



# Rush Common School Newsletter

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023



## *Dream, Aspire, Succeed*

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to start this newsletter by offering huge congratulations to Emily Carr for her new baby girl who arrived in the world on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. I know we all wish her every happiness with this new addition to her family – it is such an incredible time! On the same note, on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October my third child was born (some parents noticed I was not on the gate for a few days!). It has been such a special time for my family, and I want to thank everyone who has offered us their well wishes and congratulations.

I know everyone in the Rush Common School community would like to say a very fond farewell to Michelle Ainscough, who leaves our school at the end of this half term. Mrs Ainscough's inspiring and dedicated service to the children and families of our school community over a 21 year period has had a profound impact on the lives of some of the most vulnerable pupils. We all wish her the very best as she sets off to travel the world!

Thank you to all the parents who attended parents evenings last week. We hope it was insightful and useful, and you were able to delve a little deeper into how well your children are achieving in school. If you haven't attended one of the meetings, please ensure you arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

On Saturday we held our second taster sessions for prospective new parents and pupils. It was really successful, and a number of parents said that they had heard great things about the school from current parents. This is hugely appreciated, and please keep doing this, especially if you have neighbours and friends that are currently considering schools in our local area. Word of mouth is really important!

On Monday we held our House Captain and Sports Captain voting process. It was another opportunity for our children to take part in a democratic process. I am delighted to announce our new house captains are Martha, Leela, Callum and Becca and our new Sports Captains are Felix, Sophie, Seb and Lucy. Congratulations to you all!

We have had a great response to our foodbank collection this week, with bags upon bags of food stuffs all across the school. I am sure your children were enthusiastic at home about supporting this cause, after the assembly last week outlining what happens at the foodbank and who the food gets distributed to. I am delighted to share that we provided over 170 kg in total. Well done everyone for this magnificent effort!

Thank you to everyone who has attended our book fair this week. We have really enjoyed seeing children's excitement as they search for a brand new book. For every book purchased, the school gets a commission to spend on books for the school. I will let you know how much was raised in the next newsletter.

We are very proud of our enrichment opportunities across the school. One Year 4 class had a fantastic morning at Abingdon School's Science department this week, exploring electricity, Reception have been having a series of real life hero visits (paramedic, police and fire fighters), and Year 1 enjoyed seeing a dinosaur on the field this week – it's never quiet at Rush Common! Also this week, we held our Junior Newbury Building Society interviews. This is a chance for children to take up roles in providing a children's banking service in the school. More details will follow on how your children can make deposits when it is up and running.

Finally, please can I remind parents queuing at the front gate to ensure that children are behaving sensibly and safely. There have been some concerns about children running and playing in the drive. Please remind children not to do this and instead wait on the pavement and/or the grassy area next to the pavement.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend as we head into the last week of the half term.

Kind regards

*Kristen Fawcett*





# Rush Common School

*Dream, Aspire, Succeed*



## Visits, Tours and Taster Sessions - Autumn 2023

### Taster Sessions

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September and Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> 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

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> 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*



### Head's Breakfast and Pupil-led Tours

Every Friday from 15<sup>th</sup> September to 9<sup>th</sup> December 9.00 am – 10.00 am

(excluding 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 6<sup>th</sup> October, 27<sup>th</sup> October)



Have a tea or coffee and a pastry with the Headteacher, before a pupil-led tour of the school.

*'Pupils love coming to Rush Common School'*

*Ofsted Nov 2021*

### Individual School Visits

We are also happy to provide individualised school visits and tours for parents and children.

To register your interest, email: [office@rushcommonschoo.org](mailto:office@rushcommonschoo.org) or phone: 01235 533 583

Follow us on Twitter and Facebook, or visit our website to find out more.

[www.rushcommonschoo.org](http://www.rushcommonschoo.org)



### Food Bank Donations

Thank you to everyone for their generous donations.

