



## Bloxham CE Primary School

### June 2024 Newsletter

Dear Families

We have virtually reached the end of the school year, 18 more school days before the children finish for summer and our last newsletter of the year.

This year has been an amazingly successful one for Bloxham. The school values, chosen by all members of our school family this time last year, are now very much part of our school language and whilst the extended version remain in place we have also developed our "I catch" terminology to support the children to remember the key elements.



At the end of last year, we set ourselves the target of providing an increased clubs offer for pupils. There is no doubt that this has been achieved and over the course of the year, every child from Year 1 to Year 6 has had the opportunity to access a sports club at lunchtime and an additional free after school club. A second target was for us to increase our music offer. This year, thanks to both Mr Charlton and Miss Avis, our specialist music practitioners, pupils have been able to access choir and orchestra. There has also been the opportunity to take part in activities with Bloxham School, peripatetic guitar and drums with a further offer of iRock, which will commence in September.

Inevitably as we reflect upon 2023/24, we also look forward to 2024/25 and the opportunities that it brings. Over the next few weeks our pupils will begin to make the transition to their new classes. Children in pre-school to Year 5 will have the opportunity to spend the day with their new teachers, whilst our Year 6 pupils will, we hope, head off excitedly to spend time in their new schools. Our Year 6 leaver celebrations will be slightly adjusted this year with an event for families in church and an event for pupils in school, including the traditional farewell walk.

As we prepare to say goodbye to them, we will also sadly say goodbye to a number of staff, including two who have even taught some of our current parents. Mrs Akers is moving to take up a headship in Northamptonshire, whilst Mrs Best has decided that now is the time to retire and enjoy her new grandchildren. We wish both these staff and our other leavers well as they embark on new adventures.

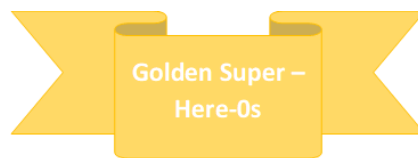
Finally, thank you to families who participated in our end of year survey, we will publish the results of the survey before the close of term. The support of our whole school family is integral to our success as a school and we look forward to being able to offer a range of additional opportunities again

next year, both for children and families. The first of these will be our Meet the Teacher sessions which will take place Wednesday 11 September at 3:30pm and repeated at 4:00pm, the sessions will take place in your child's new classroom. Please do keep an eye on the calendar on our website for details of planned events. [Bloxham Church of England Primary School - Calendar \(bloxhamprimary.com\)](http://bloxhamprimary.com)

**Sarah Marshall**

### **School Website**

Please do regularly checkout our school website, particularly the calendar for important dates throughout the school year ([School calendar](#)) class and curriculum pages.



### **Attendance**

Overall attendance across the whole school during June was 95.65%, A massive well done to class 6H for achieving the highest attendance for a class in June at 97.71%. Congratulations to Year 6 for the highest attendance for a year group at 97.08%

Our May Super-Here0s are: Foundation/Keys Stage1: Myla, Ada, Amelia and Harrison  
Key stage 2: Eve, Elise, Florence and Freddie

### **Healthy Lunchboxes**

As outlined on our website, we encourage healthy and balanced meals in school lunchboxes. Please support us by not including confectionery in packed lunches. We have recently noticed several children with sweets in their lunchboxes as well as some children bringing multiple chocolate items.

### **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 5B**

10 July	5B
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## Achievements from Outside the school



On 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2024, Henry Kershaw (4S) climbed Mount Snowden with his family and cousin. Quite an achievement! Well done Henry, a determined effort and a fabulous family memory!

A huge well done to Isobel and Olivia who took part in the 5K Colour Walk in April for the National Autistic Society. They managed to raise £460 pounds for this!



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## **PE news**

### **Intra House Events**

Next week our Year 5 classes will be running 4 different activities as part of our Intra House events for our Y1 and Y2 children. This is a good opportunity for them to show and develop leadership skills ready for Y6.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, KS2 children have been taking part in Intra-House Athletics events, where they put their running, jumping and throwing skills to the test. We already knew that Keller had won the Y4 event. The results for the other Year groups are as follows:

Y3 house winners are Brunel, Y5 winners are Archimedes and Y6 winners also Archimedes.

