



Blakesley Church of England Primary School

Our Vision

As a Church of England school at the heart of the community and in partnership with parents, Blakesley C of E Primary School is committed to enabling all pupils to achieve their full potential. It is a place where we learn how to love God, one another and ourselves and to serve the community. We will do this through developing a love of learning within a creative, dynamic and vibrant environment based on Christian values where everyone aspires to excellence.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you, your families and all of your loved ones safe and well. Getting used to a 'new normal' brings many challenges for us all as we juggle work and home life. We hope that your children are managing the changes, finding the school work set for them accessible and engaging and having time to enjoy learning opportunities that extend beyond the work that we are setting.

Teachers have shared some of the wonderful learning that has been taking place over recent weeks - seeing the children developing important life skills, pursuing their own interests and having time to spend on learning about things that they have a passion for has been a joy.

Recently we have learnt:

- how to deliver a baby lamb (as well as how baby lambs are made!)
- what a lamprey is (small native fish if you're wondering!)
- that Penny Farthings can be found in unexpected places and that they are VERY tall and hard to ride;
- that new born chicks aren't all cute and fluffy to begin with (but it's worth the wait!);
- how to make extraordinary banana bread, and
- how to paint bluebells using water colours like a pro!

Please do keep sharing all of your children's learning experiences with us – they are teaching us lots of new things too!

Home Learning

We hope that you are finding the work set for your children to be in a supportive and accessible format. We have provided a timetable which echoes the lesson structure of the school day as we know that this helps children maintain a routine. We also know that family life means that laptops may need to be shared, parents have work commitments and that some days are just simply a challenge for children. If what we provide isn't working for you, please do speak to your child's class teacher, we will do our best to adapt and adjust our provision to suit your child's needs and, if there are specific barriers to accessing home learning, we can offer support to try to overcome these. Your child's class teachers will be calling you over the coming week or so to check that you and your family are ok and to see if any support is needed – you know that we will do our best to help.

Our Blakesley Values: Fellowship Courage Compassion Thankfulness Wisdom

An assembly by the Lighthouse Trust who regularly visit our school to lead collective worship has also been added to the website in the Home Learning section, just follow the link to enjoy it.

Our move to using Tapestry has been somewhat thwarted by the technical issues of setting it up so for now, whilst we try to overcome these, work will continue to be set on the website with resources emailed to you. We will endeavour to have all resources with you by 9am on a Monday morning but ask for your understanding if we are sometimes a few minutes late – we will be working on it!

Reception Intake 2020

We have allocated all of our places for children joining our Reception class in September 2020. We are looking forward to meeting all of our new children and families and welcoming them to our fantastic school. We will be in touch soon with more information.

Free school meal voucher system

Vouchers are now being issued each week to families of children entitled to Free School Meals (sadly not for the Universal Free School Meals that all KS1 children are entitled to). These will be emailed to you directly. Please keep an eye on your Inbox and your Junk folder. The code in the email will allow you to access a voucher that can be redeemed at the supermarkets listed. Any problems, please let me know.

Class Photographs

We are aware that the recently taken Class photographs currently remain at school. We will of course distribute these once it is safe to do so, however current Government guidance on making unnecessary journeys means that we will have to wait to be able to do this. Please be patient and know that they will be with you as soon as it is safe for us to share them.

Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies

Huge thanks go to our Head Pupils for organising their cake sale and Mrs Ward who has organised the purchase and distribution of the hoodies.



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As you can see, the children look wonderful in their hoodies and Mrs Ward has asked that the following message is shared with you:

'I would like to pass on the year 6 students' (& parents') thanks to everyone who donated to the cake sale that was run by the yr6s last term. All students were able to get hoodies and it really cheered all of them up to receive them during the Easter holidays.'

School Re-opening

We are missing all of the children and really look forward to seeing them as soon as we possibly can. At the moment, the news is full of speculation about how and when schools will re-open. I can honestly say that at this point in time you know as much about when and how this will happen as we do. We have not been issued any guidance on timescales or arrangements as yet and will keep you informed as we do. At the moment, school remains closed to the majority of pupils.

Fundraising for Charities

The Gardner family have cycled 26 miles to raise funds for charities as part of the Twopointsixchallenge which has been initiated by the London Marathon team as a fundraising event designed to fill the gap that the charitable sector is experiencing at the moment.



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More information is given about Mrs Gardner's motivation for undertaking this challenge at <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/HelenGardner18> donations can also be made through the page if you would like to do so.

It's wonderful to see and hear of our families doing such wonderful things to raise money for valuable causes. Well done everyone!

Thank you to all of you who have shared kind messages, thoughts and reflections with us – not to mention those who have made cake deliveries to school (Mr Hill particularly is VERY grateful!) All of your kindness is very much appreciated by the team at Blakesley.

We are sending our kindest thoughts and prayers to you all. If there is anything that we can support or help with, please do let us know as we are always here for you. We look forward to the time when we can open our doors safely and see our community together again.

Be safe, be kind, take care.

Sally