



Blakesley CE Primary School Newsletter

November 2019

Dates to add to your Diary

Our Calendar is filling up with events this term. Newly added events will be added in *green* for your reference. Please also refer to our website for information.

Thursday 21st November	FABS Hotdogs and Movie Night, 3.15pm – 5pm (details below)
Monday 25th November	School photographs (Tempest) Individual/ with siblings in school
Monday 25th November	Additional Open Afternoon session for prospective parents, 1.30 -2.30pm
Thursday 28th November	RESCHEDULED PARENTS' EVENING 5.30 – 7.30pm
Tuesday 3rd December pm	Towcester Carol Concert (Year 6 pupils only). Details to follow
Friday 6th December, 9.30am	Christingle Service, St Mary's Church, all welcome
Monday 9th December, 2pm	Key Stage One Christmas Play, Dress Rehearsal (grandparents/community members/ pre-school community)
Wednesday 11th December, 6pm	Key Stage One Christmas Play (2 tickets allocated)
Thursday 13th December, 2pm	Key Stage One Christmas Play (grandparents/extended family/friends)
Friday 20th December, 2pm	Class 4 leading Carols and Readings Around the Tree at St Mary's Church
Friday 20th December, 3pm	Mulled Wine and Mince Pies following our Carols Around the Tree (in the School Hall, all welcome)
Friday 20th December	School closes for Christmas
SPRING TERM 2020	
Friday 3rd January	Teacher training Day: School closed to pupils
Monday 6th January	School re-opens to pupils
Tuesday 4th February	Life Education Bus
Thursday 13th February	Whole Class photographs
Friday 14th February	School closes to pupils for half term
Monday 24th February	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 25th February	School re-opens to pupils

Please note that all dates listed may be subject to change, we will notify you at the earliest point possible that changes are made.

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy start to Term 2, our children have been representing the school in sporting events and on visits to a number of different places. Wherever our children go, people always comment on their positive attitudes, exemplary behaviour, great team ethos and wonderful manners. They wear their Blakesley badge with pride and we are certainly very proud of them.

Please accept my apologies for the cancellation of some of our school events this week. The extreme weather meant that we had to prioritise the safety of our children, families and staff. Sadly, the cross country event organised by Mr Hill has had to be postponed until the Spring Term whilst Thursday's parents' evening had to be postponed following police advice on the driving conditions in the local area. Thank you for your understanding with each of these. Details of the rescheduled parents' evening are within this month's newsletter.

The build up to the Christmas period is always an exciting time of the year in school. Please see the calendar above for information about the various events and

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performances that we will be sharing. We really hope that you will be able to join us in our festivities!

*Kind regards
Sally Beaton*

Remembrance



On Monday, our children marked Remembrance Day on the green outside of the school, our Year 6 pupils leading the service amongst the poppies made by our pupils. We were joined by parents, family members and friends of the school. Community members have contacted the school to praise the children's maturity in leading the service. We are, as always, proud of all of our pupils.

Re-arranged Parents' Evening Date

Our cancelled Parents' Evening has been rescheduled to now take place on Thursday 28th November between 5.30 and 7.30pm.

Appointment times from the cancelled parents' evening will be transferred to the new evening, so please expect to come at the time of your original appointment. If you are unable to make your appointment, please liaise directly with your child's class teacher to make an alternative mutually convenient time.

Saying Welcome to ...

We are pleased to welcome Miss Kayleigh Honne to our staff, Miss Honne has been appointed as a teaching assistant to support learning across the school, she will also supervise the children during their lunchtime play session.

Today, we also welcome Mrs Lucy Yorke to the staff team. Mrs Yorke will be our intervention Teaching Assistant, supporting our children's learning needs across the school. Mrs Yorke will also be supervising and supporting our children during their lunchtime play session.

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Please join me in making both members of staff feel very welcome.

