

# Botley School



Dear Parents/Carers,

There have been some wonderful events in Lower Key Stage 2 this week. Following on from a fantastic trip to Chedworth roman Villa last week, the year 4 class are trialling a new way of teaching using 1:1 devices. The school has invested in a class set of mini-iPads and some specific learning software. This is designed to enable pupils to take more charge of their learning and be able to learn how to use devices to help them make fantastic progress. This doesn't mean they are spending all their time looking at a screen but is just trying to give them the tools to develop their understanding. In one of the lessons I popped into, the children were using their individual devices to research on different representations of Mary (Christianity) and Shakti (Hinduism) for the Religious Education lesson. They were able to underline key words and highlight paragraphs they wanted to use, to enable them to complete a comparison in their books. The class are totally engrossed in their learning and demonstrated excellent skills in their use of the devices. Keep your eyes peeled for more information as this trial continues over the next term.



On Thursday, Lilac Class visited the Ashmolean Museum for an exciting day as Ancient Egyptian detectives. After arriving, the children had some time to settle into the museum environment and explore a range of galleries showcasing artwork and artefacts from early English history. In the afternoon, Lee guided them through the Ancient Egypt galleries, sharing fascinating information about the artefacts on display—and even giving the children the rare opportunity to handle some of them! To complete their detective training, pupils worked through two challenges: identifying specific artefacts and describing their uses before searching for listed objects to sketch. It was a fantastic day full of curiosity, learning, and discovery—even with all the walking!



This morning, we were delighted to be joined by our Education Mental Health Practitioners, and our very own ELSA team who hosted a children's mental Health Coffee Morning. There were lots of resources available for parents to look through as well as having the opportunity to talk to the trained staff. Thank you to the parents who joined for the coffee morning, we hope you found it useful. We will be running another event in the Spring term for those of you who couldn't make it today.



Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Mrs Reid

## Upcoming Events

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec** – FOBS Xmas Disco
- 11 Dec** – EYFS Christmas stay and play 9:15
- 11 Dec** – KS1 performance 4:00
- 12 Dec** – prospective Parent tour
- 12 Dec** – Workshare
- 17 Dec** – Xmas lunch/party day
- 19 Dec** – Christmas Assembly 9:15
- 19 Dec** – End of Term early finish 1:30

**Recruitment**

We are currently advertising for a school cleaner to work one hour per day, before or after school. Botley School parents are able to make use of Breakfast Club or After School Club for free whilst working. Please see <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/147759/EDV-2025-BS-97379> for details, and send the link to anyone you know who may be interested. The deadline is on Tuesday.

**Free breakfast club**

Thank you to everyone who made use of the breakfast club over 10-14 November when we really wanted to boost our numbers. We had great attendance that week, and we hope you found it useful / your children found it enjoyable. Do keep coming and if you have any feedback or questions about the club please email [operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk)

**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 will be applying for grants, 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 will go towards this, and it's great that we are bringing back the Christmas Disco (3 December) to raise more money. FOBS would welcome other fundraising ideas and offers of help to make them happen! Please email [fobs1930@gmail.com](mailto:fobs1930@gmail.com) or share on the FOBS WhatsApp group. The Pupil Council will be involved in choosing the exact structure but it's likely to be something like the one shown below. Please help us to raise enough for an exciting large structure! Watch this space...

**Pallet truck**

If anyone is interested in buying a nearly-new pallet truck (pump truck) or knows anyone who might be interested, please email Jenny on [operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:operations@botley.oxon.sch.uk)  
We bought it about a year ago for £189, have used it about 5 times, and would like to sell it for £100 or nearest offer. It's from The Workplace Depot [Pump Truck | Free Delivery](#). It carries 2500kg, has nylon wheels and is in excellent condition.

**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](mailto:Office.2569@Botley.oxon.sch.uk)  
01865 248573



E-mail: [office@acertrust.org.uk](mailto:office@acertrust.org.uk)  
Tel: 01865 519215

## Nursery parents: Apply now for their Reception class place:

We are letting you know that applications for Reception places for children starting school in **September 2026** is now open. The deadline for applications is **15 January 2026**.

We strongly encourage families to apply online via the following link: [Reception applications | Oxfordshire County Council](#)

If online applications are not possible, I've attached forms that can be printed or completed digitally.

We would be grateful if you could share this information with parents of children born between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022**, who are eligible to start school in September 2026.

### Key reminders for parents:

- Read the Starting School Guide on the website
- Apply on time – late applications won't receive an offer on National Offer Day (16 April 2026)
- Update addresses – upload proof of address and inform current nursery/school (if there has been a change)
- Include sibling details where relevant
- List multiple preferences – up to four schools can be selected

Late applications are far less likely to secure a place at a preferred school, so it is important that parents apply on time.

