Blackawton Primary School NEWSLETTER

Creative - Confident - Caring



Attendance to date

Class 1

Friday 11th July 2025

What an amazing time we had at this year's Blackawton Music Festival! It was a truly memorable afternoon filled with music and community spirit.

Despite the blazing sunshine making things a little too warm outside, we were lucky enough to relocate to the cool, calm space of Blackawton Church—a stunning venue that only added to the atmosphere of the occasion. Thank you to Kate J for supporting us in making that last-minute change run so

Class 2	95%
Class 3	95%
Class 4	94%
Class 5	95%
National	96%

96%

smoothly.

From the moment the first note was played, it was clear that the children had put in a huge

From the moment the first note was played, it was clear that the children had put in a huge amount of effort. Across the year groups, they performed a brilliant mix of songs—some old, some new, and all full of joy. It was a real celebration of the children's musical learning this year and a lovely opportunity for them to showcase their talents in front of family and friends.

A real highlight was the performance by our wonderful Music Club, whose confidence and musicality really stood out. They helped guide the audience through the songs, kept everyone in tune, and brought a professional polish to the entire afternoon. Their enthusiasm and dedication were plain to see, and they did us all proud.



Of course, events like this don't happen without a great deal of work behind the scenes. A massive thank you to Tiggy for all the energy, and musical magic she brings to school life.

Thank you also to all of you—our families and community—for coming along, singing along, clapping along, and helping make it such a joyful occasion. Seeing the smiles on the children's faces as they performed and the pride from the audience is what makes afternoons like this so special. We can't wait to do it all again next year!

Have yourself a fantastic weekend.



Mr Fielding and Mrs Buckle



We educate children so they can lead great lives



Monday 14 July 2025	Nursery graduation
Thursday 17th July 2025	Year 6 Play to Parents and Carers (Evening)
Friday 18th July 2025	Last day of academic year
Thursday 4th September 2025	First day back at school
	Please note—More dates to come for next academic year. Further school trips being organised, tbc. Finer details will be sent closer to events.



CLASS 'SNAPPY' NEWS

"What a scorcher!"

Nursery

On Monday the nursery was full of wagging tails and giggles as a group of playful puppies came to visit! The children had a blast giving cuddles and gentle pats. **Family Fun Day was held on Tuesday at Moreleigh** - Thank you to all the families who joined us for our *Bike Riding Bonanza*! From trikes to training wheels, everyone zoomed around with big grins and squeaky horns. It was a wheelie good time!





Class 2

Class two have started their final unit in maths, position and direction. We have been going, forwards, backwards, left, and right!

We have in English been creating non-fiction texts based on puppies! We also have enjoyed being performers at the music festival. We have been making time each day, to share stories and poems developing our readers voices.

Class 1

It's been a busy week in Class 1! We've enjoyed another WILD session with Tim, a visit from Rachel's puppies, a day out at the Moreleigh pump track, a swim in the pool and the school music festival.

Phew!





Class 3

The children have been exploring the differences between weather and climate, and thinking creatively about how to stay cool—both for themselves and for our planet.

In maths, we've been investigating angles, learning how to identify and measure them in real-life contexts. Our literacy sessions have taken us into the rich world of traditional tales,

A special highlight this week was a visit from Rachel Moss and her adorable puppies. The children loved meeting them, and it was a wonderful opportunity to learn more about animal care and responsibility.

Class 4

It's been a busy and exciting week in Class 4! We've been splashing about in the pool during our swimming sessions, meeting some very adorable puppies, and beginning to think ahead to next year – with lots of excitement and a few butterflies!

As the end of term approaches, we're squeezing every last drop of fun, friendship and learning out of our final weeks together.

Class 5

This week, Year 5 children have been fabulously focused on practising for our Blackawton Music Festival. They have also been looking at translating shapes and lines of

symmetry in maths and they have finished writing about 'Extreme Animals' in English. Year 6 children have had the pleasure of sailing on the River Dart with some beautiful mammals - a rather playful pod of dolphins what a magical experience!





