



# Bloxham CE Primary School

## February 2024 Newsletter

Dear Families

Although there have been relatively few school days since our last newsletter, the twenty which there have been, have been absolutely jam packed with opportunities to support and enhance our provision for pupils, from manipulating numbers to internet safety and dance floor moves!

January closed with a whole school Number Day and a focus on mathematics, ensuring that our pupils have a real appreciation of the value of strong number skills and how these underpin so many aspects of life. Thank you to everyone who supported both in joining us in school to talk to the children about the role maths has in their workplace but also to everyone who supported in enabling an array of wonderful costumes.

Moving into February our Year 5 pupils have had the opportunity to consider their road safety skills through the Bikeability programme, which looks at how to assess the road worthiness of equipment as well as skills on the playground and road. Well done to all our pupils who achieved their awards.

Returning from half term, Miss Hilson organised a whole school internet safety day including workshops and assemblies to support pupils in keeping themselves safe online and why age restrictions are in place. I am sure we would all agree that this is an exceptionally important area for pupils particularly in a fast-moving cyber world.

February has also been the month for an exciting new initiative, our partnership with Godswell Park. This partnership enables us to visit Godswell once a month with a small group of pupils to provide a positive, multi-generational experience. Our first visit last week, saw some of our Year 5 pupils join residents to play board games, chat and colour. The children were so excited and full of anticipation as they boarded the Godswell minibus and once at Godswell had a wonderful afternoon. Please look out for April's Bloxham Broadsheet for more details on our visit. We are looking forward to a mutually beneficial partnership moving forward, with the next visit taking place at the end of March, when a larger group of pupils will share their Easter performance.

February has also been an opportunity for our pupils to showcase their dance moves at our discos and my thanks to FoBPS and staff who gave up their time to provide this opportunity. We are exceptionally fortunate at Bloxham to be able to provide a wide range of opportunities beyond the school day and it is sometimes too easily forgotten that these are only possible because staff forgo their unpaid time with their own children and families to provide these opportunities.

Finally since our last newsletter there have been opportunities for you as families to join us for parents consultation evenings, the 1L and 4A learning assemblies and the Spring Open Classrooms. The children really do enjoy being able to share their learning experiences with you in this way and we hope that these continue to provide you with valuable and enjoyable

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opportunities to support your child(ren) and find out more about the work of our school. Over the course of the next few terms we are hoping to introduce a new feature to our newsletters, in which we will showcase the work pupils undertake in specific subjects. We hope this will provide a flavour of the knowledge and skills your children develop during their time with us and the breadth of learning taking place within our curriculum.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend, our next newsletter will be sent on the final day of term, **Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March**.

**Sarah Marshall**

### **Assessment.**

**What we believe at Bloxham** - "Assessment should always improve learning not prove learning" Graeme Logan HMI

Assessment is at the heart of children's learning and our teaching. This helps us build up a picture of your child's progress and achievement and also to identify their next steps in learning. We have high expectations for your child to achieve and value each and every one of them.

There are two types of assessment; formative which occurs during teaching and summative which makes judgements about children's performance.

At Bloxham C of E Primary School we have the following summative assessments

- Foundation Stage: Reception Baseline Assessment. Phonics assessments 6x year
- Year 1: phonic screening. Phonics assessments 6x year
- Year 2 : Optional SATs
- Year 4: Multiplication check
- Year 1 - 6 end of term assessments 3 x year
- Year 6: Compulsory SATs

Children are assessed continuously during lessons to help them move on with their learning. A glimpse into our classrooms shows examples of formative assessment, ongoing assessment through questioning, observation and dialogue, children indicating the answer using fingers, whiteboards, using learning partners to discuss questions,

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teachers giving feedback when walking round the classroom and explaining any misconceptions and marking of books.

Very thorough systems are put into place at Bloxham Primary School so no child can slip through the net.

Teachers meet 3x a year with the DHT to discuss the learning of each child in their class.

Each child is tracked so we can check they are where they should be to achieve end of year targets. It allows us to notice if a child is falling behind so we can put in place support to enable them to succeed.

Teachers meet with the Inclusion Manager (SENCO) 3x a year to discuss the learning of SEND children.

### **PUPIL ATTAINMENT**

Pupil attainment is reported to you as parents/carers 3 x a year in terms of **emerging**, **expected** and **exceeding** according to national age-related expectations.

**Emerging:** This is given to a child who is working towards the expected standard for their year group

**Expected:** This is given to a child who has met the expected standard for their year group

**Exceeding:** This is given to a child who has exceeded the expected standard for their year group

We want all our learners to be high attaining lifelong learners.

### **How we share your children's learning**

- Celebration assemblies
- Class assemblies
- Meet the Teacher in September
- Open classrooms 3x year
- Consultation evening 2x year

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- Reporting 3x year
- Monthly newsletters showcasing learning
- Curriculum newsletter 3x year
- Knowledge organisers
- Website and Threads

SLT are on the gate each morning and class teachers on the doors enables you touch base if needed.