### 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.



#### Parent tours:

**Tuesday 21st October**  
1.30pm

**Wednesday 19th**  
**November 3.30pm**

**Friday 12th December**  
9.30am

#### Come and play sessions:

*(including Botley Bridges)*

**Monday 13th October**

**Monday 8th December**

**10.00-11.00am**

**Tuesday 13th 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

[Office.2569@botley.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:Office.2569@botley.oxon.sch.uk)

Was your child born between

**1st September 2021**  
**and 31st August 2022?**

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 2025** and **15th January 2026**



# GUITAR LESSONS



- 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: [LeeLuland@live.co.uk](mailto:LeeLuland@live.co.uk)  
Tel: 07872478886

Please note Lee has spaces for new students on Thursdays if any prospective parents would like to get in contact, Thank you

## Piano lessons

Every week on  
Mondays and Tuesdays  
during school hours



For more information contact Diyana  
Mob: 07707216175  
Email: [divchevcurr@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:divchevcurr@yahoo.co.uk)

Please note Diyana has spaces for new students if any prospective parents would like to get in contact and reserve their place. Thank you



## Girls aged 7-10 Years old

Do you want to have Fun,  
Make New Friends  
& Learn New Things?

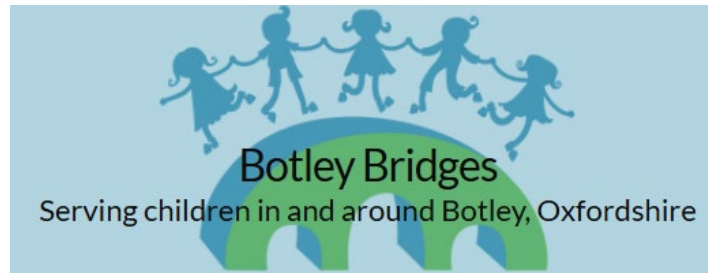
## Then join 2<sup>nd</sup> Botley Brownies

Tuesdays 6:15pm to 7:45pm

Contact:

[secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com](mailto:secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com)





**We are now running two Stay and Play sessions every week at Botley School - have you been to see us yet?**

**These sessions are great opportunities for you and your child/children to meet and make friends with other local families whilst playing in a purpose built space with a great garden.**

**Everybody welcome to attend. Unfortunately there is no car parking in the school car park during term time but you can park at Elms Parade for up to 2 hours free of charge.**

**Please could you take a minute to complete our very quick survey about stay and play using the link below (this link should work - please let me know if there is a problem)**

<https://forms.gle/S8ngVqDfjHA87n8F8>

**We still have spaces available for our Christmas Forest School Session but booking early is recommended to avoid disappointment.**

**Bookings will close on Friday 5 December.**

**Wrap up warm and join us in the woods for a campfire, warm drinks and a very special visitor. Just £6 per child.**

**Email [sue@botleybridges.org](mailto:sue@botleybridges.org) to book your space or book face to face during any Botley Bridges session either this week or next.**

**Botley Bridges Hampers are back for Christmas 2025!**

**You can help in numerous different ways, by donating good quality goods, making a financial contribution or offering to pack up the hampers.**

**If you would like to request a hamper, please follow the instructions on the poster.**

**For further information, please contact [sue@botleybridges.org](mailto:sue@botleybridges.org)**

**Thank you for helping to spread Christmas Cheer**

**Join us on Monday 15 December for our annual Botley Bridges Christmas Party between 9-11am at Botley School. No car parking is available at the school but there is free 2 hour parking at Elms Parade Shops.**

**The cost is £3 per family and we are respectfully asking for an additional £1 per child to go towards the cost of a gift that they will receive from a very special visitor.**

**Please bring a very small plate of food to share (ie fruit/crisps/cake/biscuits/savouries etc)**

**Although booking is not required, an idea of numbers would be helpful.**

**There will be Christmas crafts available and Christmas singing too.**

**Stay and Play on Wednesday 17 December will also include Christmas crafts/activities and singing.**

# 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 benefit from a little extra help. 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 / 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](mailto:treasurer@botleybridges.org) for bank payment details
- To volunteer to take in deliveries, pack hampers or deliver, please contact Sue Dowe - [sue@botleybridges.org](mailto:sue@botleybridges.org) / 07769 275084



## DONATIONS DROP OFF:

- St Peter and St Paul's Church Hall, Botley:  
Thursday 18th Dec 5-8pm or Friday 19th Dec 8-11am
- Cumnor School, Botley School, West Oxford School or any Botley Bridges session: 15-18th December

If you cannot drop off at these times, please email [sue@botleybridges.org](mailto:sue@botleybridges.org) to arrange an alternative.

