

NEWSLETTER

Spring Term

01234 740100

office@cottonendforestschool.co.uk

9th January 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back after the festive break, we hope you enjoyed the time with your families.

It has been lovely to see the children return to school so happily and settle back into their learning so quickly. They have made a fantastic start to the new term, and it has been a pleasure to see their enthusiasm in the classroom.

As the weather has turned more wintry, we would like to remind parents that in the event of extreme weather, any school closures (which are very few and far between) will be published on the Bedford Borough website, announced on Heart Radio, and communicated directly to parents via ParentMail.

Please ensure that children come to school with warm clothing suitable for outdoor play times and correct kit for their PE lessons. In addition, children should keep their full Forest School kits in school so that we can take every opportunity to enjoy learning outdoors and benefit from time in the fresh air.

Our school attendance continues to be very good; however, we would like to remind parents that lateness does contribute to overall attendance figures. Children should arrive at school between 8.45am and 9.00am and enter through the school gates. Children who arrive via the school office, unless this has been previously agreed, will be marked as late.

Please see the new addition to our newsletter which shares our PE achievements and experiences both in and outside school

Finally, please remember to order your child's lunch via SchoolGrid. This helps ensure they have a positive lunchtime experience and a meal they enjoy.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Headland

Term Dates



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

The term dates for the **2026–2027 academic year** are now available.

We will be following the **Bedford Borough Council** term dates. These will be uploaded to our website shortly for your reference.



Keep In Touch

If you need any support, have a safeguarding concern or need a confidential chat please feel free to contact Mrs. C on

01234 740100 - option 5

keepintouch@cottonendforestschool.co.uk



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Extra Curricular

Volleyball Club—Year 3-6

Thurs 8th Jan 26 -

Thurs 12th Feb 26

Art Club—Year 1-3

Mon 12th Jan -

Mon 9th Feb

DT Club - Year 3-4

Wed 14th Jan 26 -

Wed 4th Feb 26

Lego Club—Year Reception-6

Thur 8th Jan 26 -

Thur 12th Feb 26

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

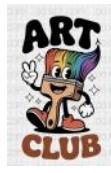
<http://cottonendforestschool.co.uk/>

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

Beds Life Magazine

For the January edition of Bedslife Magazine please use the following web address:-

[Bedslife Magazines - Advertise in Bedford, Amphill and Flitwick](http://www.bedslife.co.uk/magazines/advertise-in-bedford-amphill-and-flitwick)



Any Other Business Continued:-

Message from Bedford Borough Parent Carer Forum

Carer Forum

We are pleased to host a valuable opportunity for parent carers to meet **one-to-one** with senior professionals across education, health and SEND services. Appointments offer the chance to ask questions, share concerns and receive guidance directly from service leads.

Date: Monday 12th January 2026

Time: 9:30am – 11:30am

Venue: Child Development Centre – Hill Rise, Kempston, Bedford, MK42 7EB

For more information: communications@bbpcf.org.uk



Message from SEND Team, Bedford Borough Council

We've planned Wellbeing Week, which is a celebration of physical and mental wellbeing for children and young people with SEND and their families, who live in Bedford Borough.



There are activities across the week to help promote wellbeing, help families to stay active and provide opportunities to connect with others.

There is an interactive timetable detailing all the activities taking place across the week which you can access here:

https://search3.openobjects.com/mediamanager/bedford/directory/files/wellbeing_week_calendar.pdf

you can click on each event which takes you to further details about the event and how to book.

If you have any further questions please contact them directly.

SEND Programme Team
Bedford Borough Council



Fun for young People Spring Term Activities



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Festival Dates

Year 1&2 Events

Thurs 13th Nov: Skylarks multisports

Tues 24th March: Woodpeckers multisport

Weds 10th June: Owls multisport

Year 3&4 Events

Weds 22nd Oct: Kingfishers multisports

Fri 28th Nov: Year 3 athletics (selected students)

Weds 11th March: Nightingales multisports

Mon 27th April: Year 4 quadkids

Year 5&6 Events

Thurs 9th Oct: Year 6 multisports (selected students)

Thurs 27th Nov: Year 5 athletics (selected students)

Weds 22nd April: Year 5 multisports (selected students)

Mon 8th June: Year 6 athletics (selected students)

Tues 16th June: 5/6 cricket tournament (selected



Sporting Success

Please email cefspe@cottonendforestschool.co.uk with any sporting achievements your child has achieved outside of school. This maybe swimming badges, man of the match, martial arts belt etc.

December celebrations:

Betsy D – Scoring 2 tries and being captain.

Thea H – Merit in Ballet, Karate green stripe, grade 5 swimming.

Ginny L – Emerald medals in Gymnastics.

Jesse – Player of the match.

Joshua N – Player of the match.

Louie N – Player of the match.

Grayson B – Level 2 swimming, medal and rainbow lace in rugby.

Harry B – Swimming 5m.

Aliyah W – Grade 3 water skills.

Amelia – Medals in gymnastics.

Helena C – Gold swimming medal and Bronze gymnastics medal.

Isabella G – Player of the week in Tennis.



Lily S – 25m swimming medal.

Tia S – Red kick boxing belt.

Faith – Grade 2 in swimming and Grade 1 in gymnastics.

Grace – Grade 1 in swimming.

Evie M – Level 4 in horse riding and black run in skiing.

Arya – Level 3 in swimming.

Seth V – Man of the match and captain.

Mia L – Medals in gymnastics.

Well done everyone with all your fantastic

PE achievements!



Current News

Please make sure children **DO NOT** come in wearing jewellery on their PE days.

New external rules state earrings must be removed and tape is not deemed safe in schools.

Please make sure your child is wearing their PE kit to school on their PE day.