

Bloxham C of E Primary School



Newsletter 11 – January 14th 2022



Value – Courage

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have all had an enjoyable and busy week in school. The children have been excited about their learning and many classes have been visited this week by teachers across the school. We have all been impressed with the way children are approaching their learning and their positive attitudes to new challenges.

FoBPS

We want to say a huge thank you to FOBS for their hard work and support in raising money for the additional things which really benefit your children and have a positive impact on their learning and opportunities in school. This coming year we have agreed that we will focus on raising money to develop and improve all aspects of outdoor learning. This includes: Forest School resources and an outdoor classroom which is very exciting.

Message from FoBPS. Thank you to everyone who supported FoBPS events before Christmas - attending Festive Fireworks, buying raffle tickets, donating prizes, running round the village after the Santa Float, making a Christmas Wreath or buying the school Christmas cards. All your contributions helped to raise over £3,000 for the school and a further £400 for local charities. Keep an eye out for the next FoBPS event!

Whole School Musical

Yesterday the year 6 auditions took place for 'Alice the Musical'. I would like to give a big congratulations to all who stepped forward to read their parts and sing a solo. The children showed so much bravery and talent and I know with these children on board the show will be a huge success. Everyone that took part managed to get a part, some with solo numbers to sing.

We are planning to film the musical later this year and I have found a professional film crew and sound engineer to help make our show amazing. Although year 6 have the main parts in the show, everyone from foundation to year 6 will be in the play singing in chorus line and will need a costume. Information on this will follow along with details on how to purchase a digital download or DVD of the performance.

We will be sending a permission letter for you to sign to say that your child can be filmed. If you do not wish your child to be filmed, we will ensure they feel included but are not filmed. We will start rehearsals this term and I am very excited to work with your children on such an exciting venture. Ms Coles.

Message from Governors

We hope you all had a fantastic and safe Christmas and new year. In September, the governing body set itself a target to become outstanding. We have recently undertaken both an internal skills audit and asked Oxfordshire County Council to undertake an external review of governance, the results of which have been received this week. With this information we will review the ways we hold the school to account focussing on ensuring the highest standards of education for your children. This will be achieved by working closely with the leadership of the school providing support and challenge.

We have a Governor Development Plan which links directly to the School Improvement Plan. This plan includes training and monitoring linked to the school priorities. Governors have started making these visits which have been very informative and have helped us to get to know the children and staff and enabled us to see the impact of recent school improvement initiatives.

Going forward we are always happy to hear from parents and carers and if you would like to know more about what we do please do not hesitate to contact us via the school office. You may have seen the Chair of Governors at the school gates on a Friday afternoon so please do say hello.

Safer Internet Day – 8th February 2022

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Safer Internet Day 2022 is on 8th February and will be celebrated with the theme 'All fun and games? The day will provide children with an opportunity to exploring respect and relationships online'. Coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre, Safer Internet Day is celebrated in over a hundred countries coordinated by the joint Insafe/INHOPE network, with the support of the European Commission, and national Safer Internet Centres across Europe.

In school we will celebrate this with assemblies and workshops in classes. The Pupil Parliament will be assisting with the planning and delivery of this day. This year the focus will be online gaming, chat functions, streaming and video. The day will celebrate young people's role in creating a safer internet, however they choose to use it, from creating content to interacting with friends and peers.

Wellies

Thank you to all those parents who have remembered to send alternative footwear in for the children to use at playtime. It really is helping. If you haven't done so yet, we would really appreciate you doing so. Thank you

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Reading Books

As you already know we are promoting a love of reading across the school and focusing on early reading skills and regular practice. We have received a large book order this week which will ensure that children across the school have new, exciting reading books which can be carefully matched to their reading stage and phonic ability. We have reminded the children this week about the importance of taking good care of the new books and about returning them every day. Keep up the good work everyone!

We will be auditing other aspects of the reading provision in the next two weeks and will keep you updated about any key areas that we are developing and what this means for your child.

Spelling

Weekly spellings will be sent home each week, and these are the weekly assessment details for each year group. We are sending home paper copies of these and spellings for the term will be uploaded onto Seesaw if you lose them or need to refer to them. Attached is a leaflet providing you with some guidance and tips on how to help your child learn their spellings. Here are a few ideas that you may find helpful. Once again, revisiting spellings little and often is the key to remembering them.

School Improvement Presentation

25th January at 6:30 pm

This is an opportunity to attend a briefing on our School Improvement Plan which will be held via Teams. You will be able to send questions in ahead of this session via a form which you will receive early next week and questions need to be received back by Friday 21st January.

Wellies

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Attendance

We are continuing to monitor attendance and arrange meetings to work with you to improve your child's attendance. We will be acknowledging and rewarding classes who have had the best attendance every two weeks. The three classes with the best attendance will have an additional 10-minute playtime. We do know that children are unwell and do not want target individual children but do need raise the profile of the importance of regular attendance and punctuality.

Recent Monitoring of Teaching and Learning

This past week in school we have been looking closely at teaching and learning in mathematics. We have been impressed with the children's enthusiasm for their maths learning, the focus in lessons and their developing reasoning skills. We are ensuring that all children are challenged in their maths lessons and are monitoring their progress.

Governors have participated in this monitoring as part of their ongoing work and commitment to ensuring that the children are always at the centre of all decision making. Following their recent monitoring here are comments from the Governors about what observed in school:

In the coming weeks we are continuing to monitor teaching and learning in other subjects.

Times Tables Rock Stars

The Times Tables Rock Stars learning platform is proving to be very popular. The children are practicing regularly, and this is having a positive impact on their ability to recall the multiplication facts. CONGRATULATIONS to these children who have been very successful this week and have their certificates displayed at school. Caitlin, Alfred, Izea, Ellis, Ellie-Mae, Jess

