



Rush Common School Newsletter

Friday 9th October 2026



Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to start the newsletter by congratulating our newly elected House and Sports Captains for this academic year. The House captains are Ella (Falcons), Rosie (Eagles), Emma (Kestrels) and Esmae (Kites), and the Sports Captains are Freddie (Falcons), Isaac (Eagles), Luke (Kestrels) and Charlotte (Kites). They all gave passionate speeches demonstrating great confidence and we know they will take on these roles with responsibility. I would also like to offer congratulations to all of the children who had the courage and conviction to stand up and deliver a speech to their peers.

Last week we held our first Open Morning for prospective new parents which followed the Taster Session on the Saturday before. We arranged for our Head Girl and Head Boy to welcome the new parents to the school and two Year 6 musicians played music as the parents entered the hall. It was very well attended and as always it was a real pleasure to show new parents around our fantastic school. We have our second Taster Session tomorrow (Saturday) and our second Open Day next Wednesday 14th October. Please spread the word if you know anyone who might be interested in attending.

Throughout this week we have held the Book Fair, and it has been so incredibly well attended. Thank you to everyone who has purchased a new book for their child, as the majority of the money spent goes to the school. The last session is today between 3.00pm and 3.30pm, so if you are reading this in time, please head over to buy a book. I will let you know the final total in the next newsletter.

As you may already know, every Friday morning we hold a Teambuilding session led by Mrs Barnes for one year group on a rota system. We have enhanced the offer this year to include some sessions for Reception, Year 1 and 2 and some additional time focussed on DRME (diet, resilience, mind and exercise). It has been fantastic to see these hugely beneficial sessions working so well, and they have really been enjoyed by the children who have taken part so far.

This week was individual and sibling photographs and children all looked very smart for the photos. Thank you for taking the extra time to prepare children, and they always enjoy having their photo taken, especially when sitting with siblings!

Next week is our Foodbank Collection, and a letter went out recently regarding this. Please ensure all food is brought in on Monday to Thursday, so we can ensure every can and packet makes it to the foodbank. This newsletter includes some information on the types of food that are especially useful for the foodbank. Look out for a future newsletter to see how many kg of food we donated!

Finally, you may have seen new markings installed on Hendred Way and Norman Avenue to better demonstrate places that parents must not park. It substantially reduces options for parking on Hendred Way from the junction with Dorchester Crescent, and we would ideally prefer parents not to park on this stretch of road. The best place to park if needing to come by car is the Park and Stride (at the Boundary House car park). In order to continue promoting safe and healthy travel to school, we have another Walk to School Week during week beginning 19th October.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable weekend ahead.

Kind regards
Kristen Fawcett

Headteacher



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Registered in England and Wales. Company No. 7931886
Registered Office: Rush Common School, Hendred Way, Abingdon. OX14 2AW

School Dinners

The cost of school dinners this term is **£3.00** per day. Payment for school dinners can be made via ParentMail. Meal choices must be made at least 3 days in advance.



Homework Champions

Daniel	3CM	Erin	5SC
Flynn	3CM	Henry	5SC
Alice	3CM	Lois	5SC
Seah	3CM	Jerome	5SC
Maisie	3SC	Ted	6JN
Meredith	3SC	Arthur	6JN
Jacob	3SC	Bianca	6JN
Gabriel	3SC	Kaitlyn	6JN
Henry	4LB	Sophie	6EP
Marcus	4LB	Emma	6EP
Josh	4LB	Trixie	6EP
Ellie	4LB		

Please see link below for latest school and ALT Trust job vacancies:

Vacancies - Rush Common School - Dream, Aspire, Succeed



Rush Common School

Dream, Aspire, Succeed

Visits, Tours and Taster Sessions - Autumn 2026

Taster Sessions

Saturday 26th September and Saturday 10th October 10.00 – 12.00

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



'Pupils thrive at this warm, ambitious and highly inclusive school'

Ofsted Jan 2026

Open Mornings

Tuesday 29th September, Wednesday 14th October and Thursday 19th November 9.00-10.15

'Pupils are deeply engaged in their learning and show kindness and respect towards one another'

Ofsted Jan 2026

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



Individual School Visits



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

'Pupils benefit from a rich range of opportunities beyond the classroom'

Ofsted Jan 2026

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.rushcommonschoool.org

Harvest appeal

Help support your food bank this Harvest

Each week, the Abingdon Foodbank gives out around 40 food parcels for local individuals and families facing hardship.

