



Blackawton Primary School Weekly News



Contact us: parent@blackawtonprimaryorg.uk
Please talk to us about any issues or make an appointment.

6th March 2020

Weekly Attendance Per Class for 2nd to 6th March 2020

Class 1 97.70%, Class 2 99.62%, Class 3 95.71% Class 4 98.28%, Class 5 92.67%

Our Attendance Target is 96%

Team Wonder are the winners again this week with 99.62%

WE Day

Eleven Year 6 Global Citizens were invited to attend WE Day on the 4th March 2020. Because of our work in the community, the organisers of the event stated that we absolutely had to be there. They even paid for our train fares!

A very tired looking Mrs Buckle and Mr Lemmings met us at Totnes Train Station at 0550 to catch the 0602 train to London Paddington. Some of us had not slept a wink because we were so excited.

Although the journey was loooooonggggg, it went quite quickly and we enjoyed hot chocolate and snacks along the way. For some of us, this was our first trip to London. We then experienced the tube to Marylebone and a second train journey to Wembley Stadium. By then, we were running a little late, so we had to practically run around the stadium, which seemed endless, until we reached the steps to the SSE Arena.

We felt out-of-breath but keen to get inside. We felt like celebrities ourselves as we were ushered to seats near the front.

We realised just how big an event it was as we were surrounded by thousands of other children (10,000) and a lot of cheering for the next acts on stage. Leona Lewis introduced Jamie Oliver, who spoke about 'Bite-Back 2030,' and his aims to improve the choices of foods available to some of Britain's most poverty-stricken areas. He explained how diet and mental health link very closely and the importance of eating better to feel better.

Idris Elba spoke about his up-bringing and being in control of your own future in life, rather than copying the crowd. He explained that a lot of the kids he used to hang around with (growing up in Hackney) made poorer choices than he did by getting involved in gangs and knife crimes, which he absolutely did not want to do. He said that trying to make something of himself wasn't easy and it took him a long time and a grant supplied by the Prince's Trust to get him the training he needed to become an actor; even then, he said it took four years.

We also received powerful messages from Julia Gillard, Former-President of Australia, about feeling empowered as women in society, in association with International Women's Day 2020.

Amongst many school children from across the country, celebrating their efforts within their local and wider spread communities, we were incredibly proud to send Lali and Eloise onto the stage to represent Blackawton Primary School as part of the 'Energiser Section.' Although they were nervous, they did us all proud and got to visit 'The Green Room' backstage, and meet Spencer West an inspirational and charismatic keynote and motivational speaker, who is open and candid about the struggles he overcame after losing his legs at the age of five, and how he never lost the hope or courage he needed to overcome personal obstacles.

We all loved the musicians, dancers, presenters and general diversity celebrated at the event. Callum Scott singing 'Dancing on my Own,' was one of our favourite performances.

As the four-and-a-half hour event drew to a close, we didn't want to leave. We waited to collect the confetti falling from the ceiling and we got to meet the organiser of the event, who we thanked for creating such a fantastic opportunity for young people.

After returning to Paddington Station, we realised we had quite some time to fill before our return to Totnes...5 hours in fact! We went on a tour of Little Venice and saw all of the barges and gardens there. We enjoyed a little shopping spree as we were desperate to bring back souvenirs. We also enjoyed having our tea there together...some of us making healthier choices than others, but it was food for hungry tummies nonetheless.

We were frequently complimented on our manners and wonderful behaviour by many people both on the train and around London, which made Mrs Buckle and Mr Lemmings feel even more proud of us!

The train journey home was long and tiring and some of us struggled to keep our eyes open, but we made it through the rain, after the most amazing day EVER!

Global Citizens





Spring Concert

On Wednesday 25th March @6pm, we are hosting a Spring Music Concert to be held in the Church. We will be inviting our school musicians to play and sing to entertain our audience. We would also like to encourage musicians from the community to showcase their talents and inspire our children. Do you play an instrument or sing? Are you part of an orchestra or local band? We would love you to join in.

