ASPIRATIONS

Harriers Banbury Academy
an Aspirations Academy

Our Vision: to cultivate high quality education in a supportive environment, enabling our pupils to become kind, happy, confident individuals, ready to take on the world

Harriers Newsletter

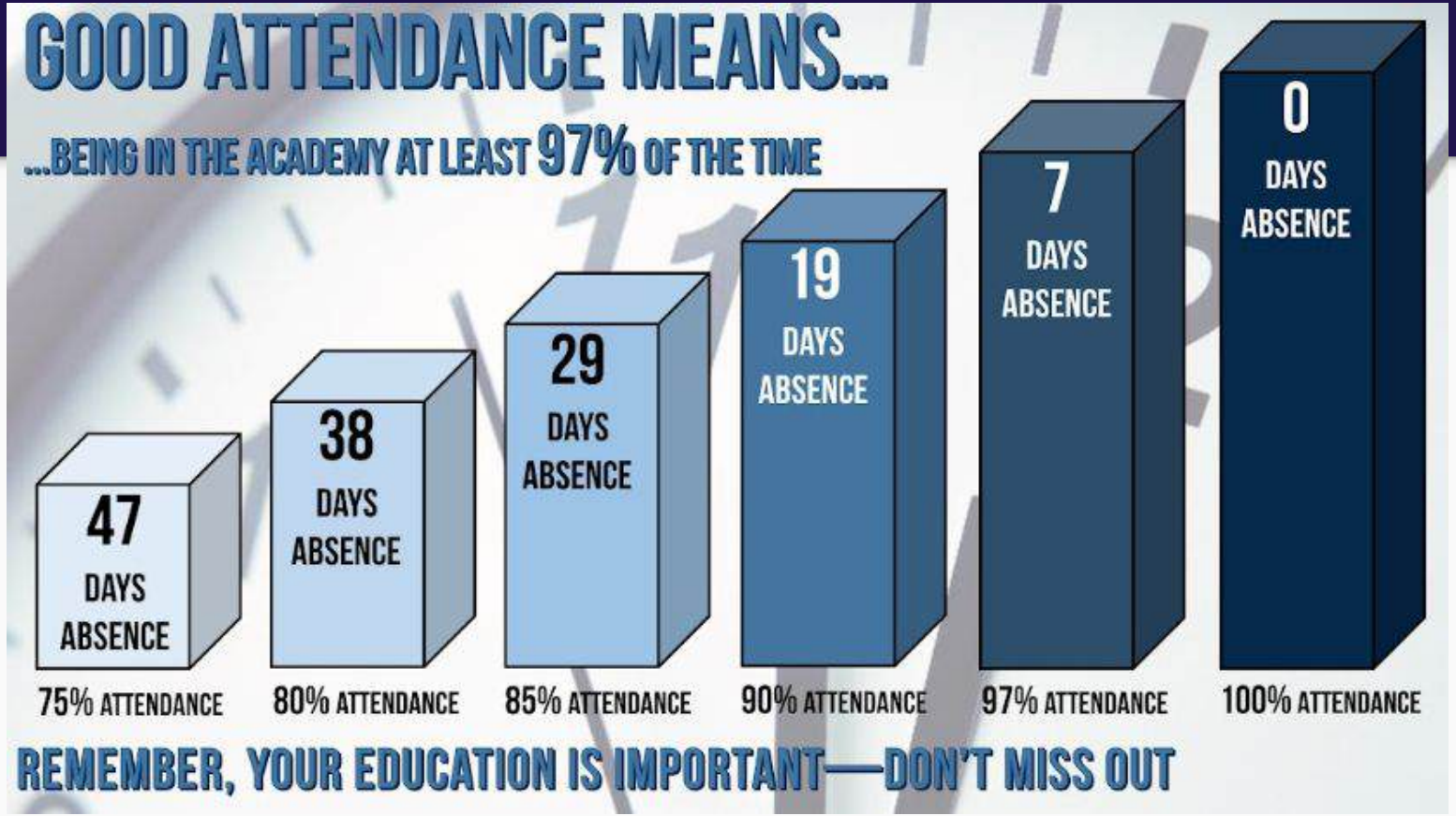
Thursday 17th July 2025

Message from Mrs Agate

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy Summer holiday to you all!
On behalf of the whole staff, we would like to thank you all for being an amazingly supportive community. The amount of parents and carers that have attended all of our events and trips has been phenomenal. Thank you for all your kind wishes, gifts and cards for the staff. Teaching your children is a privilege.
In September you will have new Seesaw accounts but will **no longer** be able to direct message your class teacher (this was originally set up during lockdown) and instead please speak in person or email via the office.
The children have had a wonderful term and should enjoy their well deserved Summer break….. But please don't forget to read and do TTRS!
See you in September!
Mrs Agate

Attendance


GOOD ATTENDANCE MEANS...
...BEING IN THE ACADEMY AT LEAST 97% OF THE TIME
47 DAYS ABSENCE
75% ATTENDANCE
38 DAYS ABSENCE
80% ATTENDANCE
29 DAYS ABSENCE
85% ATTENDANCE
19 DAYS ABSENCE
90% ATTENDANCE
7 DAYS ABSENCE
97% ATTENDANCE
0 DAYS ABSENCE
100% ATTENDANCE
REMEMBER, YOUR EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT—DON'T MISS OUT

Upcoming Dates Term 1

2nd Sept - Inset

