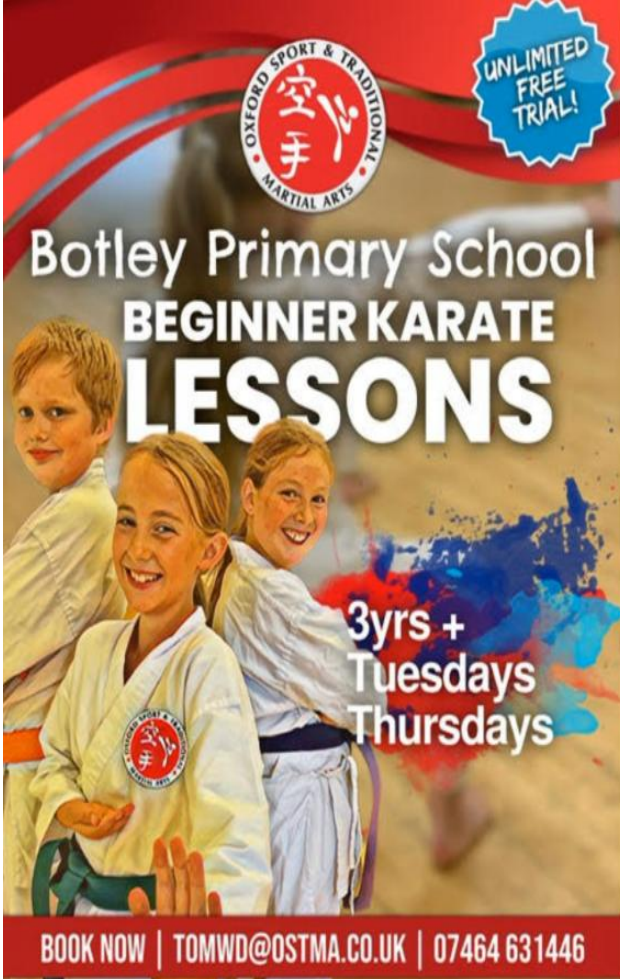
For keen netballers looking to level up

- 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

OXFORD SPORT & TRADITIONAL MARTIAL ARTS

UNLIMITED FREE TRIAL!

Botley Primary School BEGINNER KARATE LESSONS

3yrs +
Tuesdays
Thursdays

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

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

"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."

Regina Bari

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



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 2nd May 2026. Parents should quote BOTI020526 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

There are others too. Click to find all the nearest [here](#) or view a list of [all areas](#).

Respect

Resilience

Kindness

Creativity

Inclusivity

Teamwork