



Co-Headteacher Welcome

A very warm welcome if you are new to Bledington Primary School and welcome back if you are already an established member of the Bledington family. We look forward to another busy year and to working together with you in partnership to ensure your children achieve the very best that they can. The term has got off to a really positive start. Responsibilities have been allocated to our oldest pupils and the School Council and Eco Council members have been voted in.

We'd like to welcome our new members of staff to our team; Miss Thomas teaching Puffins until December, Miss Winfield working as Teaching Assistant in Penguins and Early Bird Leader every morning and Mr Nicholls teaching music to Penguins and Parrots. Welcome back to Mr Brown who is now teaching in Owls and also to Miss Bartlett our Teaching Assistant in Puffins, after her maternity leave.

All our new Reception pupils are now doing full days and have been matched up with a Buddy to help them at playtimes and lunchtimes. Extra-curricular Clubs are in full swing with an interesting variety over the week. Please remember that for ALL pupils there is an expectation that they will complete their reading and spelling homework every week.

We were thrilled to see so many of you at the BSA Quiz on Friday evening and look forward to seeing you at the Macmillan Cake sale on Friday. Harvest Festival is a treat not to be missed at 2pm 04.10.24!

J Kewley & A Ziebeck

Dates for your Diary

25/09/2024 Cotswold School Open Day
25/09/24: Food for the North Cotswold Foodbank can be brought in from Wed 25 th Sept - boxes will be in the link.
27/09/24: Cake Sale in aid of Macmillan. 2.15pm- all welcome
30/09/24: BSA AGM 2.15pm School Hall
30/09/24 The History of Toys & Games Workshop by The Oxfordshire Museum Learning Service for Reception, 1 and 2
03/10/24 School Census
03/10/24 Cotswold School Open Evening
04/10/24 Harvest Festival- gate opens 1.50 for 2pm start
08/10/24: ART Workshop: Acrylic workshop with Emma Cox for years 1-6
9/10/24 Bag2School Collection
14/10/24 Parents Evening Week- sign up sheets will go out on playground wc 7/10/24
14/10/24; CRICKET club is ON
14/10/24; NO CHESS CLUB
15/10/24 NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS DUE TO PARENTS EVE
15/10/24: OPEN day for prospective parents. 9.30am to 11.30am
16/10/24: Dave's club is ON
17/10/24: NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS DUE TO PARENTS EVE
21/10/24: Black History Week
22/10/24 Space Camp for years 3 and 4 – details to follow
24/10/24: Carbon Monoxide awareness day for years 1&2; 5&6

25/10/24: INSET DAY- NO PUPILS AT SCHOOL

HALF TERM 28/10/24-1/11/24. RETURN TO SCHOOL 4/11/24

31/10/24 Deadline for Secondary School applications
6/11/24 Rainforest Animals Workshop for Owls and Puffins
7/11/24 Junior Cricket starts day (during school hours)
11/11/24: Remembrance Day
11/11/24: Photographer at school for individual portraits
13/11/24: Flu immunisation for whole school (optional)
15/11/24: Children in Need- more details to follow
19/11/24: Heights, Weights and Eyesight Screening for Reception and year 6 children
4/12/24; Wreath Making Evening- 7pm start.
09/12/24: NO CLUBS FOR LAST 2 WEEKS OF TERM
9/12/24: Infant Nativity- school hall Gates open 1.30 for 1.45pm start. All welcome
10/12/24: Panto – Jack and the Beanstalk at Chipping Norton Theatre- whole school trip
13/12/24: Christmas Jumper and Christmas Lunch Day
17/12/24: Carol Singing at Daylesford straight after school- all welcome
18/12/24 Carol Singing at St Leonard's Church Bledington- all welcome 10.00am start
20/12/24: School breaks up at 1.10pm
23/12/24 to 3/1/25 - Christmas Holidays. Return to school on Monday 6th Jan 2025
7/1/25 Parrot class start swimming lessons at Chipping Norton (6 x sessions)
17/01/25: Young Voices for Penguins and Parrots – sign up forms will go out shortly.
24/1/25 Longborough Opera workshop- date tbc
30/01/25 National Story Telling Day
10/11/13 th Feb Parents Evening
17/02/25-21/02/25/ Half Term Holidays- BACK TO SCHOOL TUES 25TH FEB
24/02/25 INSET DAY- NO PUPILS AT SCHOOL
27/2/25 :Fair Trade Hot Chocolate and Tuck Shop day
03/03/25 Book Week
6/3/25 World Book Day- Dress up Day- Come to school dressed up as a character from a Roald Dahl book
12/3/25 OWLS book fair in the school hall – 8.45am
13/03/25: PUFFINS Book Fair in the school hall – 8.45am
14/3/25 PENGUINS Book Fair in the school hall – 8.45am
17/3/25; PARROTS Book Fair in the school hall- 8.45am
10/04/25 Easter Extravaganza
11/4/25: Break up at 1.10 for Easter Hols
14/4/25 to 25/4/25 Easter Holidays. Return to school 28/4/25
05/05/25 May Day Bank Holiday
12/05/25: SAT's week
21/05/25: Walk to School Day
23/05/25: Maypole Afternoon
26/05/25 to 30/5/25 half Term Holidays
2/6/25 INSET Day- No pupils at school
6/6/25 NON SCHOOL UNIFORM DAY in return for Tombola Prize for Bledington Village Fete
07/06/25; Bledington Village Fete
11/6/25 1 st induction day for Sept reception children and parents
17/06/25: 2 nd Induction day for Sept reception intake (children only)