### **League News**

The football and Netball Leagues for Y5/6 have now come to an end. The boys finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the football group and the girls finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in theirs. The girls went through to play in a semi-final match against St Leonards in Banbury. This was a nail-biting match, which saw us losing and then coming back to draw 2-2, which meant that it went to penalties! Sadly, we lost 2-1 on penalties, but the girls should be very proud of themselves with how hard they have worked!



The netball league has also finished and we will have two more training sessions. We have now been officially crowned as winners of the first ever Banbury Primary schools Stinger Netball League! It has been a great year as we have seen our teams go from strength to strength.

### **Warriner Cluster Events**

There have been two events so far, with two more in July. On the first Friday back our Y5 and 6 children took part in the Cricket festival at Sibford. It was good to see the coaching and their practice paying off and the team work throughout the day was also great to see. Our Y5/6 girls finished 3<sup>rd</sup> place, one of our Y6 teams finished runner up in the plate division, the other Y6 team finished first in the cup division, as well as our Y5 boys team finishing top of their group, winning all of their matches! Well done all.

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We took 20 children from Y3/4 and 30 from Y5/6 to the Quad Kids event at the Warriner School. Every child took part in a standing long jump, a vortex throw, a middle distance run and a sprint. The rain held off just long enough and the day finished with some fun relays. Thank you to the parents who helped on this day, it's much appreciated. We came 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Y5/6 competition and 1<sup>st</sup> in the Y3/4 competition, so the top scoring athletes will go through to the North Oxfordshire finals next week. A special mention to the following children who finished in the top 5: Y5/6 - Neve 4<sup>th</sup> and Alfie 3<sup>rd</sup> and Y3/4 - Callum 5<sup>th</sup>, Elsie 4<sup>th</sup>, Lloyd 2<sup>nd</sup>, Elliot 1<sup>st</sup> and Alex 1<sup>st</sup>. Amazing results. Well done to all for your determination and efforts!



## **Sports Week**

The week commencing 8<sup>th</sup> July we will be celebrating our Sports Week. This will start with the Sports reps hosting an assembly to promote the importance of being active. On the Tuesday it is our Sports Day with KS2 in the morning and KS1 and FS in the afternoon. There will be different activities and equipment for the children to choose from at lunchtimes too.

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On the Thursday we will be welcoming Courtney Tulloch, gold medallist Gymnast, to the school. He will deliver an assembly and then lead each class through some timed exercises, which I know many of you have been collecting sponsors for. If you can please sponsor online through our crowd funding page and in the comments leave your child's name. Any amount would be appreciated.

Regardless of sponsorship, all the children will join in with the exercises as part of our Sports week. Deadline for sponsorships will be Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July, this is to allow admin time to match your child's sponsored amount for any reward they may have earned (see the paper sponsor form for details, spares of these are in the office).

