



Bloxham CE Primary School

This month's newsletter

January 2024

Dear Families

I hope you have enjoyed a positive start to 2024, it has certainly been a busy one for us here at Bloxham.

The term began with staff training focusing on adaptive learning-ensuring that all pupils within our classes can have access to the same learning, whilst at the same time, ensuring that it is at an appropriate level for them as an individual. This training was swiftly followed by subject leaders considering SEND provision in their subject area, as well as looking at how we can gain a 360 view of the impact of our work.

In addition to the external consultant training mentioned above, we have also benefitted from an English visit from consultant Owen Tromans, who joined Year 6 to consider provision and from Anne Andrews from the Diocese Board of Education who spent a morning working with our RE lead, Mrs Swan. Mr Singleton was also joined by the team from Maths Hub who visited us to watch him teach a model mastery lesson to teachers from other Oxfordshire schools.

This month I have had the pleasure of dropping into a number of lessons, including in Year 5, where I dropped into a fascinating PSHE session focussed on hopes and dreams. The children spoke about health and kindness as well as looking after the world, alongside considering future careers and what they might spend future salaries on! In Year 6, I had the opportunity to share their learning about the features of blogs. The children impressed me with their understanding of the purpose of each feature and I am looking forward to reading the blogs they will be creating linked to their Frozen Kingdom topic.

The Governing Board continue to carry out regular monitoring with this month's subject leader presentation from Miss Jennings, who shared how our implementation of RWI is impacting upon the children's phonological awareness, acquisition and reading development overall. We have also welcomed governors to school to look at the positive impact of our TA (teaching assistant) provision, our successful work on attendance and to conduct monitoring for health and safety.

Another visitor, this month who proved extremely popular with the children was our MP, Victoria Prentis KC, who spent last Friday morning at Bloxham.

During her visit, the Attorney General joined children and families in celebration assembly where she answered questions from pupils and presented certificates. Mrs Prentis then spent time with Pupil Parliament where she was asked questions relating to top tips for becoming an MP, her views on climate change and how the school could support the community.

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Mrs Prentis congratulated us on the pupils' behaviour, standard of questioning and the calibre of teachers. *"I enjoyed a visit to the wonderful Bloxham Primary this morning to see how they have been getting on."*

It was great to be shown around the school by Headteacher Sarah Marshall who is doing a marvellous job. I was invited to hand out certificates of achievement to students at a whole school assembly and later spoke to members of their brilliant Pupil Parliament.

Bloxham is currently undergoing an enormous revamp which will create additional teaching space. I look forward to returning when the new hall is up and running!"



Finally, we are excited to be embarking upon a new partnership with Godswell, which will enable us to take groups of pupils to share their learning with residents and to also enjoy some of the opportunities on offer to their residents such as crafts and visits to resident sheep! We are hoping this will be a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to play a part in our wider Bloxham community and to bring a little youthful joy into the lives of the residents.

It has been a wonderful start to the term and an absolute thrill to have all our visitors comment that they can see our school moving forward. What great external validation of the impact of the hard work of all our team.

Have a great weekend, due to a short month which includes a half term break, our next newsletter will be Friday 1st March.

Sarah Marshall

Safeguarding

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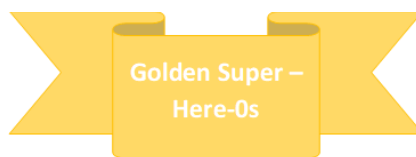
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A reminder that we do not permit pupils to wear or bring smart watches capable of accessing the internet and/or capturing images to school. Older pupils walking home alone may bring a mobile phone, but this must be handed in at the office each day and a parental consent form completed.

Number Day

A reminder that this coming Friday is NSPCC Number Day, celebrating everything Maths! We are asking that the children to create and wear a Maths theme costume/clothing or non-school uniform, donating £1.

