



# Bloxham CE Primary School

Newsletter October 2023

**Dear Families**

**We have reached the end of our first term, which has been jam packed with opportunities for our pupils.**

**This month we have celebrated Black History Month with pupils learning about a whole host of inspiration figures both living and dead, to understand how their values and actions have impacted and framed how we live today. The children have responded with incredible thoughtfulness and have shared their learning with us in a series of assemblies.**

**Following on from International Dot Day in September, last week we supported World Mental Health Day, standing out by wearing yellow to show young people that how they feel matters.**



**A strong home school partnership is one of the most effective ways of supporting your child to achieve success at school. Thank you to everyone who has supported us this term, from ensuring your children attend regularly and with good punctuality, to supporting with home learning and attending the events we have run. It was wonderful to again see so many families joining us for Open Classrooms. Our next open classrooms will take place Friday 2 February.**

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Next term we see the return of our class assemblies, please see further details with dates in the newsletter. A new opportunity for parents starting in T2 will be the opportunity to join us for celebration assembly. This will be by invitation only, for the families of children receiving awards. Celebration assemblies take place on Fridays for KS2 (Y3-6) at 8:55 and Mondays for FS/KS1 (YR-Y2) at 2:40. Families will receive a text invitation by Thursday lunchtime if their child is receiving an award.

If you haven't already followed us on Threads ([bloxhamprimaryschool](#)), please do sign up, we regularly post updates and photographs about what is happening in school.

Have a wonderful half term

**Sarah Marshall**

## **Safeguarding**

A reminder that we do not permit the use of phones on site, this includes at drop off and collection. Please do wait the few minutes it takes to drop off your children before checking emails, texts or social media feeds.

## **Nurture Provision**

The Robin Room is a calm, safe space where children can express any concerns or worries, they have. Children enjoy time to talk and a calm environment to play games and socialise with other children.

Some children are referred for nurture support by the teacher, this allows either one to one time or small group work to take place. These sessions help build confidence, resilience and social skills.

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Parents can refer their child if they have any worries or concerns, these need to go via the class teacher or a meeting with Mrs Dwyer.

## T2 Clubs

There are some changes to clubs running in T2. Striking and fielding and tag rugby will not be running. Thank you to Ian Baldwin and his team for the time they have given us this term, it is very much appreciated. Choir will move from Thursday to Monday, to enable pupils who also participate in Bloxham Clubs to take part. There will also be a new French club running on Mondays with Miss Oatridge, the club is open to pupils in Year 4. All other clubs remain as in T1 with children currently in clubs automatically continuing their space in T2. The clubs have proved very popular, if your child no longer wishes to take part in their T1 club please alert the office so that their space can be opened up to another child. To sign up to a new club for T2, please use the following link, which will go live 7:00am Monday 30 October, places are first come first served. **Clubs will commence week beginning 6 November.**

## Scarecrow Festival

We are looking forward to our first ever scarecrow festival are half term and hope that you will have a fun half term creating characters from Children's Literature. A reminder that our gates will be open Sunday 29 October 11:00am – 1:00pm for you to bring your scarecrow. Scarecrows should be displayed on the grass area surrounding the tarmac and block paved playgrounds.

## FoBPS

Thank you to the FoBPS who successfully applied for a Bloxham Parish Council grant to support the purchase of books within school, thank you also to Bloxham Parish Council. The grant has been used to purchase books to support our Cornerstones Curriculum. Thank you to everyone who attended the Friends of Bloxham Primary School (FoBPS) AGM last Friday, your support is very much welcomed. If you are new to our school but were unable to join us, FoBPS is a great way to meet new parents and become part of school life. New fundraising or simply ideas for community events are always welcome. If you would like to contact FoBPS but aren't sure who is a member please contact them at fobps@mail.com

Friday 10th November,	Fireworks, gates open 5 pm, fireworks display 7 pm.
Friday 1st December	Non-uniform day -Christmas Present Room donations
Friday 8th December	Present Room Wrap event
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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## **Attendance**

Overall attendance across the whole school during October was 96.35 %, A massive well done to class 1J for achieving the highest attendance for a class in October at 99.11%. Congratulations to year 5 for the highest attendance for a year group at 98.12%.

## **Maths Advisory Visit**

Our Maths Advisor, Kate Magill, was very impressed to see Power Maths being taught across the whole school. She commented on the children's engagement with the workbooks and their ability to articulate the learning and what steps was needed to achieve the outcome. Kate also mentioned the positive and upbeat atmosphere around the school.

## **P.E.**

October has been a busy month! There have been two separate football festivals for the boys and girls in Year 4, hosted by Sibford School. All the children were a credit to the school and really enjoyed their afternoon of football. Some children in Year 6 took part in a High 5 netball festival at the Warriner. It was a great opportunity for them to have the experience of match play and develop their skills and tactics. Well done to all the children who have put themselves forward for the cross country trials, they have all shown great perseverance. The children will soon find out if they qualified for the next round at Sibford. All children should be congratulated for their efforts so far.

