



Bloxham CE Primary School

June 2025 Newsletter

Dear Families

As I write this, the sun is shining down on the golden sands of Llangennith, where two of our Year 6 groups have spent the day body boarding in the waves!

Across the course of the week the children have thrown themselves into every challenge with huge smiles, unwavering enthusiasm, and incredible resilience. Whether navigating the surf, laying the tables, clearing up after meals, or even taking turns hoovering bedrooms, they have shown themselves to be exemplary ambassadors for Bloxham Primary.

They have taken part in a wide range of activities – including caving, orienteering, rock climbing, a coastal walk and den building – and have proven that they're ready to embrace every moment. It's a joy to see them living our school values in action: encouraging one another, showing kindness, and building one another up in everything they do. What a fantastic way to round off their time at Bloxham!

Back at school, June has been just as busy. Our Key Stage 2 pupils took part in an inspiring Growth Mindset Day, and many have enjoyed a wide range of sporting opportunities – demonstrating determination, perseverance, and great team spirit throughout. Our Year 1 children have now completed Phonics Screening Checks and Year 4s have tackled the Multiplication Tables Check – both important milestones that reflect the progress and hard work of pupils and staff alike.

As we look ahead to July, we're preparing to welcome our SIAMS inspector for a visit that will review and celebrate our distinctiveness as a Church of England school. It will be a chance for us to share the many ways our Christian vision and values are lived out daily – in learning, relationships, and community life.

July will also see pupils meet their new teachers for September, an exciting opportunity as they prepare for the year ahead. As part of these changes, we will be saying a fond farewell to Mr Barton, who will be leaving Bloxham to take up a teaching position closer to home. Ms Beale has also made the decision that she will not be returning in September, and Mrs Dodson – as many of you will have realised – will be commencing her maternity leave. We know you will join us in wishing them all the very best. At the same time, we are delighted to welcome Miss Aina, Mrs Johnstone and Mrs Rooney to the Bloxham family, and we look forward to the fresh energy and ideas they will bring to the new academic year.

Sarah Marshall

Encourage one another and build each other up.

Thank yous!

We would like to say a huge thank you to Cotefield Nurseries and all the parents who have generously donated plants, compost, and planters to help brighten up our school grounds. Your kindness and support are helping us create a beautiful and inspiring garden space for the children to enjoy and learn from. We are so grateful for your continued support!

PE kits

A reminder that from September, house colour t shirts for PE will no longer be part of our PE Kit and all pupils will be expected to wear the red and black logo t shirts, available from Cross Embroidery.



Parking

Please could we again remind Families to be respectful when parking around residential areas and to please not block pathways or driveways. If you have concerns relating to the availability of parking or in relation to specific vehicles, please contact the relevant authority. Thank you

Parish Council: bloxhamparishcouncil@gmail.com

Oxfordshire Highways: <https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/contactus/contact-highways-team#no-back>

Thames Valley Police: <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-beta/contact-us/driving-vehicles-traffic/>

Reporting illness for your child

Please report your child's absence every day either by leaving a message on the Absence line or using the email address: attendance@bloxham-pri.oxon.sch.uk. We would be grateful if you could include your child's symptoms in any message that you leave.

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Golden Super –
Here-0s

Attendance

Overall attendance across the whole school during June was 94.24%. A massive well done to **Class 3W** for achieving the highest attendance for a class in June - each student will receive 10 KBVs! Congratulations to Year 2 for the highest attendance in June for a year group at 94.96%

Our Super-Here0s are:

Foundation/Keys Stage 1: Rupert, Edward, Kit, Jaiden

Key stage 2: Alexander, Harry, Harrison, Grace

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.

We have a Community News section to the website so please check for any events happening within the local area. There is now a secure, password-protected Parent Portal on our school website within the Parents and Carers section. This dedicated space will be used to store key curriculum information and phonics videos.

Foundation Stage

What a joyful and meaningful term it's been in Foundation! Our topic, On the Beach, has taken us on a rich learning journey through coastal habitats, sea creatures, and the importance of looking after our oceans. Along the way, the children have developed their understanding of the world, as well as their confidence, creativity, and ever-expanding vocabulary.

