

**Blakesley CE Primary School**  
**Blakesley**  
**NN12 8RD**

### **Newsletter 7 T1: 21st October 2021**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Cross Country must be one of the toughest sports children take part in during their school days. There is no doubt the course yesterday at Sponne school, for the local cluster event, was a tough one too. However, our teams, Y3Y4 Boys, Y3Y4 Girls, Y5Y6 Boys and Y5Y6 Girls, 24 children in total, did us proud. No-one gave up and all kept running right to the end, displaying determination and perseverance in abundance.

In each category, there were over 40 runners. A special mention must go to the following runners who all finished in the top ten of their race: Tilly Wilkes (7<sup>th</sup> Y3Y4 Girls), Polly Graves (8<sup>th</sup> Y3Y4 Girls), Olivia Wilkes (9<sup>th</sup> Y5Y6 Girls), Oscar Minish (9<sup>th</sup> Y5Y6 Boys) and Oliver Hicks (10<sup>th</sup> Y5Y6 Boys). Well done again to each and every one of you.

#### **School Grounds**

'Thank you' to all the willing volunteers and little helpers who gave up their time last Sunday to invigorate the school grounds. Everywhere now looks so tidy and cared for. Prospective parents who came to view the school on Monday night were very complimentary about all that they saw.

#### **Before and After School Care**

After the holiday, all sessions of Before and After school care, even if needed at the last minute, must now be booked using Parent Pay. An uploaded timetable highlighting the sessions is easy to use. Any questions please contact, [cassandrabowman@blakesleyprimary.co.uk](mailto:cassandrabowman@blakesleyprimary.co.uk)  
We also believe the problem preventing the use of vouchers has now finally been resolved. Again, please contact the office for further information.

#### **Online Gaming and videos**

It has come to our attention that a number of children are gaining access to online games and videos (often on You Tube) that are totally unsuitable for primary aged children. One on-line game gaining popularity is 'Squid game'. However, the programme is not intended for children, as the content is inappropriate, and the violence is graphic, realistic and upsetting.

As a parent or carer, keep a watchful eye on the content that your children are viewing. Speak to them openly and chat about how they have been spending time on their devices; let them ask questions, too. Ensure that parental controls are activated on your child's device and that age-restricted child profiles are properly set up any on-demand services available through the family TV (such as Netflix,) to prevent inappropriate content being streamed.

#### **Welcoming new staff**

We welcome Belinda Dugdale, who will be joining us as a Teaching Assistant for Key Stage 1, on November 1<sup>st</sup>. Belinda comes with a wealth of experience and enthusiasm. As well as supporting in the classroom, we are looking forward to our children benefitting from the additional learning programmes Belinda will be able to offer.

*Compassion Courage Fellowship Thankfulness Wisdom*

### **School Lunches**

We have been notified that difficulties relating to food deliveries will continue after the half-term holiday. These disruptions may affect school dinners ordered for your child. Despite polite reminders over the last few weeks, some dinners are still not being ordered on time or being paid for promptly.

It must be stressed again, Dolce are quite within their rights to challenge non-payment of meals and can demand the settling of bills. As stated previously, we will also follow up any concerns Dolce have.

### **Additional Bank Holiday**

There is an extra bank holiday scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2022 to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, as this falls in the May half term holiday, the last day of the school year for pupils will now be **Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2022**.

### **COVID 19**

The local news makes it very clear that COVID cases are on the rise. Please make every effort to enjoy your holiday break with your children but please continue to maintain good routines of hygiene, consider 'distancing' and be watchful for symptoms.

### **Future Dates**

- 1st November School re-opens T2 Starts
- 5th November Blakesley Fireworks
- 11<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Day
- 14<sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Service at St Mary's Church
- 9<sup>th</sup> November Playground Marking takes place
- 15<sup>th</sup> November Class 3 Trip Think Tank
- 19<sup>th</sup> November Break The Rules Day (FABS)

If there are aspects of the newsletter that you would like to discuss or if you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Have a restful break. Stay safe and well.

Kind regards,

Laurie Hill  
Headteacher