



## Bloxham CE Primary School

### April 2026 Newsletter

#### Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful and busy start to Term 5. The children have returned to school full of energy, and it has been a pleasure to see such a positive and purposeful atmosphere.

We began the term with our Year 6 residential to Kilvrough Manor Outdoor Education Centre. As ever, the pupils were an absolute credit to the school, demonstrating resilience, teamwork and a real sense of adventure throughout the week. We are incredibly proud of them. A huge thank you must also go to the staff who volunteered their time to make this opportunity possible.

At the time of writing, our Year 4 children are away on their residential at Whitemoor Lakes Activity Centre. This experience offers a different approach to Kilvrough, with all activities taking place on one site. It is a fantastic way to introduce children to residential visits—shorter in duration and closer to home—while still providing a rich and memorable experience.

Back in school, the wider curriculum continues to thrive. Our Key Stage 1 pupils enjoyed a fantastic visit to Blenheim Palace as part of their *Magnificent Monarchs* topic. This was a wonderful opportunity to bring their learning to life through a local and historically significant resource. Thank you to the parents who supported this trip—your help is always greatly appreciated.

Year 5 pupils have also benefited from an exciting opportunity thanks to our partnership with Bloxham Grove Academy, who have generously opened up their cooking facilities and shared their expertise with us. Experiences such as this really enrich our curriculum and provide pupils with valuable, hands-on learning.

The start of term has also seen a wide range of sporting opportunities including benchball at The Warriner School, and football and netball matches against St John's and St Leonard's. Thank you to Mr Sorrell for organising and supporting these.

Finally, a special thank you to Jaxon's family, who kindly brought their snakes into school to support our Foundation children's *Animal Safari* learning with a truly fascinating, and memorable experience.

It has been a fantastic start to the term, and we look forward to all that is still to come.

Sarah Marshall  
Headteacher

<https://www.facebook.com/bloxhamprimaryschool>  
<https://www.threads.com/@bloxhamprimaryschool>

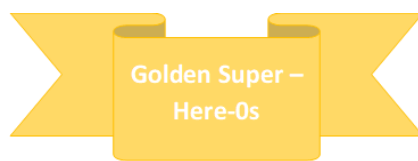
**Encourage one another and build each other up.**

## Safeguarding Reminder

- **NSPCC Helpline:** 0808 800 5000
- **Childline:** 0800 1111
- **Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Helpline:** 0800 731 0055
- **Banbury Foodbank & Community Support Services** 01295 661304
- **Samaritans:** 116 123

## Changes to First Aid notifications

We have changed our procedures for notifying families of first aid injuries and head bumps. All notifications will now be sent as emails via Arbor. Head bump notifications will be sent as soon as the injury is logged, and a phone call will only be made if we feel your child is deteriorating and would benefit from leaving school early. All general first aid notifications will be sent at the close of the day via email.



## Attendance

Overall attendance across the whole school during April was 95.76% A massive well done to class 5CJ at 98.49% for achieving the highest attendance for a class in April - each student will receive 10 KBVs! Congratulations to Year 4 for the highest attendance in April for a year group at 97.63%

Our April SuperHere0s are:

Foundation/Keys Stage1: Lily, Alistair and Drew

Key stage 2: Edward, Maisy and Ruben

## Items being brought into school

We kindly remind families that fidgets should only be brought into school where there is a recognised need and this has been agreed in advance with the class teacher. Please note that other toys or teddies should not be brought into school, and children should not bring money in to buy or sell items with others. Children in KS2 are welcome to bring a healthy snack, such as fruit, for break time. Finally, we appreciate your continued support in ensuring reading folders are brought into school every day, as regular reading makes a real difference to children's progress. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

## Bloxham is On the (Wolf) Run!



Many children from Bloxham Primary School, alongside Mrs Barton, put their ambition to the test this month as they completed impressive 3k, 6k and 10k runs. As if that wasn't enough, they also conquered challenging obstacles through woods, lakes and fields thick with mud. A huge congratulations to everyone who took part in this fantastic achievement!