### **Social Media**

Social media has transformed the way that we communicate with one another. Whilst there are many advantages to our faster, more connected world, as we all know, communicating digitally can sometimes lead to misunderstandings and miscommunications. The digital world also opens up the possibility of new types of abusive behaviours such as online harassment and cyber bullying.

Please can we remind all families that the school will not tolerate abusive posts. At Bloxham Primary we believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to work. Behaviour that will cause harassment, alarm or distress to users of the premises is contrary to the values of the school.

Social media is not an appropriate forum to raise complaints or concerns regarding school matters. Should any parent need to raise a concern please in the first instance, do so following the school communication structure.

### **Safeguarding**

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. Pupils should not bring internet enabled devices or those capable of capturing images to any school/FoBPS event.

### **Threads**

As many parents and carers will already be aware, the school uses its website and Threads account to publicise and showcase the learning and wide-ranging experiences on offer to

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pupils. We know from feedback that many of you as parents, grandparents and other carers, enjoy the opportunities these platforms offer to stay connected with the experiences of your child(ren), however we have recently received feedback that a small number of parents were unaware that our Threads account is a public account. Please be aware that both the school's Threads account and website are accessible to the public. Images of pupils will only be posted with parental consent. Where an image captures a child's individual achievement, their first name may be published alongside their image. Full names or other personal data will not be used. The school will seek consent for processing such data at the start of every school year, if during the intervening period you wish to change either granted or declined permissions, please contact the school office in writing.

### P.E. News

It should have been an exciting start to the term with the Girls Football and the Hockey, but unfortunately both were cancelled due to the weather and unsuitable grounds. The hockey has been rescheduled for this week with a one team entry only allowed. Apologies for all those who were looking forward to this, as many will now be in Kilvrough. Due to the cancellation of the football, North Oxfordshire leaders had to select teams to go straight through to the County finals. The year 4 girls have been offered a place in the County Football Finals next week. Good luck girls. This is sad for the Y5/6 team, but they will have the school league to look forward to.

On Thursday our winning athletics team took part in a very competitive North Oxon Finals event. Our children rose to the occasion and achieved some amazing personal bests in javelin and long jump and we won 7 out of 8 4 x 1 relay races. The results were close and we finished second overall. Congratulations to these Y6 children! Well done to Harry and Lily who received the School Games Value certificate for determination.



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Every week in swimming, Star Swimmers are chosen from the classes attending. So far this year the following children have gained this award:

3C: Kaleb, George, Wynter, Seth, Callum, Lydia, Evie, Finley, Maisy

5B: Calum, Maria, Connie, Nevaeh, Sasha, Ellie-Mae, Aubreigh, Harry, Jamie, Carly, Juliette, Savannah, Isla-Louise, Caleb, Maisey, Florence and April

**Swimming hats:** if you have any old ones that you no longer use, could you please donate to the school. Thanks.

### PE News from Outside the school:

Noah in class 4SO has some amazing sports news! Noah has been enjoying being part of the Banbury Bulldogs roller hockey team. This has led to him being picked to play ice hockey for the Oxford junior stars u10'S, which will take him around the southern country for games. Exciting times ahead for Noah, what a great achievement!



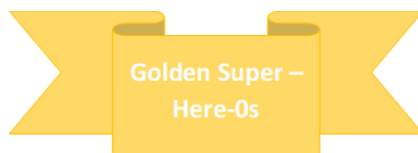
### World Book Day

This year WBD will be recognised a little later than the Nationally allocated day so that we can combine it with Science Week. Science Week will take place **week beginning 11<sup>th</sup> March 2024**. On **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March**, children will be given the opportunity to dress up as either a famous scientist, imagined scientist or a scientist from a children's book. There is no expectation of the purchasing of costumes. Keep it simple. For example: Wacky glasses, crazy hair and a white T-shirt.

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### Attendance

Overall attendance across the whole school during February was 96.58%, A massive well done to class 2S for achieving the highest attendance for a class in February at 98.72%. Congratulations to Year 2 for the highest attendance for a year group at 98.17%

Our February Super-Here0s are: Foundation/Keys Stage1: Gabe, Tyler and Arthur

Key stage 2: Seth, Dylon and Ollie

### 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 4S and 6H**

13 March	4S
27 March	6H
24 April	6B
8 May	F1D
22 May	2S
12 June	2A
26 June	5E
10 July	5B

### Foundation Stage

We have begun our new learning experience for this term, Ready Steady Grow by exploring the traditional tale, Jack and the Beanstalk and Jasper's Beanstalk by Nick Butterworth. The children received a letter from a very upset Mrs Giant who wanted some help making 'Wanted' posters to help her find the thief who had broken into her cloud-top castle. The children also learned about what Jack's magic beans needed to be able to grow and used their incredible imaginations to draw their own magic beans and dream up what they would like them to grow into. In Maths, we have been learning about measure, looking first at length and height and

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then using balance scales to explore weight and predict which objects we thought would be heavier – lots of lovely opportunities to use their developing reasoning skills here!