If you would be interested in being part of this exciting event please contact Helen in the office on admin@blackawtonprimary.org.uk by Monday 9th March.

Please save the date in your diary and come along and support us, FOBS have kindly offered to do refreshments and children from the Global Citizen's Group will also be supporting to raise funds for each class to sponsor an animal through the World Wildlife Fund.

Save the Date - Community Tree planting with Blackawton School Global Citizens

On Saturday 21st March, the Global Citizen group are organising a tree planting event in Blackawton. We have 420 saplings to plant and may have the offer of more trees so we are going to need as much local support as possible. More information will follow and your invitation to come along and help. This event is being organised in partnership with Sustainable Blackawton.

9th - 13th March is Science Week at Blackawton!

We have planned an exciting week for the children with the theme of MOVE IT! A highlight is a visit from Fab Lab who will be running science workshops for each class on Tuesday. Sophie Carr has kindly agreed to come in and run fitness sessions with the children on Thursday to help us understand how our bodies move.

To encourage the whole family to get involved in Science week we have put out a Home/School Science challenge to build a balloon racer - we look forward to seeing all your entries!

NITS

Nits have been reported in several classes - please check your child's head regularly to try and keep this under control



Bikeability

The majority of our Year 5s and 6s have taken part in Bikeability this week.

This involved learning to check their own bikes for road-worthiness, keeping themselves safe by wearing the appropriate clothing and helmet, and learning how to keep themselves safe on the road, whether riding alone or with others.

"It was a real pleasure teaching the children this week, they were well mannered and worked very hard in bad weather conditions." *Tony Walters (Instructor)*

All pupils have passed Stage 1 of the course and many have also gone on to achieve Stage 2. They will be bringing home leaflets, certificates and badges, so that you can help celebrate what they have achieved and continue to practise the skills they have learned.

Thank you Year 5s and 6s and well done!



After School Clubs - Spring Term 1

Normal After School Club will continue to run on **Mondays and Thursdays from 3.20 to 5.30pm**. If you are interested in other days please let us know and if there is enough interest we may be able to offer another day

Other Clubs

Monday Football with Matt Jefferies **Book direct with him at:**

<https://tekkersmj.class4kids.co.uk/info/8>

Tuesday Music Club with Tiggy Saint, **£20 for half-term**

Wednesday Reading Club with Andrea & Mrs Llewellyn, free.

Global Citizens Year 6 with Mrs Buckle, free.

Gardening Club with Mrs Burris, free.

Thursday Basketball Club with Matt Jefferies **Book direct at:**

<https://tekkersmj.class4kids.co.uk/info/12>

If you think that your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, please contact Devon County Council either by phone on 0345 155 1019 or by visiting their website portal at:

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE

SCHOOL LUNCHES



We will be on Week 3 of the Spring Menu next week



Come to our Book Fair on 18th March and use your £1 World Book Day tokens against the cost of a book.

The Fair also raises money for school to buy books for the library

Reminder that we are a Nut & Kiwi Free school as we have pupils with severe allergies to both.

Please be mindful of what food you send in to school in lunchboxes etc.



What's On				
When	What	Who	Where	Cost
9th - 13th March	Science Week	Whole School	In School	
12th March	Community Lunch	Community	School Hall @ 12.30pm	£5.00
16th & 17th March	Parents evenings	Class 1	In Class 1 from 3.40 to 6.00pm	
18th March	Book Fair	Everyone	School Hall, 3.00 - 5.00pm	
21st March	Community Tree Planting Event	Children & Parents	Field in Blackawton	
25th March	Spring Concert	Pupils & Local Community	Blackawton Church	
27th March	Bake Sale	Class 4	School Hall @3.15pm	
27th March	Last Day of Spring Term			
28th March - 13th April	Easter Holidays			
14th April	First Day of Summer Term			
26th April	Big Brunch & Fun Run	Everyone	In School Hall and Field	Varies according to choices

School Packed Lunches

The School Council met this week to discuss Packed Lunches in light of us going for the Silver Level for the Food for Life Award. The children spent a couple of weeks last term investigating what sort of things children choose to bring in their packed lunch boxes and compared this with guidelines from CHEW (www.cwt-chew.org.uk).