## Year Group News

### Foundation



Term 5 is always a jam packed term of fun in Foundation as we focus our learning around animals, habitats and nature in our topics *Animal Safari* and *Creep, Crawl and Wriggle*.

We have been really lucky that two of our families have been able to share their interesting pets with us this term. We have had visits from snakes and a 9 year old tortoise named Trigger! The children have loved handling the animals, learning how to care for them and have learnt many interesting facts.

We have had another fantastic Forest School session focused around the life of bees, pollination, plants and habitats. The children absolutely love these sessions and it is a privilege to see them access this space with such creativity and curiosity.



In Maths we are deepening our understanding of numbers to ten and beyond, sharpening our addition skills and consolidating number bond facts. We have loved exploring practical aspects of Maths at the start of term such as shape and measurement.

As we prepare for transition into Year 1, we are spending longer at focused activities such as whole class handwriting, Maths and writing activities throughout the week. Over the coming weeks we will spend some breaktimes each week on the playground to support transition and continue to encourage independence and responsibility in the classroom.

**Be . Build . Become**

## Key Stage 1



KS1 enjoyed a wonderful trip to Blenheim Palace this month, where they stepped back in time to learn all about monarchs and royal history. They even had the chance to meet the architect and explore the beautiful grounds, spotting lots of ducks along the way! To complete their regal adventure, the children designed and created their very own crowns (each one fit for a king or queen)!

## Year 3

In English this term, year 3 have got to grips with nonsense poetry and had fun creating their own limericks based on Edward Lear and Spike Milligan. Nonsense words such as gooselater, squidoodle, flincut and flusticus were put forward in our brainstorming session which just shows how creative our year 3s are!



In DT and art we have produced moving cams using only 4 different materials. We had to use team building skills to work in a pair to create a very fiddly prototype. In art our creativity has been flowing again where we have been studying Charles Rennie Mackintosh and looking at his botanical paintings.

In Maths we are revisiting fractions and have been adding and subtracting them. The children have impressed us so much with their current knowledge of fractions and willingness to engage with this exciting maths unit.

In History we are submersing ourselves back to the height of the Roman empire and imagining what it would have been like to live in a Roman City; without technology? And the girls having no access to school?! We were all shocked and intrigued. We are excited about learning more about what it would have been like for the rich and poor to live during this time.

## Year 4

Our Year 4 children had an unforgettable two-night residential at Whitemoor Lakes this week, packed with adventure, challenge and plenty of smiles. From ziplining and canoeing to climbing, orienteering and even tackling the gladiator course, they threw themselves into every activity with enthusiasm. The children showed incredible resilience and determination, especially during team challenges and problem-solving tasks, and the Nightline and UV games were definite highlights! They supported one another brilliantly, demonstrating fantastic teamwork throughout, and were an absolute joy to be with. One evening brought everyone together around the campfire for singing and games, while another was filled with lively team games, creating special memories to treasure. Add in some lovely food and a welcome dose of sunshine, and it really was a trip to remember—we are so proud of them all.

Back at school, the children who didn't attend the residential also enjoyed some special out-of-class experiences. They had great fun den building in Forest School, baking cookies, and gathering around the campfire with hot chocolate and marshmallows—making the most of their own memorable and enjoyable time together.





## Year 5

In English, we have been reading *Who Let the Gods Out?*, which links closely to our Ancient Greek topic. The children have thoroughly enjoyed the text and have produced some fantastic setting descriptions of Stonehenge. We have also continued to develop our comprehension skills during Reciprocal Reading sessions, making thoughtful links to our learning about the Greeks.

In Maths, our focus has been on Geometry, where the children have been identifying and measuring acute and obtuse angles, as well as exploring parallel and perpendicular lines.