18/6/25: Parents Open Evening
20/6/25 Sports Day
27/6/25 Reserve Sports Day if wet on the 20th
8/7/25 End of Year Performance- afternoon - gates open at 1.15 for a 1.30 start (please note afternoon and evening performances are on the same day this year)
8/7/25 End of Year Performance – evening. Gates open 5.40 for 6pm start
17/7/25. Leaver's Assembly
18/7/25 Break up at 1.10 for Summer Hols

Open Day 15th Oct - 9.30am to 11.30am

Please spread the word to friends and family that we have an Open Day for prospective families on Tuesday 15th October. To make a booking, please contact the school office on 01608 658388 or email admin@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk

Thank you

Thank you to the BSA for purchasing new goal posts and nets, and to Keith Thomson and Henry for assembling them.

New DfE Statutory Attendance Guidance

You will have seen in the press and media that the Department for Education has introduced new statutory guidance aimed at reducing term-time holidays and unauthorised absences. We are required to follow the revised guidance and, as such, we will be issuing Penalty Notices from now on for all holidays taken during term-time.

Please read the attached information regarding the changes that are effective immediately.

Forest School

Thank you to everyone that has signed up to support until half term. The rota for after half term is now available in the Pod window. We are always looking for helpers on a Wednesday from 1-3pm come rain or shine!

WANTED: Our mud kitchen is in need of any old kitchen utensils (big spoons, potato mashers, wooden spoons etc) along with any jugs, pans etc you may want rid of.

Also - if anyone has any old trowels or small gardening forks they could donate they would be gratefully received.

Many thanks
Mrs Droy

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a committed, cheerful and energetic midday supervisor to join our midday team. Main duties include supervising pupils during lunch and outside play then putting away tables and chairs daily. The hours of work are 12.00 to 1.15pm Monday to Friday, term time only. For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office on 01608 658388 or e mail admin@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk

Early Bird (Breakfast Club)

Early Bird is open every day during term-time from 8.00am. For bookings, please e mail Miss Winfield on earlybird@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk Payments to be made via Parentpay – please select 'Breakfast' as the payment item.

Bledington School Association - The BSA 30/9/24 2pm

Welcome to all our new parents!

All parents are automatically members of the BSA, but if you would like to become more involved and join the committee, please e mail BSA@bledington.gloucs.sch.uk. The first meeting is in the hall at 2pm on Monday 30th September.

Tea & Cake Sale in aid of Macmillan 27th Sept. 2.15pm.

Parrot class children are arranging a Tea and Cakes sale in aid of Macmillan Cancer Care. Please come along to the school hall at 2.15pm on Friday 27th Sept to support this worthy cause - all proceeds go to the charity. Huge thanks to Parrot Class parents/carers for providing the cakes! These need to be brought in at drop off on Friday 27th Sept., please.

The History of Toys & Games Workshop by The Oxfordshire Museum Learning Service – for Reception, Years 1 and 2. 30/09/2024

The Oxfordshire Museum Learning Service will run a workshop for Owls and Puffins on Monday 30th Sept. on the History of Toys and Games.

The children will be able to view a selection of toys played with by past generations from the C19th and C20th and compare key features with toys they have now. Each child will also have the opportunity to make a simple thaumatrope. This introduces the Victorian and Edwardian fascination with optical illusions and moving pictures.

The cost of this workshop is £4.50 per child payable through Parentpay.

