



RAF Benson Community Primary School



Newsletter



June 2026

Dear Parents (or should I be saying 'Dearest Gentle Reader' ahead of the WOSM ball tonight!),

Well, what a month we have had! Firstly, the weather was just unbelievable – we all love seeing the sun but last week was something else! Thank you for your support and cooperation with how we managed looking after your child last week. I have seen many clips on social media relating to '1976'....it was very different times then and we now have a greater duty of care for the children in school as well as greater accuracy in reporting. Let's hope next week does not materialise into anything like what we had last week – although it has been fun hearing children speaking enthusiastically about slides going into paddling pools!

What a great turn out we had for our Urban Stride day with Andy Instone. It is always a great pleasure to have him in school reinforcing our 'Resilience Reaps Rewards' Programme with our children and also allow them to learn about breakin', poppin' and lockin'! We look forward to seeing him again next year and to have a KS1 workshop day too... or a session for parents!

It was wonderful to see so many parents supporting our Commonwealth themed sports day this year – it is always a great morning and we love seeing you sitting on chairs and picnic blankets. The children did an amazing job with their class dances and showed great sporting attitude with the races. The addition of refreshments for parents was a great hit (as we sold out!) and a huge thank you to the team of parents we had who cooked the delicious bacon baps and sold refreshments to ease everyone into the day.

Thank you to everyone who turned up to get a second bacon (or sausage) bap in a row at the Father's day big breakfast. There was a lovely early morning buzz in the hall and the aroma of the breakfast baps was delicious. Big thank you again to the amazing team who arrived early and pulled this together making it run like clockwork.

Whilst we were all devastated that CAMO day and our Summer Fair had to be cancelled due to the weather, which was the right call, we are looking forward to seeing everyone at our Summer Fair on Friday 10th July. This is one of our main fundraisers over the academic year and monies raised through this event and the school raffle go to supporting curriculum resources for your child in school during the next year that our school budget can't stretch to – including the transport to the amazing Young Voices concert. Classes have worked on their class stalls and we have the bouncy castle, BBQ (Burgers and hot dogs), Pimms and other refreshments. Due to the change of date, we are looking for a face painter – if anyone is able to help – we would be really grateful, please contact Mrs Bevis in the school office.

The children had a fabulous morning in their classes, from a school perspective, and we will be having another session between now and the end of the year - when we can squeeze it in. We appreciate that the mixed classes from single year group classes is not ideal and my dream and desire would be single year group classes across the school again, and I am hopeful over the next couple of years we will start to return to that with the arrival of families linked to NMH. However, please be assured that we carefully track pupils and their attainment and provide the best support for children when we can.

Today, after some movement of dates, we were able to have our Computer room opened and formally named the 'OpenReach suite'. We were very lucky to have had all the equipment in there, including the iPads, donated to us from BT Openreach in recognition of the work we do to support the children in our school to ensure we have the latest technology to deliver high quality learning. Matt and Barry from OpenReach came and cut the ribbon and our Year 3 were in there

showcasing how they use the computers and iPads to support their learning. We are really grateful them.

Finally, our Spitfire 90 project is underway and is very exciting, the children selected the name of the pilot to have the markings on the gate guardian from a choice of three and we have received a video from the family of the winning pilot to the children about their father, Bill Johnson. They will be seeing this in Assembly on Monday. Tuesday marks our exhibition to showcase the work done on the workshop day and other work the children have been doing since in celebration of the mighty spitfire and we look forward to seeing you at that – please see the details below.

Here are a few dates of upcoming events and some notices for you. We have quite a few events coming up with a couple of google forms for completion and your swift action on this would be appreciated.

Dates and Events

Please keep an eye on the school calendar for these dates and events – you are able to subscribe to this so that you don't miss anything coming up. <https://www.raf-benson.oxon.sch.uk/diary/subscribe/>

Wednesday 1 July - New to Reception Meeting – We look forward to welcoming parents with children new to Reception in September 2026 to have an introductory meeting.

Thursday 2 July – Transition Morning 1 (Moved due to swimming for Year 5!) - Children will know who their teacher (hopefully) will be for next year and we will let you know during the day.

Monday 6 July – Brass Showcase at 2:40pm - Our children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will wow us all with what they have been learning since half term. It will be a spectacular performance so much so, you will think it is the RAF central band!

Tuesday 7 July – Spitfire 90 Exhibition. This will be the culmination of our Spitfire 90 project and we invite you into school at 2:40pm to see the work the children have done and some other artifacts linking to the aircraft from our expert Tony Hoskins and also from Airbus – come and have a look on atmospheric surroundings.

Wednesday 8 July – End of academic year Parents Evening - A final opportunity to hear from your child's class teacher for this academic year and to see how they have performed in national assessments and what they need to do ahead of their next year. Bookings will go live 1 week before the event

Thursday 9 July – KS2 production – the theatrical event of the year! This year we are being entertained by the play 'Gladis Baker, Gladiator' and this 'West End' level production will take place in the school hall starting at **5pm**. Refreshments will be on sale beforehand.