3rd Sept - Inset

4th September - First day back for children.

EYU and Nursery Sessions differ on the first 5 days of school - please check letter if applicable.

W/C 9th September - Y6 mock SATS

10th Sept - Year 5 Workshops in class

10th Sept - Year 4 travel agent visit

11th Sept - Year 5 Workshops in class

15th to 17th September: Y6 residential

22nd / 23rd year 3 Avon Dasset trip

25th September - MacMillan coffee morning

26th September- Flu Vaccination

26th September- European Day of Languages

3rd October - Year 4 book and brew

10th October - Individual photos in hall- School Photo

17th October - Year 2 King Sutton Trip

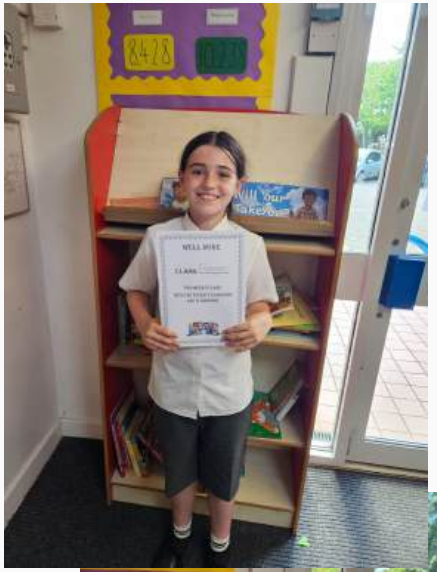
22nd October - Harvest Festival Celebrations - 2.30 onwards

23rd October - PTFA Halloween Disco

24th October - End of Term.

Term 2 parent's evening: 11th November and 13th November

Upper Phase Assembly 1.7.25



Lower Phase Assembly 7.7.25

Staff aspiration award winners;

Well done to Mrs Cambray for self worth, Miss Wayte for purpose and Mr Gorton and Mrs Jones for engagement.

A huge thank you to our PTFA who have raised over £14,000 for the school. We presented Carly, the chair, with some thank you flowers.

Y6 award winners;

We wish our Y6 goodbye and good luck to our Y6 who are leaving us to go to their secondary schools. We are so proud of you all. Please come back and visit.

Well done to our award winners.

Harriers Got Talent winners - well done Imogen and Jagoda

Aspiration and attendance award winners.