### Year 1

Year 1 have been working hard on their number bond knowledge within 20. We have become pattern spotters using cubes and counters to help us see related number facts. Some of us are getting incredibly quick at recalling our facts now. Keep practising year 1!



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### Year 2

Year 2 have worked incredibly hard during Maths, learning about multiplication and division. The children have been applying their knowledge to represent multiplication sentences by using resources and creating pictural representations.

In English the children have been learning about information texts and their features, before progressing into creating their own information text all about plants/trees which links to our Topic theme of learning. To full immerse themselves in the topic, the children have also created daffodil theme artwork and have visited the local nature reserve, The Slade.



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### Year 3

We have been exploring measurements in Mathematics. We went outside to measure the heights, lengths and widths of various objects and structures in metres and centimetres. We have also been enjoying our topic of "Rocks Relics and Rumbles", recently we thought about how earthquakes are caused by tectonic plates rubbing against each other, building friction and creating vibrations – we modelled this using sandpaper and other materials that we rubbed together!



### Year 4

Both classes have been learning about a traditional tale 'Little Red Riding Hood' in French, Le Petit Chaperon Rouge. They read and understood the story and 4A bravely performed a play entirely in French to KS2. Oh, là, là! They were confident with their spoken parts and I'm sure they inspired other children to use their French knowledge to participate in a performance in the future.

### Year 5

Last Friday Year 5 have been hard at work designing and building their own Nowhere Emporia based on the book by Ross MacKenzie. We are using these to inspire our extended descriptive narrative writing. The Children needed to work out what materials they needed as well as how to recreate their imaginative ideas in cardboard!

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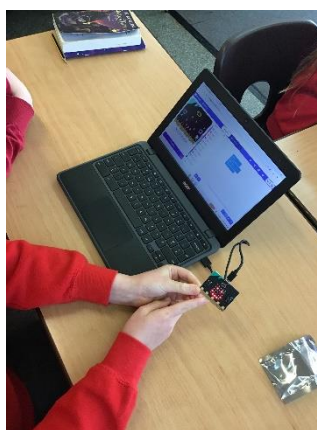
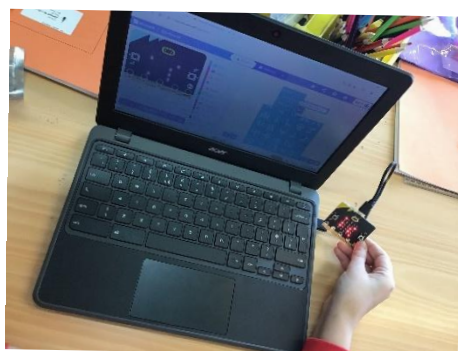
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### Year 6

In Year 6, we have been developing our knowledge of electricity and components by experimenting with circuits. We have linked our science knowledge to our Computing topic of 'Programming' and had great fun using the Micro:Bits. Micro:Bits are small programmable devices that are designed to make coding fun and engaging.

In RE, we have embarked on a new 'Big Question': Is Christianity still a strong religion 2000 years after Jesus was born on Earth? We will be considering the charities who help people and the religious festivals across the world that illustrate the strength of Christian belief. Festivals such as; Shrove Tuesday, Ash Wednesday, Mothering Sunday, Palm Sunday and Holy week running up to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Come and have a chat with us about it.



### FoBPS

Thank you to everyone who has supported the FoBPs discos.

April/ May TBC	Hollywood and Hotdogs
Friday 21st June.	Summer Fete
Friday 19th July.	Break the Rules

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HOPE AND HELP FOR UKRAINE – Can you help?

In Ukraine there is still a great need for humanitarian aid and the group based at Debenhams is still supplying aid despite difficult circumstances. Most helpful items are listed below.

The Ukraine help group in Banbury have received an urgent request from an army Chaplain-Ben at a camp where they are training Ukrainian service men.

He has asked if we can supply a thousand packs of the only things that the soldiers are allowed to take back with them.

If you or anyone you know of can supply any of the following listed below, we , the chaplain and soldiers would be very grateful for your assistance.

We are unable to disclose which camp has requested the aid as this has been withheld for safety reasons  
Donations to be left with the office please before 15<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

Personal packs for soldiers requirements: -

Toothbrushes, toothpaste

Deodorants

Shower gel

Shampoo

Razors

Shaving gel

Any small hygiene items that can be squeezed into their bags!

Messages on small postcards to help moral

Children's pictures and messages

For delivery to Ukraine

High protein foods eg shakes , protein bars

Tins of meat products with long life - eg ham, chicken, stews, curries , meaty soups etc

Easy to cook one pot meals over a simple fire or camping stove.

With very many thanks

Lindsay Mills

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