A true highlight of the term was our class performance of 'Somebody Swallowed Stanley'. The children brought the story to life with expression, pride, and purpose—sharing ambitious vocabulary, performing for an audience with confidence, and delivering an important environmental message. Our very sad, plastic-filled blue whale stole the show as a powerful reminder of how important it is to care for our planet.

Throughout the term, the children have explored non-fiction texts, created fact files and labelled drawings of sea creatures, and demonstrated their growing independence in writing. Their artistic and observational skills have shone through in their fish drawings, while their creativity came to life through junk model creations of religious buildings and special places, linking beautifully with our RE learning and our big question 'What makes places special?'

We've been so proud of the children's curiosity, focus, and enthusiasm for their learning. Thank you for all your support at home—it's been a fantastic term of growth, and we can't wait to see what the final few weeks of Foundation bring!

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Phonics Reminder

Don't forget – our **Phonics videos** for each group are available on the **Parent Portal** section of the school website. These are a great way to support your child's learning at home.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Year 1



Year 1 have been discovering the concept of time, such as days of the week, months of the year, and even telling the time to o'clock and half past. The children loved winding the clocks and understanding the minute and hour hands. They even have been earning table points for letting their teachers know the time correctly – great job Year 1!

Year 2

In Year 2 this month we have been focusing on programming and instructing!

In writing we have been exploring the book 'Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine' and thinking about the similarities and differences between seaside holidays in Victorian Britain and seaside holidays today. The children have enjoyed exploring what a bathing machine is and why it was invented and have been putting this knowledge into practice by writing instructions for Queen Victoria on how to use her invention!

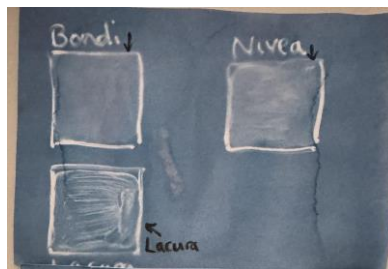
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In history we have been continuing our topic of the Monarchy. We have been looking at the life and achievements of Alfred the Great and thinking about William the Conqueror and the Battle of Hastings. The children enjoyed working together to recreate the Bayeux tapestry which depicts William's victory at the Battle of Hastings.

In computing we have been focusing on programming, and the children have been creating their own animations using Scratch Jr.

Year 3

In Year 3 we have been learning about light sources and light reflectors and investigating which materials reflect light the best. We have also tested out different brands of sun cream to see if they provide equal protection from UV rays from our biggest natural light source...the sun! See if you can work out our results! (Other brands are available!)



As part of our OAA (outdoor Adventurous Activities in P.E), we have been challenging the children to team games, where they must use their communication and co-operation skills. They also enjoyed the opportunity to climb or boulder at Sibford School. Thank you for your co-operation for the consents/waivers and contributions and your patience with the bus back.



Year 4

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"We really liked playing golf in PE and we think there may be a few Tiger Woods' in the class - Lloyd, Callum and Finley can hit the ball really well – we could sort of hit it, but we found it really hard to hit the ball. We enjoyed learning about angles in Maths and in French we learned words all about our pencil cases. In RE our big question was *Do we need to go to church to be a Christian?*" *Pupil Voice - Joseph and Toby, 4C*

In English we had fun taking part in a drama activity called 'Decision Alley' to help them understand the character 'Marcy' in 'Marcy and the Riddle of the Sphinx'. Her dilemma was, should she follow her father into a dark and shadow filled cave. The children formed a corridor and 'Marcy' (Child in her footsteps) walked down it whilst they whispered reasons to influence her decision.

Examples: 'You must trust your father, he would not lead you into danger.' 'Face your fears, you can be brave.' 'Follow him, there could be treasure.' 'Staying outside on your own might be dangerous or scarier.'

'Don't follow him, there might be monsters in the cave.' 'danger in the cave' 'It will be like your nightmares and too scary.'

What decision would you make? Our Marcy's made the following decisions.

Voice of the Child

I am going in the cave as I want to face my fears. It is good to overcome fears.' (Arthur)

I want to go in the cave as it might be dangerous outside the cave and less dangerous inside with my father.' (Honey)

Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic term, showing real maturity during our PSHE lessons where they have thoughtfully explored important topics and demonstrated great respect and empathy.