## Homework Champions

Ella	2RS	Evie	4CM
Lucas	2RS	Isla	4CM
Skylar	2RS	Felix	4CM
Sara	2RS	Robyn	5AS
Rosie	3LG	Caitlin	5AS
Lucas	3LG	Emma	5AS
Kitty	3NM	Joseph	5SC
Matilda	4LR	Dylan	5SC

### Dates for your diary 2023/2024

Year 1 Dinosaur Workshop

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October

Reception Class Party

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 4.00pm – 5.15pm

Author Visit KS2

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Flu Vaccinations

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October

<b>FoRC Discos Years 1 and 2 Years 3 and 4 Years 5 and 6</b>	<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 4.00pm – 5.15pm 5.30pm – 6.45pm 7.00pm – 8.15pm</b>
<b>Reception Superhero Day</b>	<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>
<b>End of Term 1a</b>	<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October</b>
<b>Start of Term 1b</b>	<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October</b>
<b>FoRC Firework Night</b>	<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November</b>
<b>Odd Socks Day</b>	<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>
<b>Year 3 Egyptian Day</b>	<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November 3NM Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 3LG</b>
<b>Year 5 Oxfordshire Museum Trip</b>	<b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November</b>
<b>FoRC Christmas Jumper Sale</b>	<b>Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November</b>
<b>Year 6 Trip to STEAM Museum</b>	<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November</b>
<b>Reception and KS1 Beep Beep Day</b>	<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November</b>
<b>Year 4 Residential to Ufton Court</b>	<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>KS1 Nativity Performance</b>	<b>Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December @ 5.00pm</b>
<b>Reception Nativity Performance</b>	<b>Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December @ 2.15pm</b>
<b>Christmas Dinner Day</b>	<b>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</b>
<b>End of Term 1b</b>	<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December @ 1.30pm</b>
<b>Start of Term 2a</b>	<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 2a</b>	<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>Start of Term 2b</b>	<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 2b</b>	<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023 @ 1.30pm</b>
<b>Start of Term 3a</b>	<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024</b>
<b>May Bank Holiday (children not in school)</b>	<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 3a</b>	<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024</b>
<b>Inset Day (Children Not in School)</b>	<b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>Start of Term 3b</b>	<b>Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024</b>
<b>End of Term 3b</b>	<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 @1.30pm</b>





## Local Community News

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



# house of fun

Children's multi-activity and ibrick LEGO Camps

Childcare vouchers accepted

**BOOK NOW!**

bookings@house-of-fun.co.uk  
house-of-fun.co.uk  
Follow us @houseoffunuk



SCAN ME

Rush Common Primary School  
Abingdon  
October Half Term



# ibrick house of fun

CREATE, INSPIRE, PLAY!

**THERE'S A NEW CLUB IN TOWN!**

House of Fun is excited to invite you to an all new LEGO adventure! Explore the world around you with Lego.

Fun-filled after school Lego STEM clubs for years 1-6

Led by experienced House of Fun instructors

**BOOK NOW AT**  
house-of-fun.co.uk



## THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Oxford and Cambridge Singing School is for those 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.

This Christmas pupils will learn some beautiful seasonal music and at the same time learn about vocal technique, music theory and history. Children will also have a singing lesson in a small group with a dedicated vocal coach. Families are most welcome to come and listen to an informal concert at the end of the day.

To book or to join our mailing list, please go to [www.oxbridgesingschool.com](http://www.oxbridgesingschool.com) or email [Samantha@oxbridgess.com](mailto:Samantha@oxbridgess.com)  
BRING A FRIEND and SAVE £20 each family.  
See website for details

21 & 22 December 2023  
St Barnabas Church, Jericho  
OX2 6BG

[www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk](http://www.oxbridgesingschool.co.uk)

Sutton Courtenay Environmental Education Centre

<https://www.bbwt.org.uk/explore/discover-and-learn/sutton-courtenay-oxon>

#### **Nature, Natter and Nibbles**

**Friday 13 October; Friday 10 November; Friday 1 December; 10:30am - 12:00pm**

**A peaceful stroll through the wonders of nature, with tea, biscuits and good company. Suitable for adults. £3 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

#### **Owl Talk and Pellet Dissection (for adults)**

**Thursday 19 October 2023; 6:30pm - 8:30pm**

**Meet the owls, hear from the expert, and take part in an owl pellet dissection workshop. £20 per head, BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

#### **October Half Term Family Trail: Enchanted Forest**

**Woods are magical! Follow our enchanted trail, plant your own enchanted tree, and be spellbound by live storytelling.**

**Monday 23 – Thursday 26 October 10am-2pm**

**Suitable for 4-11 years. £8 per child. BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

#### **Home Educators' Day: Exploring Autumn, with Fire Lighting**

**Tuesday 7 November; 10am-2pm**

**An immersive day of outdoor learning for our local home educating community. Suitable for families with children aged 4-11 years. £8 per child. BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