## TO REQUEST A HAMPER:

- Fill in our request form <https://botley-hampers.web.app> or via QR code ->
- OR ask for a paper form from you local school or preschool and hand it in
- AND send via email to [sue@botleybridges.org](mailto:sue@botleybridges.org)



For more information, visit [botleybridges.org](https://botleybridges.org) Registered charity number 1172139



## Fully Funded School Support Course

**STUDY  
SMART**

Free Online Courses

**Fully  
Funded  
Course**



[www.studysmartuk.online](http://www.studysmartuk.online)

We are looking to fill 150+ School Support vacancies in local schools (e.g. SEN Support, Behaviour Mentors, 1-1 Classroom Support, Cover Supervisors etc). These roles are available in both full time and part time positions.

Please go to our website address given above, or scan the QR code for more information.

This is a 6 week course, full time, intensive course, with online guided learning sessions within school hours.

If you are earning less than £23,500 per annum or are in receipt of any benefits, you will be eligible for a fully funded place with us.



# 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



## Free Holiday Activities and Food

for eligible 4-16 yr olds who get benefits-related free school meals.

- Climbing
- Crafts
- Sports
- Cookery
- Dance
- Dodgeball
- and more

Find a club for you [eequ.org/hafoxfordshire](http://eequ.org/hafoxfordshire)

fun, friendship and adventure



Every Wednesday during term-time 4.00 - 5.30pm

## Outdoor Explorers

Hill-End  
A place of possibilities

£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](http://www.hill-end.org/activities/upcoming-events)

Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, OX2 9NJ 01865 863510



2 - 6 years

## Forest Tots

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



www.osacademy.co.uk

# XMAS FOOTBALL CAMP

Our December Football Camp is open to all players aged 4-13 Years & will be Christmas Party themed with lots of festive fun, challenges and prizes throughout the day.





**MONDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER**  
10am - 2.30pm





£25 (siblings discount available)  
info@osaacademy.co.uk

Eynsham Sports Pavillion  
Oxford Road  
OX29 4HG



UNLIMITED FREE TRIAL!

## Botley Primary School BEGINNER KARATE LESSONS



3yrs +  
Tuesdays  
Thursdays

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



Iranian Community Network (ICN)

## 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](mailto:admin@icn-uk.org) or Text 07951 035096

WWW.ICN-UK.ORG  
CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1188607

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

**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. \*\*  
Begum Bari



**FREE ENTRY!**

**Christmas Fayre 25** Benson Village Hall  
Wallingford OX10 6LZ  
10AM - 4PM  
Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November



**Santa's Grotto**  
**Craft Stalls**  
**Raffle**  
**Café**  
**Children's Games & Activities**  
**Tombola**  
**AND MUCH MORE**

Santa's Grotto Pre-Bookings available now on our Website!

Event held by Oxfordshire Wildlife Rescue. Reg Charity Number 1194050

**DIDCOT RAILWAY CENTRE**

**Steam Into Christmas**





Enjoy unlimited train rides and help Santa find his missing reindeer!

Find each of Santa's lost reindeer, culminating in a visit to Santa's workshop to meet Santa.

➤ **BOOK NOW - 01235 817200** ◀

[www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk](http://www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk)







TARGET NETBALL ACADEMY  
EST. 2024

**CHRISTMAS DATES**

OXFORD & CHELTENHAM

**2<sup>nd</sup> January** - 1:1s available  
9-10am  
10-11am  
12-1pm  
1-2pm  
2-3pm

**3<sup>rd</sup> January** - CHRISTMAS CAMP  
09:00-15:00pm  
10-14yrs  
£50pp

**SIGN UP LINK IN BIO OR EMAIL US!!**

[targetnetballacademy@gmail.com](mailto:targetnetballacademy@gmail.com)  
07469196478



First come first serve basis...

# Oxford Swim School

Weekly Lessons (30 minutes)

**Thursdays 4.30pm-6.30pm &  
Saturdays 9am-1.30pm**

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




*Drago and his Sleigh*

## Slade Wonderland

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025  
6:00 - 8:30pm  
&  
Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December  
1:00 - 5:00pm

**Slade Park Fire Station**  
Horspath Driftway  
Headington  
OXFORD  
OX3 7JG

In aid of  
The Fire Fighters Charity

and lots more...

Activities listed on signs:

- Fire Safety Grotto
- Send a letter to Santa
- Christmas Displays & Raffle
- Carol Singers & BBQ

Other logos and text on the poster:

- Oxford Children's Hospital Charity
- Helen & Douglas Hoce
- The Fire Fighters Charity