



Letter 2 – 2021/22

9/9/21

Phoebe (Oak) *"I felt sad but then I felt loved because I have the best class"*



Dear All,

What a pleasure this week has been. Phoebe's wonderful words have been with me all week. Our school is full of joy again, some of the COVID clouds have lifted and life seems full of hope and possibilities. The children have settled well – your preparation and positivity has really helped – thank you!

We welcome to school 29 new Oak pupils – next week we will have our official welcome worship where we will meet Rev Phil and put jewels for each child in our school treasure chest. If your child is in Oak please come along to the hall at 8.45am after you have dropped off at the classroom door. We will have breakfast then at 9.15am the children will join us.

In Poplar class we welcome Otis, and in Beech class Ethan. We hope that they will settle in quickly and be happy at school.

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to the Kilpin family who have moved to Kirsty's home town, Dominic, Hollie, Logan, Harrison and Isaac will be missed very much. We wish them all the very best of luck in their new home and school.

We have had a number of new arrivals amongst the parents – congratulations to you all, we look forward to meeting and cuddling babies. We are delighted to announce that Mrs Tebbit Scales has given birth to a beautiful baby girl who has arrived two weeks early.

#### INSET days

Thank you for your patience at the start of term – we had hoped to spend some of the three inset days moving back into the renovated original school building but this was not possible. During these days staff spent time looking at the school vision for next year and updating our health and safety procedures. On the second day we had some very useful SEN training about ADHD and dyslexia and spent the afternoon updating our safeguarding training. Training is vital for staff as we all benefit from updating our knowledge.

**NEW arrangements for Monday** – thank you for your feedback and valuable conversations during the week. We have been very pleased with the way that the general organisation has been working. We have decided that from Monday Beech and Willow will use the hall door to enter and exit school. We have enough room for the children and for parents to wait. We hope this will help particularly if you have to pick up multiple children.

We are pleased that most things have returned however we are unable to do mixed lunches so will continue with our Oak/ Poplar and KS2 split lunches. It is a shame but the lack of a new kitchen hatch has hampered our plans.



**Please be very COVID aware – numbers of cases in Abingdon primary schools are on the rise. If we have outbreaks we will let you know – we urge you to get children tested if they show any symptoms.**

Please can we respectfully remind you that poppets and other toys are not allowed in school. All classes have calm boxes with equipment in that can be used by those who like to fiddle. Only items that have been agreed can be brought in. Thank you



Please have a look at our new school website – there are lots of posts about the week on there.

<https://www.st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk>

Week	Date	Event
2	Art and English week based on Katie and...stories	
	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Term begins for all pupils
	Mon 6 <sup>th</sup>	Tea and coffee for parents 9am
	Fri 10 <sup>th</sup>	3.00pm parents invited to view the work from the week
3	Wed 15 <sup>th</sup>	8.45am – New reception pupils and families – welcome breakfast for adults followed by worship THIS IS A CHANGE OF TIME – Rev Phil has a funeral in the afternoon
	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	9am – certificate worship – KS2 ( we have been advised not to have large groups of people so will split these into Oak and Poplar and KS2)
4	Clubs start - 10 weeks	
	Tues 21 <sup>st</sup>	School photos
	Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Harvest service – this is now a closed event as we can not have the potential numbers of visitors in school – we are following advice from OCC
	Thus 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Harvest supper – all families welcome – TICKETS only, all children must be accompanied
	Friday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Oak and Poplar certificates – CHANGE OF DAY – I am at Court Hill on the 1 <sup>st</sup> .
5	Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> -30 <sup>th</sup>	Y4 – Court Hill trip
	Thus 30 <sup>th</sup> -1 <sup>st</sup>	Y3 – Court Hill trip
6	4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Building complete
	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 Certificates and Court Hill presentation
7	Tue 14 <sup>th</sup>	Full Governing Board meeting 4-6pm
8	Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Opening of the new building and refurbished building event : 8.30-10am parents and children 4-6pm other guests and the community

## **Building update**

During the summer the building work has progressed well. The renovations are on time and should be complete by the 4<sup>th</sup> October. The ceilings have been put up this week and the plastering is complete. If you get a chance have a look at the back field. The sports pitch has been created, this week the grass was sown. We are not able to use this until it has had its first cut – next summer. The fencing will reach its completion next week.

We are having additional work done on the flower beds – we are happy for wild areas but need some element of control over the weeds!!!



PICTURES FROM STEVE



## **DOGS**

As a school (Pre-Covid) we have had dogs in to support individuals and groups of children. We use them to hear readers, support with confidence and social skills. After half term we would like to begin this work again. We know that some children are apprehensive around dogs so we will handle this carefully. If your child has an allergy to dog hair then please let us know. A number of staff have dogs that are crossed with poodles – these are non-shed dogs so this should help. Prior to them coming in we will do some training with Pets as Therapy about how to approach dogs safely.

## **Further information on COVID**

We actively encourage you to remain socially distanced, so please do not congregate around the school gates. Adults will no longer be required to wear masks, however we will still be limiting access to classrooms and the building as large numbers in small spaces is not encouraged.

If your child is travelling by minibus the local authority still requires them to wear a mask.

The new risk assessment can be found at <https://www.st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/COVID-risk-assessment> (We will be uploading the new version in the next few days)

If your child has any COVID symptoms they must remain at home in order to get them tested.

All schools are subject to contingency measures if there is an outbreak of 5





children or 10% in a class or 10% of staff. This could mean the return to bubbles, masks and home learning – we don't want this so handwashing remains a priority. Please make sure that your children are independent with this.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VielWLnEg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDjCJ-fSUgg>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lisgnbMfKvI>

Ruth Leach and the staff of St Blaise

**ST Blaise C of E Primary School TERM & HOLIDAY DATES 2021/22**

	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER
Sunday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Monday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
Sunday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27
Monday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24
Friday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Saturday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
Sunday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29
Monday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Thursday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Friday	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Saturday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Sunday	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28
Monday	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	1 8 15 22 29
Tuesday	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30
Wednesday	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24 31
Thursday	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25
Friday	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26
Saturday	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27

Bank Holiday  
 Holiday  
 Teacher available for work day (INSET) Not open for pupils