

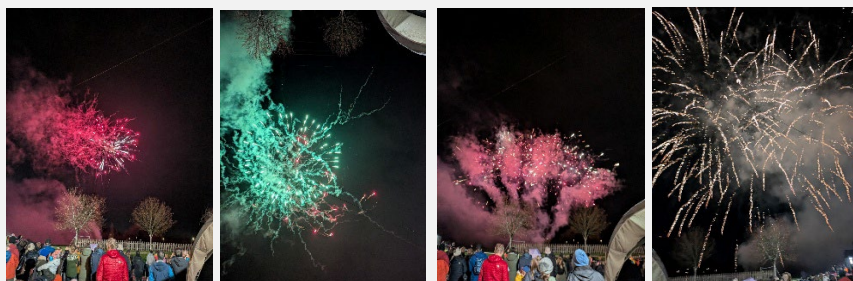
Botley School



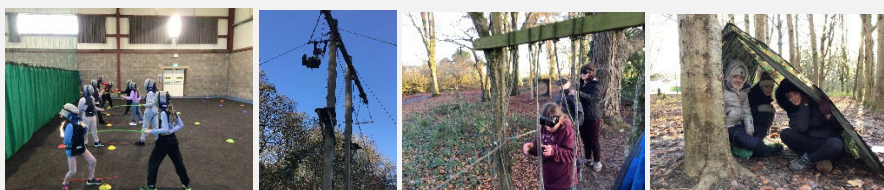
Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy fortnight at Botley. The school held the Remembrance Day Assembly on the 11th with a focus on war poetry to link to our poetry theme from the previous week. We joined the nation in observing the silence linked to the BBC coverage, taking time to think about both those who fought in WWI and WWII, but also to think about conflict around the world currently. We finished our assembly with our song 'Light a Candle for Peace'

At the end of the week, we had our annual Fireworks display. A huge thank you to the FOBS committee, staff and all the volunteers who battled against horrendous weather conditions when preparing the playground as well as issues with getting the kitchen ovens working for the food. In the end, the rain stopped in time for the display and the playground was filled with over 700 people who braved the conditions to support the event. The display from 'Storm Fireworks' was as awesome as always and the event was a great success. Thank you to everyone who attended for coming out on such a wet evening. You helped FOBS raise £3000 which will go to support the school's fundraising efforts for new fixed playground equipment this year. (See below for more information on this project)



This week, I have had the joy of heading to Liddington PGL with year 6 for their residential trip. The pupils were a fantastic group to take away with us. The feedback from the PGL staff was that they all looked forward to taking our groups because they were so well behaved and got stuck into the activities with resilience and enthusiasm. Some of the children helped us keep a blog for parents on the [school website](#) and we uploaded pictures at the end of each day. It is such a fantastic experience for the pupils with activities including climbing, abseiling and zipwire, fencing and archery, problem solving and survival techniques, ambush games in the dark and the disco with the other primary schools staying at the centre. Thank you to Mr Griffiths, Miss Thomas, Mrs King and Miss von Rooij for helping our pupils make such brilliant memories. It really was a fantastic week. Well done year 6.



Have a fantastic week
Mrs Reid

Upcoming Events

27 Nov – Yr 3 trip Ashmolean

3rd 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

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 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...

**Lights, camera, action**

We're excited that we will soon be making a school film for our website. This is not something we've been able to do up until now due to costs, but happily Kier's communications team have agreed to make a film for us for free, as part of them giving back to the Botley community. It won't need to mention Kier, it's purely to showcase the school and help us to attract more families.

We are busy planning the content and there will be a day of filming in April. We would love to include as many pupils as possible in the filming, and we think they will enjoy it. We have video permission already for most pupils. For those where we don't, we will be contacting parents soon to see if you would like to give permission for your child to be part of this specific video activity.

Recruitment

We are currently advertising for a school cleaner to work one hour per day, before or after school. Please see <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/147759/EDV-2025-BS-97379> for details.

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

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

Find out more about Brilliant Botley on our school website

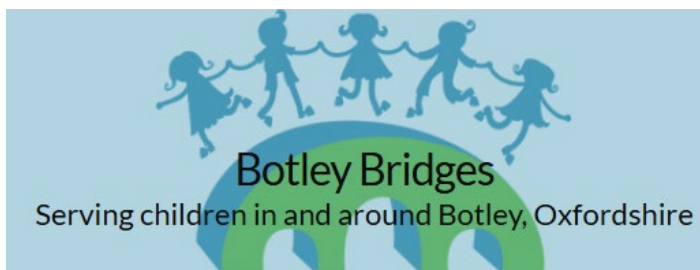
<https://www.botleyschool.org.uk>



Was your child born between

1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022?