In partnership with NSPCC, TTRockstars will also be hosting a national competition online for KS2 children. Last year Bloxham achieved 1222nd place out of 5000 schools, please practise with your child to help us achieve an even higher position this year.



Attendance

Overall attendance across the whole school during January was 95.96%. A massive well done to class 6H for achieving the highest attendance for a class in January at 99.26%. Congratulations to year 6 for the highest attendance for a year group at 97.93%

Our January Super-Here0's are: Foundation/Keys Stage1: Daniel, Frankie and Lennox

Key stage 2: Charlie, Rio and Bonnie

LA Monitoring Visit

On Wednesday we welcomed our Local Authority partners to school to share in the improvements we have been making as a school. The team commented on the great atmosphere and culture change within school, including the sense of teamwork and the collective desire for our school to be the best it can be. The LA will return in February to continue our work developing subject leadership.

Uniform and Appearance

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A reminder that the school expects all pupils to follow our uniform policy. Uniform sets a level playing field and minimises the socio-economic gaps between pupils. Please ensure that children do not wear jewellery to school.

Class Assembly Dates

Our class assemblies will take place on Wednesdays 8:55 – 9:30 (approx), please see the table below for dates. **Our next two assemblies are for families of pupils in 1L and 4A.**

31 January	1L
28 February	4A
13 March	4S
27 March	6H
24 April	6B
8 May	F1D
22 May	2S
12 June	2A
26 June	5E
10 July	5B

Celebration Assemblies

Celebration Assemblies take place weekly with KS2 on Friday morning and Foundation /KS1 Monday afternoon. We have recently extended our offer to families by inviting of parents/carers of children receiving certificates invited to join us. To ensure relevance to the children, the awards relate to the work and behaviour demonstrated in the preceding 5 days, with invitations sent around noon on the previous school day.

We appreciate that this short notice means that some parents will be unable to attend. Please do feel able to ask grandparents or another family member or friend to join in your absence, if this is the case.

Open Classrooms

We look forward to welcoming families to Open Classrooms next Friday. In line with our safeguarding procedures, please ensure that phones are kept out of sight and not used during your visit, please ensure any other family member who may visit on your behalf is also aware of this. Due to restrictions of numbers, siblings are not able to visit each other's classrooms,

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however if your visited is completed before 3:15, pupils will be able to leave early – please sign children out with class teachers.

Francophone Week

We had an amazing first week back at school as every child in the school, from foundation stage to year 6, studied a Francophone country – a country that speaks French. Each class studied a different country, looked at its location on a world map and discussed which continent it was on and the countries surrounding it. Children then studied different aspects of their country, the people, traditional dress or famous buildings. The week culminated in an incredibly interesting display highlighting all the learning. Please ask your child about what they have remembered about their Francophone country.



PE News

Congratulations to Team Y5/6 for an absolutely awesome job winning the Warriner Cluster athletics event last week for Bloxham and for Y6's participation in the swimming gala at Sibford School. Well done to our gymnastics team who also participated in their first competition at Wade Gymnastics Club. Other extra-curricular sporting events this month include Football and Netball festivals at Sibford, which are scheduled to take place next week.

Foundation Stage

What a great start back for the children after Christmas. The whole team have been so impressed with the children's can-do attitude and perseverance in starting to write simple phrases and sentences using their phonics knowledge. We have been blown away with some of the work that has been produced! We started our topic of 'Long Ago' with a special visitor who brought lots of different objects and curiosities from time gone by. Foundation have also enjoyed the children from Year 5 coming to read with us in the afternoons.

