



RAF Benson Community Primary School



Newsletter

Wednesday 30 April 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer term and the weather, so far, is certainly telling us we are well and truly in that season – although, I hope that I have not jinxed it now!

Thank you to those mums who were able to join us for our Mother's Day chat and chill. We hope that you enjoyed your 'child free' time and enjoyed the creative spin on the afternoon thanks to Mrs Haythorne and Mrs Thornton. The tiles you made look amazing and will be put up around school. Thank you.

What a great Easter bonnet parade and egg decorating competition we had at the end of last term. The children do really enjoy this eggs-cellent event – along with our guest judges from the Station who end up eggs-hausted - and I am sure a few creative parents out there do too! Congratulations to the winners – the judges said it was one of the hardest things they had had to do in a long time and left their brains scrambled!

We have had a fabulous start to this Summer term starting off by celebrating the Month of The Military Child with our 'Purple Up' day. The children have been writing about their memories of being a Service child – a topic suggested by Never Such Innocence. The pieces of work are brilliant reflecting what the many and varied exciting experiences our children have had and we are looking to display some of these in school for you to see next time you are in.

In addition to MoTMC, our children had the fabulous opportunity to run the London Mini Marathon. This took place on Saturday 26 April and organised by Mrs Free, 24 children travelled to London to run the last mile of the London Marathon route. It was epic! The atmosphere was amazing and the organisation was superb. Thankfully we had great weather, however we were so proud of our children with their growth mindsets, sporting spirit, energy and enthusiasm. Thank you to the adults who helped on the day and ran with the children – may have been a bit faster than they expected due to the children's energy! - and to Mrs Thornton and the many parents and family who came along and supported in such a brilliant way. This was our first experience of this event, so if we are lucky to get in next year, we know what to expect!

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 these would be appreciated.

Dates and Events

6/7 May – Year 3 and 4 Residential Trip. The children and adults are getting very excited for this activity next week and luckily the weather looks set to make for a fabulous couple of days!

Thursday 8 May - VE Day 80th Celebration day. We invite children to come to school in clothes of the era or red, white and blue – please no football kits. We will be doing a number of activities and having a street party in the afternoon to commemorate the occasion. Please see information in the notices section below.

Monday 12 May – The start of KS2 National Tests – we will provide the usual toast at normal school time (the highlight of the week!) and will keep our fingers crossed for all the children to be in school as expected.

16 May - Family Quiz Night – We are joining forces with the Sharland Hall to have a family quiz night to raise money for the school. We have commandeered the skills of a professional quiz master who will be running the quiz so bring a phone or iPad to use at the event – 1 per team – and an app will need to be downloaded. We are just finalising the details (cost per team and prize) and will send these in a separate email next week. Please save the date!

WC 9 June – Learn With Your Child Week – another opportunity to learn alongside your child and have some fun learning!

Friday 13 June – Father's Day Big Breakfast – bring the men who look after us to thank them by starting the day with a bacon or sausage bap.

Friday 13 June – Cystic Fibrosis Awareness day – we invite everyone to come in wearing an item, or completely covered, in yellow - in aid of Cystic Fibrosis.

Thursday 19 June – Sports Morning – more details to come closer the time.

Friday 27 June – CAMO Day – the highlight of the school year! We invite children to come to school dressed in CAMO clothing to have a day that they will always remember.

Friday 27 June – Summer Fair – after a wonderful day we then celebrate with our annual Summer Fair.

Wednesday 1 July – Transition Morning 1 - Children will know who their teacher will be for next year and we will let you know during the day. It will be an exciting day all round!

Wednesday 9 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 10 July – Brass Showcase at 2:40pm (CHANGE OF DATE) - Our children in Year 5 and 6 will wow us all with what they have been learning over the year. It will be a spectacular performance so much so, you will think it is the RAF central band!

Tuesday 15 July – Transition Morning 2 – Another opportunity for your child to meet their next teacher and do some activities to start getting to know each other.

