



Otford Primary School- June 2026

Headteacher update

THE BIG FUTURE and What a night of Musical talent!

The Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel De Souza, is asking for children all over the country to take part in this national survey. Please read her message below:

It is crucial that I hear from children in every school and college, in every community, across the country. Without hearing from your students, their experiences, views and aspirations risk being missing from the national picture that will help shape future policy.

At a time of significant change for children and young people, it is more important than ever that their views are reflected in policy making. Through this survey, I can take the voices of your students directly to the centre of government.

If you would like to take part in the survey, please click on the link below:

The Big Future National Survey¹

If you would like more information, please use the link below.

The Children's Commissioner of England²

¹<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

Your responses are very much appreciated!

MUSIC UPDATE



Summer concert

Last Thursday evening the hall was filled with the sound of music at our Summer Concert. Over 30 children took part playing a whole range of instruments both individually and in groups. Every one played with enthusiasm and confidence. It was wonderful to see such musical skill within the school. Ukulele club also performed, as did the two newly formed school bands, Vision and Black stripes. Well done to every single musician for taking part.

On Friday the bands got the opportunity to perform again in assembly to much applause from the both the children and teachers. They really were fantastic.

If you would like to see them play again they are going to be performing on the stage at Otfest on 11th July. Please do come along and support them and the other bands playing. It should be a fun day.

Oxford Voices and Ukulele concert

Year 4 would like to invite parents and carers to their concert on Thursday 2nd July at 2.45 pm in the school hall. All welcome.

²<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/the-big-future/>







Can You Help?



We kindly ask all parents and carers to regularly check emails from the school office and read all communications sent home, including letters, trip information, newsletters, and reminders.

These communications contain important information about key dates, events, payments, permissions, and school activities. Please note that where a deadline is provided, it is important that responses and payments are received by the stated date. Unfortunately, if deadlines are missed, we may be unable to secure places for children on trips, visits, or other events, as bookings often need to be confirmed with external providers in advance.

Thank you for your support in helping us ensure that all children can take part in the opportunities available to them.

Mrs H Roberts and the Office Team.

Year 6 Safety in Action

Year 6 had a fantastic afternoon at the Safety in Action event at Invicta Park Barracks in Maidstone on Wednesday 10th June. Through a variety of hands-on activities and realistic scenarios, the children learned valuable safety skills, including how to respond to potential hazards and make responsible choices. It was an engaging and informative experience that helped build their confidence and awareness while having fun with their classmates.



Year 3 Trip to Wildwood.

What a brilliant day Year 3 have had at Wildwood in Canterbury! The children took part in a fantastic Stone Age workshop where they explored what life was like thousands of years ago. They learned about Stone Age clothing, discovered how people hunted for food, created their own necklaces and even wore traditional clay face paint before watching 'Wild Paw' throw some spheres! We also spent time exploring the park and learning about the different animals that live there. The children were enthusiastic, curious and incredibly well behaved throughout the day. They asked thoughtful questions, joined in with every activity and represented the school wonderfully.







Year 5 Chislehurst Caves! A wonderful day of train then cave action!











Year 2- Forest School Adventure

In their first Forest School session, Pandas built on their previous learning in their Science topic Animal Survival by exploring nearby Palace Field for animal habitats and camouflaged creatures, even turning into stealthy creatures themselves while stalking Mr Grobel in the game Green Watcher. Switching gears, they then listened attentively to local historian Nick Rushby who reinforced their learning about British Monarchs with a talk inside Otford Palace itself.





The Library Summer Reading Challenge- let's do this!

Last year, Otford Primary came in second place in Sevenoaks! What an accomplishment!
Well done to all the readers who made that possible!

Can Otford come first this year?

The challenge starts on July 4th!

Message from Kent Libraries

2026 is the National Year of Reading, and Kent Libraries is encouraging families to get a head start on summer reading by preparing early for the Summer Reading Challenge.

Families can join the library, borrow books, and enjoy free eBooks and audiobooks using the library's eLibrary apps. Getting started early helps children feel confident and excited about reading ahead of the summer holidays.

