

Letter 17– 2021/22

14/1/22

Dear All,

We have had a super week. Joseph songs fill the school along with children chanting colours trying to memorise the order of the coat. The tickets for Joseph go on sale from Monday – we ask that families with children in the production purchase first before we release the left over tickets to other classes who may like to come and watch the production.



Beech and Willow class began swimming lessons this week. We were collected in an executive bus and transported to Wantage where the children were grouped then taught for the session. The children are having 60 minute lessons with qualified instructors – they responded very well, it was a super morning for adults and children.



On Wednesday we had a visit from our school improvement partner who spent the day with us watching learning and teaching, talking to pupils and staff. She was very pleased with the progress that we are making and was very complimentary about the staff and pupils whose warmth, enthusiasm and love for learning had a real impact on her opinions of our school.

Although we have 2 sittings for lunch we have reintroduced house teams. We have 4 new houses. The children will be finding out more about their house names when we are able to mix everyone in the school together.



<p><b>Aderin-Pocock House</b> Maple classroom Mrs Kirkham Charlotte and Rachel</p>	<p><b>Shine House</b> Poplar classroom Miss Pimm Kelly, Margaret and Mrs Strange</p>	<p><b>Backshall House</b> Beech classroom Miss Charles and Miss Gerard Mrs Moyes, Mrs Wilkins, Connor and Mrs Howard</p>	<p><b>Van-Tullken House</b> Oak classroom Mrs Green and Mrs Smillie Megan, Caroline Burgess</p>
 Space and engineering scientist	 Environmentalist	 Naturalist	 British doctors – Chris and Xand

We have a system of points that are awarded for table behaviour, kindness, manners and tidiness – the house with the most points will be awarded the title of top table once a



fortnight and will enjoy different drinks – juice and milk and a house chosen food treat. Our first winner is Van Tulken House – congratulations to you all.



The manners cup is also back and this week Mia has been chosen by Linda to receive the cup which she will keep in her classroom. Mia has outstanding manners and never has to be reminded of them.

### **Sharing worship**

We are inviting parents and carers to Friday sharing worship but must urge you to wear masks and attempt to distance. Certificates and birthdays will be given to all children but parents will be invited to every other event – please see the term calendar and website calendar. Children who will receive achievement cards – parents will be notified and can come regardless of the class. It is wonderful to see so many of you but we ask that only one person come per family as we simply don't have the space in the hall.

Buggies are not allowed in any part of the building as they pose a fire route hazard – we appreciate your understanding.

### **COVID**

We will keep things as normal as possible this term but please be aware that staff absence is potentially the biggest threat to this. If there are outbreaks we will move back to the isolated groups plan and reopen when things have settled down.

The government have reduced the isolation period to 7 days as you will be aware. Any child can return to school on day 8 if they have a negative test on day 6 and day 7 – these must be full days so they can not take the test in the morning of day 7 and come in – return is day 8.

### **Parking**

**PLEASE** walk to school if you live in Milton Heights. The number of cars parked outside the school is becoming unmanageable for school, Red Dragon and residents.

**On Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> January the Parish Council and school are holding a joint open meeting so that we can start a plan of action – PLEASE join us and tell your story – we need to solve this problem together.**

### **Governor News**

Governors are **responsible for overseeing the management side of a school**: strategy, policy, budgeting and staffing. They enable the school to run as effectively as possible, working alongside the headteacher and teachers. At St Blaise governors meet monthly to discuss many aspects of school life.



At our January meeting the governors looked at the School Evaluation Form. We agreed that the school's self-evaluation is accurate. We examined term ones data and asked critical friend questions to support the school develop the next steps.

The governors are concerned about the parking issues that the school faces and in conjunction with the Parish Council agreed to purchase bollards representing pupils to encourage courteous and lawful parking around the school.

The governors were happy to hear that BoBs activities were to recommence.

### BoBs

This week BoB's had a Zoom meeting to discuss up coming events. We are so pleased to have new parents taking an interest in joining BoB's and would welcome any other parents who would like to join us.

- Friday's after school, we will be selling Hot Dogs - £1 and Hot Chocolate - 50p
- Ice creams will be for sale in the Joseph Intervals so please bring some change with you.
- Ladies only Disco (Sorry Dad's) 25<sup>th</sup> March B.Y.O £5 a ticket, please invite friends and family to join in the fun!
- School Disco 7<sup>th</sup> April, if you bought tickets for the Christmas disco your ticket will be valid for this event. Times to be confirmed

### Term 2

**Please note some dates are subject to change but this is an overview**

Week	Date	Event	Notes
3	20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Poetry workshops – KS2	
	21 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Hot food – BOBS after school	
4	24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Maple Mosque visit	
	28 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Hot food – BOBS after school	
5	31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	Parent tea and coffee 2.30pm	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	KS2 certificate worship	
	4 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Hot food – BOBS after school	
6	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Internet safety day	
	11 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Poplar and Oak certificates	
		Hot food – BOBS after school	
7	15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Joseph dress rehearsal	
	15 <sup>th</sup> , 16 <sup>th</sup> 17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Joseph shows	Ticket only
	18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School closed – additional bank holiday	
HALF TERM HOLIDAY			

### Have a super weekend

### Mrs Leach and the St Blaise team



St Blaise Church of England Primary School

*Exploring and achieving together*

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