



Blewbury Endowed C of E Primary School
Westbrook Street, Blewbury, Didcot, Oxon. OX11 9QB
Telephone: (01235) 850411



Interim Headteacher
Becky Costello BA Hons: becky_cost@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk
Chair of Interim Academy Committee
Kevin Moyes

7th September, 2020.

Dear Families

Da Vinci Information – Autumn Term

Firstly, I would like to welcome you back to school. We hope you have had a lovely summer and that you and your child are ready to join us back in Da Vinci class. Hopefully, this year will be a bit more 'normal'. We have had a couple of mornings where the new Reception children have joined us with their parents and they are now in school following a transition timetable.

There will still be some of the measures in place that we had in the summer term (these are detailed below), however, we are now able to provide a more natural environment for the children's learning.

Measures that will remain in place:

- There will still be a one-way system around the school.
- Children will be dropped at the gate into the outside area and will come in through the classroom door. They will have their hands sprayed with hand gel when they arrive.
- Children will continue to wash their hands thoroughly throughout the day and have hand gel applied.
- Lunch will be served in our classroom. The children will have a more limited choice due to the numbers of children that will need to be served but still as delicious. Packed lunches will also be eaten in the classroom. Children may bring in a lunch box that is clearly named to avoid any confusion.
- Da Vinci have been allocated a section of the school field for the children to play as well as our outside area. Classes will stay within their own areas in school.
- Children will be ready to be collected from the same gate by 3.15pm. The gates will open from 3.10pm and you will need to follow the one-way system around the school again.

As the children are being dropped off quite rapidly, there may be times that you need to get a message to me. If it is not urgent please could you either contact the office and they will relay messages or information to me or you can email me at tgre9560@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk and I will get back to you as soon as I can. If you would like a meeting please email me and I will offer you times for us to meet.



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We have 9 children joining us for Reception so Da Vinci class will be a lovely size. The Reception children will be joining us in a staggered transition over the first 3 weeks (mainly just mornings) and will be with us full-time from 21st September. During this time the children and staff will form a 'Class Contract', which we will refer to throughout the year, that will help us to focus on the behaviours that will keep us safe and happy and enable the children to grow their brains.

Our enquiry question for the Autumn term (Terms 1 and 2) is “**What helps me to stay healthy?**” We will be sending out the Term Overview in the next few weeks so that you can see what your child will be learning this term.

Drop off and collection

Please ensure that you bring your child to the gate for the classroom in the morning and encourage them to enter the classroom independently. We will encourage them to hang up their coats, put their book bags in the tray for changing, their water bottle in the tray and change their shoes.

At the end of the day we will have your child ready for collection from 3.10pm at the gate to the classroom. Please ensure that you advise us (or the office if it changes during the day) if your child will be collected by another person.

Snacks/Milk/Water bottles

Children should bring a healthy snack each day to eat during afternoon snack time. Fruit and vegetables provided by the school are offered to children during their morning snack time. Every child is offered milk until their 5th birthday, after that time you are able to purchase milk for your child should you wish to (a form is attached for you to complete).

Please ensure that your child has a **clearly named** sealable water bottle in school each day containing plain water only. We will encourage your child to refill these as necessary throughout the day.

Packed Lunches

We encourage children to have our delicious school dinners but understand that some children may wish to have a packed lunch. Please ensure that your child's lunchbox is clearly named and does not contain **any** products that contain nuts as we are a 'nut free' school. Your child will have access to their water bottle all day and will eat their lunch within the classroom for the foreseeable future along with the other children.



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PE Kits

Children should bring in their PE kit and this should remain in school until half term. This should contain red shorts, a white t-shirt and socks along with trainers for outdoor PE (these can be their outdoor shoes). During the winter children may also have jogging bottoms as part of their PE kit and will be able to wear their school jumpers/cardigans. Please be advised that girls are unable to wear tights under their shorts for health and safety reasons.

School Shoes

Children should have a pair of indoor shoes that they can wear in the classroom throughout the day. These can also stay at school until half term. If it is wet, please ensure your child has some wellies for outdoor play as they will be on the school field.

Show and Tell:

Last year we had 'Show and Tell' as the children were eager to share toys/experiences with the class. We will be unable to continue this at the moment but will encourage the children to share experiences from the weekend etc instead. However, if they have a special achievement, then please do let us know so that we can celebrate with them.

Home Learning – this will commence on 18.09.2020 and will end on 11.12.2020

Home learning helps to ensure that children are “**growing their brains**” (a term with which the children are familiar) and we will continue to use the same format for this. Paper copies will be sent home in the children’s book bags on a Friday and should be returned on a Wednesday.

We would like the children to:

Daily: Reading

Children will continue to bring home their reading books and their reading diary every day, which should then be returned to school each morning, even if not completed. If your child travels by bus, ensure that the book and record are in their bag for us to find.

Children will be encouraged to choose a book to bring home from our class library, titles of which will be recorded in their diaries. They will also bring home a phonics reading book that will link to the phonics that they have been learning. We will also send another book that you can share and talk about together. Please write in your child's reading diary the title of any literature (yours or school's) with which they have engaged, including any that you have read to them and just a short note about their independent reading. We will not be continuing with 'Bob' the Reading Bug at the moment but will celebrate children that have really engaged with their reading in another way.



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Weekly: Spellings and Maths

Children will bring home spellings and maths on Fridays. These should be completed and returned to school by the following Wednesday.

Spellings: These will take on the form of look, say, cover, write, check. This is the same form as last year. Ideally, please practise each word once per evening to ensure that learning is embedded. There will be an informal assessment on Wednesdays to see how children are getting on.

Maths: This will be given in the form of activities related to learning that has taken place during the week and will help to consolidate learning.

Termly: Themed Activities

We will provide a list of 6 activities that will relate to our enquiry question that can be completed over the term. Please could you help your child to choose 2 of these to complete.

There is a lot of information to digest so if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best wishes

Tracy Gregory
Da Vinci (Reception/ Year 1) Teacher

tgre9560@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk



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