

# NEWSLETTER

Autumn Term

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office@cottonendforestschool.co.uk

**24th October 2025**



Dear Parents and Carers, we have come to the end of a really busy and exciting first half term, filled with wonderful learning experiences and memorable events to celebrate!

## ☐ Kites Class Assembly

Last week, Kites Class proudly shared their learning in assembly. It was a real pleasure to see such fantastic examples of work from English, Art, History and Science — as well as their impressive knot-tying skills from Forest School! Well done to everyone for your enthusiasm and hard work.

## ☐☐ Year 2 Local Walk

Year 2 enjoyed their first educational visit of the year with a local walk last Wednesday. Using their Geography skills, they followed a route on a map through Cotton End, spotting local landmarks along the way before arriving at the park. All of the children showed our current value of *co-operation*, working together and walking sensibly throughout the trip. A huge well done to all the children — and a special thank you to the adults who gave up their time to support us and make the outing such a success.

## ☐☐ Kingfisher Class Sports Event

Kingfisher Class represented our school brilliantly at a sports event held at Kempston Academy. They took part in a variety of activities alongside other Bedford schools, including tag rugby and outdoor adventure challenges. Everyone showed fantastic effort and teamwork - well done, Kingfishers!

## ☐ Poppy Appeal

After the half term break, we will be supporting the **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**. Poppies and other fundraising items will be available for children to purchase in support of this important cause.

## ☐☐ Parent Consultations

We are looking forward to seeing you at our parent consultations tomorrow, where teachers will discuss your child's progress and ways we can continue to work together to support their learning. If you are unable to attend on Friday, please speak with your child's class teacher to arrange an alternative, mutually convenient time.

## ☐ Half Term Wishes

Wishing you all a very restful and enjoyable half term with your families. Thank you for your continued support — we look forward to seeing everyone on Monday 3rd November refreshed and ready for another exciting term ahead!

Mrs Headland

P.S. If you need any support, have a safeguarding concern or need a confidential chat during half term please feel free to contact Mrs. C on:

[keepintouch@cottonendforestschool.co.uk](mailto:keepintouch@cottonendforestschool.co.uk).

## Term Dates

### **Autumn Break**

Last day before half term - 23rd October 25

Teacher Training (consultations)—24th October 2025-

Return to school - 3rd November 25

### **Christmas Break**

Last day before Christmas - 18th December 25

Teacher Training—19th December 2025

Return to school- 5th January 2026

### **Spring Break**

Last day before half term - 13th February 26

Return to school - 23rd February 26

Last day before Easter break - 27th March 26

Teacher training—13th April 26

Return to school—14th April 26

### **Summer Break**

Bank holiday- 4th May 26

Last day before half term - 22nd May 26

Return to school - 1st June 26

Last day of term - 17th July 26

Teacher Training Day - 20th July 26

**Reminder—Any holidays taken in term time will trigger a fine in line with Bedford Borough Council guidelines.**



## Attendance      W/C 13/10/25      W/C 20/10/25

Oak	95.7%	97.2%
Willow	97.3%	95.0%
Owl	94.2%	95.7%
Wagtail	99.7%	97.6%
Skylark	97.7%	96.6%
Woodpecker	90.7%	95.9%
Kingfisher	99.3%	98.4%
Nightingale	98.8%	97.3%
Eagle	97.9%	97.0%
Falcon	95.8%	96.4%
Osprey	98.6%	96.9%
Harrier	93.7%	96.5%
Kestrel	97.5%	97.1%
Kite	96.4%	96.6%

**Well done to Wagtail class last week from EYFS and KS1 with 99.7% and Kingfisher class from KS2 with 99.3%.**

**This week Wagtail class from EYFS and KS1 with 97.6% and Kingfisher class from KS2 with 98.4%. The whole school attendance is 96.7% But we are aiming for 98%.**

We aim to provide our children with opportunities to become confident, happy children valuing and respecting diversity and who are proud of their achievements.



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## Extra Curricular

DT Club - Year 1-2  
Wed 5th Nov 25 -  
Wed 3rd Dec 25

Lego Club—Year 1-6  
Thur 6th Nov 25 -  
Thur 18th Dec 25

Dodgeball Club—Year 3-6  
Thur 6th Nov 25 -  
Thur 11th Dec 25

Please note: we still have availability for all of the above clubs.



## Any Other Business Continued:-

**Movement is Medicine (MIM)** is a mindful movement class combining gentle, body-focused meditation with free-flow, non-judgmental movement to music. It's "dancing like no one's watching" — a fun, expressive way to release stress and emotions through the body.



This practice is a powerful tool for parents to regulate themselves — and a regulated parent is better able to support and co-regulate their children.

Through this work, participants learn and model healthy ways of managing emotions, reducing stress, moving the body, and expressing feelings freely. It's a simple yet powerful approach to emotional wellbeing for both adults and families.

**Adult Class - Sat 25th Oct, 11am-1pm, The Harpur Suite, Bedford (£10)**

**Family Class - Wed 29th Oct, 11am-12pm, Trinity Arts & Leisure Centre, Bedford (£2 per person)**

Open to all ages, abilities, and fitness levels.

For further information and details of how to book, please see the following website:

[www.brightemotions.co.uk/mim](http://www.brightemotions.co.uk/mim)

## Any Other Business

### Calendar Dates

For any dates, letters or information that you may have missed, please make sure you head over to the school website at

<http://cottonendforestschool.co.uk/>

You will also find a list of the academic term dates for your reference.



## Message from Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum

Are you new to the world of SEND, or have concerns about your child's development? Come along to our Stronger Beginnings drop-in session to chat with the team.



We're here to listen, answer your questions, and signpost you to local support services that can help you and your family take the next steps with confidence:

Saturday 15th November 10am—12pm

Child Development Centre, Hill Rise, Kempston, Bedford MK42 7EB

[communications@bbpcf.org.uk](mailto:communications@bbpcf.org.uk)

## SEND Matters

For the latest edition of SEND Matters newsletter, please see the following website:-

[https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/bedford/directory/files/send\\_matters\\_newsletter\\_october\\_2025.pdf](https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/bedford/directory/files/send_matters_newsletter_october_2025.pdf)



## Uniform

During the half term break, please could we kindly ask that you take some time to name your child/ren's uniform. We have so much unnamed lost property.



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