



Bletchingley Village Primary School & Nursery

Newsletter: Friday 15th December 2023

Autumn 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move into the Christmas break, I would like to thank everyone for the support they have shown for the seasonal events we have had: the two Nativity performances, Music and Mince Pies and the Carol Concert. The children work hard to learn scripts and songs, make props and rehearse, the culmination of this being to perform for those they love. Governors also joined us on Wednesday for our traditional Christmas Lunch which was enjoyed by more children than ever - huge Well Done and Thank You to the kitchen staff for planning and preparing such a great meal for so many!

I would also like to thank those of you who have taken the time to respond to the Parent Survey. This will stay open throughout the holiday period so that as many of you as possible are able to comment. I will then collect together the main themes that emerge and present out plan for the rest of the year.

Finally, I would like to address concerns that have been raised today regarding leadership going forward. As you will all be aware, I will be leaving at the end of this academic year. What some parents will know, because it directly affects their children's provision in January, is that Mrs Fletcher is expecting a baby and so will be on maternity leave later in 2024. This is not information we would normally send out to the whole school community, but it would seem that by not doing this in this case, it has caused a degree of upset regarding the future more widely.

Mrs Fletcher will be teaching in Year 5 until we are able to recruit a permanent teacher. Longer term, she has agreed for me to share that she has structured her maternity leave plan so that she will be at school for the final two weeks of this academic year and the first few weeks of the next, in order to provide a smooth transition into the next headship. I hope this reassures everyone that we will be working hard to ensure the least possible disruption to the children's education at what is an unsettling time.

An out-of-hours phone line provides advice to parents and carers who are struggling with behaviours or difficulties which could be related to neurodevelopmental need, such as autism or ADHD.

Our skilled and friendly advisers will talk carers and families through ways of calming down difficult situations and remind them of their coping strategies.

It runs from 5pm until 11pm, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Please call 0300 222 5755



Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful and enjoyable New Year.

With warmest wishes,
Debbie Gregori

Inset Days

Staff will return to work on Tuesday 2nd January for two inset days of training.
Children will return on **Thursday 4th January 2024**

Key dates coming up

Friday 15th December – the last day for activity on Tucasi accounts

Monday 8th January – first day of activity on Arbor accounts

Events at the Trust

Wednesday 17th January 2024 5pm – 6pm Managing exam stress for Years 6, 11 and 13

Wednesday 31st January 5pm – 6pm Managing anxiety

Tbc Coffee morning ‘What can I do to support my own mental health and that of other adults in my family?’

Father Paul extends a warm welcome to everyone across all our services.

Festival of Nine Lessons with Carols by Candlelight

Sunday 17 December, 4.00 pm

Nativity & Christingle Service

Saturday 23 December, 3.00 pm

Children of all ages ~ Come dressed as your favourite Nativity Character!

Collection will go to ‘The Children’s Society’

The fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24 December,

There is no 8 am service;

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9:30 am Parish Communion

Midnight Mass

Sunday 24 December, Christmas Eve, 11.30 pm

Collection will go to 'Renewed Hope Trust' Supporting the homeless, vulnerable and isolated of East Surrey

If Midnight Mass is too late for you, you are welcome to join me at 6:30 pm in St Peter and St. Paul Church, Nutfield for Christmas Eve Holy Communion.

Christmas Morning Family Holy Communion with Carols

Monday 25 December, 10.30 am

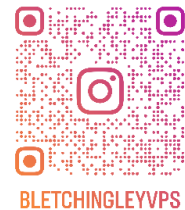
Don't forget to follow us on social media:



Bletchingley Village Primary School and
Nursery



@BletchingleyVPS



BLETCHINGLEYVPS

Messages from the school office

Office opening times:-

In person: 8.45am-4pm

Phone: 01883 743337

Email: info@bletchingleytl.co.uk

There is no parking in the car park for parents after 8.00am unless you are disabled. This is for Health & Safety reasons. We will be monitoring this in the next couple of weeks as the number of parents using the car park has recently increased. Thank you for your cooperation.

Just a reminder we have a clothes bank in the school grounds. The PTA raise funds from having this onsite. If you have anything you would like to recycle please put it in the recycling pod in the car park.

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Term Dates

School year 2023 - 2034

Spring Term 2024	
Tuesday 2 nd January 2024	Inset Day
Wednesday 3 rd January 2024	Inset Day
Thursday 4 th January 2024	Spring Term starts
12 th February 2024 - 16 th February 2024	HALF TERM
Thursday 28 th March	Spring Term Ends

Summer Term 2024	
Monday 15 th April	Inset Day
Tuesday 16 th April	Summer Term starts
27 TH May 2024 - 31 st May 2024	HALF TERM
Friday 28 th June 2024	Inset Day
Tuesday 23 rd July	Summer Term ends

Regarding Penalty Notices

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that Head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The Head teacher should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

In accordance with the above Regulations, requests for leave of absence are treated sympathetically, but only in exceptional circumstances can they be approved. The policy of the Government to which this school has agreed, states that parents who take their child out of school for five days or more during term time, without the authority of the Head teacher, will each be liable to receive a penalty notice. Penalty Notices will be issued by the Local Authority.

The penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days of receipt of the notice. If the penalty is not paid in full by the end of the 28-day period the Local Authority must prosecute the recipient for failing to ensure regular school attendance under section 444 Education Act 1996.

Please be aware that each parent is liable to receive a Penalty Notice for each child who incurs unauthorised absences, for example, if there are two parents and one child, each parent will receive one Penalty Notice.

If there are two parents and two children incurring unauthorised absences, each parent will receive two Penalty Notices, which in this case would amount to £120 each if paid within 21 days.

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