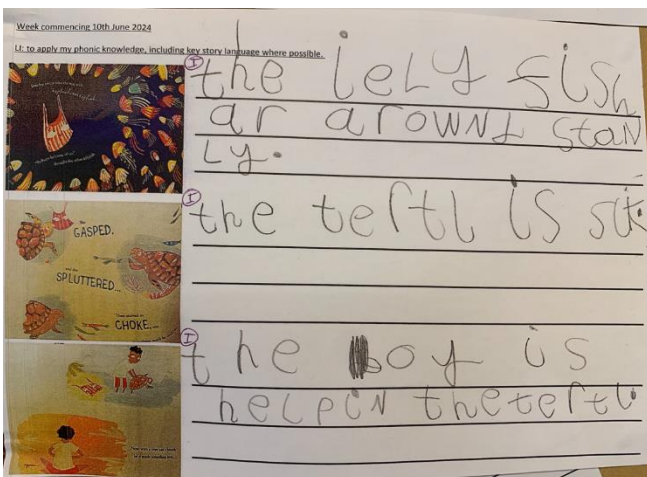
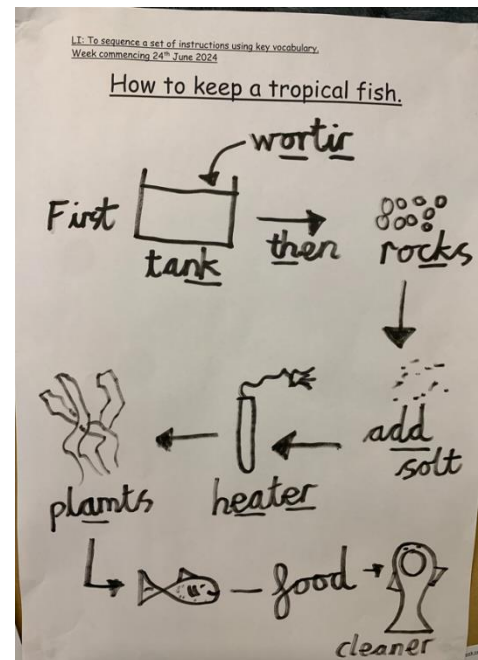
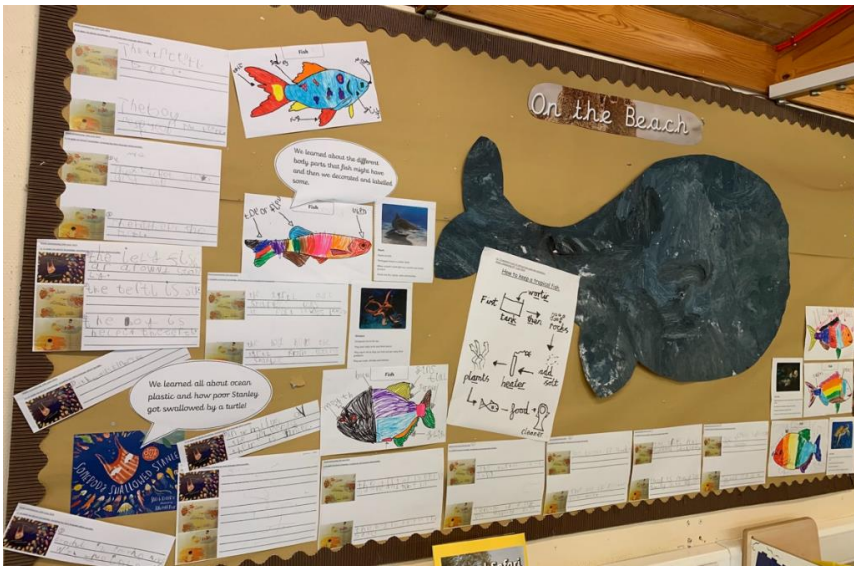
<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/the-bloxham-cofe-primary-school-fundraiser>



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## Foundation Stage

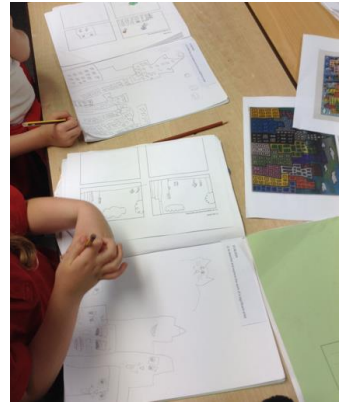
As part of 'Understanding the World', we have been learning about all things 'beach', 'seaside' and 'underwater' related. We shared the story 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley' and learned that the hidden message in the story was of the dangers that ocean plastics pose to sea creatures. The children worked hard to use their phonic knowledge to write sentences that matched the key moments in the story. We also learned all about the different body parts that fish have and the children used Fred Fingers to write and create text maps instructing how to care for tropical fish. Excitingly, we also had a message in a bottle delivered by Captain Jill asking for their help in writing instructions for where she could bury her treasure to hide it from the mean Pirate Jack so don't forget to ask your child all about their ideas!



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## Year 1

We have been learning about James Rizzi, an American artist and illustrator. We looked at his work and talked about colour and composition. Year 1 children were asked to choose an image to study more closely, recreating a part or whole of it. Children discussed what they like or dislike about their own, and the artist's work.