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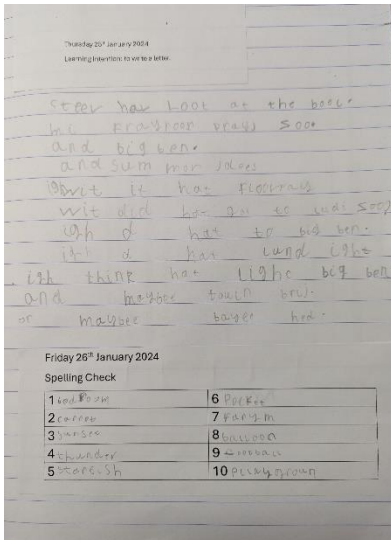
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Year 1

Year 1 have loved their Bright Lights, Big City learning which we started off with a virtual trip to London. We used Google Maps to explore different landmarks in London. We then compared these with local landmarks such as Banbury Cross and Bloxham Church.



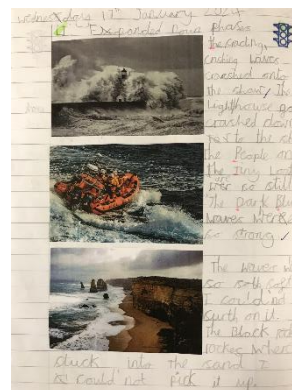
Year 2

Year 2 have started the term fully immersing themselves in the new topic 'Coastlines'. They have loved learning how to use a compass, using a key to identify symbols on a map and looking at the different human and physical features that can be found along the coast.

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Linked to this, in English, we have been reading Katie Morag and the New Pier. This has allowed the children to use topic specific language learnt from Coastlines to be included in the series of postcards and diary entries during writing. The children have also been learning how to use expanded noun phrases to make their writing engaging and exciting - once again, linking this to sea related images.



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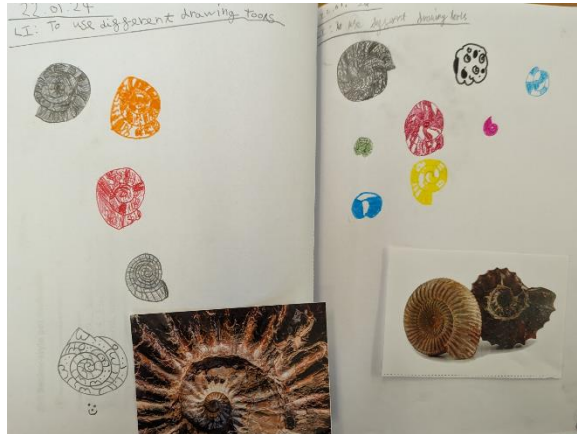


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Year 3

The children have been exploring "The Firework Maker's Daughter" by Phillip Pullman, selecting powerful vocabulary while looking at firework displays and describing the eccentric firework makers and their unique styles in detail. We've also been diving further into multiplication methods and how to solve different representations. The children have also enjoyed exploring fossils through exciting experiments using bread and jelly sweets. Also peeling back the layers of the earth and learning what can be found beneath them.



Year 4

Year 4 "kick-started" the new term with a fresh, wintery walk to visit our local Gogs River. This is in connection with our new **Misty Mountains, Winding River** learning study. We observed its movement carefully and generated descriptive language that we could use to not only support our river learning, but also to develop our river poetry.



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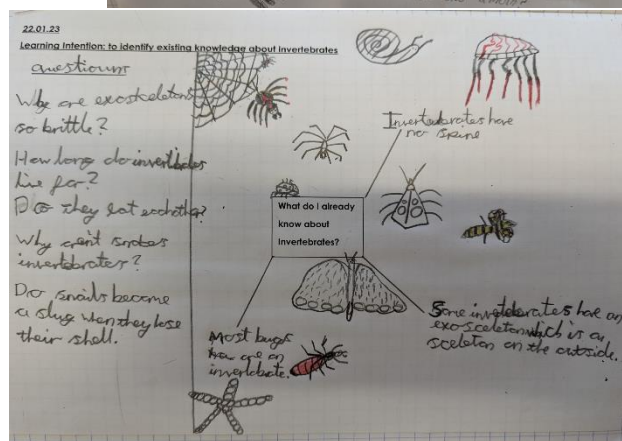
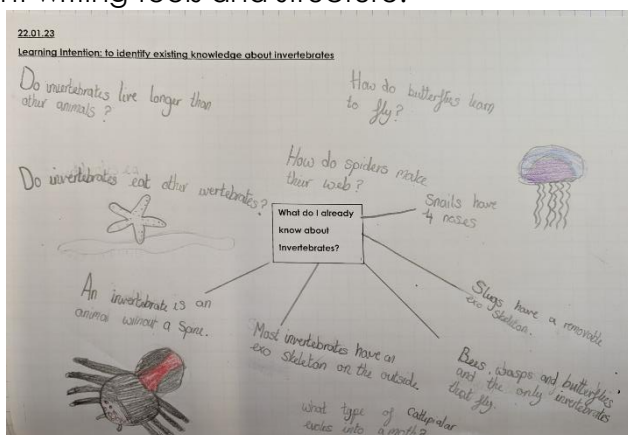


