

26th September 2025

Dear parents and carers,

It's been another busy fortnight here at Blewbury School. From debates and local trips to descriptive writing and forest school. We also announced our new Eco-captain, Malika (pictured). We look forward to working with her to continue work on our kitchen garden and increase our 'reduce, reuse, recycle' commitment.



Have a look at what each class has been learning this week:

[O'Keeffe](#) [Goldsworthy](#) [Picasso](#) [Banksy](#)

MCAS

We are now using My Child at School (MCAS) as our main form of communication between school and families. We are also using this as our payment system for dinners, trips and clubs. You can find a parent/carer help guide [here](#). Please get in touch with Mrs Bealey, Office Administrator, if you have any queries relating to MCAS.

Attendance

Blewbury School is committed to ensuring that your child receives the best possible education to prepare them for the next stage of their life and follows the Oxfordshire County Council Attendance Policy. It is the policy of this school not to authorise absence for holidays during term-time. If a term-time holiday is taken the absence will be recorded as unauthorised, and a referral may be made to the County Attendance Team. This may result in the issue of an Education Penalty Notice under section 444A Education Act 1996 in respect of each absent child, to each parent/carer.

You can view our Attendance policy on the website [here](#) and see Attendance letter to parents and carers at the end of this newsletter.

Harvest

Next week we are celebrating harvest with our Annual Harvest Festival. This year it will be held in school due to ongoing building works at the church. We will be collecting donations for the Didcot Foodbank. They are asking for the following items:

- **Tinned Goods:** meat, fish, vegetables (especially low-salt options), and fruit (in juice, not syrup).
- **Grains & Pasta:** Pasta, rice, noodles, porridge, and instant mash.
- **Breakfast Items:** Cereal and long-life UHT milk.
- **Spreads:** Jam, honey and chocolate spread.
- **Condiments & Spices:** Stock cubes, oil, and salt and pepper.
- **Toiletries:** Toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, deodorant, and shaving products.

Nature, Grow, Flourish



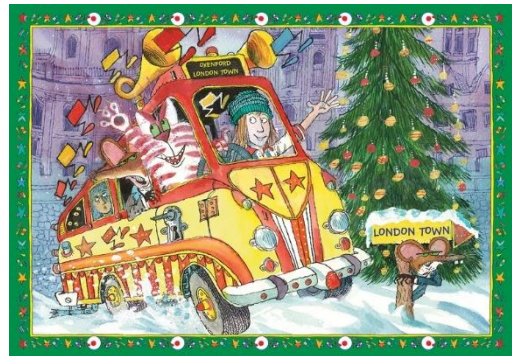
- **Baby Supplies:** Nappies (especially in larger sizes) and baby wipes.
- **Period Products:** Sanitary pads and tampons.
- **Household Items:** Washing-up liquid, laundry detergent, toilet paper, and kitchen roll.

Join us on Thursday 2nd October at (approximately) 9am to celebrate this joyful occasion. Please sign in via the school office.

Panto

A reminder that this December, the children will have the wonderful opportunity to attend a performance of Dick Whittington at the Oxford Playhouse.

The trip will take place on **Wednesday 10th December**. We will leave school at 1pm for a 2pm performance. The return coach is picking us up at 4.30pm so we anticipate being back at school just after 5pm (we will confirm the timings on the day). Please note there will be no after school club provision that day.



There will be a charge of **£11.50 per child** to cover the cost of the theatre tickets. We are very grateful to our wonderful PTA, who are kindly covering the cost of transport, helping to keep the cost as low as possible for families. Please pay via your MCAS account, which will also give permission for your child to attend.

Celebrations

Congratulations to the following children who received a Star of the Week certificate in our celebration assembly:

Isla F for great work in maths

Aryana for always being kind and helpful

Hector for brilliant independence in his phonics and writing.

Emilia for outstanding descriptive writing

Billy for fantastic English work.

Huxley for fully embracing 'show don't tell' in his setting description

Wen for impressing us with his careful analysis of Bible accounts

Grace for her forward rolls in gymnastics and huge effort in football

Rudy for his wonderful descriptive writing

House points:

Attenborough	Curie	Hawking	Anning
362	299	329	347

Tea Party



Last year, we introduced the 'rainbow reading teapot'. If a child reads 5 times or more at home (which is recorded in their reading record), or makes exceptional effort or progress in reading, they get a raffle ticket to put in the teapot. On the last celebration assembly of each month, 5 names are drawn

from the teapot, and those children are invited to a tea party with hot chocolate and cookies.

Well done to the pupils whose raffle tickets were drawn out of the teapot for the September party: Emilia, Sophie, Rosali, Rudy, Kiera

Yours sincerely,

Miss Reeder.
Headteacher.

