



Value – Respect

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have had an amazing week of learning in school. I have had many visitors to my office this week to show me their work and talk about the progress they have made. Some of the children have been very helpful and have done a fantastic job of decorating the tree for us which has kindly been donated by Tudor Hall School.

The children enjoyed the visit from our Chair of Governors, Mr Broome, this week who visited each class to distribute the certificates and badges. Well done to all the children who received these.

Scientific Reports from Year 4

For our science learning we set up an experiment with five eggs and five different liquids. We put them in cola, juice, water, milk, and vinegar. We want to see how much damage each liquid does to an egg. We will let you know our conclusions next week!

We also made models out of junk such as tubes and bottles. Some bottles were really useful! We created a model of the digestive system - the mouth, tongue, saliva glands, pancreas, liver, gall bladder, large intestine and small intestine, and oesophagus. It took some work..... but we did it! It might just be made of junk, but it worked well!

Staff News

We want to make you aware of staffing changes that are taking place which will strengthen the Leadership and Management of the school.

As you are probably aware our Deputy Headteacher, Julie Oatridge has been class based in recent times. We have made a strategic decision in the best interests of the school to release Ms Oatridge from some of the class responsibilities to focus on moving the school forward. This is especially important currently following the interruption to school improvement caused by the pandemic.

Ms Oatridge will still be working in Year 6 teaching as well as Mrs Hancox. Mrs Hancox will no longer be teaching in Year 4. We are very grateful to Mrs Hancox for providing continuity for the children in Year 6 ensuring that they have a happy and successful final year at Bloxham School. We are very fortunate that Ms Coles will be teaching at school full time and will be teaching in 4S on a Friday.

We also wanted to let you know that Miss Drury has unfortunately been unwell and has been advised not to be in school for the coming two weeks. We all send our very best wishes to Miss Drury who has been missed. Mr Singleton is supporting the Reception Class team in the mornings, and we have secured Niamh Keogh to support in Year 3 with Mrs O'Donnell. We will update you as soon as we know of any changes going forward.

I would like to thank all the staff involved for their ongoing professionalism and commitment to the children at Bloxham School.

Parent and Pupil's Views

We are very keen to work in partnership with you and value your constructive feedback to help us to identify aspects of the school that need to be improved and further developed. This is the link to the survey that we are asking parents/carers to complete: Thank to those of you who have already completed the questionnaire. The Leadership and Governors of the school will be reviewing your replies so please if you have not yet done so can we ask you to complete it.

<https://forms.gle/zCtE1ELWzYiSKmE7>

Covid-19 Update

As you are aware, more information became available last weekend, about the new variant Omicron. It does appear that Omicron spreads very rapidly so the Government have introduced some new temporary measures which will be review in a couple of weeks.

As with previous phases of the pandemic, there are some key actions that we as a school have had to take to reduce the impact of COVID on our lives and help us prepare for Christmas and the winter months ahead.

It has been advised that face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors and parents when dropping off/picking up from school (unless they are exempt).

Schools no longer have an active role in contact tracing, and this is now undertaken by NHS Test and Trace. Current tracing arrangements for those aged under 18 requires parents and guardians to complete the process for their children. The current guidance on contact tracing and isolation remains in place - which means that close contacts should take PCR tests but do not need to isolate unless they are over 18 and unvaccinated. The exception is for close contacts of suspected or confirmed Omicron cases, who will be asked to isolate for 10 days. Completing contact tracing helps break chains of COVID-19 transmission, reduces disruption to work and education, illness and saves lives. It also helps those who are vulnerable to get the help that they need.

This link provides more information:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/council/coronavirus-covid19/self-isolation-support-pack>

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Non Uniform Day and Cake Sale

On Friday 10th December we will be holding a non-uniform day in school with the theme of spots, stars and stripes. Donations to Children in Need (if you have not already done so. We will also be holding a cake sale on 10th December which was the one postponed from Children in Need day. All cake donations gratefully received.

Communication

We are aware that sometimes we are required to make last minute changes for planned events and thank you for your understanding and continued support during the pandemic.



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Christmas Tree Festival

Please go along to support this event and to see the Bloxham Primary School tree. Please see poster at the end of the newsletter for more information about the Christmas Tree Festival in St. Mary's Church.



School Christmas Tree

Tudor Hall school very kindly donated a Christmas Tree to our school. This is in the library and was decorated yesterday by: Sasha, Arthur, Calum and Edward



FoBPS Fireworks

This is next Friday 10th December. For those who still would like tickets they will be on sale in the playground every morning and afternoon next week.

FoBPS Santa Float

We're very excited to say that we've secured the Bloxham route on the 'Banbury Cross Round Table' Santa Float this year.

Bloxham Primary School
Festive Fireworks
Friday 10th December 2021 – Gates open at 5.30pm

We've had to move the date
But please don't contemplate
Join the festive firework fun
And enjoy a sausage or burger in a bun!

Bar BBQ Raffle

Advanced ticket price £4 for adults, £3 for children (on the gate £5 for adults, £4 for children).
Children under 3 go FREE

Registered Charity 1195991

WE NEED
20 FIT ELVES
AND 1 SANTA
Tuesday 21st December
Help us collect money with The Roundtable.
6 - 9 pm
Email us fobps@mail.com

We need a Father Christmas to ride on the tractor and elves to jangle buckets and collect money.
You'll need to keep up with the tractor as it rolls through Bloxham

Thank you

Bloxham Christmas Tree Festival

Come and see the stunning spectacle of St Mary's Church full of imaginatively decorated Christmas trees on the theme of Christmas carols.

St Mary's Church Bloxham

Fri 3rd December, 11.00am - 8.00pm
(mulled wine during evening late opening)

Sat 4th December, 11.00am - 5.30pm
*(Festival Concert 7.30pm Saturday evening
by the Choir of Exeter College, Oxford)*

Sun 5th December, 11am - 5.30pm
(followed at 6pm by Festival Service)

Admission free

Donations invited in aid of
The Friends of St Mary's, Bloxham

Children's activities
Refreshments in Parish Rooms
Prayer and memorial trees
Vote for the "People's Choice"



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