



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



Lisa Austin Executive Head: lisa.austin@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk
Lisa Horton Consultant Headteacher: head.3248@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk

11 June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school after the half term break. The children are very settled in school and enjoying their learning. There is a calm purposeful atmosphere across the school, and we have been very impressed with the children's positive attitudes to their learning. It has been particularly pleasing to note that the children are developing some important independent learning skills which are really helping them to take responsibility for their own learning and progress.

Recent monitoring of teaching and learning indicates that we have made very good progress with our school development plan and changes that have been made are having a positive impact on all aspects of the school provision.

Thank you to the parents who have sent in emails thanking staff for their hard work, noting all the improvements that have been made. We really appreciate your feedback.

We are pleased that arrangements for class organisation for September have been finalised, and we can now share this plan with you. Next year, the five classes will be organised as follows:

Reception and Year 1	Mrs Gregory and Mrs Bayliss
Year 2 and 3	Miss Calvert and Natasha Eggleton
Year 4	Mrs Clarke and Mrs Brabner
Year 5	Mrs Galbraith, Mrs Kokkuhannandige and Mrs Lambourne
Year 6	Mrs White, Mrs Jacobs, Mrs Troskie and Mrs Lambourne.

Teaching Assistants will be deployed across the school supporting individuals, groups and whole classes as required. This flexible approach allows us to use our most valuable resources to have the most impact on pupil progress.

Times Tables Rockstars

This week we have introduced the children to Times Tables Rock Stars. This is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice.

Different times tables will be introduced or consolidated each week according to the age and stage of the child. Fast recall of multiplication tables is a skill which really helps children access and improve in their maths. It is a statutory expectation that all tables up to 12x12 are known by the end of Year 4.

This format has very successfully boosted times tables recall speed for hundreds of thousands of pupils over the last 8 years in over 16,000 schools - both primary and secondary - worldwide.

Your child will have a log in so they can practise this at home. Daily practise will be done using paper versions at school. Please encourage children to practise and improve at home.

So far, the children have really enjoyed the format and have been very motivated by it. Any feedback from parents or carers is welcome.



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Sunscreen, Hats and Water

Please can you ensure that you send your child to school wearing a hat and sunscreen. We are not able to provide spare hats and prefer that the application of sunscreen is carried out at home and not by staff members. We are encouraging all the children to drink plenty of water during the day and will refill water bottles as required. We are taking all necessary precautions to ensure the children play and learn safely in the sun.

After School Clubs

From next week we are pleased to be able to offer some extra-curricular activities after school to each bubble. We will be expanding this offer in September. Please complete the attached form to register your child. Places will be offered on a first come first served basis. Please note that the after school Fun Club will continue to run on a daily basis (booking via the website or school office). Clubs are as follows:

Da Vinci and Goldsworthy Bubble	Acro-gymnastics Monday 3:15 – 4:15 pm Reception (10 children max) Acro-gymnastics Thursday 3:15 – 4:15 pm Years 1 and 2 (15 children max) Staff – Mrs Eggleton
Klimt and Picasso Bubble	Lego Club Tuesday 3:15 – 4:00 pm (15 children max) Staff - Mrs Bealey and Mrs Kokkuhannandige
Banksy Bubble	Art Club Monday 3.15 – 4.15 pm (15 children max) Content: expressive drawing and painting, paper collage work and wire/recycled materials for sculpture, clay work, printmaking on some of the following themes: 'wild art' -wildlife and environmental themes; landscape drawing and painting, 'Zoo'ming in' - endangered species close-up work. Just imagine' - taking a museum object (online Ashmolean collection) building a narrative story about the objects origins through drawing and painting 'Art and Sole' - Printing-making Designer shoes



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Church Service

We would like to say thank you to Mrs Jacobs and a group of our pupils for attending and taking part at the open-air church service in Blewbury on Sunday 6th June. Saskia Goyder (Year 5) and Georgie Fraser (Year 3) both read beautifully at the service and others enjoyed planting tree seeds as part of a village initiative to plant trees. The school hopes to be part of this and other village projects. Thank you and well done to all the children for representing Blewbury School at this service.

School Car Park

We have spoken to all the children in school about safety and would appreciate it if you could reinforce the following important safety message at home. We are aware that on occasions children who have forgotten items are running back into school to collect things via the car park and not walking on the path and are often unaccompanied. From 3:30 pm cars and the mini-bus may be leaving the car park, so it is vital that all children and adults who are in the vicinity at this time walk on the paths and at the edge of the car park carefully, keeping an eye out for moving vehicles. Also, we have asked that children who cycle into school do not ride bikes or scooters once in the school grounds as this is also causing a hazard both for the riders and pedestrians. We would like to remind you that once the children have been handed over at the end of the school day, their safety remains the responsibility of the parents and carers. We appreciate your support with this to ensure we are keeping everyone safe.

Attendance

Well done to everyone who has been arriving at school promptly and attending regularly. It is very important that we continue to promote regular attendance at school in partnership with you, to ensure children do not miss valuable learning. Please note that there are no forms available to request absence from school. If your child is absent due to exceptional circumstances this will be considered, but holidays in term time are discouraged and will be recorded as unauthorised as a rule. We will continue to monitor attendance closely and be in touch with families where absence is below 90% so we can work with you to help improve your child's attendance at school.

Face coverings

Thank you for bringing your queries to us regarding the of wearing face coverings in the outside areas whilst on school premises. We continue to take advice from ODST and, at present, we are asked to retain our current procedure that requires all visitors entering the school site to wear face masks. We will inform you of any updates, once these have been made known to us.

Dates for your Diary

End of year reports:	30th June 2021
Leaver's service:	20th July 2021 – 2pm
Year 6 Performance:	14th July 2021 – 7pm
End of Term:	21st July 2021 – 1.30pm

Best wishes,

Lisa Horton and Lisa Austin



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Summer Term – Clubs
Booking form

Banksy class	
Monday Art Club	
3.15 – 4.15 pm	max 15 pupils
Name of child:	

Da Vinci class	
Monday Acro-gymnastics Club	
3.15 – 4.15 pm	max 10 pupils
Name of child:	

Picasso / Klimt bubble	
Tuesday Lego Club	
3.15 – 4.00 pm	max 15 pupils
Name of child:	

Goldsworthy Class	
Thursday Acro-gymnastics Club	
3.15 – 4.15 pm	max 15 pupils
Name of child:	

I authorise my child/ren to attend the above clubs

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Home-time collection arrangements:

Name of person collecting	Contact details