Thank you to Becky and Gina for running our running club. Well done to the participants who have totalled over 690 miles!!

Stem Girls Challenge Day @The Futures Institute

Some year 3 and 4 girls were invited to compete against Dashwood Banbury Academy in a STEM challenge morning. They had a fantastic time making and testing boats. Well done to the winning Harriers team!

Early Years

Early Years really enjoyed their trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park to consolidate their animals topic.

Year 1

Year 1 really enjoyed writing a story about the 'Everywhere Bear's Adventure at Harriers'.

Year 2

The Year 2 children had a brilliant time at Banbury Museum for their STEM Science workshop!

The pupils investigated how to keep objects afloat and how different surfaces and materials are suited to the water.

Year 3

Year 3 have had loads of fun again in forest school. We made some bug houses and challenged ourselves to use only natural materials.

Toucans also brought their English lesson to the forest, they performed poetry to each other using actions and facial expressions.

Year 4

Year 4 pupils enjoyed taking part in a fantastic skateboarding workshop with Danny from BMX Academy.

The children have also enjoyed a visit to The Futures Institute for a science lesson to learn about using microscopes.

Year 5

Over the past two weeks, both Year 5 classes proudly hosted their class assemblies. The children shared their personal highlights of the year with their families and peers, reflecting on what they've enjoyed and achieved. It was wonderful to see just how much learning and progress has taken place throughout the year. The assemblies were a true celebration of the children's hard work, creativity, and accomplishments. Well done Year 5!

Year 6

The Year 6 pupils have had a busy and successful end to their time at primary school.

They entertained and delighted audiences with their performances of *The Wizard of Oz*, received their Harriers hoodies and shared magical memories with the rest of the school and their parents at their final assembly.

The end-of-year, neon-themed party was a wonderful celebration as well, thanks to everyone involved.

Arts Mark Award

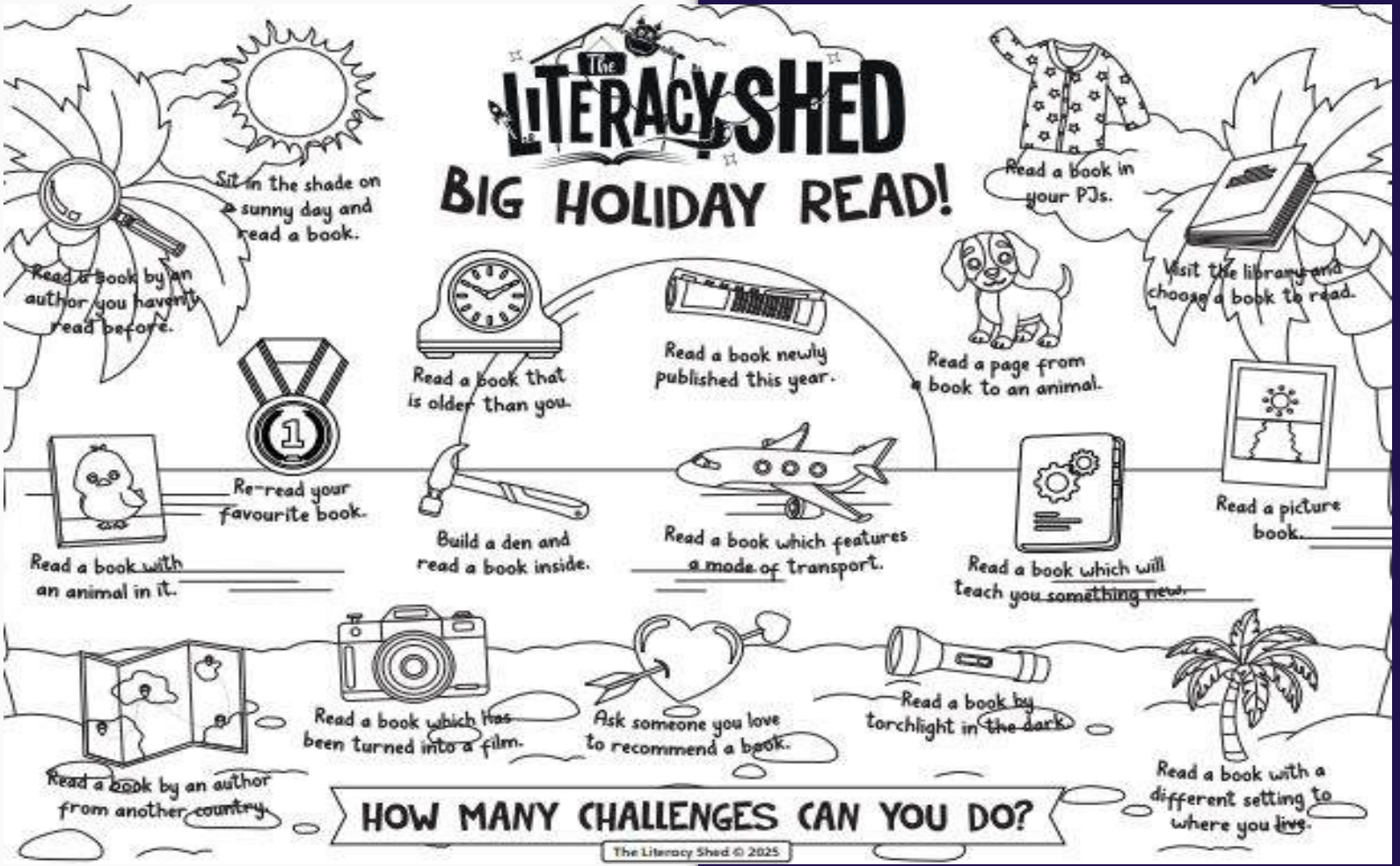
ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND