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Year 5

Year 5 have been on a hunt for invertebrates across the school field for our latest topic 'Beast Creator' exploring insects and other creepy crawlies. This topic will link to our writing – non chronological reports studying animal fact files which the children will create their own using different writing tools and structure.



Year 6

Year 6 have had an excellent start to the term and have got 'stuck in' to their new learning experiences. We have been researching The Arctic and Antarctic and have used our research in our English learning to create non-chronological reports. This connects to our new Geography topic '**Frozen Kingdoms**'. In PSHE, we have had lots of rich discussion about our dreams and goals, looking specifically at how we can motivate ourselves to achieve our goals. We created fantastic motivational posters, including thoughtful quotes and pictures. With the sunshine making an appearance, Year 6 enjoyed some outdoor learning this afternoon, focusing on observational drawing.

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Date: 24.01.21

Form expressions

1. Richard has 6 pet guinea pigs. Luis has 2 more than Richard.

a) Complete the rule for how many guinea pigs Luis has.

Number of Luis's guinea pigs

Richard has 6 pet guinea pigs. Luis has 2 more than Richard.

b) Ambika has 3 times as many guinea pigs as Luis. Draw a bar model to represent how many guinea pigs Ambika has.

c) Calculate the number of guinea pigs Ambika has if Richard has 3 guinea pigs.

Ambika has 9 guinea pigs.

d) Complete the table.

	Number of guinea pigs				
Richard	1	2	3	10	20
Luis	3	4	5	12	22
Ambika	9	12	15	30	60

Wednesday 17th January 2021

To make a successful presentation

Success criteria

- To include a simple ✓
- To use good vocabulary ✓
- To use some attention ✓

Wild Wolves

Wolves are wonderful wild creatures with sharp white teeth, pointy ears and claws as long as your thumb. You will be amazed at how these magnificent animals then read on.

Food and diet

Wolves are carnivores that eat large ungulates, such as elk, deer, and occasionally bison, but they will also take smaller prey like beavers and rabbits.

Size, strength and height

Size: Wolves can grow up to 6 feet in length, including tail, and about 30 inches in height at the shoulder. Weight: Female wolves weigh around 70-80 pounds, while males weigh around 95-100 pounds.

Where it lives/habitat

They live in dense forests, deserts, and alpine peaks to Arctic tundra. Their range extends widely across the northern hemisphere.

Adaptations

They have long legs and adapt to running, allowing them to move fast and travel for the search of food, and they have large skulls and jaws that are well suited to catching and feeding on large animals.

Why wolf

Wolves have very unique howls. Wolves don't mind being cold climates.

Have you ever found out more about wolves and have learned a new fact about wolves?

Class and self answer

FoBPS

Thank you to everyone who was able to join the FoBPs meeting this week. If you would like to join future meetings but find childcare tricky, please email the team about hybrid options.

Friday 23rd February & 1st March	Discos
April/ May TBC	Hollywood and Hotdogs
Friday 21st June.	Summer Fete
Friday 19th July.	Break the Rules

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