Clubs

External provider Clubs

Freestyle Soccer:

Wednesday lunchtimes

KidzTrickz Circus Skills Club:

Wednesday 3.10 – 4.15pm

Kidslingo French Club:

Friday lunchtimes

Hotshots Basketball Club:

Friday 3.10 – 4pm

Teacher-led Clubs

Choir with Miss Crawford, Monday lunchtime

Art/Drawing Club with Mr Hill (Years 2-6) Monday 3.15 – 4.00pm

Knitting Club with Mrs Edwards, Tuesday lunchtime

Maths Club (Y5&6) with Mrs Conway Thursday lunchtime

Coding Club with Mrs Cox and Mrs Klegeris – Friday Lunchtime

Class 5 children who live in the village may walk home from school after clubs if written permission is sent in advance.

Sports Events

A team of our Class 5 children represented our school brilliantly at the recent Sponne cluster Sports Hall Athletics event.

Sponne staff commented on not only how well-mannered and well behaved our pupils are, but also on how they supported each other positively in all of the events, showing true fellowship in their sports. Whilst we didn't win any trophies, they made everyone within our school community very proud to be Blakesley.

Movie and Hotdog Night, Thursday 21st November, 3.10 – 5pm

Back by popular demand!

FABS are holding a movie night for our pupils, running straight from school through to 5pm. Please see the details below. Slips to book places should be returned to school with payment, by no later than Wednesday 20th November.

Dear Parents,

Following on from the success of previous 'Movie Nights' there will be another on Thursday 21st November.

Straight from school, so no need to pick up at 3.10! Please collect your children at 5pm.

FABS will be providing a light snack of a hotdog, a bag of sweets and a drink. If you would prefer your child to have raisins instead of sweets please email FABS at fabsofblakesley@outlook.com, remember to include your child's name and class!

If your child wishes to attend, please complete to enclosed form along with payment of £3.50 per child to the school office no later than Tuesday 19th November.

Any questions please ask a member of the FABS team.

Tuck shop is back (with a healthy option too!)

FABS are running a weekly tuckshop after school each Friday this term. Snacks are available for 50p per bag, all proceeds support the opportunities and resources that we can provide for our pupils. Thank you for your support.

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Volunteers to support with Reading

Our school is really focussing on developing our pupils' reading this year. We cannot place enough value on giving children the opportunity to read aloud to an adult and as such, we are always looking for volunteers to support us with hearing our pupils read in school. If you, or someone you know, are able to volunteer some time to support us with this we would be very grateful. Additional adult support in school is always appreciated so please come and register your interest in the school office. Your help makes a difference!

Consultation on Admission Arrangements for 2021

All admission authorities are required to formally consult if they propose to make any changes to their admission arrangements for the following school year. We are currently consulting on our admission arrangements for September 2021 and you can find a copy of our proposed admission arrangements Draft Admissions Policy for Academic Year 2021 which is available on our website in the Key Information, Admissions section. This outlines the proposed changes to our oversubscription criteria as follows:

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan):

The LGB will admit children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) which names the School.

Oversubscription criteria:

Where there are more applications than there are places available, children will be admitted according to the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

- 1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. (see definition below);*
- 2. Children who live (see definition below) in the Linked Area (see definition below) who have a sibling (see definition below) continuing at the school at the time of admission of the child;*
- 3. Children who live (see definition below) in the Linked Area (see definition below);*
- 4. Children with a sibling (see definition below) continuing at the school at the time of admission of the child;*
- 5. Children of worshipping members of any Church within the Lambfold Benefice (see definition below);*
- 6. Other children.*

Tiebreaker:

If the admission number is exceeded within any of the oversubscription criteria, priority will be given to those children who live (see definition below) closest to the School (see definition below).