Friday 10 July – Summer Fair – The re-scheduled date of one of our most popular events. If you can help with the event, help with collecting food and drink from places like Tesco and Cost-co, setting up the event, helping on a stall or help clearing up at the end so that staff can escape swiftly after a long day, please email the school office or mention it to me or any other member of the team when you see us around and about. Any help no matter how small will be very much appreciated. If you can't help on the day, here are a few ways you can help:

Mug Tombola stall – Thank you for all the wonderful mugs – they are currently waiting with the raffle tickets on for you to be a lucky winner!

Cake Stall - We know we have some stunning bakers out there (thank you to those who have left samples in the staffroom over the year!); we would be very grateful for some of

your lovely cakes to be able sell on the refreshment stall. Please send in cakes to the school office on the morning/afternoon of Friday 10 July so that we can prep them for the stall.

Raffle Prizes – We are going to be holding our summer raffle using real life tickets again this time which should be arriving with you shortly (we hope!), if you are willing and able to donate a prize to this (or know a company or someone who could) we would be very grateful if you could email Mrs Bevis in the school office.

Wednesday 15 July – Leavers' Assembly - Taking place in the hall with the provisional time of 1:45pm – this may change to 9:30am if the weather is forecast to be very hot which may be the case this year – watch this space! We will let you know of any changes asap.

Wednesday 15 July – Last day of the school year. School finishes at 3:15 – Happy Holidays!

Thursday 16 / Friday 17 / Monday 20 July – INSET Days

Thursday 3 September – Start of 2026/2027 Academic Year – Welcome back!

Notices

England Football Match – It's great that England has got to the next round of the World cup v Mexico (It's coming home!) however, it's a shame that the match is at 1am on Monday morning! School will be opening and operating on a 'business as usual' basis, as we always have for things like this in the past and we will expect all children (and staff!) to be in school and on time. We have lost enough school time last week from the weather and there are a few very important things that need to be completed or refined (such as the KS2 performance) where we need all children to be in school. Some families are choosing to get up earlier to watch the match replayed at 6am as a family and we are happy to put the highlights on in the OpenReach suite during lunch time for the children to watch that as well. Having a normal start to school will also be preparing them for adult working life - if you party on a 'school night' you still need to be in work on time the next day!

Parent Governor – We have not had anyone sign up for our parent governor vacancy as yet, if you are interested in supporting the leadership team in the role of parent governor, being a representative of parents, please do let us know by emailing the office.

Absence – Just a reminder that we are expecting all children in school until the end of the year. As in previous years, we have put our 3 INSET days at the end of this academic year so that parents and staff can take advantage of a cheaper start to a holiday should they wish. The children do have a great time in school these last three days as well of having the opportunity of saying a sad farewell to friends and our Year 6 cohort as they move to Year 7. Thank you for your support with this.

Hot weather – the temperatures are set to get a little higher next week and we are keeping our eye on this. The great news is the 'feels like' temperatures are not, at the time of writing, anywhere near last week (up towards the 40s) and the humidity looks lower too – however, we all know this can change on a sixpence! We will keep you informed of any adaptations we will make, nonetheless, please continue to send your child into school with a hat, water bottle, all day sun cream on to help us to keep them safe.

Young Voices – It has arrived!! Our song book for the 2027 YV concert has landed – woo hoo! We will be emailing parents of children in KS2 over the next few days to get access to the new Young Voices Music Room where songs and dance moves can start to be learnt over the summer holiday. There is also a leader board for those children accessing it the most! For you, as parents, you may be pleased that songs include an Abba medley, Bowie birthday bangers, School of Rock medley and many more! As in previous years, we will look to take the whole of Years 5 and 6 and

those who wish to go from Years 3 and 4 a sit is a truly awesome experience to sing with 6,000 other children. We have a date, which will be communicated separately, and we will be in touch soon with more details to register on the new portal.

Earth Trust – following Y3's recent amazing visit to Earth Trust, we'd like to bring to your attention a Summer Outdoor Explorer Camp they are running during August. More details here;
<https://earthtrust.org.uk/events/outdoor-explorer-camp-summer-of-discovery/>

Deadlines – Can we please encourage you to submit information by any deadlines given. A large amount of time is being spent chasing missing permission forms or payments. We try to give as much notice as possible and deadlines are now communicated to parents via email, app messages as well as the Friday Forecasts. - thank you!

Medical Appointments - Another reminder please that if your child needs to visit the doctor/dentist, please make every effort to book these at the beginning/end of the school day. When informing the office, please email in a completed [medical appointment form](#) as well as a **copy/scan of the appointment letter/text** for your child's record. We understand that there are occasionally short notice appointments, but your help providing this initially is much appreciated.

Staff Car Park - Please remember that the Staff Car Park is for use by staff members only – especially between the hours of 8.15am and 4.15pm. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your children during the school day/clubs. Sadly, we were informed of a near miss very recently where a parent was driving too fast out of the staff car park and narrowly missed a family. Please be aware of your speed and also ensure you park in the main car park – thank you.

Hope you have a wonderful weekend – I hope those of you at the ball tonight have a splendid time and dance cards and glasses remain full all night long. I look forward to seeing you at one or more of our events that we have planned over the remaining 8 school days that we have left in school before the summer holiday (not that we are counting!).

Best wishes

Steph Fawdry

Steph Fawdry
Headteacher