Donate food



Donate an item or two from our shopping list, ensuring we can provide food for people facing hardship in your community.

Donate money



Help cover the costs of buying food and running the food bank: use the QR code below.



Shopping list

Tinned meat and fish
Tinned soup or tomatoes
Pasta and curry sauces
Coffee or hot chocolate
UHT Milk: whole or semi
Cereal
Squash
Custard or rice pudding
Peanut butter or honey
Deodorant, shampoo

07562 247443

abingdon.foodbank.org.uk

Abingdon Foodbank is an outreach activity of Christ Church Abingdon (Registered charity 1153844)



HARVEST 2026

Thank you for supporting Abingdon Foodbank this harvest.
This year we would be really grateful for:

TINNED MEAT, FISH and VEGETABLES



SOUP, BAKED BEANS, SPAGHETTI HOOPS, PASTA SAUCE, RICE, PASTA



TINNED FRUIT, PUDDINGS, PEANUT BUTTER, HONEY, BISCUITS



CEREAL, UHT MILK, COFFEE, HOT CHOCOLATE, SQUASH



Dates for your diary 2026 27

World Mental Health Day	Monday 12th October
Author Visit Years 2 - 6	Tuesday 13th October
Show Racism The Red Card Day	Friday 16th October
Walk to School Week	Week of the 19th October
Road Safety Day	Monday 19th October
Year 5 Museum Trip	Thursday 22nd October
End of Term 1a	Friday 23rd October
Start of Term 1b	Monday 2nd November
Parents' Evening	Tuesday 10th – Friday 14th November
Anti Bullying Week	Week of 16th November
Odd Socks Day	Monday 16th November
Children in Need Day	Friday 20th November
Year 5 Cycle Training	Week of the 30th November
Year 4 Ufton Court Residential	Monday 30th November – Wednesday 2nd December
KS1 Nativity Performance	Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December at 2.15pm
Christmas Jumper Day	Thursday 10th December
Reception Nativity Performance	Monday 14th December at 2.15pm and Tuesday 15th December at 9.15am
Christmas Dinner Day	Wednesday 16th December
End of Term 1b	Friday 18th December at 1.30pm
Start of Term 2a	Monday 4th January 2027
Internet Safety Day	Tuesday 9th February 2027
End of Term 2a	Friday 12th February 2027
Start of Term 2b	Monday 22nd February 2027
World Book Day	Thursday 4th March 2027
Weighing and Measuring Programme (Reception and Year 6 only)	Wednesday 10th March 2027
Parents' Evening	Week of the 15th March (Days and times tbc)
End of Term 2b	Thursday 25th March 2027 at 1.30pm
Start of Term 3a	Monday 12th April 2027
Year 5 Liddington Residential	Wednesday 14th – Friday 16th April 2027
Vision Screening (Reception Only)	Friday 16th April 2027
May Bank Holiday (children not in school)	Monday 3rd May 2027

KS2 SATs Week

Week of the 10th May 2027

End of Term 3a

Friday 28th May 2027

Inset Day (Children Not in School)

Monday 7th June 2027

Start of Term 3b

Tuesday 8th June 2027

Phonics Screening

Week of the 14th June 2027

Class Photos

Thursday 17th June 2027 (Date Change from previous newsletter)

End of Term 3b

Tuesday 20th July 2027 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



🚀 Mission Starlight Is Ready for Launch! 🚀

This **October half-term**, JAG's Holiday HQ camp is coming to our school with their Mission Starlight theme — a week of active games, creative activities, challenges and plenty of choice throughout the day.

Children will build and test Rocket Launchers, take on Meteor Dodgeball, create Fizzing Moon Art, hunt in the dark and even make their own Solar System Planetarium to take home.

📅 **26–30 October**
(Check our school page on the JAG website for full details.)
👶 **Ages 4–11**

🌟 [See What's On This October Half-Term](#)

What this means for families

- ✓ Safe, structured days delivered by experienced, DBS-checked staff
- ✓ Ofsted-registered holiday childcare you can trust
- ✓ Book only the days you need
- ✓ Flexible cancellation if plans change — check our school page for details
- ✓ Tax-Free Childcare accepted

For parents, it means reliable October half-term cover, active days for children and a smoother, more organised week — without the stress of planning every day yourself.