In our reciprocal reading sessions, the children have shown excellent engagement, sharing insightful ideas and contributing to lively discussions about our class text, *Holes*. They have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Ancient Greeks and have been fascinated to discover how their influence can still be seen in the modern world.

Across the term, many children have also shown impressive resilience and teamwork during various sporting events. In computing, they have worked incredibly hard to create their own interactive quizzes using Scratch, demonstrating creativity, problem-solving skills, and perseverance.

Year 6

It's been a busy and exciting few weeks in Year 6!

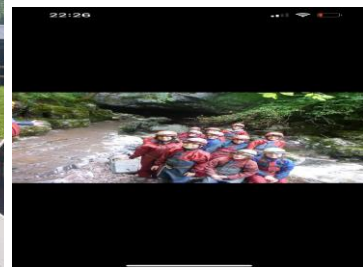
In Maths, the children have been putting their knowledge of area, perimeter and budgeting to the test in a real-world context by designing their own theme parks. From rollercoasters to water rides, each design had to fit a specific space and stay within a set budget – with some very creative (and cost-effective!) solutions on show.

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In DT, we've been exploring the Food for Life project. Pupils compared homemade and processed bread, considering the nutritional differences and ingredient lists. We discussed kitchen hygiene rules and followed recipes carefully to bake our own bread. Building on this, we made muffins using healthier alternatives – a delicious way to learn about making good food choices!

This week, Year 6 are away on their residential, having the time of their lives while the staff try to keep up! The children have thrown themselves into orienteering, caving, climbing, abseiling, den building, bodyboarding and rockpooling – showing huge amounts of courage, teamwork and energy. It's been a brilliant adventure, and while the pupils are still going strong, the adults may need a lie down when we get back!

Well done, Year 6 – you've earned a good rest this weekend (and so have we)!



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Collective Worship

We have been exploring Spirituality in Collective Worship as well as continuing to enjoy Bible stories and our visits from the 'Open the Book' team. Whilst listening to Joseph and his colourful coat we questioned whether Joseph should have shared his dreams with his brothers as he did or whether he should have been more sensitive. Alternatively, we were all shocked by what the brothers did and the fibs they told. We will be finding out what happened to Joseph after he was taken to Egypt by the tradesmen. Whilst considering Spirituality, we thought about the 'Arts': music, drama, painting, writing, photography, nature, sculpture....We thought about how those themes make us feel and how we all experience different emotions. Then, we learned about the fundamental components of Spirituality, as cited by Picture news: Creativity, Reflection, Imagination, Empathy, Self-awareness. We will continue to build on these themes in the coming weeks.

PE

It's been a packed and exciting month of sport at Bloxham CE Primary! Our Key Stage 2 pupils enjoyed a fantastic cricket festival in glorious sunshine – a real treat on a scorching hot day. In contrast, the weather had other plans for our KS2 Quad Kids athletics event, where the rain didn't dampen spirits or effort! Well done to the Year 5/6s who came 1st in Quad kids and qualified for the finals and also the Year 6 Boys who came 1st in the cricket and qualified for the finals too!

Year 6 pupils have shown great teamwork and skill in their recent netball matches, while our Year 3/4 tennis festival was full of energy, fun and impressive rallies. Year 3 also had an exciting opportunity to go climbing at Sibford School this week – a brilliant experience that challenged them physically and mentally.

Meanwhile, all classes have been busy in PE lessons preparing for our upcoming Sports Day on **7 July**. From sprinting to long jump, our pupils are putting in lots of effort – we look forward to seeing their hard work pay off on the day!



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Achievements Outside of School

Litter Picking

A big well done to our Community Champions who on Sunday, following Matty's Family Fun Day, went litter picking at Jubilee park in Bloxham. Armed with gloves, bags, and a brilliant attitude, they showed real care and responsibility for the environment around them.

Special mention to Norah (year 1) and Rory (year 2) for starting the whole thing but also joining them were: Everley, Antonella, Matilda, Gabe and Benjamin. Their efforts not only helped keep our shared spaces clean and safe but also showed what it means to live out our school values—being caring, trustworthy, and ambitious citizens. We're incredibly proud of them for making a positive difference. Well done, everyone!

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