

Letter 1 – 2021/22
25/8/21



Dear All,

I hope that you have had a restful holiday and that the children are looking forward to the new term. Term begins on Monday 6th September – everyone starts back on the same day and at the same time.

I thought it might be helpful to write before the start of the new term to update you on the building works, COVID and the general arrangements for our return.

The building- the internal works to the existing building have spilled out across the whole school with every classroom affected by new heating works, fire and security systems. This has been frustrating for Caroline as our usual summer clean has been somewhat delayed, however this major work was necessary and is now complete. We were always aware that the existing building would not be completed until the beginning of October – we are still on schedule but the ongoing difficulty with supply chains will be a major factor affecting the completion date.

Outside- when you return you will see lots of changes with new fencing, signage and a freshly tarmacked drive. The new playground equipment was due to be installed but because of timber shortages this will now happen in November. Work has begun on the sports field ahead of schedule; however, we won't be able to access the new pitches for a year due to the length of time it takes to establish the grass.

Returning to school -we will make sure it is clear how to access the offices, which are temporarily in the new building; additionally a member of staff will be available outside the building in the mornings and after school.

- Reception (Oak), Year One and Year Two (Poplar) children, now in the new building, will enter through the door by the main gate
- Maple class will enter and exit their classroom via the gym door
- Beech (Y3) and Willow (Y4) will use the playground
- Please don't worry if you have children in a range of year groups, we will bring Willow and Poplar down from the playground at the end of the day – at the beginning of the day they are welcome to independently go up and stand in their line. During the first week staff will be around earlier to help.
- Maple class should now be independent and we would encourage you to let them walk home if they live close or come and meet you if you are on site.
- Children must not enter the site before 8.35am. Classes will be collected/ doors opened at 8.40, registration is at 8.50. We will continue to lock the school gate at 9am after Red Dragon parents have exited – please don't be late as children miss precious learning time and staff are continually disturbed if they have to keep opening gates.



COVID –most restrictions have now been lifted. Children are expected to be in school uniform (please name this and check regularly names haven’t washed out). From first day of term children should have a PE kit (named), a water bottle and a hat. Children do not need a pencil case, although Maple and possibly Willow children may like to bring one.

The children will no longer be in bubbles and will be able to mix during break times. We will return to house groupings for lunch and will see the return of whole school worship and events – we are thrilled! We will be inviting parents to a number of events in the first term – all of the dates are on the calendar so please check our new website for these and for class information. <https://www.st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk/calendar/>

| Week | Date | Event |
|------|---|--|
| 1 | 1 – 3 rd Sep | Inset days – for staff |
| 2 | Art and English week based on Katie and...stories | |
| | Mon 6 th | Term begins for all pupils |
| | Mon 6 th | Tea and coffee for parents 9am |
| | Fri 10 th | 2.30pm parents invited to view the work from the week |
| 3 | Wed 15 th | 2pm – New reception pupils family service with tea and cake |
| | Fri 17 th | 9am – certificate worship – whole school |
| 4 | Clubs start - 10 weeks | |
| | Tues 21 st | School photos |
| | Wed 22 nd | Harvest service – 10.30am |
| | Thurs 23 rd | Harvest supper – all families welcome |
| 5 | Wed 29 th -30 th | Y4 – Court Hill trip |
| | Thurs 30 th -31 st | Y3 – Court Hill trip |
| | Fri 1 st | Oak and Poplar Certificates |
| 6 | 4 th Oct | Building complete – builders leave |
| | Fri 8 th | KS2 Certificates and Court Hill presentation |
| 7 | Tue 14 th | Full Governing Board meeting 4-6pm |
| 8 | Fri 22 nd | Opening of the new building and refurbished building event : 8.30-10am parents and children 4-6pm other guests and the community |

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=S9VjeIWLnEg>

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

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

If your child is not returning in September because they have symptoms please let me know directly the week/ weekend before – headteacher.3260@st-blaise.oxon.sch.uk

We are very much looking forward to welcoming all our families back to St Blaise, catching up on your news and getting to know our new families. Please contact me on my email address if you have any queries or concerns.

Take care

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