‘Love one another, as I have loved you’ John 13 v34

BENSON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

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



13TH NOVEMBER 2026
TERM 2 VALUE: PEACE

SCHOOL INFORMATION

Parents’ Evenings
Thank you for attending the meetings with teacher(s) this week. We appreciate you giving the time to discuss how your child has settled into this year, and how they are progressing with their learning.

Remembrance Parade
Thank you to Rory and Freya for representing the school at the Benson Remembrance Parade on Sunday and for laying a wreath on behalf of the school. It was lovely to see so many children from school within groups as part of the parade.

Birthdays
Children are welcome to wear home clothes to school on their birthday. If a birthday falls at the weekend or over a holiday, a day either just before or just after this time can be chosen for home clothes. We also ask children if they would like to come up in the weekly Friday assembly if it has been their birthday that week so we can all sing Happy Birthday to them. We do not permit children to bring in anything to give out to friends on birthdays.

Library
Thank you for the paint donations for the school library and thank you to Mrs Launchbury-Rainey for coming in during half-term to paint the walls. The library is looking refreshed and welcoming.

Christmas Cards & Girts
Thank you to everybody who has bought cards, teddies, mugs etc with your child's Christmas designs. Already we have raised over £500 for the school. If you missed the original deadline for ordering or would like to order more then I have secured a second opening slot of 20th-30th November where you can place orders. I will send a reminder closer to the date with instructions how to order. Thanks for all your support, it is much appreciated. Joy Skeels

PCSO Visit
We welcomed PCSO Sue Haynes into school this week to talk to Year 1 and 2 children. They learnt about the daily role of police officers and how neighbourhood policing keeps the community safe. We were very impressed with how well the children listened and the questions they asked.

Nursery Rhyme Week
Nursery and Reception classes had a wonderful time this week singing nursery rhymes for World Nursery Rhyme week. Reception also looked amazing dressed up as characters from nursery rhymes and performed to each other during the day. Well done everyone!

Supporting Children and Young People's Wellbeing
Please click on this link to read new information on our school website from Oxfordshire County Council regarding information and support for parents and carers. It contains information, advice and resources to help parents and carers support their children to thrive, build resilience, maintain positive mental wellbeing and access support when needed.

https://www.bensoncofeprimary.org.uk/attachments/documents.asp?id=676

Buddies
We are pleased to confirm we can now accept some ad-hoc bookings for Buddies Breakfast Club and After School Club. To book a place, please email buddies@benson.oxon.sch.uk by 12pm on Friday for bookings for the following week. This will be in place from Monday 16th November.

Regular bookings are still in place. If you require any changes to these please email buddies@benson.oxon.sch.uk

School Menu Change - from Friday 20th November
Due to a supplier issue, we have made the decision to change from the Chicken Burger as the meat option for Friday week 1 of the new lunch menu.
We will now be serving Chicken Goujons with potato wedges instead – this change is reflected on SchoolMoney and the menu on the website.

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@benson.oxon.sch.uk

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

Y5/6 BOYS' FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

This week, it was the turn of our older boys to face other footballers in the Wallingford Partnership. We managed to take 16 of them, in two teams, eager to prove themselves and take on the challenge. Both teams played some excellent football, with a great attitude and lots of enthusiasm, scoring many goals, and the "A" team conceding none (a theme occurring here I feel!).

The final was between Benson and Fir Tree, and I am delighted to report that they pulled off a convincing win!

This meant we retained the title for another year.

OXFORD CITY FC Y5/6 MIXED FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

This week, we also played in a tournament hosted by Oxford City, taking just one team of boys and girls, playing against schools from around Oxford. After a tough pool of 6 games, we narrowly missed going through to the next round, despite a wealth of determination, skill and supportive teamwork. I am, however, pleased to report that our neighbours, Crowmarsh School, made it to the Final, but sadly lost out on penalties.

Huge thanks to all the parents who rearranged their week to come and support us, and special thanks to James Oliver, and Matt Ploszynski, who made my job easier by utilising their coaching skills with the team.

Well done everyone!

NEXT UP: Y5/6 Hockey

Tania Hadfield

Make a Christmas Lantern



Monday 23rd November

Please bring an empty, **CLEAN**, four-pint milk carton to school on **Monday 23rd November.**

to make the lantern straight after school in the exciting new outdoor classroom.

All other materials will be provided.

Parents and guardians need to be present as it's straight after school.

The lanterns are for bringing to the church Christmas tree service and afterwards the big Benson Christmas party on

Friday 27th November.

Rainbow Preschool

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY 5th OF DECEMBER 10AM until 12 NOON

Santa's Grotto £5 per child



Free admission to venue offering Santa's grotto, festive games, face painting, crafts, refreshments, raffle, and much more!

Rainbow Pre-School, Millington Road, Wallingford, OX10 8FE Tel: 01491 826209

COMMUNITY INFORMATION





YouMove is is a free programme, that gives eligible families access to free and low-cost activities.

Families must have a child age 0-17 and eligibility includes benefits related free school meals, universal credit, disadvantaged 2 year old funding, young carers and refugees.

You can self refer or schools, GP's, nurseries and other professionals can refer you.

Offers include up to 50% off Pay as You Go activities at Better Leisure Centres, free entry to Basildon Park and Greys Court and £7.50 term time tickets to Beale Park.

You can find out more on the offers available on the YouMove website.

Contact your local activator

Term time Activities

The Active Communities team have free and low cost activities this term.

Book here

https://www.getoxfordshireactive.org/youmovesouthoxon

DATES

November		
Monday 23rd	Parent & child lantern making after school – see poster for more information	
Wednesday 25th	Vision screening for Reception children	During school day
Thursday 26th	Y5&6 hockey tournament	After school
Friday 27th November	Children's Carol Service – St Helen's church, Benson at 5pm. Children (Singing Club) will need to be there at 4:30 for rehearsal.	
w/c Monday 30th	Review meetings for parents of children on the SEN register – invitations to book will be sent in advance	
December		
Wednesday 2nd	Reception Christmas Production	9.30am
Thursday 3rd	Reception Christmas Production	9.30am
Friday 4th	Big Christmas Sing (Singing Club children only)	
Tuesday 8th	Damson class trombone/trumpet concert for parents/carers in the hall	2.15pm
Wednesday 9th	Year 1&2 Christmas Production	9.30am
Thursday 10th	Year 1&2 Christmas Production	1.30pm
Friday 11th	Nursery Christmas Sing A Long	9.00am
Wednesday 16th	Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day	
Thursday 17th	Christmas Church Services	TBC
Thursday 17th	Last day of term	2pm

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.