Each week the School Council would like to give some suggestions on Packed Lunches. As a school we are looking to reduce our waste, in particular plastic.

What could go in a Healthy Packed Lunch box

A small pot with a selection of vegetables - tomatoes, carrots, cucumber, pepper, celery, potato salad.

A healthy protein-based sandwich/wrap/roll with salad, a pasta salad, couscous, rice or soup.

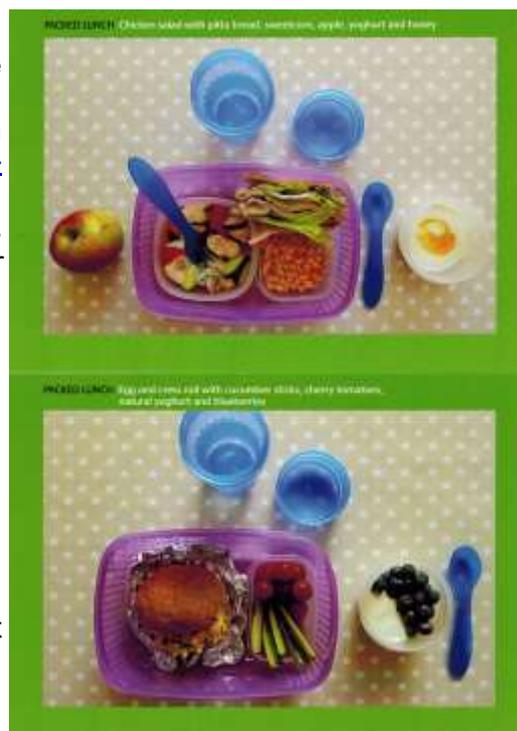
Fruit with natural yoghurt.

Only water - no flavoured water or juice drinks

The School Council would like to recommend, to help reduce waste, that we reduce the amount of plastic coming into school by not having crisps or plastic wrapped food items such as chocolate bars, cheese strings and pepperami.

Following the Food for Life Peter Melchett Award, we have noticed a 10% rise in the uptake of the School Lunches. School lunches are free for all children in Reception and Years 1 and 2. A school lunch for children in Years 3-6 is £2.45.

Healthy Packed Lunch suggestions



The Signpost



Dyslexia

As we celebrate World Book Day, I thought it might be helpful to share some information about dyslexia. Dyslexia is a learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling. Characteristic features of dyslexia are difficulties in phonological awareness, verbal memory and verbal processing speed. Dyslexia occurs across the range of intellectual abilities. It is best thought of as a continuum, not a distinct category, and there are no clear cut-off points.

Whilst we are not able to diagnose dyslexia in school, we are able to spot the signs and we can implement strategies to support your child whether or not they have a confirmed diagnosis.

The British Dyslexia Society (www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/) has lots of information and guidance if you suspect your child may have dyslexia.

What parents can do

You play a key role in helping your child succeed. Take these steps:

- **Address the problem early.** If you suspect your child has dyslexia, talk to your child's teacher. Early intervention can improve success.
- **Read aloud to your child.** It's best if you start when your child is 6 months old or even younger. Research shows that reading with pre-school children boosts their language skills by 8 months. Try listening to recorded books with your child. When your child is old enough, read the stories together after your child hears them.
- **Encourage reading time.** To improve reading skills, a child must practice reading. Encourage your child to read.
- **Set an example for reading.** Designate a time each day to read something of your own while your child reads — this sets an example and supports your child. Show your child that reading can be enjoyable.

