



RAF Benson Community Primary School



Newsletter



July 2026

Dear Parents,

And here we are, at the last day of the term with, a time of writing, the excited voices of our wonderful Year 6 going around the classes asking for their shirts to be signed. A sad day for us with those children, and others across the school, leaving us to start on a new and exciting adventure however, they will be making many more memories in their new locations and we wish them and their families all the very best from our hearts to theirs.

It only seems 5 minutes since we were welcoming you back to a new school year and we find ourselves at the end of a very busy year. We have achieved many things this year from the residential trips across KS2, Young Voices, the Spitfire workshop days, Cookathon and many other exciting opportunities we try and fit around the curriculum to make learning fun and our excellent staff team step up to the mark every time. They are passionate in making a real difference to your child at our school – however long they are with us, and I am sure you recognise what they do. A huge thank you to them all from me.

Again, this year, we have had to do a further re-structure with our school whilst we are in this period of 'limbo' waiting for the NMH. As I mentioned in my transition letter, this is not something that we want to be doing and our drop in numbers is all based on MOD strategic decisions. Our ideal is that we would love to have single year group classes however our budget cannot sustain this. We have, however, been lucky in securing some funding for additional TA hours across school next year so we will have the support we need for the bigger classes we are having to have. I appreciated some of you may be a bit worried about mixed classes and, if this is the case, please do come and have a chat with me.

We continue to liaise with the three other schools 'behind the wire' across the country and engage with key people and organisations to raise the profile of the fact we need better and fairer funding. We are delighted that our local MP has raised our name in parliament and local councillors are also on the case. Whilst everyone is sympathetic to our cause – this has not brought in any cash... yet... but we remain forever hopeful.

I wanted to say a heartfelt thank you to you all for the fabulous support to give to us as a school through spreading the wonderful word about us in the community to supporting events in school such as assemblies, open classrooms, Sports Day and our Summer Fair where we raised almost £500 after expenses on the day and over £600 on the raffle making a total fundraising effort of over £1,000 – thank you so much for your generosity, it is very much appreciated especially during tough times for all.

We have also had parents in helping in many capacities in school this year from reading to helping with clubs and at events such as the Summer Fair, discos and Bingo nights – I won't attempt to list everyone in case I inadvertently miss anyone out however, the time given to support our children and team has been very much appreciated and we will be holding another Fabulous Fundraising Forum in early September to look at what events we can run for the year ahead.

Some key dates to be aware of:

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

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

Wednesday 9 September – Welcome Back meetings – Chance to meet the teacher and hear about the year ahead.

Monday 14 September – Start of Bikeability in Years 5 and 6.

Tuesday 15 September – Battle of Britain day –a day to dress up in clothes of the era

Finally, a huge thank you to you all for the generous gifts, cakes and cards with lovely words that the team have all received this week. The table today is covered with delicious cakes from you all. Thank you – we are so grateful that you have shown your appreciation in such a lovely way for a job that we all love to do and it is a real privilege to support your child to be the best they can be.

As I finish this newsletter, the sun is streaming through the door, and the school is now silent ready to be refreshed and reset ready for a new school year. We have just had a great leavers' assembly and have wished a fond farewell to our leavers from across school, Mr G, Mrs Pring, Mrs Whitty and Year 6 superstars – it is fair to say quite a few tissues were used!

On behalf of the team, I wish you a wonderful and fun filled summer break – hoping we have many more days of fabulous weather. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Thursday 3 September at 8:45** – As always, I am guessing your smiles in returning your children back to our care in school will be as big as ours have been today!

Best wishes

Steph Fawdry

Steph Fawdry
Headteacher