Artsmark Gold Award
Awarded by Arts Council England

We have received the exciting news this week that Harriers has achieved a Gold Artsmark Award!

To achieve this, we have been on a two year journey, embedding the Arts and creativity into everything that we do!

We are delighted to achieve this gold award and to continue to provide Arts opportunities for all!


The Literacy Shed
BIG HOLIDAY READ!
Sit in the shade on a sunny day and read a book.
Read a book by an author you haven't read before.
Read a book that is older than you.
Read a book newly published this year.
Read a book in your PJs.
Visit the library and choose a book to read.
Read a page from a book to an animal.
Re-read your favourite book.
Read a book with an animal in it.
Build a den and read a book inside.
Read a book which features a mode of transport.
Read a book which will teach you something new.
Read a picture book.
Read a book which has been turned into a film.
Ask someone you love to recommend a book.
Read a book by torchlight in the dark.
Read a book by an author from another country.
Read a book with a different setting to where you live.
HOW MANY CHALLENGES CAN YOU DO?
The Literacy Shed © 2025

Cucina

There **is** such thing as a FREE LUNCH

Your child may be eligible for a free school meal which could save you over **£475 a year** and gain additional funding for your school. To see if you qualify, visit

www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals

DON'T FORGET

School meals are free for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 regardless of circumstances!

Music Lessons at Harriers

Music Lessons at Harriers

Well done to our violinists who performed their concert during the PTFA fete.

SEN and Inclusion

C&I: Making the most out of your summer.

TOP TIPS TO GET TALKING

* Talk about the things **your child is interested in.**
* **Use comments and prompts** to keep the conversation up. They're better than questions for keeping children involved.
* **Put aside time each day** for talking together.
* **If your child doesn't get it quite right the first time, don't say** "that's wrong", **say it back the right way.**
* **Explore words - talk about new words when your child comes across one.**
* **Enjoy conversations** with your child - children learn from conversations with adults as much as their friends.
* **Most importantly - have fun!**

FIND OUT MORE

There are lots of easy, fun activities to keep children busy during the summer holidays.