Tuesday 15 July – KS2 production (CHANGE OF DATE) – the theatrical event of the year! This year we are being entertained by the Pirates of the Curry Bean and this 'West End' production will take place in the school hall starting at 5pm.

Thursday 17 July – Leavers' Assembly. Taking place in the hall with the provisional time of 1:45pm – this may change if the weather is hot.

Thursday 17 July – Last day of the school year. School finishes at 3:15 – Happy Holidays!

Notices

Sunny weather – Now that we are getting more sunny days, please could you ensure that your child has the all-day sun cream applied to them at the start of the day. We would prefer this than children bringing in cream as we can't apply this for them, due to safeguarding reasons. We also

ask, to help us look after your child in these conditions, that your child has a water bottle in school each day and a hat.

Are you being posted? – It is this time of year when we look to our next school year and start looking at how things will be. We are hearing a number of rumours from children and parents that they will be moving on to pastures new before or at the end of this academic year. If that is the case, please could you complete the form at the link below so that we can start thinking what school will look like for our children and staff team next year.

Posting form: <https://forms.gle/BVX7pakDzEwrZatm7>

VE Day Community Celebrations – We are supporting the Station in celebrating VE day in Benson village after our wonderful activities in school. Firstly, we are going to have a street party and a picnic lunch. If you have ordered your child's lunch or are going to order a lunch for next Thursday, please can you complete a sandwich order for your child at the form below.... Your child will be served this in lieu of the normal menu for that day:

Sandwich order form: <https://forms.gle/pAKfQb9kLLL8uvw79>

Below is a list of Benson community activities scheduled for after school:

15:30 – 17:30 - BFBS Ice cream van outside the Community Centre on camp

16:30 – School Council to meet in Benson (details will come out to School Council parents separately). Food outlets and other stalls are open

17:00 – Drum Head service starts with parade (School council will be our contingent in the parade but other children are very welcome to support and watch)

17:45 – Service ends

18:00 – Swing band, food and other entertainment. Families encouraged to have a picnic and enjoy the atmosphere

21:30 – Lighting of the beacon – part of the national lighting ceremony

We ask that parents supervise their own children at the events after 3.15pm please and join us as a school group for the service and perhaps the evening picnic. We have been asked to ask if, due to limited parking, that families walk down to Benson where possible.

Looks set to be a wonderful evening of celebration as we look forward to you joining us.

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/rafbenon/UploadedDocument/03a0f438-aa78-47e6-8c27-2a17a1c6976e/ve-day-poster-final.png>

Mobile Phones – A reminder that mobile phones are not to be used on the school premises please. This request stems from not only a safeguarding perspective but also seeing children enthusiastic to share their day with parents who are walking off on their phone. It has been so lovely since bringing this in to see parents and children positively chat about their day and we want this to continue with your support. Thank you.

Uniform – Just like our community, we pride ourselves on our school uniform and looking smart and tidy. We have recently noticed that a few children are arriving in school with trainers and not school shoes and other items that are not in line with our school uniform policy. We would be really grateful if your child came to school in the correct uniform. Please see the school uniform page for more details: <https://www.raf-benson.oxon.sch.uk/school-uniform-2/>

KS2 SATs - 12th May- A very important week in the school calendar – SATs week! The children are ready and raring to go and will be using this month's value of 'Resilience' and their growth mindsets to get through. They have all worked amazingly hard towards the assessments and are super excited however, that might be something to do with the toast that they will be getting when

they arrive at normal time! I am sure you will join me in wishing them all the very best for this important week for them however we know, whatever happens, that they will be just fabulous.

School Facebook Page – Please do keep an eye on the school Facebook page as we post whole school events and activities that the children have been up to during the term – why not give the page a ‘Like’ too! <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063451190152>

I think that is all I need to share with you at this time. We look forward to seeing you around school and at some of our events over the next couple of weeks.

Best wishes

Steph Fawdry

Steph Fawdry
Headteacher