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## Year 2

Over the past few weeks, the children have been learning to tell the time to o'clock, half past, quarter past, quarter to and at 5-minute intervals. The children have been using a selection of manipulatives to help them with their understanding and reasoning.



With the warm weather and in preparation for Sports Day, the children have been learning a range of athletic skills such as sprinting, jumping and throwing.



We have been honoured to have a visit from Major Rob Giles who spoke about his rewarding career as a guard for the royal family. The children loved learning about his first-hand experience serving some of the magnificent monarchs which we have studied this term.



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### Year 3

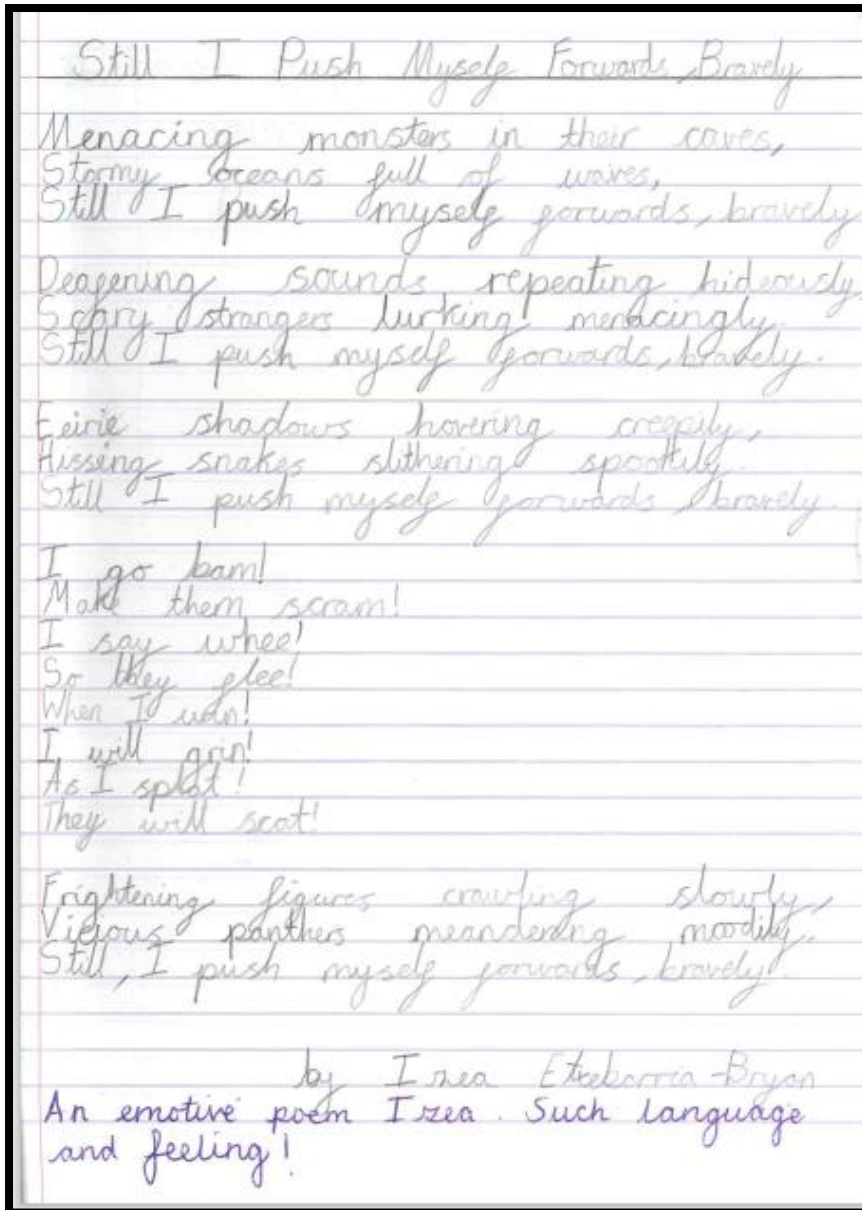
This Land is Roman! We had a fantastic day experiencing everything Roman from wielding deadly short swords to equipping "Scutum" Shields in defensive formations to uncovering ancient artefacts. We even recreated an archer firing assembly and practised firing in unison on command! We heard stories of the empire from its creation to its tumultuous political landscape, we tried on the latest in Ancient Roman fashion, we even managed to squeeze some Maths in by buying some Armour from the local forum!

