



Rush Common School Newsletter

Friday 10th October 2025



Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to start this newsletter by congratulating our new Year 6 House and Sports Captains. Well done to Rowe, Belle, Callie and William for being successfully elected as our House Captains, and Elizabeth, George, Harley and Roman for being elected as Sports Captains. I am sure they will be fantastic in their respective roles for each house. I would also like to mention the many children that had the confidence and courage to deliver speeches. It was an extremely tough choice for those voting and everyone who gave a speech should be extremely proud of themselves. There are also a number of other roles available for those wishing to have a pupil leadership opportunity.

We were very pleased to receive a visit this week from an Early Years Advisor from Oxfordshire County Council, who spent the morning visiting our Reception and Preschool. She gave some glowing feedback and felt it was a privilege to visit such a wonderful setting. She was hugely impressed with how routines and learning were already clearly embedded, which is to the credit of our skilled practitioners in this crucial part of the school. We want children to get off to the very best start in their education and it was lovely to receive this feedback.

Thank you to all the parents that attended our Year 1 Phonics Information Evening. The intention for these meetings is to help secure the connection between school and home learning by ensuring parents are fully informed. This included the systems for when books and other resources come home, how to support children at home, and how to prepare for the Phonics Screening towards the end of Year 1. If you missed this evening and would like any more information about this, please do contact the Year 1 teachers via the office.

This week has been Mental Health Week, with today being World Mental Health Day. The children had an assembly at the beginning of the week all about the importance of mental health and ways to maintain positive mental health. Then during the week, the children have carried out activities in class relating to this very important aspect of personal development.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Book Fair this week. There is nothing like purchasing a brand new book, and it has been lovely to see so many children proudly clutching the new additions to their book collections! Every sale contributes towards a total amount raised for the school, and every purchase is greatly appreciated. I will let you know the total in the next newsletter.

We have now had one of our Taster Sessions for new Reception parents and children and one Open Day, with our next Taster Session tomorrow morning. Please do keep spreading the word about Rush Common School with anyone looking for a school place next September, as word of mouth is so important for us.

Finally, may I wish everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend, as we look towards the final two weeks of this half term.

Kind regards

Kristen Fawcett

Headteacher



School Dinners

The cost of school dinners this term is **£2.80** per day. Payment for school dinners can be made via ParentMail. Meal choices must be made at least 3 days in advance.



Badminton Tournament

Congratulations to Elizabeth in Year 6 who participated in the Oxfordshire Junior County Restricted Badminton Tournament on 21st and 22nd September.

She won a:

- Gold medal for the girls doubles U12 category
 - Gold medal for the mix doubles U12 category
 - Bronze medal for mix doubles U14 category (this is one age group above her age category)
- Well done on your achievements Elizabeth!



Homework Champions

Dharun	3CM
Ella	3CM
Marcus	3CM
Juliet	3CM
Abel	3CM
Chester	3HC
Lena	3HC
Emilia	3HC
Jacob	3EG

Alex	4TJ
Darcy	4TJ
Neev	4TJ
Jerome	4TJ
Issy	4TJ
Fred	4TJ
Violet	5SC
Theodore	5SC
Beatrice	5SC
James	6EP
William	6JN
James	6JN
George	6JN



Rush Common School

Dream, Aspire, Succeed



Visits, Tours and Taster Sessions - Autumn 2025

Taster Sessions

Saturday 27th September and Saturday 11th October 10.00 am – 12.00 pm

Your children will experience our Reception classrooms and outdoor area with a wide range of fun, educational activities led by our brilliant Reception teachers.



'Children in early years get off to a flying start'

Ofsted Nov 2021

Open Mornings

Thursday 2nd October, Wednesday 15th October and Tuesday 18th November 9.00 am

See children learning across the school, meet our school staff and ask plenty of questions.

'Happiness is all around. It is as if pupils have an extended family at school'

Ofsted Nov 2021



Individual School Visits



Arrange a time to meet with the Headteacher, before a tour of the school. Plenty of opportunities for questions

'Pupils love coming to Rush Common School'

Ofsted Nov 2021

To register your interest, email: office@rushcommon.school or phone: 01235 533 583

Follow us on Facebook, or visit our website to find out more. www.rushcommonschoo.org



RUSH COMMON PRIMARY SCHOOL

FIREWORKS NIGHT

Friday 7th November 2025

GATES OPEN: 5.45pm, LAST ENTRY 6.45pm
FIREWORKS START: 7 pm

Glow sticks, refreshments, hot dogs, sweets & more!!

Tickets in advance only: £6 per person / under 3s free.

Book your tickets & hot food at:

www.peoplesfundraising.com/event/friends-of-rush-common-fireworks-2025

Rush Common Primary School, Hendred Way, Abingdon, OX14 2AW

Made with PosterMyWall.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers ask their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins - something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mimicking of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual release calendar aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term. If children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer, EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with elite animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spams. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites - doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost their money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new titles, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including iD, TechRadar, and plenty more.