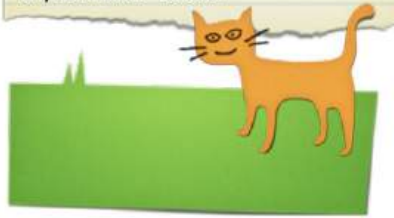
Oxfordshire Family Information Service

Tel: 08452 2626 36
E-mail: fis.enquiries@oxfordshire.gov.uk

You can find more information on these websites:

www.talkingpoint.org.uk
www.hello.org.uk

If you are worried about your child's talking and understanding please do talk to your child's teacher



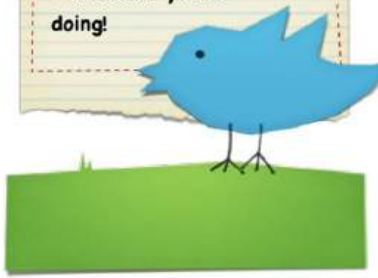
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk
Working for you

Oxford Health NHS
NHS Foundation Trust

Hello
talk·listen·take part

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR SUMMER

Hints and tips to get your child talking, listening and communicating this summer - whatever you're doing!



Mrs Jones and Mrs Chester wish you all a fantastic summer!

SEN and Inclusion

C&I: Making the most out of your summer.

THINGS TO TRY AT HOME

HELPING IN THE KITCHEN
* What will you make? (e.g. what sandwiches will it be today?)
* Talk each other through the recipe
* Help each other measure and weigh ingredients
* Help each other to make something special (e.g. a cake for a party)

BUILD A DEN
* What will you use? (eg. old sheets, chairs)
* Talk together to decide how to make it
* Give ideas about what to do in the den (eg. tea party, space rocket)

SPORTS DAY
* What races can you run? (e.g. egg and spoon, sack race, relay)
* Build an obstacle course - help each other finish it
* Make medals and certificates to give out to the winner

THINGS TO TRY OUT AND ABOUT

AT THE SHOPS
* Talk about the food you're buying - what are you going to make with it?
* Ask which should we get? (e.g. apples or bananas)
* Let your child help with the unpacking

ON THE MOVE - Bus or car
* Play I-spy
* Make a list of things to look out for (e.g. red cars, dogs)
* Talk about where you are going, and what you are going to do

*** **Go for a walk** *** Make a scrap book *** **Go for a picnic** *** Feed the ducks *** **Play board games** *** Tell stories ***
*** **Sing songs** *** Go to the park *** **Take turns on the slide** *** Go to the library *** **Race toy cars** *** Play ball games ***

Safeguarding our children

Who we are……..

If you have any concerns about your child's safety, your safety or that of another child/family in our school, then please see one of the Designated Safeguarding Team. Mrs Agate is our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL)

Miss Thewlis

Mrs Agate

Miss Wayte

Mr Sherington

Mrs Stephens

Safeguarding our children

Here is some information about how to keep safe around water;

https://www.rlss.org.uk/listing/category/the-water-safety-code

If you have a safeguarding concern about a child during the Summer please contact NSPCC

0808 800 5000

Storytelling Garden and Forest School

Despite the heat, everything has continued growing!

Nursery made time to water our plants in pots today.

In forest school, we have been weaving with long grasses.

