

HOMEWORK: Keeping it simple for everyone

All KS1 and KS2 children should read every night and practice their times tables and spellings at least three times per week. Occasionally there may be a project set, e.g. for World Book Week.

Children will have a log in and password for TT Rock Stars (times tables), Numbots (KS1) and Spelling Shed.

If you have any problems with passwords please let us know.

If you wish to challenge your children further with writing, the most helpful way is to encourage the building of sentences using their current spellings.



Classes:

CLOVER	Year 5/6	Mrs Batey
FIG	Year 4/5	Mrs Geraghty
WILLOW	Year 3/4	Mrs Fernandez
IVY	Year 1/2	Mrs Newbury Mrs Briscoe & Mrs Brown
OLIVE	Reception/Y1	Mrs Holt

Governing Body:

Chair: Mr James Parman
Mrs Curtis, Mr Briscoe, Mr Lloyd,, Mrs Thornalley, Mr Verran, Mrs Newbury, Mr Rollett, Mrs George, Mrs Addleshaw & Mr Duke

TWITTER AND INSTAGRAM:

Please follow us on Twitter and Instagram for regular updates on the children's learning: Twitter and Instagram: **@BcL2U**. You are very welcome to join us.

If you wish to discuss any concerns you have about your child's education, please do not hesitate to get in touch. We try to return any call or email as soon as we can.

Mr Duke



Blyton cum Laughton Church of England

Primary School

Newsletter: 1.3.24

BcL Christian value: **THANKFULNESS**



**Biblical Quote: "He has made everything beautiful in his time."
Ecclesiastes 3:11**

"More like a school that happens to be in a library." Author, Shane Hegarty

Hello everyone—

Thankfulness is our Christian Value for this term and with that in mind I wish, first of all, to **thank you so much** for your patience and understanding during this academic year. The school has seen such an extraordinary level of staff absence and I'm so thankful that we are now getting back to a full-team again. Our main priority during this time has been for the children to continue to receive the quality of education they deserve and thanks to the flexibility and dedication of so many members of the team, we have enabled that to happen. We have even had to drag Mr Wright out of retirement to help us out on occasion. Thankfully, he was happy to do so!

Spring term has certainly brought with it many coughs and colds and I hope you and your family are not too affected by the germs going around.

Take care.

Mr Duke



Blyton cum Laughton Church of England Primary School



Our BcL Mission Statement:

To be **HAPPY** - To be **CARING** - To **ACHIEVE**
HAPPY - CARING - ACHIEVING
Caring for our school...caring for each other

Our BcL Vision:

At Blyton cum Laughton Church of England Primary School, our Christian Vision aspires for all members of the school family to 'be happy, to care and to achieve' by:

- being a figure of faith, following in the footsteps of Christ through communication, prayer and friendship
- **taking the lead to be the best trusted version of ourselves**
- being courageous when faced with or exploring challenge and adversity
- **being thankful for our innovative and imaginative problem solving**
- **Being compassionate and caring global citizens**
- **providing hope through our creations**

Our BcL Aims:

At BcL, we aim to encourage everyone in our school community:

- to be respectful, tolerant and walk in the light of Christ
- **to take ownership of their actions, excel as individuals and have a positive impact as citizens in the 21st century**
- to explore and be inquisitive, showing a thirst for learning
- **to persevere, be resilient learners, to find solutions and have high aspirations for the future**
- **to show compassion, empathy and care for others**
- **to be creative**

JULY

Thurs 4th July : BcL500 Words Celebration Evening (Blyton Church)

Mon 8th July: Move-up Day & New Olive children visit

Wed 10th July: De Aston transition day

Fri 12th July: Reports to Parents/Carers

Mon 15th to Wed 17th July: YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL

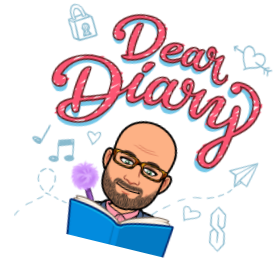
Fri 19th July: 1.30 Leaver's Celebration & End of academic year

IMPORTANT—YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL:

Due to dates overlapping with a secondary transition day for a number of children, we have had no option but to change the date of the Year 6 residential.

The trip will now take place between the 15th to 17th July—the final week of the school year. The trip will be a great way for the children to end their journey at BcL.

An information evening for the trip will be planned in at the start of the summer term.