Book early and save

🌟 **Early Bird – Save 10%**

Use code **STARLIGHT10** when you book by **Sunday 4 October**.

👨 **Sibling discount – Save 10%**
Automatically applied when booking more than one child

📅 **Multi-day booking discount – Save 4%**
Applied when booking four days or more within the same week

All eligible discounts are combined automatically at checkout.

🌟 [Find our school page](#)
🌟 [Make a booking](#)

🗨 **Have any questions?**

☎ 0333 577 1533
✉ hello@junioradventuresgroup.co.uk

Junior Adventures Group

HOLIDAY HQ

**OCTOBER
HALF TERM
HOLIDAY
CAMP**

LAUNCHING OCTOBER 2026

- ✓ Action-packed activities every day – sports, games, crafts, challenges & more
- ✓ Mission Starlight this October – a new space-themed adventure every day
- ✓ Make, create & take it home – including our Solar System Planetarium
- ✓ Great-value holiday childcare – with offers & discounts available

SCAN TO FIND YOUR HOLIDAY HQ & BOOK NOW



Premier Soccer Centres

4 Howden Green

Steventon

OXON, OX13 8FY

Mobile: 07795 342509

E-Mail: mark@premiersoccercentres.co.uk



October Half Term Football Course

- Professional Coaching Courses
- 10 am - 2.30 pm each day
- All abilities welcome
- Children to bring their football/sports kit, clothing to suit weather conditions, a packed lunch, and a drink
- Open to boys & girls aged 5 - 13
- Structured skills and technique sessions
- Fun games, competitions, and small sided matches

*Application forms must be emailed or sent back, and payment made before we can confirm!

E-mail - mark@premiersoccercentres.co.uk

* Sessions will always be outside unless conditions are unsafe so, please dress appropriately.

• Great value - Only £65 for 4 days or £17 daily rate

BACS: Nat West Bank. A/C No: 53505697. Sort Code: 60 - 21 - 21

(Please use course reference plus your child/children's surname)

DATE			VENUE	COST	TICK BOX
Mon 26 th	-	Thurs 29 th Oct	John Mason School, Abingdon – Code JM	£65	

NAME OF CHILD AGE:

ADDRESS
.....
.....

HOME TEL:

EMERGENCY TEL:

E-MAIL ADDRESS

MEDICAL CONDITIONS
.....

SIGNED

(Parent/Guardian)

* In line with GDPR we have updated our privacy policy, to view please visit our website for more details.

* Refund policy: We do not issue refunds for any reason. Credit notes will be issued at the discretion of the directors which can be used on any future Premier Soccer Centres course. * Please note: PREMIER SOCCER CENTRES LTD or the organisation providing the facility cannot accept any liability whatsoever in respect of any personal loss or damage caused whilst attending any course.

OCTOBER HALF-TERM 2026

WOW CAMPS

THE TECH CAMP SUPERCHARGED!

Build skills. Make friends. Have fun!

3D STRUCTURES

LASER TAG ARENA

ROBOT BUILDING

VIDEO GAME CREATION

VR META QUEST

PHOTOSHOP FUN!

St Ebbe's CofE Primary School, OX1 4NA

26TH-30TH OCTOBER 2026

£45 DAILY OR BOOK 5 DAYS & SAVE 10%

AGES 5-12

BOOK YOUR PLACE!

www.nextthing.education

OCTOBER CAMPS 2026

DISCOVER NEW ACTIVITIES THIS OCTOBER!

The timetables below are for this October – we refresh activities every holiday so there's always something new to experience!

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CODING ROBOTS	PHOTOSHOP FUN	LEGO ROBOTS	ROBLOX	MINECRAFT REDSTONE
VIDEO GAME DESIGN	DIGITAL ART	BIG BOTS	CRAZY CIRCUITS	LEGO INVENTIONS
ANIMATION	LITTLE BITS	AUGMENTED REALITY	ELECTRIC INVENTIONS	VIDEO GAME CREATION

Please note that activities are subject to change due to availability or unforeseen circumstances.

WHAT TO BRING

- Lunch & Snacks (survives)
- Water Bottle
- Medication (if required)
- Weather Appropriate Clothing

SAFE & SECURE | EXPERT INSTRUCTORS | AGES 5-11

FIND A CAMP NEAR YOU!

We have more than 80 camps running this summer across the UK.

