

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



Dear Families

Although it's been a bit miserable this week due to the weather, we've been no less busy and some of our children even showed their fantastic resilience as they ventured out and about in the village in their wellies and raincoats – more below.

Our 'Headteacher for the Day', Miss Walton, has also been out and about today visiting every classroom to check in with all of the children. Miss Walton also joined our Pupil Parliament during the day as we were visited by Danny Chambers MP, and along the way she helped the children celebrate their successes with some sparkly stickers and certificates.

*"I have really enjoyed being the Headteacher for the Day but it's very busy" – Miss Walton*

It has been lovely to have been supported by Miss Walton today!

Best wishes for a pleasant weekend to you all,

Mr Geraghty

## Attachments sent to office – a little plea

We fully appreciate your support with the administrative routines we have as a school, but we are increasingly receiving photographs of documents or images that have big blocks of colour on things that need to be printed. Unfortunately, these images are often of poor quality and use a significant amount of ink when printed and this is something we would really like to reduce if possible.

Could you please send in documents as editable attachments (such as a Word document or PDF) wherever possible, or alternatively bring in the original document for copying as this has a much lower cost to the school?

Thank you for your cooperation.

The Admin Team

## Dogs in School

As a dog owner myself, I love seeing the different canine members of our community in the mornings, but I have to consider the needs of all children and families, especially those who are uncomfortable around dogs.

If you are bringing a dog on the school run, can I please ask that you stay nearer to the double green gates at the entrance to the small car park, or on the little patch of grass. This will allow other children to use the pedestrian entrance, the crossing and small green gate without having to be anxious of where the dogs are.

Your support with this is appreciated.

## Extension of Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility

The Department for Education (DfE) has extended FSM entitlement to all children from households receiving Universal Credit. If your family is in receipt of Universal Credit and you have not previously applied for FSM, please apply on the Hampshire portal, preferably before the end of the Summer term, to ensure that your eligibility is confirmed in time for September.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/freeschoolmeals>

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



## Trip Focus: Local History Walk

Year 5/6 are currently exploring the local history of Otterbourne. One of the benefits of this unit is being able to make discoveries first-hand through exploring primary evidence within the local environment. A walk around Otterbourne to the site of the Old Church and Manor House provides the perfect opportunity for this. The children hunted for listed buildings and plotted them on the map to identify where the oldest properties are located. They also explored the graves in the Old Churchyard and compared the dates to those they found at the site of the new church. One of the highlights of the trip was visiting one of our governors at the Manor House, where Mrs Reed kindly gave us squash and cake whilst we explored changes that have taken place in the house over time.



## New Flower Bed

Eco-Council have begun work weeding the new flower bed (old rose garden) ready for planting. They are still in need of plants that will flower in the house colours (red, yellow, green and blue). Any donations would be most welcome.



# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



## Learning in Action



Year 3/4 children are enjoying reading their new books, 'A Rubbish Journey' after their author visit last week.



Squirrel Class have been learning to make number bonds to 20 using their Numicon pieces.



Hedgehog Class have been learning to measure in millilitres...



...and also made an incredible discovery on the school field this week: look at the dragon eggs they found!

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



Otter Class have been eco-warriors recently, busy sorting materials in their recycling centre and making recycled paper. They have also been learning about worms and having a great time digging up and holding worms and making their own wormeries.



Children in Year 5-6 took part in a virtual school event with Matt Goodfellow this week as he launched his brand-new book 'Six Weeks'. It was a very inspiring talk where he shared his motivations for writing and his love of poetry. We are now hoping to bring some of his poetry books into the school and many children are eager to read more of his books including 'The Final Year' and 'The First Year'.

Please follow this [link](#) if you would like to purchase any of the books that we have been talking about in class.



# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



These children represented the school superbly last week in the Winchester School Swim Gala.

## Staff Fundraiser for Against Breast Cancer

This Sunday, a team of staff are completing the Breast Walk Ever 12km route to raise money for 'Against Breast Cancer'. We have had some very generous donations so far for which we are incredibly appreciative – and even more motivated!

If you would like to support us, please follow this link. We look forward to letting you know how we did in next week's newsletter.