School Census Menu change- 3rd October-

The number of children receiving Universal Free School Meals (all children from Reception up to year 2) is one of the criteria on our School Census. The more children that take up a free school meal on Census day, the more funding we receive for school meals for the coming year. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, could your child please have a school meal on the 3rd Oct.? The menu will be Fish Fingers or Vegan Sausages with chips/Jacket Potato. Friday the 4th we will serve Chicken Korma with Rice or Vegetable pasta bake.

Bag2School- 9/10/2024

We are passionate about recycling and the prevention of items going into landfill and as such, 2-3 times a year we have clothing recycling days- our next collection will be on Wednesday 9th Oct. Please see the attached flyer for full details.

Cricket

Every Monday afternoon during term 1, (September until half term) Owls and Puffins will receive cricket coaching from Gloucestershire Cricket Board. This has proved to be incredibly successful with our pupils benefitting from the experience of a qualified cricket coach. Coaching for KS2 will start on Thursdays after half term.

Harvest Festival supporting the North Cotswold Foodbank- 4th Oct-Gate opens 1.50pm for 2.00pm start

Please come along to watch the children sing in this lovely Harvest assembly- Friday 4th Oct, gates open 1.50 for a 2.00pm start. We will, once again, support the North Cotswold Foodbank, which relies heavily on donations to feed local people in crisis. We would be most grateful if you could bring in non-perishable, in-date dried food that we will donate to the organisation. Items such as tins, jars, UHT milk, cereals, dried pasta and toiletries are all ideal, No fresh produce please. Items can be brought in from Wednesday 25th Sept and left in the link area at drop off or collection. Thank you

2025 Primary School Admissions

School Admissions

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 they can start primary school in September 2025

- **November 2024** Letters sent out explaining how to apply for a school place. If you are a Gloucestershire resident and you still have not received a letter by December please contact the Coordinated Admissions team.
- **4th November to 15th January** online application facility open.
- **15th January 2025** - Closing date for all applications
- **16th April** - Allocation Day.
- **23rd April** - Closing date to return reply form accepting school place

2025 Secondary School Admissions

School Admissions

If you live in Gloucestershire and require an out of county school, you will still need to apply to Gloucestershire School Admissions

- **September 2024** Letters sent out explaining how to apply for a school place
- From 3rd **September to 31st October** Online Secondary/High School transfer application facility open
- **31st October** Closing date for all applications
- **3rd March 2025**- Allocation Day.

Flu Immunisation 13th Nov

As part of the Flu Immunisation Programme 2024, NHS staff will visit school on the 13th Nov to administer the nasal vaccine to all school children (with parental consent) from Reception through to Year 6.

Consent or refusal of the nasal vaccine will be done digitally this year, so please look out for details which will be e mailed out shortly.

THE FANTASTIC FACTS 😊

- Reading for 6 minutes a day can reduce stress by 68%
- Read 20 minutes a day, and you'll read 1,800,000 words per year.
- Children who read 1,000,000 words a year are in the top two percent of reading achievement.
- Children learn 4,000 to 12,000 words per year through reading.
- Reading for 15 minutes a day can improve your grades.
- Putting the subtitles on your TV improves reading skills.



We are a NUT FREE School

A reminder that we are a NUT FREE school- please do not send any nuts, or products containing nuts, e.g peanut butter sandwiches, nutty granola bars etc to school. Thank you for your cooperation.

Being on time matters!

All children should be in class by 9am; Registers and lunch menus are taken at 9.00am and class work starts immediately after that.

Pupils arriving during registration will be marked with an L (late) code, which denotes that the pupil is present. Registration will close 20 minutes after the register has been taken. Pupils arriving after the register has closed will be given an U code, which denotes an unauthorised absence. If a pupil is registered with ten U's in a ten-week period a Notice to improve can be issued by the Local Authority. **Being late for 5 minutes every day equates to missing three days of learning each year. Please make sure your child is in through the gate by 8.55am at the latest.**

Safeguarding- Video Games Age Ratings

Video games PEGI ratings

When choosing appropriate video games for your child, you can use age ratings to help you.

What are PEGI ratings?

PEGI stands for Pan-European Game Information and is the video game content rating system used across the UK, Europe and the Middle East.

PEGI 3 – suitable for all ages

PEGI 7 – suitable for young children

PEGI 12 – suitable for children 12 and over

PEG 16 – suitable for children 16 and over

PEGI 18 – Only suitable for adults

Each PEGI rating also contains content warnings to help you make an informed decision.