Coping and support

Emotional support and opportunities for achievement in activities that don't involve reading are important for children with dyslexia. If your child has dyslexia:

- **Be supportive.** Trouble learning to read may affect your child's self-esteem. Be sure to express your love and support. Encourage your child by praising his or her strengths.
- **Talk to your child.** Explain to your child what dyslexia is and that it's not a personal failure. The better your child understands this, the better he or she will be able to cope.
- **Take steps to help your child learn at home.** Provide a clean, quiet, organized place for your child to study, and designate a study time. Also, make sure your child gets enough rest and eats regular, healthy meals.
- **Limit screen time.** Limit electronic screen time each day and use the extra time for reading practice.

Sarah Simnett



BLACKAWTON SCHOOL COMMUNITY LUNCH

As part of our Bronze Food for Life Award we are holding a Spring Community Lunch on

Thursday 12th March 2020 @ 12.30pm

**Roast Leg of Lamb
Served with Roast Potatoes
Cauliflower Cheese
Seasonal Vegetables
Mint Sauce
Gravy**

Roast Quorn Fillet (Vegi option)

Fruit Crumble with Custard

£5.00 Per Person

To Book for the Community Lunch please telephone the School Office on 01803 712363 or e-mail – admin@blackawtonprimary.org.uk by Friday 6th March 2020.

BLACKAWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL
FUN RUN & BIG BRUNCH
SUNDAY 26TH APRIL

10AM | Fun Run | MEET SCHOOL FIELD | CROSS COUNTRY & TRACK EVENTS TO CATER FOR ALL AGES

10.30AM | Big Brunch | SCHOOL HALL | SUNDAY PAPERS | LIVE MUSIC | LONDON MARATHON SCREENING | LOCALLY SOURCED FOOD AND BEVERAGES

PROCEEDS TO BLACKAWTON PRIMARY SCHOOL | BRING YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY

Saturday Story Club



Dartmouth Library
First Saturday of the Month
11-11.30am

Join our lovely volunteer storyteller Sharon and her puppets for a monthly story and craft session donations welcome

Devon Libraries is part of Libraries Unlimited devonlibraries.org.uk

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity. Every penny raised goes directly towards library services that help make a difference to people's lives and communities. To donate, please visit librariesunlimited.org.uk

Registered charity number: 1176882

🌟 BRING A FRIEND TO TRY A CLASS AND YOU BOTH GET THAT CLASS FOR FREE 🌟

Hello! 😊 For those of you who don't know me, my name is Leanne and I have 2 children who currently attend the school in Blackawton. I am a Vinyasa Flow yoga teacher, holding 8 classes a week locally.

If you have always wanted to try yoga but never got around to it, or if you are a seasoned yogi but just didn't know I held classes and think you'd like to try a class, then next week could be the week for you!

I am offering a one week only deal whereby if you bring a friend to one of my classes, you both get that class for free.

This applies to everyone; newcomers and loyal attendees alike. 😊 Everyone is welcome. 🙏

W/C Monday 9th March. Booking Essential!

Feel free to contact me to find out more: 07850 671 183 / leanne.roberts.yoga@gmail.com

It would be lovely to have you there!
♥ Leanne ♥

www.leannerobertsyoga.co.uk



Science Play at Dartmouth Library



Join us for some scientific fun exploring this year's BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK theme: Diversity.

We'll be looking at things that float (and don't), painting ice, mapping our own body clock with hormones and testing our senses. Activities suitable for ages 3-8

Dartmouth Library
Saturday 14th March
2-3.30pm

£2.50 per child, please book in advance

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Defibrillator & cardiac arrest response training & refresher session



A reminder to everyone that our defibrillator is located on the front wall of the village shop.

Our annual community awareness and training session, including training in correct CPR technique and use of the defibrillator, will be held at

11am-1pm on Saturday 14th March in the Village Hall.

The session which will be lead by local trainer Katie Finn from Kidz First Aid and is FREE and open to all – including those who came last year and would like a refresher!

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be available.

It would help us to know if you plan to attend (to make sure we have enough biscuits!). Please contact Peter Hathaway:

p.hathaway@live.co.uk