[https://www.justgiving.com/page/otterbourneceprimaryschool?utm\\_medium=FA&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/otterbourneceprimaryschool?utm_medium=FA&utm_source=CL)

## Local Message from Hampshire County Council

I am writing to update you on the ongoing Hampshire County Council project to provide improved pedestrian facilities around the junction of Allbrook Hill and Twyford Road. The works started on Monday 20 April for a planned duration of approximately six weeks. There have been some delays with construction activities on site and as a result the project has taken longer to complete than originally planned. The final stages of works are as follows:

- The ongoing works within the verge area at Allbrook Hill/Twyford Road (around the service road) will continue during daytime periods and are expected to be completed this week.
- From 22 June there will be up to one week of night-time closures to complete the works around the new crossing point and central island on Twyford Road (immediately south of the roundabout).

Permitted working hours for night-works are Monday to Friday between 7:00pm and 6:00am. Night-time road closures are necessary to safely complete the works and minimise traffic disruption in the wider area.

The works will generate some construction noise however we will seek to reasonably minimise disturbance and complete the noisiest activities by 11pm each night.

Pedestrian access along Twyford Road and Allbrook Hill will remain available throughout the works. Emergency vehicle access to properties will be maintained at all times during the closures. Advance warning signs will be in place.

To see further information on the traffic management and location of the scheme, please visit Causeway [One.network](#).

For further information and updates, please visit the scheme [web page](#).

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT!

### Otterbourne Church of England Primary School

Main Road, Otterbourne, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2EQ

Telephone: 01962 712020 [www.otterbourneprimaryschool.com](http://www.otterbourneprimaryschool.com)

Headteacher: Martin Geraghty



*With God's love,  
all are encouraged to thrive.*

Wednesday 10th June 2026

Dear Parents

### Price Increases in School

With the full support of governors, I have always tried to keep any costs associated with school life at the lowest possible levels. Over the last few years, I have made a number of changes across the entire school curriculum as a response to the dramatic increases we have seen in coach costs and entrance fees but we have continued to ensure that children still get a range of exciting and interesting experiences.

Our charges for wrap-around care at The Holt are amongst the lowest in the area despite the high-value provision our children receive when they attend, and the costs for this have not changed for over 15 years! More recently, when I changed the school lunch provider to ABM a few years ago, I took the opportunity to support families by setting our price-per-meal at the lowest in the area.

Sadly though we must now, due to ever-increasing costs, adjust our pricing to allow us to maintain the same standards for our children. Following a detailed review of other schools and a robust discussion with my Finance Governors, I am writing to inform you that from September 2026, we will be increasing the costs for the Holt and for school lunches. We will continue to review these costs on an annual basis and if we need to make further increases in future years, we will remain totally committed to making only the smallest possible changes to balance the needs of the whole school community.

As of September 1<sup>st</sup>, Holt fees will increase from £5 to £6 for a morning session and from £10 to £12 for an after-school session. School lunches will increase from £2.60 to £2.85

These decisions have not been taken lightly and, as always, we want to support all of our families, so please do not hesitate to contact the school to discuss this if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Mr M Geraghty  
Headteacher



Hampshire  
County Council

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



## Otterbourne Church of England Primary School

Main Road, Otterbourne, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2EQ

Telephone: 01962 712020 [www.otterbourneprimarieschool.com](http://www.otterbourneprimarieschool.com)

Headteacher: Martin Geraghty



With God's love,  
all are encouraged to thrive.

### SCHOOL SPORTS DAY 2026 – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to invite you into school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July to enjoy the annual school sports day fun.

This year, we are offering a slightly different approach to Sports Day. It will begin, as we always do, with our inclusive carousel of different activities before play. These will be led by our Year 6 children. After this time the races will begin, and the structure of the day will be as follows:

11:00am	Year R, 1 and 2 races
12:00-1:00pm	Picnic on the field for all children and parents
1.15pm	Year 6 and Year R Buddy Race
1:30pm-3:00pm	Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 Races

At 11am, all parents of children in Year R, 1 and 2 children are invited to join us to watch their races on the school field. Key Stage 2 classes will remain indoors during this time for the quiet part of their day.