[View Locations](#)

www.nextthing.education

RAVE REVIEWS

★★★★★

"Both my son and daughter had lots of fun, made new friends, learnt new skills and will not stop talking about the Robots!"

Lucy Hart - St Ebbe's Primary School

BOOK 5 DAYS AND GET 10% OFF

TAX FREE CHILDCARE | CHILDCARE VOUCHERS | £45 PER DAY

Book Now:

www.nextthing.education

01442 873150

info@nextthing.education

School holidays just got more exciting!

Fresh air, freedom and adventure!

Ready for a school holiday full of excitement?

Active Adventures at Youlbury is the ultimate outdoor adventure club for children aged 8-16. Packed with thrilling challenges, nature connection activities, and epic team games, each day offers a new adventure to inspire a love for the great outdoors!

www.scoutadventures.org.uk/events

Give your child an unforgettable school holiday filled with fresh air, freedom and adventure!

Set within 42 acres of stunning woodland in rural Oxfordshire at Youlbury, Boars Hill, children aged 8-16 will take part in a daily programme of non-stop outdoor action. With expert instructors leading the way, creating a safe and supportive environment where children run, climb, explore, and build confidence while unplugging from screens and having a blast with friends in the great outdoors!

What's on offer:

- High-energy adventures such as archery, ziplining, and climbing.
- Fun team building games and problem-solving challenges.
- Survival skills such as shelter building, backwoods cooking and fire lighting.
- Connect with the natural world with mindful activities, outdoors arts and crafts, wildlife spotting, and nature walks.

When is it:

- Running throughout February, Easter, May, Summer and October school holidays (see website for dates).
- 8.30am - 5.30pm daily (activities run 9am - 5pm)
- Participants can attend individual days, or the entire week.

Pricing:

£35 per day, per child. Save 10% on a 5-day block and each additional child.

Book now and join the adventure!

www.scoutadventures.org.uk/events

activeadventures@scoutadventures.org.uk

Scout Adventures Youlbury, Boars Hill, Oxford OX1 5HD

Scout Adventures is owned and operated by The Scout Association. Reg Charity number 308101 (England and Wales). Registered address: The Scout Association, Olwell Park, Chingford, London, England E4 7DN



Library

Abingdon

Baby Sensory Playtime

Suitable for non-mobile babies only.

Join us for:

- Sensory play and exploration
- Songs and rhymes
- Lights, textures and sounds
- A relaxed, welcoming space for parents and carers

Term Time Fridays 12pm - 1pm

No need to book - just drop in!

oxfordshire.gov.uk/libraries

OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

FAMILY SHOWS AUTUMN 2026

The North Wall
Arts Centre

M6 Theatre presents

ALL THE SMALL THINGS

Saturday 24 October 11am and 2pm

Deep in the woods, in the middle of nowhere, lives the Story Collector. Drawers, cabinets and cupboards brim with baddies and goodies, hopes and wishes, once upon a time and far, far away. A magical place of possibilities. On the turn of the snow globe, the enchantment begins...

M6 Theatre's trademark beautiful design and heartwarming storytelling combine with singing, puppetry, and physical comedy in this brand-new spin on fairytales.

AGES 4+



Sonrisa Arts presents

DANCE IN THE DARK

Wednesday 28 October 1pm & 3pm

Come in your favourite PJs for a slumber party in a giant sleepover den and a playful night-time adventure. As darkness descends, giggle as we get ready for bed, explore spooky shadows, listen to night-time sounds, and feel the wind and rain on our faces.

Discover the magic of the dark, whirl and twirl, catch a shooting star and learn to be brave at bedtime.

Co-created with children, this beautiful new show is a dreamy multi-sensory feast that gently introduces little ones to the magic and wonder of theatre.

AGES 3-8



STAY AND PLAY!

Families are invited to join us for relaxed and inclusive arts and crafts, activities and play between children's shows. These are free drop-in workshops, open to all.

Details of timings for each Stay and Play session are available on the website.

Performing Arts Workshops
P. A. Ws

Scratch Band

For all ages

Featuring brass, woodwind, keyboard and percussion. Beginner to approximately grade 5 level.

📍 Appleford Village Hall
📅 27th October
🕒 9am - 5pm

Only £6.50 per hour

Play In A Day

For children aged 6-14 years

📍 Appleford Village Hall
📅 29th October
🕒 9am - 5pm

Only £6.50 per hour

Book Now

<https://bookwhen.com/dramaclubs>