Libraries are great places to enjoy time together. Families can discover new books, take part in free events listed on the Kent Directory, and explore libraries online through virtual tours.

Parents can also join the Kent Libraries Book Chat Facebook group³ [<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KentLibrariesBookChat/>] and follow Facebook⁴ [<https://www.facebook.com/KentLibrariesArchives/>] and Instagram⁵ [<https://www.instagram.com/kentlibraries/>].

All you need to get started is a free library card.

Go all in and get a head start on summer reading at kent.gov.uk/libraries⁶.

THE READING AGENCY Summer Reading Challenge

Kent Libraries and Archives

Get a head start on Summer Reading

Join the library, borrow books, and explore our eLibrary apps

Build the fun to Go All In for the National Year of Reading

Children's Books Free eBooks & Audiobooks Free events & activities

For more information about library offers and services head to kent.gov.uk/libraries

GO ALL IN.

National Year of Reading 2026

In the Community

Kent Fire and Rescue Open Morning.

Sevenoaks Fire Station will be opening its doors and welcoming families, friends and neighbours to their upcoming Open Day!

³<https://www.facebook.com/groups/KentLibrariesBookChat/>

⁴<https://www.facebook.com/KentLibrariesArchives/>

⁵<https://www.instagram.com/kentlibraries/>

⁶<https://kentcountycouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/GTGLRASummerReadingChallenge/Shared Documents/General/SRC 2026/Marketing and Communication/Assets, Creatives and Deliverables/1. Getting ready for the Summer Reading Challenge period/Material for Schools/kent.gov.uk/libraries>

Taking place on Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 July, Kent Fire and Rescue Service is inviting people to discover how to stay safe at home.

The event will be packed with games, hands-on activities, an interactive activity trail, and the chance to meet the local firefighters.

To make the experience as enjoyable as possible, there will be three bookable sessions available each day:

- 10am to 11am – SEND session for children and adults with additional needs, with reduced noise levels and fewer people
- 11am to 1pm – Morning session
- 2pm to 3pm – Afternoon session

Tickets are free, but must be booked in advance⁷

Explore and discover how to...

Be safe with us

28 and 29 July 2026

SEND hour: 10am to 11am • Morning session: 11am to 1pm
Afternoon session: 2pm to 4pm

Book your free tickets!
Scan the QR code or visit our website

Sevenoaks Fire Station
London Road, Sevenoaks TN13 2HY

www.kent.fire-uk.org/sevenoaks2026

Kent Fire & Rescue Service

together

⁷<https://www.kent.fire-uk.org/events/be-safe-us-sevenoaks-fire-station>

St Bart's Church

St Bart's, Otford



Sunday 28th June 3.00pm
The Church Centre

All Age craft and activities.
Lots of things to make and do,
followed by informal worship and tea.

This is an event mainly for primary school
children and their families.

Everyone is welcome but no unaccompanied
children please.

For more information or to let us know
that you are coming please contact:
office@stbartholomews.co.uk

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Sevenoaks Primary Care Network

SEVENOAKS PCN

Newsletter for Parents



Signposting

Family relationships can change over time, particularly during life transitions such as becoming a parent, caring for a relative, adolescence, retirement or bereavement. Open communication and seeking support when needed can help families navigate these changes together.

IMAGO

FREE Young Carers Awareness Training (Kent)

coram family lives

<https://www.coramfamilylives.org.uk/>

Spurgeons
Together with families

<https://spurgeons.org/how-we-help/family-life/parenting-and-family-support/>

YOUNGMINDS

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/family/>

For a downloadable version with accessible links, click here:
<https://sevenoakspcn.gpweb.org.uk/>

SEVENOAKS PCN

Newsletter for Parents



Support Available For Families

Sometimes family members need additional support. Whether you have a young person helping to care for someone at home, or an older family member looking for wellbeing support and social connections, there are services available to help.