The National College

Source: www.reference.int on guide page at: <https://www.thenationalcollege.com/guides/ea-sports-fc-26>



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.10.2025

Dates for your diary 2025/2026

Show Racism The Red Card Day	Friday 17 th October
Year 1 Dinosaur Workshop	Monday 13 th October
Road Safety Week	Week of the 20 th October
FoRC Second Hand Uniform Sale	Tuesday 21 st October 2.30pm -3.30pm
End of Term 1a	Friday 24 th October
Start of Term 1b	Monday 3 rd November
Author Visit Years 4,5, and 6	Wednesday 5 th November
Year 4 Ufton Court Information Evening	Wednesday 5 th November
Year 5 Museum Trip	Thursday 6 th November
FoRC Firework Night	Friday 7 th November
Parents' Evening	Week of the 10 th November (Days and times tbc)
Anti Bullying Week	Week of Monday 10 th November
Odd Socks Day	Monday 10 th November
Children in Need Day	Friday 14 th November
Year 6 STEAM Museum Trip	Monday 17 th November
Year 3 Ashmolean Museum Trip	Tuesday 2 nd December
Year 4 Ufton Court Residential	Monday 8 th – Wednesday 10 th December
KS1 Nativity Performance	Tuesday 9 th and Thursday 11 th December at 2.15pm
Year 6 Curriculum Assembly	Wednesday 10 th December
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 11 th December
Reception Nativity Performance	Monday 15 th December at 2.15pm and Tuesday 16 th December at 9.15am
Christmas Dinner Day	Wednesday 17 th December
End of Term 1b	Friday 19 th December at 1.30pm
Start of Term 2a	Monday 5 th January 2026
Year 4 Curriculum Assembly	Thursday 29 th January 2026 at 9.00am
Year 5 Curriculum Assembly	Thursday 5 th February 2026 at 9.00am
End of Term 2a	Friday 13 th February 2026
Start of Term 2b	Monday 23 rd February 2026
Travelling Book Fair	Tuesday 3 rd – 6 th March 2026
World Book Day	Thursday 5 th March 2026
Year 2 Trip to Cotswold Wildlife Park	Wednesday 11 th March 2026

Parents' Evening	Week of the 16th March (Days and times tbc)
Weight and Measure Programme (Reception And Year 6 Children Only)	Wednesday 18th March 2026
Red Nose Day	Friday 20th March 2026
Year 2 Curriculum Assembly	Tuesday 24th March 2026 at 2.30pm
Science Fair	Thursday 26th March 2026
End of Term 2b	Friday 27th March 2026 at 1.30pm
Start of Term 3a	Monday 13th April 2026
Year 5 Liddington Residential	Wednesday 15th – Friday 17th April 2026
Year 6 SATs Information Evening	Thursday 16th April 2026 at 5.00pm
May Bank Holiday (children not in school)	Monday 4th May 2026
Reception Trip to Roves Farm	Wednesday 6th May 2026
KS2 SATs Week	Week of the 11th May
Whole School Picnic and Open Afternoon	Friday 22nd May 2026
End of Term 3a	Friday 22nd May 2026
Inset Day (Children Not in School)	Monday 1st June 2026
Start of Term 3b	Tuesday 2nd June 2026
Class Photos	Thursday 4th June 2026
Phonics Screening	Week of the 8th June 2026
Vision Screening (Reception Children Only)	Thursday 18th June 2026
Year 6 Call of the Wild Residential	Monday 29th June – Friday 3rd July 2026
Move Up Morning	Wednesday 8th July 2026
End of Term 3b	Friday 17th July 2026 at 1.30pm

Local Community News

Please note items and events detailed below are for information purposes only. Rush Common School do not endorse or make recommendation



OPEN EVENING

Thursday 9th October
5.00pm – 8.00pm

Head Teacher talks at 5.15pm, 6.15pm & 7.15pm (no booking required)

OPPORTUNITY
RESPECT
DETERMINATION

Watch our new School video

OPEN MORNINGS

15th, 16th, 17th, 20th and 21st October from 9.15am

Come and explore your child's next stage in education

John Mason School
Wootton Road,
Abingdon OX14 1JB



THE MUSE
- ART SCHOOL -

Half term Art Classes
5 - 12 Years Old

12:30 PM - 4 PM
27th/ 28th/ 29th OCTOBER
Abingdon Centre
From £9,50/h

THEME: HALLOWEEN
ECO-FRIENDLY ART
FUN, HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES
LEARN SCULPTURE AND PAINTING TECHNIQUES
MATERIALS INCLUDED

