



Bloxham CE Primary School

Newsletter November 2023

Dear Families

November really is a month when we think about others, commemorate their lives and achievements, and consider how we can each support one another.

We began the month with a whole school art project during which every child had the opportunity to create a clay poppy.



This was a wonderful whole school initiative which gave us a real sense of belonging and community when we subsequently marked Remembrance Day both within school and as part of the village commemorations. Thank you to Mrs Best and Pupil Parliament who represented our school at the service.



We moved from remembering those who gave up their lives to provide us with freedom to considering how we too can stand up to bullying. Our Pupil Parliament led an inspiring assembly on Odd Socks Day to introduce the theme which was then taken into classrooms for further discussion. The children have also had the opportunity to take part in a theatre show and workshops led by Open View education, thank you to Ms Beale for organising this experience.



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Finally in a month where we have been thinking about others, we supported the national fundraising for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone who supported us in this raising **£315.83**.

In other news we are delighted that our new website **BloxhamPrimary.com** is now live. We have begun to add new photographs and copies of our topic knowledge organisers as well as information on school policies.

Please do take a moment to have a look and let us know if there are additional items/pages you, as our families would find useful and of course, if you haven't already followed us on Threads (bloxhamprimaryschool), please do sign up. This is where you will find our regular updates and photographs about what is happening in school as well as reminders for forthcoming events.

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.

Recent safeguarding training highlighted the impact of life events on children's wellbeing, and the fact that we might not know what is going on for each child. We would always encourage parents and carers to let us know if there is anything happening in a child's life that could be impacting their wellbeing or behaviour. Whether something big or small, it could be affecting their ability to engage in school, and if we know about it, we can support them, and of course, the family. We always treat such information sensitively and confidentially.

New Parent Governors

Congratulations to Elliot Manning and Candice Hinds-George who have been elected as new parent Governors, thank you to all the candidates who took part in the election.

Carol Services

Please note that due to the ongoing building work at church, we have reluctantly made the decision to hold this year's Christmas Nativity and Carol Service in school. We realise this will be disappointing to families as it is for us, however, we must prioritise the safety of pupils.

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The Foundation stage nativity will be on Tuesday 19th December. The first performance will be at 09:15 and the second at 14:15. The time slots will be allocated next week.

For Key Stage 1, there will be two nativity performances 10:00am for Year 1 families and 10:45 for Year 2 families (2 tickets per family). The Carol Service for Years 3-6 will take place during the afternoon, unfortunately due to the number of children involved, we are unable to open this event to families.

Uniform and Appearance

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.

Hoodies and boots are not currently part of the school uniform and we ask that pupils do not wear these to school. Similarly, the only branded logo permissible for PE Kit, is the Bloxham Primary Logo. Pupils will be asked to turn their clothing inside out where logos are felt to be unsuitable either because of their size or their content. **Please also ensure that long hair is tied back at all times.**

FoBPS

Thank you to the FoBPS for the wonderful Fireworks event earlier this month and to all the families who supported, either volunteering their time at the event, setting up before hand/ clearing away after or joining us to raise funds for school. The next FoBPS event is a non uniform day Friday 1 December in support of a donation for the Christmas Present Room.

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 November was 94.08%. A massive well done to class 2A for achieving the highest attendance for a class in November at 97.6%. Congratulations to year 2 for the highest attendance for a year group at 96.67%

From December we will be introducing our golden Super-Here-Os .Pupils who have 100% attendance in one week, will be entered into a draw to become Super-Here-O of the week. The winning pupil for which there will be one in KS2 and one across FS/KS1 will be announced in celebration assembly with the pupil being awarded a golden housepoint token.

LA Strategic Monitoring Visit

Over the last few days, we have welcomed our Local Authority partners to school to share in the improvements we have been making as a school. The team commented particularly on the respectful relationships between staff and pupils, the calm atmosphere, the effective use of adults in classrooms to support adaptive learning, the good use of ICT across the curriculum and the opportunities being made of cross curricular learning.

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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. **Our next assembly is for families of pupils in 3C.**

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

Collective Worship on Thursdays in Term 2

The children are relishing the chance to learn about the true meaning of Christmas. During Term 2 we have considered the awe and wonder of the event, what we regard with delight and what we query. One question from Year Two made us think - 'What would have happened if Jesus had been taken by King Herod?' On Thursday 30th November we welcome Father Alex Ladds from Bloxham School. He will launch Advent. On Thursday 14th December, Pastor Mike Tydeman joins us; we hope, with Maximus Mouse!

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PE News

On Thursday 9th November our Key Stage Two team took part in the Cross Country at Sibford School. The weather was a bit mixed with some rain and wind. The first race was 3 and 4 girls and they finished first as a team and got through to the next round, with Alex finishing 3rd and Izea in 4th as individuals. The 3 and 4 boys ran next and Elliot finished in 4th place and the team finished in second place and are through to the next round. The 5 and 6 girls and boys ran about 1300m. Unfortunately, the girls did not qualify for the next round but it was good training for next year. The boys finished in 2nd place as a team and also qualify for the next round with Josh finishing 2nd as an individual and Dan in 7th place.

"At the end of it I felt exhausted but really happy since I got my personal best and managed to qualify for the next round. Overall, I enjoyed it a lot, especially since it was my first time for Bloxham!" By Dan

Co-written by Izea, Josh and Neve (sports reps)

On Friday 10th November all of Year 2 took part in the Cross Country at Sibford. It was very cold and windy, but we did well representing our school. There were about 120 people in each race and 8 schools there. Both teams did very well and finished in 1st place. A special mention to: Theo (1st), Peyo (2nd), Remy (6th), Billy (7th), Riley (8th), Beatrix (1st), Millie (2nd) and Isla (8th), who all finished in the top 10 as individual runners, well done!