NHS
Kent Community Health
NHS Foundation Trust

For older family members
Wellbeing Day Centre
Edenbridge Health Centre

<https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/leaflet/edenbridge-wellbeing-centre/>

See attached poster for open days



For Families
<https://family-action.org.uk/get-support/familyline/>



IMAGO

For Young Carers
<https://www.imago.community/young-carers-services/young-carers-services>

For a downloadable version with accessible links, click here:
<https://sevenoakspcn.gpweb.org.uk/>

SEVENOAKS PCN

Newsletter for Parents



Supporting Healthy Family Relationships

Families come in all shapes and sizes, and each family is made up of people with different needs, roles and experiences. While family relationships can be a source of support, there can also be challenging times.

Some ways to help maintain positive relationships include:

- Make time to listen to one another without interruptions
- Try to understand the other person's perspective
- Talk about concerns calmly and at a suitable time
- Focus on the issue rather than blaming the person
- Respect differences in opinions, needs and boundaries
- Seek support early if difficulties are beginning to affect family life or wellbeing

Family Advice For Young People



Click on this TEDTalk and start watching from 6:25 from a Mum & daughter on how to strengthen family relationships

For a downloadable version with accessible links, click here:
<https://sevenoakspcn.gpweb.org.uk/>

SPORTS DAY

Sports Day is planned for the 7th July with a back up day of 9th July.

KS2 will start at 9:30, and KS1 will start at 1:30pm

PTFA UPDATE



Saturday 11th July 1:00pm – 5:00pm Otford Primary School

What's on:- Live music from headliners "Never Too Late", plus Otford Primary alumni bands "Anything and Everything" and "The Bends" and more.- Giant inflatables- BBQ and bar- Spartacus football pitch- Camp Beaumont soft archery - Festival shop - Games, stalls, big raffle and plenty more!

Bring your friends and family, grab a drink, and relax on a rug or blanket while you soak up the atmosphere (just a heads up – no outside food or picnics please).

Sponsored by:

Headline sponsor: Vitality

Gold sponsors: Bracketts | JAYMAC

Silver sponsors: After School Club | Knole B&B

Summer Uniform- Terms 5 & 6.

Here is the updated uniform for the summer term which we hope is helpful for potentially much warmer days!

Summer Uniform – Terms 5 & 6

- Navy and white gingham dress worn with white ankle socks.
- Plain white short sleeved shirt or blouse (without a tie and the top button undone) with or without a school jumper.

PE Uniform Indoor

- Royal Blue PE shorts also available from PMG Schoolwear or skorts. Children may wear plain non branded royal blue PE shorts
- White School T-Shirt with emblem available from PMG Schoolwear. Children may wear plain non branded white T-Shirt
- White socks • Black elasticated plimsolls. • School Drawstring PE Bag available from PMG Schoolwear.

PE Uniform Outdoor – Years 1 – 6

- A dark coloured, plain tracksuit- non branded.
- Trainers for outdoor wear, these are only to be worn on days for PE many thanks.

School Uniform policy⁸

⁸<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/otford-primary-school/UploadedDocument/37d08eb2-3922-44f0-83d1-ade72d2d2af3/uniform-policy.pdf>

Year 6 Save the Dates



We know that Year 6 is always a very special year and goes so quickly! The Year 6 teaching team would like to share some key dates with our parents, these have also been added to the school calendar on the website.

Year 6 Save the Date

- **Wednesday 24th -26th June: Year 6 Residential to Kingswood**
- **Tuesday 14th July: Performance to parents/families evening: 6:30pm**
- **Wednesday 15th July: Performance to parents/families evening: 6:30pm**
- **Thursday 16th July: Leavers Party**
- **Tuesday 21st July: Year 6 Leavers' Assembly 9:30am**

Clubs


Oxford Primary School



AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB

JUJITSU

Lots of exercise, learning awesome skills, fun games, making new friends!