DIARY DATES for 2023/24: (other dates may be added)

MARCH

Thurs 7th Mar: WORLD BOOK DAY incl. event for families pm (see in this newsletter)

Thurs 14th Mar: KS1 The Deep Trip

Fri 15th Mar: Comic Relief

Mon 18th: Puberty Talk session 1 for Y5/6

Wed 20th Mar: De Aston Performing Arts Day (limited spaces)

Thurs 28th Mar: 10.00 EASTER SERVICE LAUGHTON CHURCH

1.45 EASTER SERVICE at Blyton church & Term 4 ends

APRIL

Mon 15th April: Training Day

Tues 16th Apr: Term 5 starts

Mon 22nd & Wed 24th Apr: PARENTS EVENING

Thurs 25th April: Chocolate Workshop (FIG)

MAY (KS1 & KS2 SATS take place this month)

Mon 13th -16th May: KS2 SATS

Tues 21st May: FIG trip to GO APE

Fri 24th May: Term 5 ends

JUNE:

Mon 3rd June: Term 6 starts & BCL500 Words

Mon 17th—Thurs 20th June: Y5 Bikeability

Tues 18th June: KS1 Sports Day

Wed 19th June: New intake parents event

Wed 26th June: KS2 Sports Day

Thurs 22nd June: New Intake Parents Eve

Fri 28th June: Parents/carers informed of new classes for 2024/25

Our BcL Christian Values:

Friendship

***'Make your light shine so that others will see the good that you do and will praise your Father in heaven.'* Matthew 5:16**

Trust

***'I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye.'* Psalm 32:8**

Courage

***'Be strong and courageous for the Lord will be with you wherever you go.'* Joshua 1:9**

Thankfulness

***'He has made everything beautiful in his time.'* Ecclesiastes 3:11**

Compassion

***'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.'* Ephesians 4:32**

Hope

***'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.'* Genesis 1:1**

CELEBRATION WORSHIP:

We hand out certificates from the categories below in Celebration Worship most weeks of the year: **3.10 at Laughton (Thurs)** and **2.45 at Blyton (Fri)**.

SHINING LIGHT (our Figure of Faith) - linked to our Christian Value of Friendship

CARER—linked to our Christian Value of Compassion

LEADER—linked to our Christian Value of Trust

CREATOR—linked to our Christian Value of Hope

INNOVATOR—linked to our Christian Value of Thankfulness

EXPLORER—linked to our Christian Value of Courage

Peace
Be with you



Children may also earn our BcL Values badges throughout the year too for displaying our values. These will be nominated by adults and children.

KS1 NATURE EXPLORERS!:

Years 1 and 2 visited Laughton Forest this week. We visited the site of Millennium Wood where children from the school planted trees in the year 2000. We were accompanied by Mr Langton from Forestry England, who organised activities for the children to take part in. We went on a woodland scavenger hunt and used some of our finds to create woodland art. This fits in perfectly with our key texts this term of 'Robin Hood' and 'The Tin Forest' as well as our science learning about plants.



HOMEWORK:

We recognise the time pressures our families face, which is why we limit our homework to reading everyday, TTRockStars/Numbots and Spelling Shed. Please try to support your child with these expectations in readiness for secondary school.

BCL ATTENDANCE 2023/24:

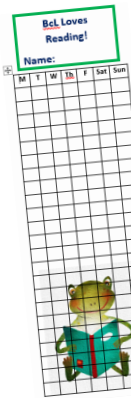
We continue to monitor attendance figures. The lower class attendances are influenced by families whose children are persistent absentees and/or take term-time holidays. However, we also recognise how illness has impacted so many families (and staff) since the turn of the year. There is a cacophony of coughing across the school at the moment which is difficult to escape from!

Below is the table reminding you how absence impacts on a child's education. Children attending less than 75% are also at risk of severe absenteeism (attending less than 50%).

	Year so far
REC/YR 1	94.4%
YEAR 1/2	95.5%
YEAR 3/4	93.8%
YEAR 4/5	94.4%
YEAR 5/6	94.3%
TOTAL	94.6%

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks
95%	9 Days	18 Sessions	2 Weeks
90%	19 Days	38 Sessions	4 Weeks
85%	29 Days	58 Sessions	6 Weeks
80%	38 Days	72 Sessions	8 Weeks

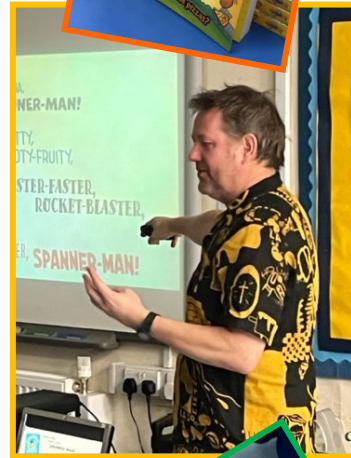
At BcL, children attending less than 90% of the time do not achieve close to the standard of their peers who are attending 95%+.