Important Dates	
Thursday 2 nd October, 9am	Harvest Festival in School Hall – parents and carers welcome
Thursday 16 th and Friday 17 th October	Bike ability for Year 6 – more details to follow shortly
Thursday 16 th October	PTA AGM
Monday 20 th October	Picasso sharing event – football tournament
Tuesday 21 st and Thursday 23 rd October	Parents Evenings
Friday 24 th October	Photo Day – individual portraits
27 th – 31 st October	Half Term break
Monday 3 rd November	InSET Day – School Closed to pupils
Tuesday 11 th November 10.45am	Remembrance service in church
Wednesday 3 rd December 2.30pm	Banksy Sharing Event
Wednesday 10 th December	Whole School to Panto at Oxford Playhouse
Tuesday 16 th and Thursday 18 th December 2.30pm	O'Keeffe and Goldsworthy class Nativity
Wednesday 17 th December	Christmas Jumper Day, Christmas lunch day AND school carol concert in church at 2pm
Friday 19 th December	Term finishes at 1.30pm
Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 5 th January	InSET Day – School Closed to pupils

[2025/2026 Term Dates](#)



Blewbury Endowed C of E Primary School
Westbrook Street, Blewbury, Didcot, Oxon. OX11 9QB
Telephone: (01235) 850411 office.3248@blewbury.oxon.sch.uk
Nurture Grow Flourish



Friday 26th September 2025

Dear parent/carer,

Re. PENALTY NOTICES FOR TERM-TIME HOLIDAYS

Blewbury School is committed to ensuring that your child receives the best possible education to prepare them for the next stage of their life and follows the Oxfordshire County Council Attendance Policy. Each school day is carefully planned, and each lesson informs a wider programme of learning. Therefore, every lesson really does count. Your child is a valued member of our school community, and every day missed is a day lost without them.

It is the policy of this school not to authorise absence for holidays during term-time. While advance permission can be given in exceptional circumstances, this is rare and can only be granted by me in my capacity as Head Teacher. Any such request should be addressed to me in writing before the holiday is taken and you should not assume that permission will be granted.

If a term-time holiday is taken without permission, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised, and a referral may be made to the County Attendance Team. This may result in the issue of an Education Penalty Notice under section 444A Education Act 1996 in respect of each absent child, to each parent/carer. Penalty notices are intended as an alternative to prosecution.

The first Penalty Notice is a charge of £80 per parent per child if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, increasing to £160 if paid between day 21 and day 28. Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same child within 3 years of the first notice, the second notice is charged at a flat rate of £160 if paid within 28 days. If the penalty is not paid in full within 28 days, the usual consequence is a Magistrates' Court prosecution for the underlying section 444(1) Education Act 1996 offence of failure to secure regular school attendance. A third Penalty Notice cannot be issued to the same parent for the same child within 3 years of the first notice, and so in cases where the national threshold is met for a third or subsequent time another action will be taken instead, which may include the local authority considering prosecution.

If further instances of unauthorised absence occur despite a penalty notice having previously been issued, or if the child's attendance is a wider matter of concern, the local authority may consider prosecution in any event.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Reeder'.

Miss J. Reeder
Head Teacher

Parent Support Speaker Session

Supporting Children with Anxiety
and Emotional School Avoidance: A
Parent & Carer Information Session



- Real-life experiences of managing school-related anxiety
- Practical strategies to support children and young people
- Guidance on accessing help and resources

St Mary's Church
Refectory, Kidlington
(Parking available)

Guest Experts:
CAMHS Supportive
StepsTeam, Nicole
Wareing & Angela
Shuck



FREE - scan the QR code
to book your place:

Email Rachel with any questions at
rachelreahub@gmail.com





Brightwell-cum-Sotwell

Apple Day

12th October 2025

12pm - 4pm

Recreation Ground OX10 0SQ

FREE ENTRY!

A celebration of everything apple: Heritage apple variety display, apple pressing, cider, apple and juice tasting, apple cakes, orchard tours, plus playground and more. Bring your own apples for juicing.



Considerate Street parking only - *what3words* address: [///comet.thrusters.signs](https://www.comet.thrusters.signs)

**Beezee
FAMILIES**

Looking for healthy after-school snack ideas?

We've got you covered!

Our free, Beezee Families healthy lifestyle programme can help your family make healthy habits.

Tuck into these healthy snacks:

- Two wholegrain crackers and tzatsiki
- Rice cakes or corn cakes
- Two crackers with a spread of low-fat cream cheese and cherry tomatoes
- Plain or Greek yoghurt and fruit
- 150ml homemade fruit smoothie
- Vegetable sticks (carrot/pepper/cucumber) with hummus
- Fruit kebabs
- Wholegrain toast with a thin layer of peanut butter
- Breadsticks
- Ayran (yoghurt-based drink)
- Baked plantain
- Sebze kebab (grilled vegetable skewers)
- Homemade fruit ice lollies
- Handful of homemade popcorn
- Apple slices with peanut butter.

Want more healthy lifestyle support?

Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.*

Scan here
or
Click the link



oxf.maximusuk.co.uk

 OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL

*Our courses are designed for families with children aged 5 and up

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