



BENSON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Providing a rich,
stimulating & enjoyable
environment, where
children can begin their
learning journey &
prepare for adult life*



NEWSLETTER

4TH SEPTEMBER 2026

TERM 1 VALUE: UNDERSTANDING

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Term 1

Welcome back to our current families and a special welcome to all our new families. It has been lovely seeing all the children settling into school so well this week. We look forward to a fun and busy term ahead.

Information Sessions

Teachers for years 1 to 6 are holding information sessions for parents/carers on Wednesday 9th September at the following times:

Year 1&2: 3.30pm in the classroom

Year 3&4: 4.00pm online

Year 5&6: 9.00am online

If you are unable to attend, the PowerPoints used will be shared after the sessions.

Information and Dates

Please check the school website for key information about year groups and individual classes ([click here](#)). We have published on the website term dates for the year ([click here](#)) and key dates for parents for the whole year ([click here](#)). Please check this newsletter each week to ensure you keep up to date with school information and events.

School Improvements

While the school has been closed to children over the summer, there has been plenty of work taking place. We have had new blinds installed in many of the classrooms and we now have brand new windows and doors in the hall. These improvements will help with temperature control in both the colder and warmer months of the year.

Staffing

We said goodbye to Miss O’Neill and Mr Bennett at the end of the summer term. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Hodder and Miss Hagenberg as teaching assistants.

Library Reading Challenge

Any children who received a certificate for completing the Oxfordshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge are welcome to bring the certificate in so we can celebrate in our Friday celebration assemblies.

Medical Information

You may be aware that there are updated allergy expectations for schools from September 2026. As part of this, all staff are completing new allergy training with some staff also attending additional face-to-face asthma and anaphylaxis training next week. If your child has an allergy, you need to ensure you inform the school and complete a Health Care Plan. We will be asking parents of all children with a Health Care Plan to check it is up to date this term and appreciate your support with this. A reminder that we request children do not bring any nuts or food items containing nuts into school (including peanut butter and Nutella), and that for safety reasons all grapes and cherry tomatoes are cut in half lengthways.

Celebrations

At the end of the summer term, we were delighted to be awarded 5 stars hygiene for the school kitchen during a no-notice inspection by the Food Standards Agency.

The school performance tables will be published online by the Department for Education towards the end of 2026. We are however pleased to be able to share with you that our end of year statutory assessments (Reception Good Level of Development, Year 1 Phonics, Year 2 phonics and Key Stage 2 SATs) were all inline or above national results.

	School	National
Early Years Foundation Stage Good Level of Development	72%	72%
Phonics screening check by end of Year 1	76%	82%
Phonics screening check by end of Year 2	91%	91%
KS2 reading, writing and maths combined expected standard	65%	63%
KS2 reading, writing and maths combined higher standard	8%	8%

Outcomes for the Year 4 multiplication test were below national, and this is a key focus of our School Development Plan for 2026-2027. More information about key areas for the School Development Plan are on the school website ([click here](#)).

Clubs

After school clubs start week commencing 14th September. A reminder that children need to wear their PE kit to school if they are taking part in a sports club after school. Children attending Little Masters Art Club need to bring in an old shirt or apron to put over their school uniform. If your child is not going to be attending a club, please ensure you inform the school in advance.

Uniform

A reminder that our Uniform Policy has been updated. For more information, please see the page on the website ([click here](#)).

The Big Future

The Children's Commissioner is keen to hear from all children in England. To access and complete the survey, please use this link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/TheBigFuture/>

Road Closure

We have been notified that Church Road in Benson will be closed 7th – 17th September. This will increase traffic on the road outside of school during this time. Please adapt your journeys to and from school accordingly and be aware of the additional traffic.

Communication

A reminder about the most effective way to contact the school:

To report an absence, to inform us someone different is collecting your child, to update your contact details or general queries, contact the office - office.3181@benison.oxon.sch.uk or 01491 202502

For queries or concerns about your child, contact the class teacher(s) using the class email address. Please note that teachers are busy teaching during the day and are therefore unlikely to be able to respond immediately. They will aim to respond within 48 hours. All class emails are in the format of class@benison.oxon.sch.uk, for example, elm@benison.oxon.sch.uk

Any queries or concerns about your child emailed to the office will be forwarded to the class teacher(s).

Safeguarding Spotlight

Safeguarding children is everybody's responsibility. If you have a safeguarding concern about a child, you can contact the school office to arrange to speak to one of the school Safeguarding Leads:

Designated Safeguarding Lead Mrs Pearce (Headteacher)

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads: Mrs Agudelo (SENCo) Mrs Fanstone (Assistant Headteacher) and Mrs Launchbury-Rainey (Assistant Headteacher)

For urgent concerns you can email the school safeguarding email

safeguarding@benison.oxon.sch.uk

Anyone can report a concern to MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub). [Click here](#) for an online link or phone 01865 519800.



Friends of Benson
School Presents

HAPPY'S CIRCUS

30 September 2026



Gates Open at 5:00pm

Show 5:40pm - 8pm

Food and
Snacks

Circus
Performance

Local
Traders

£12 per ticket



Tickets available **now** on School

Money until 17th July

Tickets are limited and after this dates
tickets, via the website, may be subject to
booking fees

Singing

Acting

Dancing

Laughing



NEW to Cholsey Great Hall

Mini Musical Theatre Classes

At Let's Act, we are passionate about giving confidence to young people through developing their performance skills.



Musical Theatre is...

- ★ Singing
- ★ Dancing
- ★ Acting
- ★ Spoken dialogue

Starting Sept
2026 - come
along for a
**FREE TRIAL
CLASS**



DATES

September		
Wednesday 9 th	Year 5 and Year 6 information sessions for parents – online	9.00am
Wednesday 9 th	Year 1&2 information sessions for parents – in the classrooms	3.30pm
Wednesday 9 th	Year 3&4 information sessions for parents – online	4.00pm
Tuesday 22 nd	Flu Vaccinations in school for all children – more information to follow	
Wednesday 30 th	FoBS Circus Event	5pm
October		
Wednesday 7 th	Individual school photos	During school day
Friday 9 th	Prospective families meeting	9.30am
Tuesday 20 th – Friday 23 rd	Year 6 PGL residential	
Friday 23 rd October	Last day of term	
Monday 26 th - Friday 30 th	Half Term	

Key dates for 2026-2027 for parents can be found on the school website, [click here](#). Term dates can be found on the school website, [click here](#).