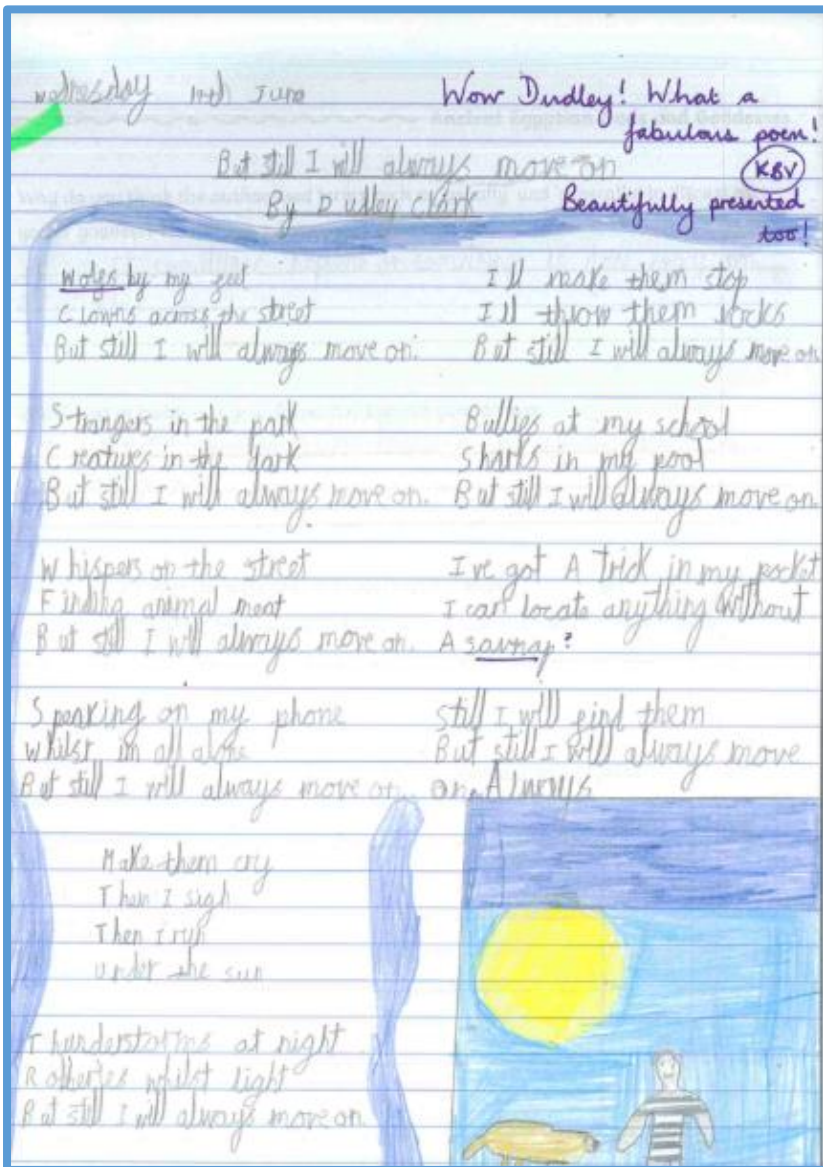


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## Year 4

Amongst many other aspects of learning, Year 4 have just completed a three-week English focus on poetry, studying two fabulous poems by the legendary Maya Angelou ('Life doesn't frighten me at all' and 'Still I Rise') The children have worked tirelessly on developing their own ideas to create their own version of the first of these two poems. Selecting just one poem from each class has been extremely difficult as all the children have done so well but we hope you enjoy the two we have chosen.





## Year 5

We have been learning to measure and draw angles using protractors. We have written our own playscripts and are investigating *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare. In Science we are learning about Forces and Mechanisms and have made parachutes to demonstrate air resistance. In History we are finding out about the Ancient Greeks and have created our own greek style pots using pastels, showing repeated patterns and scenes from their daily lives.