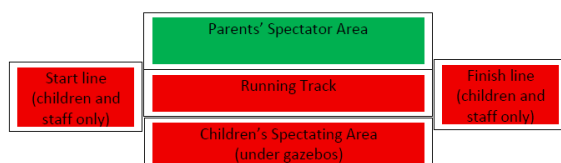
At 12pm, all parents are welcome to come on to the school field to share a picnic lunch with the children – PLEASE NOTE: if you are unable to attend, and are happy for your child(ren) to join another family, please fill out the Google form by following [this link](#), otherwise, children will stay in their year groups. You can bring your own lunch and blankets with you, but you can also order a school packed lunch for your child, which will be brought out to the field for the children at the start of the lunchtime. If children would like to run around, they will be able to come onto the meadow playground to do this so that they are not running amongst families and picnic rugs.

After lunch, Key Stage 2 children will be brought in for registration before returning to the field for their races which will continue all afternoon. The first race of the afternoon is the Year 6 and Year R buddy race so parents of Year R children are welcome to stay on until 1:30pm. Year R, 1 and 2 children will be in their classrooms during the afternoon. These changes are to reduce the amount of time the children are sat in the heat whilst still giving everyone a fun day of healthy competition.

The school day will end at 3:30pm and children will be released from classrooms in the usual way.

#### Safeguarding

Please note, that for health and safety reasons, we need all parents to be on the far side of the running track towards the edge of the field. Please avoid standing at the start and end of the running track, even in your own child's race. These areas need to be kept clear – please support us to keep everyone safe.



Please also note that there is no parent access inside the school unless you have a visitor badge. Parents will be able to use the toilet which is in the room adjacent to the hall and will be sign posted. This is accessible from the meadow playground.

We hope you can join us for a wonderful day of activity and celebration.

Kind regards

Mr Geraghty  
Headteacher

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



SUMMER term newsletter June 2026



## Flu Vaccine

The NHS School Age Immunisation Service are planning the roll out of the 2026 winter flu vaccination programme to all year groups. The service offers the flu vaccine between September and December. You will receive an email, with details on how to complete the online form, for your child to receive the vaccine in school.

Flu can be a very unpleasant illness for children and young people. High vaccine uptake reduces the risk of flu spreading rapidly in school settings. This helps ensure they remain well, do not miss school days and continue to learn. Vaccinating children also helps protect others who are at higher risk of getting seriously ill from flu, such as babies, anyone who's pregnant and older people.

**The vaccine is given as a painless nasal spray. An alternative porcine free injection is offered to those who cannot have the nasal spray.**



**Vaccines offered to secondary age students during the spring and summer term include:**

### Human Papillomavirus (HPV)

HPV vaccine is offered to boys and girls in year 8. This vaccine protects against different types of cancers in the future.

### Meningitis ACWY (MenACWY)

Meningitis vaccine is offered in year 9. This vaccine protects against four different strains of bacteria (groups A, C, W, Y) and protects against Meningitis and Sepsis (blood poisoning).

### Tetanus, Diphtheria and Polio (3-in-1) booster vaccine

The 3-in-1 booster vaccine is offered in year 9. This vaccine protects against serious and potentially life-threatening diseases and provides long lasting immunity against these specific conditions.

Community clinics are available during the school holidays for missed vaccinations.

Find out more about the vaccine programmes and our contact details here: [School Age Immunisation Service - Hampshire - Parents: Health for Kids](#)

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



**EASTLEIGH PIRATES**

INVITE ALL GIRLS FROM  
**YEAR R - YEAR 6**  
TO OUR INTRODUCTION TO  
**RUGBY!**

**FREE TASTER SESSION!**  
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED  
**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE**  
10AM - 1PM

THE HUB, FUN ★ MAKE FRIENDS ★ TRY RUGBY  
THE HUB, BISHOPSTOKE RD, EASTLEIGH, SO50 6LA

✓ DBS  
CHECKED COACHES

**FUN DAY THIS SATURDAY FOR ALL GIRLS!**

We are also looking forward to welcoming Eastleigh Pirates to the school later this month!

# THE OTTER

THE NEWSLETTER OF OTTERBOURNE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.



## Helping an ADHD Child with Homework



**FREE** one hour online session for parents  
**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June 7pm - 8pm**

Join us online to get some advice on how to help your  
ADHD child start and complete their homework.

Book on the PARENTS - Live Talks page  
[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)