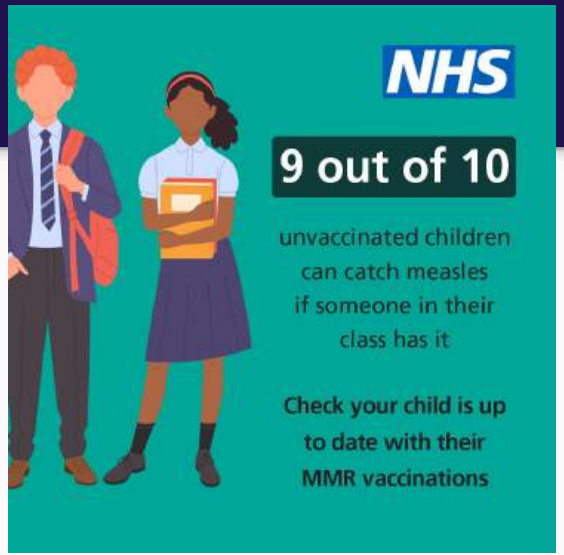
Wake Up Wednesday Advice

One free guide explores the Nintendo Switch 2, covering how its new features – from GameChat to a plug-in camera – could affect children's privacy, spending, and screen time.

The other examines YouTube Kids, a child-friendly version of the video-sharing giant, and explores the risks that may still persist despite the platform's safety-focused design.

See Arbor for PDFs which will be easier to read.

Please see here for the latest Primary School Health Newsletter
https://sway.cloud.microsoft/GJeq3VNj7sNYwVm3?ref=email&loc=play



Term 6: Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter

https://sway.cloud.microsoft/GJeq3VNj7sNYwVm3?ref=email&loc=play

Fostering in Oxfordshire

oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostering

Fostering in Oxfordshire

You care with our support

Being a foster carer is rewarding but, we'll be honest, it's not easy. Our children and young people have often been through a lot and can need plenty of support. But every day we see the impact that support has. Seeing them grow in confidence – well, nothing beats that.

Fun trips to the shops, cuddles after a bad dream, helping with homework, being there during those tricky teen years – foster caring is about providing stability, positivity and reassurance when a child needs it most.

Want to know more?

Scan me

Visit **oxfordshire.gov.uk/fostering**
or give us a call on **0800 783 5724**

Career opportunities

STUDY SMART
Free Online Courses

Aspire Education | ncfe. | cache | Education & Skills Funding Agency

Fully Funded School Support Course

Available in Levels 1, 2 & 3

*Please go to our website for more detailed information.

6 Week Course
Mon - Fri
Daily sessions
1st session 9:30 - 11:30am
2nd session 12:30 - 2pm

www.studysmartuk.online

Available In the following levels:

Level 1:	CACHE Level 1 Award in Preparing to Work in Schools
	CACHE Level 1 Award in Safeguarding in a Learning Environment
	CACHE Level 1 Certificate in Wellbeing
	Level 1 Occupational Studies for the Workplace
Level 2:	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Safeguarding & Prevent
	CACHE Level 2 Certificate in Understanding Challenging Behaviours
Level 3:	Level 3 Certificate in the Principles of Special Educational Needs

Please go to our website address above, for more information.

*Please take note of the online live webinar sessions that MUST be attended to complete this full time 6 week course, and the ESFA's (Education Skills Funding Agency) eligibility criteria.

We've now helped 500+ STEM professionals return to work across the UK

Are you looking to return to STEM?

STEM RETURNERS

Have you taken a career break of any length from STEM and wish to return?

Are you working below your capability?

Do you have a STEM qualification that you aren't using?

STEM Returners opportunities with

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Location:
Culham, Oxford, Hybrid

If so this could be the opportunity for you!

Please contact us for more information:

www.stemreturners.com jazmine.gouldbourne@stemreturners.com

Volunteer Opportunity!

Next training course: September 2025

- Could you brighten families' lives with your support and reassuring smile?
- Are you looking to gain new skills while making a difference to your community?
- Do you have parenting experience and would like to spend 2-3 hours a week engaging in something meaningful?
- Full training provided and expenses paid.

