



Bloxham CE Primary School

End of Term Newsletter – July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another successful school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Schools achieve their very best when families and staff work together, and your encouragement, trust and partnership have played an important part in everything we have accomplished this year.

As I reflect on the year, I feel an enormous sense of pride in all that our school community has achieved. This year has not been about introducing change for the sake of it; it has been about strengthening what matters most. We have continued to refine our curriculum, develop our teaching, expand opportunities for our children and ensure that every pupil is known, valued and encouraged to flourish. Throughout it all, our Christian vision, "Encourage one another and build each other up," has remained at the heart of everything we do.

Whether in the classroom, on the sports field, through music, educational visits, collective worship, courageous advocacy or the many wider opportunities that make primary school such a special experience, our pupils have embraced every opportunity with enthusiasm, kindness and resilience. They continue to be wonderful ambassadors for our school, and we are incredibly proud of each and every one of them.

I am delighted to share that Bloxham CE Primary School has been awarded the Silver School Games Mark in recognition of our commitment to providing high-quality sporting opportunities and promoting participation for all pupils.

The award comes at the end of an outstanding sporting year for the school. Most recently, our pupils were crowned Oxfordshire Quad Kids County Champions, adding to their earlier success as County Cross Country Champions. These achievements are a testament not only to the talent, determination and teamwork of our children, but also to the breadth of sporting opportunities available throughout the year.

The School Games Mark reflects the fantastic range of sporting events, competitions and festivals our children have enjoyed over the past twelve months. My sincere thanks go to Mr Sorrell, whose dedication, organisation and enthusiasm have enabled so many pupils to represent the school, experience new sports and develop a lifelong enjoyment of physical activity. This national recognition is thoroughly deserved.

Encourage one another and build each other up.

One of the highlights of this term has been introducing our new Vision and Values in Action Awards.

These awards recognise children who consistently live out our Christian vision through our Bloxham values of being Inclusive, Caring, Ambitious, Trustworthy, Creative and Honest. Rather than celebrating a single achievement, they acknowledge those pupils who quietly make a difference every day through their kindness, perseverance, encouragement of others and positive contribution to our school community.

Congratulations to our first recipients:

- Foundation: Iris
- KS1: Otto, Autumn and Lily M
- Year 3: Marnie and Henry D
- Year 4: Mikhail and Clementine
- Year 5: Emily B and Tilly
- Year 6: Jasmine and Primrose

Every one of these pupils exemplifies what it means to encourage one another and build each other up. They are wonderful ambassadors for our school, and we look forward to celebrating many more children through these awards in the years ahead.

Thank you to everyone who completed our annual Parent and Carer Survey. Your feedback is invaluable in helping us celebrate what we are doing well whilst also shaping our future priorities.

I was delighted that the overwhelming majority of parents expressed confidence in the school, our dedicated staff and the journey of improvement we continue to take together. Parents particularly recognised our commitment to keeping children safe, the progress children are making, our caring and inclusive ethos, the breadth of opportunities available to pupils and the positive relationships that exist across our school community. It was especially pleasing to read so many comments recognising the commitment, professionalism and care shown by our staff every day.

No school is ever perfect and we genuinely value the thoughtful suggestions parents shared about how we can continue to improve. Good schools never stand still, and listening carefully to our families is an important part of ensuring we continue to develop. In several cases we have already acted on the feedback received. Many families will have noticed the revised transition arrangements introduced this term, which were developed directly in response to parents' suggestions about supporting children more effectively as they move between year groups. Other feedback has already informed our planning for the new academic year, and we look forward to sharing these developments with you over the coming months.

At the end of every school year, we also say farewell to colleagues who are moving on to new opportunities.

On behalf of our whole school community, I would like to thank Mrs Barton, Miss Drury, Miss Rooney and of course Miss Staples for the care, commitment and professionalism they have shown during their time with us. Each has made a valuable contribution to the lives of our children and to the wider life of the school, and we wish them every happiness and success in the future.

A thank you too to our governors who give countless hours of their time to support and challenge the school, often working quietly behind the scenes to ensure that we continue to provide the very best education for our children.

This year we also say a special thank you to our outgoing Chair of Governors, Kevin Moyes. Over the past four years Kevin has provided dedicated leadership, wise counsel and unwavering support to the school. His commitment to Bloxham and to our children has been exceptional, and on behalf of our pupils, staff and wider community I would like to thank him sincerely for everything he has done. We also extend our thanks to every member of the Governing Board for their continued support, challenge and commitment throughout the year.

Tuesday's transition day was a wonderful reminder that our school is always looking forward as well as celebrating the present. It was fantastic to see children meeting their new teachers, spending time with their new classmates and embracing the excitement of the year ahead with such confidence. Thank you to our staff for making the day such a positive experience and to parents for the encouragement you gave your children in preparing for this important milestone.

As we look towards the new academic year, we are excited to continue building on the many improvements made this year. Our focus will be on refining and strengthening our ambitious curriculum so that children know more and remember more, continuing to improve writing, developing consistently excellent teaching, expanding opportunities for leadership, sport, music and courageous advocacy, and ensuring every child receives the support they need to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually. We will also continue to strengthen our partnership with families through open and transparent communication, sharing more about the work taking place across the school and helping parents understand not only what we are doing, but why. As always, our Christian vision will remain at the centre of everything we do.

A special mention must go to our Year 6 pupils as they prepare to leave Bloxham and begin the next stage of their education. We wish every one of you the very best of luck as you move on to secondary school. Be ambitious, be kind and be courageous.

School reopens for pupils on Wednesday 2 September. On the same day, we will be holding our Meet the Teacher sessions at 3.30pm, repeated at 4.00pm. We strongly encourage every family to attend. These sessions provide an important opportunity to meet your child's new teacher, hear about the curriculum and exciting learning planned for the year ahead, understand classroom expectations and discover how we will work together to support your child's progress and celebrate their successes throughout the year.

Be . Build . Become

Finally, thank you once again for your continued support throughout this year. It is a privilege to work alongside such supportive families as we seek to live out our vision of encouraging one another and building each other up.

On behalf of everyone at Bloxham CE Primary School, I wish you and your families a safe, happy and restful summer break.

We look forward to welcoming both returning and new families in September as we continue our shared journey of helping every child to Be. Build. Become.

With very best wishes,

Sarah Marshall
Headteacher

INSET DAYS 2026-2027

1 September 2026; 23 October 2026; 30 April 2027; 28 May 2027 and 7 June 2027

Be . Build . Become