(Co- written by Y2 sports reps helped by Y6)

On Thursday 16th November some children from Year 3 and 4 were lucky enough to take part in a Badminton skills festival, aimed at working with others and gaining confidence. All the children were amazing and represented the school so well.

On Thursday 23rd November some children from Year 1 took part in a dance and storytelling session lead by young leaders at the Warriner. It was amazing to them expressing themselves and working with each other and as a team to produce some lovely sequences. The children were so well behaved both during the event but also the walk there and back! Well done Year 1!

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Foundation Stage

This week we have been continuing our learning all about marvellous machines. The children have enjoyed talking and making all different kinds of robots. During our learning about vehicles, the children worked together to create a busy vehicle scene, just see the creation below! Some of us even used our phonics knowledge to label our vehicles.



Next week, the children will begin planning how we will celebrate their 101st day at school (Monday 11th December). We will be having a party day with healthy snacks and party games. The children will be planning it all themselves so look out for pictures on Tapestry!

Over the next few weeks, we will be taking part in an accreditation programme, Healthy Smiles, which is aimed at us becoming a tooth friendly setting. We are working alongside the Community Dental Services to promote good oral health awareness to the children. In order to do this, we will be completing an audit as to which children are registered, and visiting, a dentist as well as identifying where families are struggling to find a dentist. If your child is not currently registered with a dentist, you can find a local NHS dentist here

<https://www.nhs.uk/service-search/find-a-dentist>

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Year 1

Year 1 have had a very successful day of learning about Shade and Shelters. We drew on our Science learning to support us in developing pet shelters using junk modelling. We also build larger play dens outside. Well done year 1!



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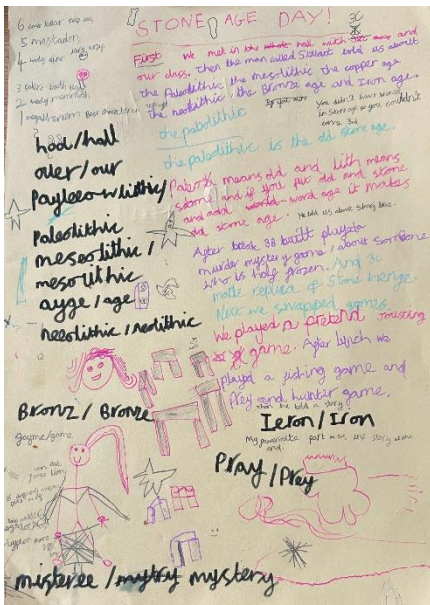
Year 2

The Year 2 children have had an amazing month! From representing the school at a KS1 Cross Country event (achieving 1st and 2nd place in both races) to completely immersing themselves in the learning about Rosa Parks through recreating the Montgomery Bus Boycott and writing diary entries. This week our learning in Human Survival, the children have been conducting several experiments from looking at the impact of soap during hand washing to the effects that physical exercise can have on the body.



Year 3

The children had a Stone-Age Experience Day with an exceptional visitor who explored Stone-Age life, Ancient Crafting and Stone-Age weapons with them. They learned to throw spears, catch fish, and even solved an ancient murder mystery!



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Year 4

Year 4 have had an extremely busy and varied week of learning this week. The highlights being in Science and RE. The children have been exploring sound and how it is created through vibration. They explored musical instruments to learn about pitch, tone and volume and how the differences in sound create different sound waves represented as peaks, troughs and width of wavelength.



Following on from our visit to St Mary's Church last week, where we explored Christian symbolism with the Revd. Dale Gingrich, we focused our attention on Christingles and what they symbolise. We learnt how: the orange **symbolises** the Earth; the candle **symbolises** Jesus being the Light of the World; the red ribbon **symbolises** the blood of Jesus; the four sticks **symbolise** the four seasons as well as the four compass points and the sweets (which were once fruit and nuts!) **symbolise** the fruits of the Earth. We each then made our own Christingle – and did a thoroughly good job in doing so! See for yourself!



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Year 5

Year 5 have been using our skills to understand our class text – Kensuke’s Kingdom with clarifying, summarising and predicting. We have also created persuasive leaflets based on a capital city of the world supported by their own research. Children have been solving multi step addition and subtraction which the classes have been up to the challenge. We are beginning to explore the topic ‘Earth and Space’ – identifying and comparing the planets in detail. Also, in art we have been focusing on the Austrian artist Fredrich Hundertwasser and his unique approach - to draw without a straight line which has produced imaginative works of art.

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Year 6

Our big question in RE is: How significant is it that Mary was Jesus' mother? We have analysed art work, perused the Gospels: Luke, Matthew and John as well as considering Mary's humble existence and her compelling Faith; all of which contributed to her being chosen. We have considered Joseph's devotion to Mary as they faced an extraordinary change in their lives; one of great honour. The children have offered many thoughtful and measured contributions.

Year 6 enjoyed participating in the Anti-Bullying Week workshop earlier this week. Please see photos below!



Some of Year 6 children have taken on the responsibility of becoming 'Play Buddies'. For this role, the children completed training and are now enjoying putting this training to good use to support Key Stage 1 at lunch time. We are very proud of their altruism!

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