'Volunteering has been incredible for my own mental health. When you are praising and encouraging another person it's difficult not to recognise your own self worth.' Volunteer

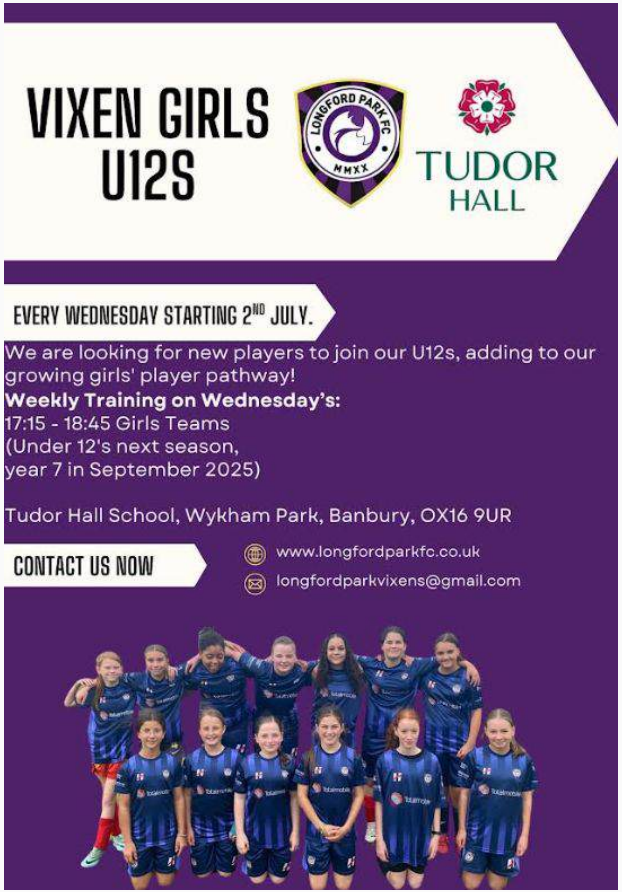
Find out more here

HOME START Banbury, Bicester & Chipping Norton

Applicants will be subject to a DBS check and references will be required.

info@home-startbanbury.org.uk
01295 266358

Activities outside school



Activities outside school

Activities outside school

NMPAT

Inspire • Nurture • Excel

Brackley and Cheney Music and Performing Arts Centre

Registration is now open!

Brackley and Cheney Music and Performing Arts Centre will re-open in full on September 20th 2025 .

If you would like to register your child/children, please use either of the following links to complete the registration form, or simply bring your child/children along on any Saturday morning during term time to try out the Centre with no obligation.

The first term is also completely free of charge for any new students currently having instrumental lessons with an NMPAT teacher.

Links to the registration form: https://bit.ly/BrackleyCheney2526

For more information about the Centre, please contact Janine Mold – Centre Head via email at brackleycheney@NMPAT.co.uk, or visit the website at www.NMPAT.co.uk/brackleycheney.

Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust
125 Kettering Road, Northampton, NN1 4AZ
T - 01604 637117 E - office@NMPAT.co.uk W - www.NMPAT.co.uk

NMPAT is a Company Limited by Guarantee Co. No. 7738151 and a Registered Charity No. 1145643

NMPAT

Inspire • Nurture • Excel

Brackley and Cheney Music and Performing Arts Centre

Bracken Leas Primary School, Magdalen Meadows, Brackley, NN13 6LF

BEGINNER WOODWIND & BRASS GROUP 2025-26

Brackley and Cheney Centre is offering the unique opportunity for a group of absolute beginners to learn the following instruments every Saturday morning during term time from 9:15-10:15am at Bracken Leas Primary School – the home of Brackley and Cheney Music and Performing Arts Centre.

The Centre re-opens on September 20th 2025 and instruments will be provided to those allocated a place.

FLUTE CLARINET TRUMPET TROMBONE

If you would like your child to be considered for this group, please complete the following form by **August 31st** as spaces are limited. **Please note that your child will need to be in Key Stage 2 ie. Years 3-6.**

Beginner Woodwind and Brass Registration form 2025

For further information about the Centre, please visit the website:

www.NMPAT.co.uk/brackleycheney

Or email Janine Mold – (Centre Head) at brackleycheney@NMPAT.co.uk

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Activities outside school

Activities outside school

And a final note…….