- Thursdays, 3.30 to 4.30 pm
- £10 per session, first taster session free
- No experience necessary (come and try!)
- For year groups 1 to 6
- Stay for dodgeball 4.30pm to 5pm, £5 per session



Contact Chris to secure your place:
chris.sevenoaksjitsu@icloud.com
 Tel: 07914 805 339

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

SUMMER TERM 2026



"MY DAUGHTER ASKED IF SHE CAN ATTEND THE CLUB UNTIL SHE LEAVES SCHOOL."



"I'VE SEEN MY SON'S CONFIDENCE GROW DURING HIS TIME SPENT AT THE CLUB."

FUN, EXERCISE, FRESH AIR & DIFFERENT ACTIVITIES EVERY WEEK

NEW ACTIVITIES FOR THIS TERM INCLUDE:

WATER DAY: NOODLE BALL
BUSHCRAFT SOLAR FIRELIGHTING
MINI ROBOT BUILDING | CIRCUS SKILLS
TOY STORY SLIME & GAMES
DRAGON SLINGSHOT MAKING
MINECRAFT TREASURE HUNT
NERF WILD WEST | BUSHCRAFT DENS
MARSHMALLOW CATAPULT MAKING
THE KEY INGREDIENT: LOTS OF FUN!



WATCHING CHILDREN'S CONFIDENCE GROW & NEW FRIENDSHIPS FORM AT OUR CLUBS IS ONE OF THE MOST REWARDING THINGS WE DO.

OTFORD PRIMARY
 TUESDAYS 3:20 - 4:30 PM
 YEARS 1-6
 21ST APRIL - 7TH JULY 2026
 PRICE: £88 (11 WEEK TERM)



MORE INFO & BOOK: WWW.THEOUTDOORSPROJECT.CO.UK
HOLIDAY CLUBS - BIRTHDAY PARTIES - SCHOOL WORKSHOPS - AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS - SAILINGS PARENT & TODDLER GROUP
OFSTED REGISTERED & CHILDCARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED

SPRING TERM CLUBS

AT OTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOOTBALL CLUB

For boys & girls of all abilities!

SPACES REMAINING

10% SIBLING DISCOUNT AVAILABLE

WEDNESDAYS 3:30 - 4:30PM

£8.30 per 1 hour session
Monthly payment plans available

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

☎ 01689 828385
🌐 skillsacademytld.com
✉ info@skillsacademytld.com



They think it's FUN,
you know it's EDUCATIONAL

SPACES AVAILABLE!

After School

Book via website

TOP 7 REASONS WHY Kids LOVE Bricks 4 Kidz

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- ☑ Building, creating, and problem-solving with LEGO® bricks every session
- ☑ Figuring things out, overcoming challenges, and feeling proud of what they build
- ☑ Working with friends, sharing ideas, and building together
- ☑ Using their imagination while taking on exciting STEAM challenges
- ☑ Learning cool skills like engineering and robotics through play
- ☑ Leaving every class feeling happy, confident, and excited to come back

@bricks4kidz_kent @b4kmidkent Real-world concepts related to Science Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths

bricks4kidz.co.uk/kent ccobb@bricks4kidz.com 07814 371279

We Learn, We Build, We Play with LEGO® Bricks



ST. MICHAEL'S BASKETBALL HUB

DELIVERED BY QUALIFIED BASKETBALL ENGLAND COACHES FROM SEVENOAKS SUNS



THURSDAYS
18:00-19:00 PM

@

**ST. MICHAEL'S
PREP SCHOOL**

BEGINNING 14TH MAY 2026



**STUDENTS FROM YEARS 4, 5 & 6
ARE WELCOME!**

BASKETBALLDEVELOPMENT@SEVENOAKSSUNS.COM
Accredited Basketball England club.



