

Blakedown CE Primary School

Newsletter Autumn 9



www.blakedownceprimary.co.uk



Welcome Back

Welcome back to the second half of autumn term and thank you to the warm welcome back that all families, staff and governors have given to me on my return. It is lovely to be back and to see everyone again. We now have a fairly long run up to Christmas, which I am sure will come around very quickly. There are lots of events planned during this time, please keep up to date with these on the newsletters and on the website calendar.

Book Fair

From Tuesday 14th November 2023, we will have the Scholastic Book Fair in school. This was really successful last year and made £166.63 for school which we used to purchase books. The Book Fair will be available in the Year 5 classroom between 3:30-4:30 p.m. on Tuesday 14th November and on Friday 17th November. It will also be available between 8:15 and 8:40 a.m. on Thursday 16th November. Purchases can be made by making online payments only this year. This can be done by scanning a QR code and completing the purchase using your phone. Anyone who makes a purchase will be given a raffle ticket which will give you the chance to win £25 worth of vouchers to use to select books from the Book Fair. This will be drawn on Friday 17th November and books can be selected on the morning of Monday 20th November.

Parking:

We are very lucky to have lots of safe spaces for parents/carers to park at drop off and pick up times, however the same few parents/carers are insisting on parking in the bus stop. This is **illegal** and is causing all other parents and carers who use the safe spaces extreme difficulty in manoeuvring onto the main road safely. Additionally, this puts all children and road users at risk. There have been several near misses both with children and vehicles over recent weeks due to the inconsiderate decisions of a few. This issue has been highlighted before and as there appears to be no change in this practice, the school have now contacted the police for assistance.

Weekly Attendance W.E.: 10.11.2023

Reception: 95%
Class 1: 94% 1 Late
Class 2: 95% 2 Lates
Class 3: 99% 2 Lates
Class 4: 98%
Class 5: 95% 1 Late
Class 6: 98% 2 Laes



Date Reminders:

November:
14.11.23: Reception Forest School
14.11.23: Book Fair at 3.25 p.m.
16.11.22: Book Fair at 8.15 a.m.
17.11.22: Recognition assembly
(Reception parents/carers)
17.11.23: Book Fair at 3.25 p.m.
20.11.23: Prospective Parents' Open Day

For all future dates please refer to the school website calendar.

Online Safety Meeting

Attached to this letter is information about a virtual **online safety briefing for parents**. It is **free** to join and is being held on **27th November**, virtually so that as many parents as possible can join to hear the important messages about how to keep children safe online. – the links to join are within the attached letter.

Blakedown Vision and Values

JOY

SERVE

ACHIEVE

School Christian Values

Peace Forgiveness Trust Perseverance Respect

Recognition Assemblies

This half term we are starting to invite parents back to recognition assemblies. Due to Covid and then because the school has grown over recent years, it has been difficult to fit in the school as well as a high number of visitors. Therefore, each week a different year group's parents will be invited to join us at 8.55 a.m. We will need to restrict this to two people per child in that year group as this is the maximum we will be able to fit in safely at any one time.

Please also note that as the school is at work during this time that the use of phones by parents/carers on entry to school is not allowed, we ask that you turn these off, mute or leave them at home whilst being in school.

We very much look forward to seeing you during this celebratory time on the following days:

Friday 17th November: Reception

Friday 24th November: Year 1

Friday 1st December: Year 2

Friday 8th December: Year 4

Friday 15th December: Year 5

Year 3 and Year 6 parents/carers will be invited at the start of the spring term.

Anti-Bullying Week and Odd Socks Day

Next week is national anti-bullying week and the theme is 'Make A Noise About Bullying'. We will be starting off on Monday with an odd socks day to celebrate the fact that we are all unique. If you would like your child to take part, please bring in a money donation which we will put towards raising money for the NSPCC. The school has recently used NSPCC resources and will be visited by them later in the term to support the speak out, stay safe messages.

REMINDERS:

Winter uniform should now be worn and children should be coming to school with a coat every day. Please ensure that these are named.

On PE days, please ensure children do not come to school wearing earrings unless they are able to take these out and put them back in themselves. We are no longer able to cover these up with tape.

If your child has borrowed school clothing like forest school waterproofs, or used extra clothing for any reason, please return this after use.

HANDi App - Don't let bugs play on your mind

If your child is unwell, use the HANDi App to check their symptoms and get instant, NHS-approved medical advice.

Developed and approved by local Paediatric Consultants, the HANDi App provides expert advice on how best to manage the most common childhood illnesses, including:

- Diarrhoea and vomiting
- High temperature
- 'Chesty baby' illnesses, such as bronchiolitis, asthma and croup
- 'Chesty child' illnesses such as wheezing and asthma
- Abdominal pain
- Common newborn problems.

The app is free, and can be downloaded to any Apple or Android smartphone or tablet.

Why use HANDi?

HANDi is designed to help you know what to do when your child is unwell - whether that's looking after them at home, taking them to see a GP, using the NHS 111 service, or visiting an urgent care service.

If your child is unwell, HANDi will ask you questions about your child's condition to help you decide the best course of action - and with all the advice on HANDi developed and approved by local NHS paediatricians and other healthcare professionals, you can rest assured that you're getting the best possible advice.

For more information, to download the app and to hear from our Clinical Lead for Children and Young People, Dr Louise Bramble, please visit the website <https://www.hwics.org.uk/our-services/handi-app>

Recognition Awards for week beginning 6th November 2023

Reception	Raymond Gideon	For his super ideas and knowledge of animals during reading practice. For always showing fabulous listening skills during whole class learning and trying his very best in all that he does.
Year 1	Laney-Jai Milan	For being an excellent partner when retelling our class story. For always demonstrating good learning behaviours and working hard in all she is asked to do in class.
Year 2	Beatrice Heath	For sharing her excellent historical knowledge when learning about the Gun Powder Plot. For always being an excellent role model and persevering even when tasks are tricky.
Year 3	Lydia	For being a kind, helpful and caring member of the class.
Year 4	Teddy	For his super effort on our recent literacy topic. Teddy was able to use his knowledge of trains to support him to write an information text about a subject of interest.
Year 5	Troy	For always demonstrating a determined attitude towards his work.
Year 6	Dylan Seb	For giving a great explanation in maths when ordering fractions on a number line. For being a great help in the classroom by getting laptops and resources when needed.