READING NEWS: BcL Loves Reading!

Thank you for helping your child to read at home. Please continue to sign the reading bookmark to let us know how often your child is reading.

This week, KS2 had the pleasure of a visit from comic book creator **Steve Webb** who came to tell us all about his hilarious book **Peng and Spanners!** The children had a great time illustrating Steve's characters.



WORLD BOOK DAY THURSDAY 7th MARCH 2024: 'RELAX AND READ DAY!'

KS1 - Pyjamas KS2 - Comfortable clothing

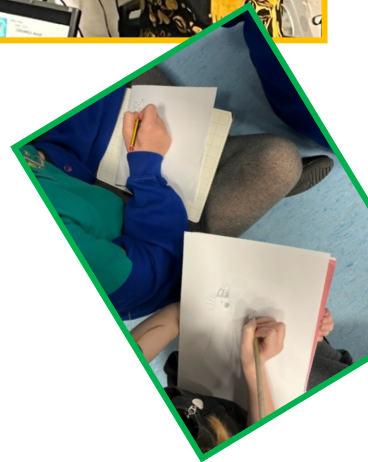
All children may bring in their favourite book from home to share.

Competition - Design a board game based on a book. This is an optional competition for children to complete at home with you and to bring in to school on WBD to play with their friends. There will be some prizes.

Book and a bite at both sites - Crafts/activities will be set up alongside books to focus the session.

Blyton 2-3pm Laughton 2.15-3.15pm

To make it easier for you, feel free to collect your children from one site and take to the other rather than attending at both sites which could be a challenge.

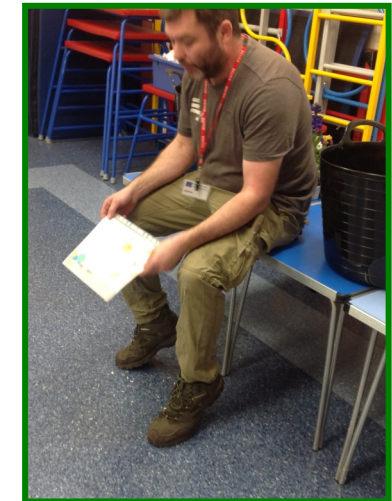


In January, Mr Smith visited Ivy class to help our understanding of how different plants grow. We looked at bulbs, rhizomes and tubers and also planted some bulbs in hanging baskets.



Thank you to Mr. Smith for sharing his super knowledge and time with us and for donating the lovely plants which are brightening up our playground at the KS1 site.

Children also created their own BcL Bug Hotel this term. A lot of work went into it and I would certainly give it 5 stars on Trip Advisor!



WILLOW CLASS:

We are delighted that Mrs Fernandez has returned to the classroom this week and I know the children are extremely pleased to see her. Over the course of the next few weeks, she will be building up to her normal hours, so in the meantime, I will continue teaching in Willow on Tuesday and Mrs Wright and I will share Thursday afternoons. She will also teach the children on Monday.

Talking of Willow, their impressionist artwork was incredible last term. We have so many talented artists in school.



Look at the use of colour and brushstrokes to create an impression of water.



BLYTON NATURE GARDEN:

The Nature Garden is now complete at the KS2 site after Garden Angels finished the lower section. We can't wait to take the children down there to explore.

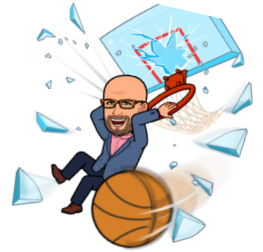


POLITE REMINDERS:

SWIMMING DATES 2023/24

Fig: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March, 22nd, 29th April 2024.

Year 1: 13th, 20th May, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th June 2024.



PE KIT:

Please ensure your child comes to school in the correct PE kit. We have seen many outfits which do not follow the expected uniform and are not appropriate for PE.

The expected uniform is:

- blue/black shorts (or joggers/leggings in colder months)
- blue/white t-shirt
- trainers/plimsolls

Football shirts/alternative colours are not allowed.

PE DAYS:

Olive (Mrs Holt) —Thursday

Ivy (Mrs Briscoe, Mrs Newbury and Mrs Brown) - Wednesday

Willow (Mrs Fernandez) - Wednesday

Fig (Mrs Geraghty) - Friday

Clover (Mrs Batey) - Friday

CLASS DOJO:

If your child is ill or off school please call the school office to inform us. If you want to contact your child's teacher about their learning or have information to share, please do so via Class Dojo. Messages sent after 8.35am will not be read by the class teacher until after 3.30. Teachers are not expected to read Dojo messages after 4.30pm.