WHOLE SCHOOL SAVE THE DATES:

Year 6 Residential - 24th June

Year 4 Ukulele Concert - 2nd July

Year 1 Trip - 3rd July

SPORTS DAY - 7th July

BACK UP SPORTS DAY - 9th July

OTFORD PRIMARY SCHOOL TERM DATES FOR 2026-2027

Term 1	
INSET DAY	Tuesday 1 September 2026
INSET DAY	Wednesday 2 September 2026
Starts	Thursday 3 September 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 22 October 2026
INSET DAY	Friday 23 October 2026
Term 2	
Starts	Monday 2 November 2026
Last day of term	Thursday 17 December 2026
INSET DAY	Friday 18 December 2026
Term 3	
Starts	Monday 4 January 2027
Last day of term	Friday 12 February 2027
Term 4	
Starts	Monday 22 February 2027
Last day of term	Thursday 25 March 2027
Term 5	
Starts	Monday 12 April 2027
Bank Holiday Monday	Monday 3 May 2027
Last day of term	Friday 28 May 2027
Term 6	
INSET DAY	Monday 7 June 2027
Starts	Tuesday 8 June 2027
Last day of term	Wednesday 21 July 2027

Attendance Insight

www.PSDgraphics.com



We know that consistent school attendance is so important for your child; the benefits for them are immeasurable! However, sometimes, the numbers can seem vague. Therefore, to put attendance percentage into perspective, we have converted percentages into their weekly equivalent and, even one step further, to express percentage in terms of lessons missed:

- Attendance of **95%** for the year equals **10 days** that your child has been absent- that is **two school weeks** of your child's learning missed for that year. If we consider that

children are taught 4-6 lessons a day, then 10 days absence over the course of the school year equates to **40-60 lessons missed**.

- Attendance of **90%** for the year equals **19 days** that your child has been absent, that is almost **4 weeks** of school missed, or **76-114** lessons missed.
- Attendance of **85%** for the year equals **29 days** that your child has been absent, that is almost **6 school weeks** missed (nearly the equivalent of the summer holidays) or **116-174** lessons missed.

· Attendance of **80%** for the year equals **38 days** absent per year, that is over **7 school weeks** or **152-228** lessons missed!

Punctuality Matters Being frequently late for school adds up to lost learning

- Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to over 3 days lost each year
- Arriving 15 minutes late every day adds up to 2 weeks absence a year
- Arriving 30 minutes late every adds up to 19 days absence a year

If, for any reason, you require support getting your child into school, please let us know. Contact the school and we can arrange a meeting with a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss how best we can support you and next steps.

Please see the government website for more details

The Education Hub⁹

⁹<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/08/finer-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

Otford Instagram Account



We would love to remind everyone to visit our Instagram page at [otford_primary_school](https://www.instagram.com/otford_primary_school) where you will find lots of information and pictures regarding all the exciting things we have been doing at school. We regularly post news in the "stories" rather than posts as they can easily become lost in the posts. We have 464 followers now- thank you for taking the time to look. You can find us here: [otford_primary_school](https://www.instagram.com/otford_primary_school)¹⁰

Should we receive any inappropriate content on this page the account involved will be blocked and reported to Instagram.

Early Birds Bookings

Dear Parents\Carers,

ParentPay should be used to make Early Bird Bookings. Bookings can be made until the end of the academic year and will need to be paid for at the time of booking. There is a limit of 45 children per day in place and spaces are allocated on a first come first served basis. Please find below link to guide to booking:

https://cdn.embedly.com/widgets/media.html?src=https%3A%2F%2Ffast.wistia.net%2Fembed%2Fiframe%2Ff7e9aflmga&display_name=Wistia%2C%2BInc.&url=https%3A%2F%2Fparentpay.wistia.com%2Fmedias%2Ff7e9aflmga&image=https%3A%2F%2Fembed-ssl.wistia.com%2Fdeliveries%2Fe388bc7ea8e1880c18a91c5f5ec1e32f6ca5d2bc.jpg%3Fimage_crop_resized%3D960x540&key=40cb30655a7f4a46adaaf18efb05db21&type=text%2Fhtml&schema=wistia&wvideo=f7e9aflmga

¹⁰https://www.instagram.com/otford_primary_school

Parents who pay for sessions using childcare vouchers should email their requirements at least a term in advance to earlybirds@otford.kent.sch.uk. Early Birds will then manually add the required sessions onto ParentPay on your behalf. Sessions paid for by childcare vouchers are not guaranteed unless booked termly in advance.