#### **Wild Weaving for Adults: Garden Planters**

**Saturday 11 November 2023; 10:00am - 4:00pm**

**Weave a beautiful willow planter for your garden and reconnect with the wild as you work with natural materials on our nature reserve. £50 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

#### **Wreath Making Workshops**

**Open the door to the Christmas season at one of our popular natural wreath making workshops. Use locally sourced materials to create your own wreath by our cosy woodstove. Festive refreshments included. Suitable for adults.**

**Wednesday 29 November 1:30-3:30pm and 6-8pm**

**Thursday 30 November, 6-8pm**

**£35 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL**

#### **Christmas Wreath Kit – Click and Collect**

**Can't make it to any of the workshops? Preorder a hand made kit containing all you need to make your own natural wreath at home with the family.**

**Pre-order for collection on Wednesday 6 or Thursday 7 December.**

**£25 per kit**

#### **Visit Santa on the Nature Reserve**

**Santa's coming to Sutton Courtenay! Join us to get your wildlife friendly Christmas off to a flying start.**

**Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 December 2023, 10am-12noon & 1:30-3:30pm**

**Suitable for children aged 2-10 years with an accompanying adult. £15 per child. BOOKING ESSENTIAL – tickets available soon on the website**

## Free Trial Session and £40 discount at Perform

Popular children's drama and dance school Perform is offering a Free Trial Session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for members of Rush Common School** if they sign up by Wednesday 24th January. Parents should quote RUSH240124 when they book their free session by going to [perform.org.uk/try](http://perform.org.uk/try) or calling 020 7255 9120.

You can find out more about the classes at [perform.org.uk/try](http://perform.org.uk/try). Alternatively, pdf flyers can be downloaded from [here](#).

The nearest classes to Rush Common School are as follows (please click for a map and further details):

**Perform Abingdon (Drama for 4-7s)**  
**(0.5 miles)**  
**Saturdays at 9.30am**

The Northcourt Centre  
Northcourt Rd,  
OX14 1NS

**Perform Abingdon (Drama for 4-7s)**  
**(0.5 miles)**  
**Thursdays at 4pm**

The Northcourt Centre  
Northcourt Rd,  
OX14 1NS

**Perform Abingdon (Drama for 7-12s)**  
**(0.5 miles)**  
**Saturdays at 11.15am**

The Northcourt Centre  
Northcourt Rd,  
OX14 1NS

**Perform Abingdon (Drama for 7-12s)**  
**(0.5 miles)**  
**Thursdays at 5.05pm**

The Northcourt Centre  
Northcourt Rd,  
OX14 1NS

**Perform Oxford (Drama for 4-7s)**  
**(5 miles)**  
**Wednesdays at 4pm**

West Oxford Community Centre  
Botley Road,  
OX2 0BT

There are others too. Click to find all the nearest [here](#) or view a list of [all areas](#).



## Space Activity Days October Half-Term 2023

Give children the perfect fun-filled space-themed activity day! Exciting and adventure-packed activities, games and sports to keep children engaged during school holidays - promoting creativity, learning, imagination & social skills!

Mon 23rd Oct - Fri 27th Oct  
09:00 - 16:00

Ladygrove Community Centre,  
Tamar Way, Didcot, OX11 7UQ



Accepting Childcare Vouchers  
10% Sibling Discount

Full Day £35 per child  
Half Day £25 per child

Scan the QR code or visit  
[www.spacestore.co/activitydays](http://www.spacestore.co/activitydays)

Email: [activitydays@spacestore.co](mailto:activitydays@spacestore.co)

**SPACE  
STORE**  
spacestore.co



## Heights Club

### Acro & Street Dance Sessions!

Autumn Term  
runs 5th  
September - 20th  
October 2023  
  
£7 per session

- Acro Dance & Gymnastics:  
Saturday 09:30-10:30
- Street Dance: Saturday 10:30-11:30
- Acro Dance: Saturday 11:30-12:30  
(New Session!)



- Venue: White Horse Leisure & Tennis  
Centre, Abingdon
- Run by registered Dance Teacher and  
British Gymnastics Coach
- Email to book your space now!



Contact us at:  
E: [deb@heightsclub.uk](mailto:deb@heightsclub.uk)  
W: [heightsclub.uk](http://heightsclub.uk)