In Science, we have begun our new topic, *Properties and Changes of Materials*. The children have been identifying and describing the properties of different materials, learning key vocabulary, and carrying out an investigation to determine the most suitable materials for specific purposes.

In DT, we have started our Architecture unit, exploring a range of architectural styles from different periods in history. The children are excited to begin their project, where they will use their

**Be . Build . Become**

knowledge of Greek architecture to research, design and build their own Greek temple or theatre.

Many Year 5 pupils took part in a Benchball festival at The Warriner, where they had an excellent time and demonstrated fantastic teamwork throughout. It was wonderful to see so many children grow in confidence, with some really coming out of their shell despite the busy and lively environment. We were incredibly proud of all who took part and look forward to more opportunities like this in the future.



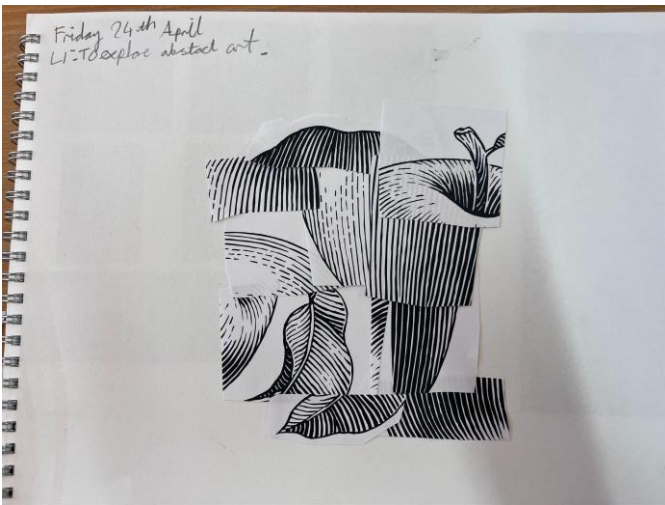
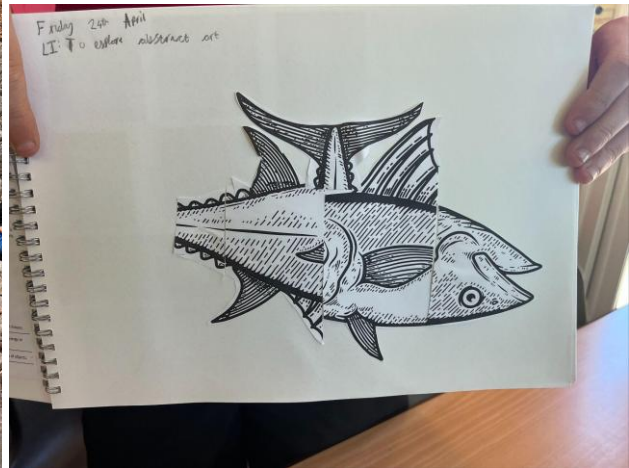
## Year 6

### Kilvrough-ough-ough!

Year 6 had a fantastic time on their residential visit to Kilvrough Manor. Throughout the week, the children took part in a wide range of activities including den building, caving, rock pooling, scrambling, walking, climbing, abseiling and orienteering. They showed great enthusiasm, resilience and teamwork, supporting each other and embracing every challenge. They represented our school brilliantly and we are very proud of them!

Back in school, final SATs revision is in full swing! The children are working incredibly hard during this last push, and we are very proud of the progress they have made.

In Art, we have begun our new topic, *Abstraction and Distortion*, with a focus on abstract art. The children have already produced some fantastic work – please see some excellent examples below! We are looking forward to developing this further as we explore a wider range of elements.



### **Achievements outside of school**

A huge well done to Izea in Year 6 for her fantastic achievement at the Banbury Blues Netball annual awards ceremony, where she was presented with the 'Pocket Rocket' Award. This is a wonderful recognition of her energy, determination, and growing skill on the court. We are incredibly proud of her success and look forward to seeing her continue to flourish in the sport—well done, Izea!