



Be . Build . Become

'Encourage one another and build each other up.' Thessalonians 5:11

17 December 2024

Dear Families,

As we approach the Christmas break, we want to take this opportunity to send you our warmest wishes for a peaceful and joyful festive season. This term has been filled with so many wonderful moments, and it has been a pleasure to share them with you all.

December has brought a real sense of joy and celebration, and it has been lovely to see the children enjoying the many festive activities. Last week, the children had a fantastic time at their Christmas parties and shared a delicious festive lunch together decked in Christmas jumpers and hats. We were also delighted to participate in the traditional Christmas Tree Festival at St. Mary's, where our school created a beautiful tree alongside Godswell Care Home—a lovely chance to strengthen our connection with the wider community. The children have also been mindful of those who do not have wider families to celebrate the season with and have written letters and cards and created pictures to send to the residents at Lake House Care Home.

It has been a joy to welcome so many families to our Key Stage 1 and EYFS Nativities, where our youngest pupils have performed with such warmth and confidence, especially to such large audiences. This week, we also enjoyed our very first i-Rock concert, which was a real highlight for pupils and staff alike. i-Rock is a new initiative at Bloxham, offering children the chance to play and perform as part of a band during weekly peripatetic sessions. The sessions help develop teamwork, confidence, and social skills while fostering a love of music and supporting mental wellbeing. If you would like your child to take part, please refer to the flyers sent earlier this week or contact Mr. Charlton via the school office for more details.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for the Christmas Fayre last Friday. Despite the drizzle outside, the hall was alive with festive cheer, and it was wonderful to see families coming together. A special thank you must go to the parents who

helped organise stalls, run activities, and support the event—your time and efforts made all the difference.

As the calendar year comes to a close, it feels like the perfect moment to reflect on the many successes we've shared as a school community. Visitors to the school regularly comment on the excellent behaviour of our pupils and the kindness they show to one another. It is always encouraging to see the children living out our school values, showing respect to adults, and taking care of their peers. Creating a safe and supportive environment for all our pupils remains central to our work, and our pastoral support and nurture provision are a real strength of the school. Initiatives such as our Anti-Bullying workshops further highlight the importance we place on respect, kindness, and understanding.

At Bloxham we believe it is vital to keep our families informed about their children's progress and learning. Over the last two years, we have introduced new initiatives, such as Open Classrooms and class assemblies, to help strengthen this communication. We have also been delighted at the uptake from families to our new SEND support groups, which will enable us to provide tailored workshops to further support families. As Term 2 draws to a close, progress reports will soon be shared with families. In addition, knowledge organisers and vocabulary lists for Term 3 are available on the school website, and curriculum maps will be shared by teachers when we return in January. If you haven't already, we encourage you to follow our Threads account for regular updates and insights into the children's learning.

As a school we are very proud of the variety of opportunities we offer our pupils, both in and beyond the classroom. This term has been filled with enriching experiences that have inspired and engaged our pupils. From learning days linked to topics such as the Stone Age and World War II to important moments of reflection during Black History Week, the children have embraced every opportunity. They have also demonstrated their generosity through fundraising events, such as the recent Santa Fun Run, helping to support others in need. Again, over the past two years, we have expanded our range of clubs significantly, and we are excited to introduce even more in the new year, including enhanced outdoor provision and assessing the viability of after-school Forest School sessions—look out for details which will be shared in the coming weeks.

Thank you for being such a valued part of our school community. Your support is truly appreciated and helps us to provide the best possible experiences for the children.

As term draws to a close, we are now looking forward to our Key Stage 2 Carol Service on Friday morning at St. Mary's, which will be a perfect way to end the term together. A quick reminder that school will finish at 1:15pm on Friday.

Wishing you all a restful, happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. We look forward to welcoming you back in January for another exciting term of learning and opportunities. School resumes for all pupils Tuesday 7 January 2025.

With warmest wishes,

Bloxham Primary School