Don't forget to apply for your Reception school place between 1st November 2025 and 15th January 2026



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>



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
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

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 2nd Botley Brownies

Tuesdays 6:15pm to 7:45pm

Contact:

secondbotleybrownies@outlook.com



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/haoxfordshire



fun, friendship and adventure



Department for Education



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Thank you for helping to spread Christmas Cheer

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 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:
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 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



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





The Best of Botley!

Celebrating community action
in Botley and North Hinksey

Do you know someone who's doing something great in our community?

The Best of Botley is a celebration of action by people and groups, in and around Botley and North Hinksey, who are working to improve quality of life and wellbeing in the neighbourhood.

Anyone can nominate people and groups they think deserves recognition.

- 1 Young volunteer of the year
- 2 Retired volunteer of the year
- 3 Community group of the year
- 4 Conservation / environmental volunteer
- 5 Local teacher of the year
- 6 Online volunteer of the year
- 7 Sports club
- 8 Long-term volunteer of the year
- 9 Business supporting the community
- 10 Best Customer Service Person of the year

Get a nomination form from Botley Library, from shops in West Way that are displaying a poster, or download one from: botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk


Information on how to nominate someone is on the form. Winners will receive a 'Best of Botley' certificate at an awards party on Sunday 14th December

All entries must be received by Nov. 25th



Best of Botley is being organised by
Botley & North Hinksey
Parish Council





The Best of Botley!

Celebrating community action in Botley and North Hinksey

Nomination Form
 This form can be used to nominate one person or organisation for one award.

Category (See below):

1 Young volunteer of the year	5 Local teacher of the year	8 Long-term volunteer of the year
2 Retired volunteer of the year	6 Online volunteer of the year	9 Business supporting the community
3 Community group of the year	7 Sports club	10 Best Customer Service Person of the year
4 Conservation / environmental volunteer		

Name of person:

Organisation (if appropriate):

Contact details for person or group:
 (phone or email)

Why this person deserves the award:
 (Maximum 120 words – type in here or write here and over the page if writing by hand)

I confirm that that they are happy to be nominated (please tick)

Name of nominator:

Contact details:

All entries must be received by Nov. 25th

This form can be handed in at the Botley Library, or posted in the Parish Council letter box by the Library, or emailed as an attachment to the Parish Clerk: clerk@botleynorthhinksey-pc.gov.uk



Best of Botley is being organised by
Botley & North Hinksey
 Parish Council



Fully Funded School Support Course

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**Fully
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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.



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07384 670391
 oxford@art-k.co.uk
 art-k.co.uk/class-oxford
 37 South Parade, Summertown, Oxford OX2 7JN



GIVE YOUR CHILD AN INVALUABLE LIFE SKILL AT WHITE HORSE LEISURE AND TENNIS CENTRE

Do you want to improve your child's water confidence and give them the ability to swim? Discover how to kick-start your child's confidence in the water at better.org.uk/swim-school



WHAT'S MORE, YOUR CHILD WILL...

- Develop social skills whilst having fun with new friends
- Feel motivated as they progress through stages
- Improve their confidence with every stroke
- And most importantly, learn a life saving skill

Better Swim School offers affordable lessons for all ages and abilities taught by qualified teachers with our own industry leading swim school programme. Our safe and friendly environment will ensure your child enjoys life long fun in and around the water.

Book now to secure your child's place at better.org.uk/swim-school

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



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

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Botley Primary School
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LESSONS

3yrs +
Tuesdays
Thursdays

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Acer TRUST

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CARD
COMPETITION

DEADLINE
FRIDAY 28TH
NOVEMBER

WINNERS ANNOUNCED
5TH DECEMBER

Amazon vouchers for winners

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 or Text **07951 035096**

WWW.ICN-UK.ORG
 CHARITY REGISTRATION NO: 1198607

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. ****
 Papa Wotton

PERFORM

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. ****
 Begum 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 ENTRY!

Christmas Fayre 25

Benson Village Hall
Wallingford OX10 6LZ
10AM - 4PM
Sunday 30th 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







TARGET NETBALL ACADEMY
EST. 2004

CHRISTMAS DATES

OXFORD & CHELTENHAM

2nd January - 1:1s available
9-10am
10-11am
12-1pm
1-2pm
2-3pm

3rd January - CHRISTMAS CAMP
09:00-15:00pm
10-14yrs
£50pp

SIGN UP LINK IN BIO OR EMAIL US!!

targetnetballacademy@gmail.com
07469196478



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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