MORE INFO and BOOKING PAGE:
www.themuseartschool.com
+44 7450197705 / whatsapp

@themuse_artschool
@TheMuseArtSchool



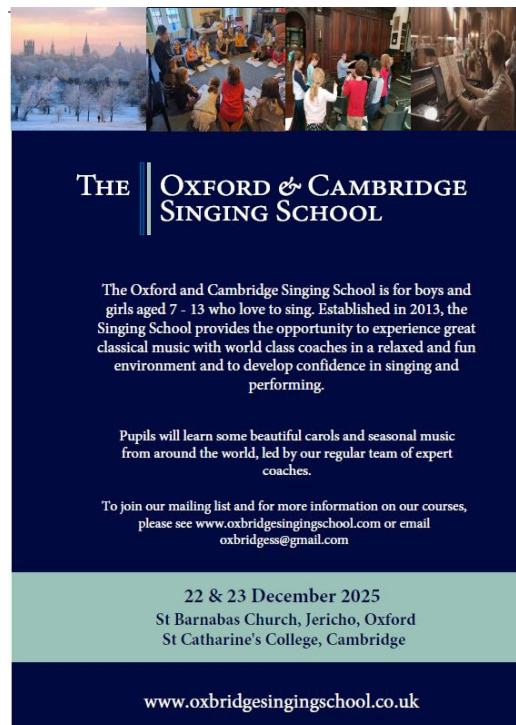
DIDCOT
RAILWAY CENTRE

Steam Into Christmas

Enjoy unlimited train rides and help Santa find his missing reindeer!

Find each of Santa's lost reindeer, culminating in a visit to Santa's workshop to meet Santa.

BOOK NOW - 01235 817200
www.didcotrailwaycentre.org.uk



THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School is for boys and girls aged 7 - 13 who love to sing. Established in 2013, the Singing School provides the opportunity to experience great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop confidence in singing and performing.

Pupils will learn some beautiful carols and seasonal music from around the world, led by our regular team of expert coaches.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see www.oxbridgesingingschool.com or email oxbridges@gmail.com

22 & 23 December 2025
St Barnabas Church, Jericho, Oxford
St Catharine's College, Cambridge

www.oxbridgesingingschool.co.uk

ELITE CAMPS HALF-TERM

Mon 27th – Fri 31st Oct 2025
 Larkmead School, Abingdon OX14 1RF
 Ages 4-13 Years

Elite Activities Include..

- Soft Archery
- Bubble Football
- Crazy Golf
- Giant Volleyball
- Nerf Wars
- Arts & Crafts
- Halloween Fun

TRY A FREE TASTER DAY

Find out how to claim your free taster inside →

ELITE CAMPS ABINGDON

HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES OCT 25

	OVER 8'S	UNDER 8'S	ARTS & CRAFTS
MON 27	BUBBLE FOOTBALL Danish Longball, Football, Kwik Cricket, Handball, Gymnastics		PAPER SPOOKY CHARACTERS
TUE 28	CRAZY GOLF Hockey, Dodgeball, Yoga, Basketball, Volleyball		WITCH HANDPRINT
WED 29	NERF WARS Handball, Tag Rugby, Netball, Dance, Hockey	GIANT VOLLEYBALL Handball, Tag Rugby, Netball, Dance, Hockey	3D SCENE CRAFT
THUR 30	SOFT ARCHERY Dodgeball, Football, Basketball, Kwik Cricket, Dance		HALLOWEEN HAND PUPPETS
FRI 31	FANCY DRESS HALLOWEEN SPECIAL Halloween Festivities & Fancy Dress		PUMPKIN TRICK OR TREAT BAG

BOOK NOW

01235 415846 eliteyouthsports.co.uk

Dear Parent / Carer

As Autumn approaches and the mornings and evenings get darker, parents and children walking to and from school need to be even more aware of the potential dangers they face as pedestrians and the importance of wearing bright or reflective clothing to make it easier for other road users to see them.

It is never too early to start talking to your child about road safety as, having a good understanding of road safety skills, could one day save their life.

Our **Footsteps** guide will give you some ideas of how to begin to support your child in developing the decision-making skills that will help them become a pedestrian able to keep themselves safer when they eventually walk to school or a friend's home independently.

If they are ill-prepared, children are more likely to be killed or injured in a road traffic incident, as seen by the fact that the number of child pedestrians injured rises significantly around 10 -12 years of age – the time at which they begin to go out unaccompanied by adults.

The **Footsteps** programme is simple to use as it can be carried out in normal everyday situations such as walking to school or to the local shops. Rather than *telling* children what to do, you are encouraged to *ask* lots of open questions to make the children think about the decisions they are making. Making these decisions safely, while in the company of a supporting adult, will mean they will be better prepared for dealing with roads and traffic once they begin going out on their own.

Learning to cope with traffic is a practical skill, which cannot be learnt in the classroom. As parents / carers, you are the best people to help your child develop this knowledge as you spend the most time out and about with them.

Please follow the link to the **Footsteps** guide [Footsteps](#) and start giving your children the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safer on our roads.

Remember – Be Bright Be Seen.

Oxfordshire Fire & Resue Service Road Safety Team
Oxfordshire County Council