The consultation period runs from **11th November to 20th December 2019.**

Should you wish to make any comments about the proposed arrangements you can do so by email to the Chair of Governors c/o bursar@blakesley.northants-ecl.gov.uk or by post:

FAO The Chair of Governors
Blakesley Church of England Primary School
The Green
Blakesley
NORTHANTS
NN12 8RD

Safeguarding help

We are always trying to keep our children safe in school. We would very much value your support with this. One area that we need to improve on is ensuring that the main front doors are the only access point to the building for all visitors. With this in mind, please could I ask that parents do not cut through the classrooms after dropping their children off in the morning. Our children start learning as they enter the building and we would ask that this is not interrupted. As you know the gate is open from 8.40am and is shut at or after 8.55am. Please do aim to leave the site by the school gate before it is closed rather than exit through the school's classrooms. If you arrive at or after 8.55am, please bring your child/ren to the main office where they will be signed in.

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Should you wish to speak to the office or access the building for any other reason, please come to the main front entrance and wait to be buzzed in. This enables us to monitor who is in our building, one of the requirements of the safeguarding procedures that we must follow.

Use of mobile technologies in school

We are also required to be vigilant about the use of mobile technologies on our school site and would like to politely remind all visitors that mobile phones should be put away when in the school building with children present. Filming your child in assembly is, of course, acceptable but please be sensitive to what is shared on social media as, for safeguarding purposes, some of our children should not be identified on social media platforms. If you are at all unsure, please do speak to us. Thank you for your support.

Term Dates and Term Time Holidays

We're aware that it's a busy time of year for making holiday arrangements. Please could we request that holidays are book during designated school holiday times rather than during term time wherever possible. **We cannot authorise absence for holidays that are taken during term time and as such unauthorised absence from school may result in a referral to the Local authority for a fixed penalty fine.** Thank you for your support.

Please see below the term and holiday dates for this year to support you in your arrangements.

Blakesley CE Primary School
Term dates 2019/20

Term 1	Training day	Monday 2 nd September 2019
	Training day	Tuesday 3 rd September
	School re-opens	Wednesday 4 th September
	School closes	Friday 25 th October
Term 2	Training day	Monday 4 th November
	School re-opens	Tuesday 5 th November
	School closes	Friday 20 th December
Term 3	Training day	Friday 3 rd January 2020
	School re-opens	Monday 6 th January
	School closes	Friday 14 th February
Term 4	Training day	Monday 24 th February
	School re-opens	Tuesday 25 th February
	School closes	Friday 3 rd April
Term 5	School re-opens	Monday 20 th April
	School closed – bank holiday	Friday 8 th May
	School closes	Friday 22 nd May
Term 6	School re-opens	Monday 1 st June
	School closes	Friday 17 th July

Fundraising for such good causes

Over recent weeks, our school community has joined together to raise funds for charities close to our hearts. Our British Legion poppy sale raised £246.74, roughly double our usual amount, all proceeds will go to the British Legion.



Our mufti day of brights, lights, spots and stripes raised £91 for Children in Need.

Our Macmillan Cake Sale, organised by Kitty, raised a fantastic £197.74 for Macmillan. Huge thanks to Kitty and her friends for organising this event.

Thank you as always for your support; our community's generosity and compassion is tangible through such events.

Booking Wrap Around Care

After School Care – Larks and Stay and Play

Now we are into our first term and everything is running again it's a good time to remind everyone of the process for our before and after school care.

Please use the booking forms on our school website prior to the date you require the booking for.

We can take children at late notice if you have an emergency but, due to popularity, we really need to receive your booking in advance to make sure numbers comply with health and safety. Therefore, the cut off for making bookings will be 1pm on the day you require.

If you email the school, please always send it to the office and appropriate after school club leader for the day so that all staff can ensure your child is in the right place at the right time. Also please be mindful that a lot of calls just before the end of the day makes it difficult to get the message quickly to the right person.

We do not issue invoices as we ask for the money before or on the day you use the club. We do not send invoices out but will send a reminder if your outstanding balance increases. If you wish to pay with childcare vouchers, please see Mrs Thompson to set it up. We use several providers.

We want to continue to offer a good service, but it would be really help us if we use the system detailed above. Thank you for your support.

Thank you, as always for your support. If there are any aspects of the newsletter that you would like to discuss or if you have any issues or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,
Sally Beaton
Headteacher