In Other Version

Outdoor Learning Newsletter -

Grammar in the Great Outdoors!

This week, our children took their grammar learning into the wild during Forest School. Using their knowledge of adjectives, they explored language in a hands-on, creative way – describing nature, teamwork, and their surroundings. They also worked brilliantly together to build shelters, combining communication and collaboration with outdoor learning. A wonderful blend of literacy and nature!





Gardening News



This week, we have sold our fresh broccoli and lettuces at the village shop, fresh from the garden.

Planted beetroot, chives, sorrel, leeks and squash, ready for winter harvest. Thank you Mrs Parsons for the saplings.

We now have 2 new bee observatories, ready to be situated, promoting more biodiversity in our school grounds.

Children have enjoyed eating the peas, from the Pea Pyramid.

We have attended the Sunflower Interschools competition Results. We are not the tallest but are the brightest! Look out for our sunflowers at Coronation Park.

Miss Harris has attended the Climate Conference.

Coming soon in September:

- Our Road Map to a plastic Free school.
- More awareness about our carbon footprint at Blackawton School.



Mobile Phones in School - Our Approach

At Blackawton Primary School, and across Education South West, we recognise that mobile phones are a part of modern life. While we respect that it is ultimately a parental/carer decision whether a child is given a mobile telephone or smartphone, we do not recommend this and strongly discourage this for primary-aged children.

Our policy is clear: children are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school unless absolutely necessary—for example, for medical reasons or if they travel to and from school independently in Years 5 or 6. In such cases, parents must complete a permission form, and the following rules apply:

- Phones must be switched off before entering the school grounds and handed to the teacher at the start of the day.
- They will be securely stored and returned at the end of the school day.
- Phones must not be used on school premises or during after-school activities.
- Smartwatches and other communication devices are not permitted at all.

Children in younger year groups are not allowed to bring phones to school under any circumstances.

This approach helps us support children in developing healthy habits around technology and ensures our school remains a safe, focused learning environment.

Parent Meeting at Totnes Town Hall

We've been asked to let you know that a meeting for parents, regarding children using phones, will be held at Totnes Town Hall. This has been convened by the Smart Phone Free Alliance. Further information is available via the QR code below.



 $\underline{https://www.eventbrite.com/e/smartphones-in-schools-what-do-we-want-for-our-kids-tickets-1478700124879}$

EYFS Family Day at Moreleigh Pump Track

The sun was shining for our annual EYFS Family Day, this year held at Moreleigh Village Hall and pump track. It fantastic to see so many children, parents, grandparents and child minders from our Toddler group, Nursery and Reception class.

The children whizzed around the new pump track on bikes and scooters. They enjoyed a picnic lunch, explored the playpark, made bubbles and played parachute games and then cooled down with some ice lollies. Parents socialised over tea, coffee and cakes.

Thank you everyone for coming and making it such a fun, friendly and relaxed day.







An open letter from Richard and Mel at Wild Embers

Blackawton Farm Visit

Thank you to the children who visited the Farm on Monday. We started the day with...

An eclipse of moths:

We learnt that there are about 2,500 different moths in the UK, (59 species butterfly) and out of these only 4 species will eat your clothes, and that this only happens at the larval stage. That some moths don't have any mouth parts, they have to make sure that they build up their fat stores as caterpillars.

We learnt that they play a vital role in our ecosystem to help with pollination and we looked at how good they are at camouflage, they really are masters of disguise.

We helped record 64 different species at the farm, and lots we didn't have time to record. We held them, we tried to remember lots of their names then we helped release them. Some of them really wanted to stay with us over lunch.

Sheaves of wheat

In the afternoon we made our own flour for making pancakes (recipe below) **separating**, **winnowing**, **milling** and cooking. Also chopping wood and making the fire to cook on.