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## Year 6

In our DT topic 'Food For Life', we have been comparing processed and unprocessed foods. We have successfully made bread which tasted delicious!

Year 6 are enjoying participating in weekly mental health workshops delivered by Cherwell District Council. The sessions begin with a presentation covering a different topic each week such as stress and anxiety, resilience and goal setting. This is followed by some fun, active games to get the children moving and release those positive endorphins.

Following our letter writing exercise for residents of Godswell, we were really pleased to receive letters back. We learned from two ladies about their school days and life after the war. We plan to write again soon.

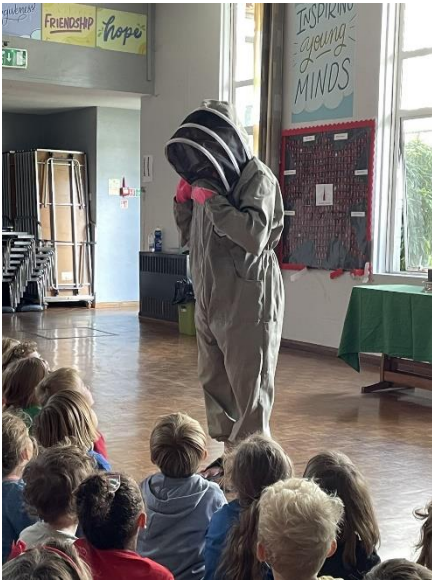


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## Collective Worship

'T' has been the theme of Thursday Collective Worship with a focus on the Holy Trinity, Teams in the Bible (and Euros!) as well as Talent. We have delved more deeply into the Holy Trinity; the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, three in one. Examples of which could be a plait (three strands making one) or an egg (shell, yolk and white). We shared ideas of various teams in the Bible from Apostles, Wise Men, Noah and his family, Gideon and his army. Can you think of any?

Bees make a great team and are mentioned in the Bible four times. A swarm of bees were found in the lion carcass that Samson slayed; they represented the power of good over evil. Mrs Swan shared with the children that she is a bee keeper and explained how she supports her bees to be the best team they can be!



## Be Internet Legends E-Safety assembly

Years 4, 5 and 6 benefitted from an interactive assembly from 'Be Internet Legends'. The workshop empowered children to use the web safely and wisely so they can feel more confident when exploring the online world. Please find more information here:

[https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en\\_ie/families?\\_gl=1\\*\\_xjca9f\\*\\_up\\*MQ..\\*\\_ga\\*MTk5MDM5ODgzNy4xNzE5MjYwMTE3\\*\\_ga\\_XRLM31BEJH\\*MTcxOTI2MDEwNy4xLjAuMTcxOTI2MDEwNy4wLjAuMA..](https://beinternetlegends.withgoogle.com/en_ie/families?_gl=1*_xjca9f*_up*MQ..*_ga*MTk5MDM5ODgzNy4xNzE5MjYwMTE3*_ga_XRLM31BEJH*MTcxOTI2MDEwNy4xLjAuMTcxOTI2MDEwNy4wLjAuMA..)

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## **High Flyer's After School Club**

What a fantastic start to our journey at the school!

The team have been amazing and have been busy creating some special memories with the children. There is so many activities to report.

The children have been making habitats in the field and have planted sunflowers. With all the glorious weather, it's all been about the outdoors! The children sat down to a wonderful picnic, and all helped to prepare the tea. They had fun assembling their own wraps and sandwiches. Gill even baked a delicious cake which the children enjoyed, followed by their own decorated biscuits as a special treat.

The Euros have sparked football fever with lots of matches. We decorated England flags and made bunting in anticipation of an England triumph! Finally, the children also took part in Bloxham's Got Talent, with some fantastic acts!

We also have some special shoutouts to Arabella and Eva for High Flyer's certificates. They have all adjusted brilliantly to the club and have brought a smile to everyone's faces.

We look forward to some more fun in the sun and lots of great activities!

Vouchers - for those working over 16 hours, you can take advantage of the 'Government's Choices Scheme', to save 20% on childcare. Also, when booking through our system you can pay by bank payment, so there is no booking fee.

We also offer 10% off for siblings attending the club!

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