## **Harvest**

The children shared their contributions today at our Harvest festival. It was a wonderful celebration with poems, promises, recitals, songs and art. Thank you to all families for sending donations which will be put to good use by the Sunshine Centre. We hope to upload audio from today's service to our website shortly so that families are able to enjoy our wonderful singing and the class contributions.

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## **Class Assembly Dates**

Our class assemblies will take place on Wednesdays 8:55 – 9:30 (approx), please see the table below for dates.

8 November	F1A
29 November	3C
6 December	3B
17 January	1J
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

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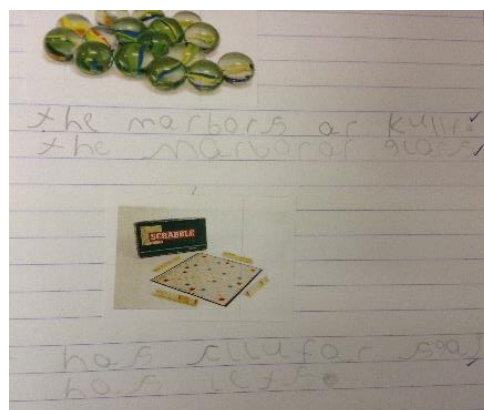
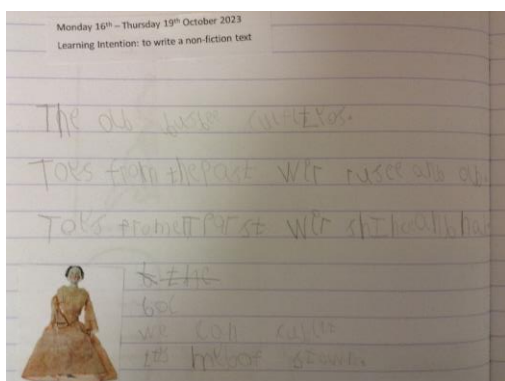
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## Foundation Stage

'What a fantastic time we have had in foundation! The children have settled in really well to their life at school and have been working so hard. We have had lots of fun this week learning all about harvest as well as practicing for our show this afternoon. The children have also enjoyed learning about 2D shapes. In addition to this, the foundation team are so impressed with the effort the children have shown in the learning their new phonics sounds- we have already learnt 27 of them! They have also loved playing pirates in the garden, going on shape hunts and creating all sorts using the junk modelling. Well done foundation and thank you for such a brilliant start to the year. We can't wait to see you carry on developing and learning as we move through the rest of your time with us'

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a fantastic term learning about Childhood. They have produced some amazing writing and should be very proud of themselves!



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We have loved learning all the songs for Harvest and are fantastic at the actions!



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## Year 2

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard this term. The children have been very engaged in the learning and have enjoyed finding out about different historical people who have made an impact on life. The children have been getting creative in Art lessons by making different hues and comparing various artists. Recently in Maths, the children have been focusing on crossing 10 in addition and subtraction.



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**Year 3** Have been doing some really fantastic learning about the music of black musicians, and we made our own MOBO (Music of Black Origin) awards while learning some key songs as well. We have also enjoyed some teacher led stone age experiences here in school, including a staged stone age "battle" with masks and "stone weapons" the children made.

No year 3 children were harmed in the taking of this photo...



**Year 4** have presented their knowledge about Wilma Glodean Rudolph in a written format, presenting it in an effective way of their own choice. They also enjoyed sharing their facts with other year groups. Examples of their writing and the Artwork will also be displayed in school.



Writing examples by Thomas McVicker, Olivia Berry and Fred Gray.

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## Year 5

This term we have been learning, among other things, about ancient China. Recently we have learned about oracle bones. They were dug up for centuries, and crushed to put into medicine. The people who found them called them "dragon bones". Then on an archaeological dig at Yinxu in 1928, it was noticed that there was writing on them. It was discovered that they were oracle bones. Priests or shamans carved messages from the emperor, to the ancestors, onto the bones then heated up metal rods, which they stuck into the bones until they cracked. The priests then interpreted the messages based on where the cracks were. We have been doing some Chinese calligraphy and making clay oracle bones.



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## Year 6

**Holdenby House** – Year 6 had a fantastic day at Holdenby House. We got fully immersed in the day and learnt lots of fascinating facts about World War 2.



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**House captains** – Year 6 are proud to present our new house captains:

Brunel – Isabella and Josh

Keller – Dan and Dora

Kahlo – Madison and Rafferty

Archimedes – Evie and Ewan

Well Done to all of the children who completed speeches – you should feel very proud of yourselves.

An update on the house points for term one, written by Evie: This week, we counted up the house points that we had earned this term. In 4<sup>th</sup> place with 406 house points was... Archimedes! In 3<sup>rd</sup> place with 411 house points was... Kahlo! In 2<sup>nd</sup> place with 422 house points was... Keller! And last but not least, in 1<sup>st</sup> place, with 465 house points was... Brunel! Congratulations!

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