

Blakedown CE Primary School



Newsletter Autumn 1



www.blakedownceprimary.co.uk



WELCOME BACK TO AUTUMN TERM

A very warm welcome back to school, it has been lovely to see you all back this week and I hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable summer. We have welcomed 19 new Reception children and also one other child to Year 1. The school now holds 185 children, and have spaces in Reception, Year 5 & Year 6.

Our new Reception children have made a great start to their school journey this week, they have had two half days and a day that includes lunch today. We look forward to having them in school full time every day from next week. We also welcome Mrs Linsdell-Marshall to the wrap around care team and Mrs Stockley-von Statzer to the lunchtime team.

The website calendar has been updated with forthcoming known events in the 'Diary Dates' page and this will continue to be refreshed when new dates and events are confirmed.

We are all looking forward to a successful year, working in partnership on behalf of the children.

Helen Beckford-Bond

Happy Birthday!

Happy Birthday from
2nd – 8th September to:

Nancy who is 5;
Wilfred, Henry &
Frank who are 7;
Amelia who is 8; and
Brooke who is 9.



Mobile Phones

As a reminder - children are **not** allowed mobile phones in school. The only exception to this is for children in Year 6 who walk directly home as they may need to bring their phones for safety during their journey home. If this is the case, these children should turn off their phones at the school gates and hand them in on entrance to school. Phones are then returned at the end of the day and can be turned on when children leave the school grounds.

Date Reminders:

September:

- 12.09.24: Reception - Forest School
- 13.09.24: Recognition Assembly with Y5 parents
- 16.09.24: Y2 Swimming
- 18.09.24: Y5 Bikeability
- 18.09.24: Class Briefings
- 19.09.24: Reception - Forest School
- 20.09.24: Recognition Assembly with Y4 parents

For all future dates, including recognition assembly dates, please refer to the school website calendar.

Weekly Attendance

W.E.: 06.09.2024

Reception: 97%
Class 1: 98% | Late
Class 2: 99%
Class 3: 96% 2 Lates
Class 4: 100%
Class 5: 96%
Class 6: 94%

Class
4

Blakedown Vision and Values

JOY

SERVE

ACHIEVE

School Christian Values

Peace Forgiveness Trust Perseverance Respect

Recognition Assemblies

Parents are invited to attend Friday recognition assemblies on a rota basis as below. Please also see the website calendar. These are usually around 15-20 minutes long and start at 8.55 a.m. When classes lead worship during this time, the recognition part follows afterwards and so during these weeks assembly will last a little longer. Please note that during assemblies, all phones should be turned off or turned to silent and should not be used whilst in school.

13.09.24: Year 5 parents

20.09.24: Year 4 parents

27.09.24: Year 3 parents

04.10.24: Y1 parents

11.10.24: Y6 parents (Harvest worship)

18.10.24: Y2 parents

24.10.24: Reception parents (Thursday a.m.)

Year 6 – High School Applications

Parents/carers of Year 6 will have received a transfer pack today. We have been asked to remind you to check that this has been received and that the application process is online at

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Applications should be completed by the closing date of **31st October 2024**. You will be notified of the outcome of your application on **1st March 2025**.

REMINDERS

Snacks and Water:

At break time, children are allowed fruit/vegetables only. From Year 3-6, fruit/veg snacks need to be provided from home. We have a number of children with allergies, therefore nuts are not allowed to be brought into school.

All children should come with a water bottle filled with fresh water each day so that they can have continuous access to a drink without the need to leave the classroom. Please ensure your child has one with them each day.

Medication:

If your child has started a new medication such as an inhaler over the summer break, please do not forget to bring this into school - you will be requested to complete a form so that we know correct dosages. Additionally if you had medication returned at the end of the year please ensure up to date replacements are now in school.

Uniform & PE Kits:

Please note the school uniform policy and expected clothing on the website. Additionally, no branded PE hoodies/sweatshirts should be worn, PE tracksuits and t-shirts should be plain navy blue.

Personal Details & Consents:

If you have changed your address, telephone number or email addresses over the summer, please make sure you let us know your up to date details. This is also required if any changes occur during the year. If you wish to change any of your consents, please let us know.

Bikes & Scooters:

If children ride their bikes or scooter to school, please note that they should dismount on school property as pathways are busy on entrance and exit and this will ensure everyone stays safe on site.

Dogs:

School is a dog free zone. That means that dogs are not allowed anywhere on site, whether they are being held, on leads or tied up on the school property. This is for health and safety reasons. Thank you for your understanding and support with this matter.

Attendance

As you may be aware, on Monday 19th August 2024, [new regulations](#) came into force and became statutory for schools: [Working together to support school attendance guidance](#) which made changes to register coding, penalty notices and mandating schools to [share their attendance data](#). The school's policy now reflects these changes and attached with the newsletter are some leaflets and additional information for you to read and take note of. The main change is that you can now be fined for taking your child out of school for 10 consecutive sessions (5 consecutive days, whether this crosses a weekend or not).

Parents are expected to ensure that unless their children are ill, their child attends school punctually every day. To help with this please see the expectations below.

What YOU must do:

- Try to telephone the school before 8.30 a.m. each day of your child's absence and at the latest by 9.20 a.m.
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and bring in appointment cards/letters.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival. (unless they have a diagnosed illness, high temperature and have had vomiting/diarrhoea in which case they must stay off 48 hours after the last bout).
- Have a backup plan for if your child misses transport, call on a family member, neighbour or friend.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help!

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance and/or punctuality with you.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit.

Please visit our [attendance page](#) on the website for more information and see the attached information.

SCOUTS

There are places for young people to start their Scouts adventure at Scouts 12th Wyre Forest (Blakedown). Beavers, Cubs and Scouts enjoy new activities, make new friendships, love the outdoors and learn skills for life.

On Tuesday 8th October 6.00 - 7.00 p.m., there is a FREE 'Open Event' for families to come along and try out some Scouts activities, chat to volunteers and find out more about everything Scouts has to offer.

The scouts are also looking to grow their team of volunteers so if this is an opportunity you would be interested to go along to find out more.