With the separating, we pulled the spike/head off the stalk and put in a pillow case, we then had to bash this against something hard, to encourage the separation of the kernels, once we had managed this we moved on to the winnowing, we tried several different ways to remove the chaff, but the most successful was using a compressor, this gently blew the chaff away leaving us with the grain. We moved the grain collected across to the Millers/ grain grinders, each cup full had to go through about 5 times to get a soft flour.

Pancake recipe (Forest school style) !!!!!

Freshly milled flour, slightly course to add flavour Oat Milk
Vegan butter
A pinch of bicarb
I teaspoon of brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon organic vanilla bean paste
Whisk until bored.....
Cook until golden brown and ENJOY

A big thank you to all of the children who attended, they did you all proud.

Sue. Iris Richard. Mel

If anyone is interested, we have the record sheet of moths available, just email me.

Warm wishes Mel

Sunflower competition

We were delighted to visit
Coronation Park this week for
the Inter School Sunflower
Growing Competition Results.
Our Sunflowers may not be the
tallest – but they were certainly
the brightest. There smiles are
the greatest reward!

Thank you to Josie and Fern for supporting our efforts and Dartmouth Community Gadens.



The Parish Council have received correspondence from a resident concerned about the speed of traffic travelling in the village around drop off and pick up times of the school.

They have made the following comments regarding the School traffic:

"There are high speeds through the village. This also happens in the French Furze site, especially when children are being dropped off and collected from school".

With this in mind., Can we all take extra care please Thank you!



Maths Problem of the Week - Family fun!

Have a go at this mathematical thinking to get your maths conversations happening at home.

Can you create a large square using all the pieces for this 'Tangram' Puzzle? Print, cut out and piece together. Can you make any other shapes using all of the pieces?



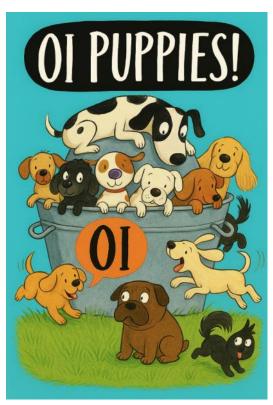
Ms Llewellyn's Recommended Read:

Oi Puppies! by Kes Gray and Jim Field

In honour of our adorable puppy visitors this week, we're celebrating with a tail-wagging treat of a book! *Oi Puppies!*, written by **Kes Gray** and illustrated by **Jim Field**, is packed with hilarious rhyming wordplay and bold, joyful illustrations that children absolutely love.

A big thank you to **Rachel** for bringing in her gorgeous puppies — they were the perfect companions for both learning and cuddles! The children were delighted, and *Oi Puppies!* was the perfect book to match the excitement.

In the story, the ever-patient Frog tries to organise a boisterous bunch of puppies — but as you might expect, chaos and comedy quickly follow. From the award-winning team behind *Oi Frog!* and *Oi Dog!*, this joyful picture book is ideal for sharing aloud and guarantees lots of giggles.



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard SEND Signpost



Emily Risby SENDCo

Schools are closing for the summer holidays but FACE will be open for your parents



Ongoing online advice, information and support. No waiting lists, no referrals, a friendly face!



info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk facefamilyadvice.co.uk



All sessions delivered live online via zoom £24 each or FREE with School Membership - 90 minutes long Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours		All sessions delivered live online via zoom £24 each or FREE with School Membership - 90 minutes long Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk Recordings available for 48 hours	
Anxiety Explained	4th 10am	Anxiety Explained	4th 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	4th 7pm	Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	4th 7pm
What is ACT?	5th 10am	What is ACT?	5th 10am
Introduction to OCD	5th 7pm	Introduction to OCD	5th 7pm
Raising Self Esteem	11th 10am	Raising Self Esteem	11th 10am
Decreasing Depression	11th 7pm	Decreasing Depression	11th 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	12th 10am	Supporting Healthy Sleep	12th 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	12th 7pm	Understanding the Teenage Brain	12th 7pm
Improving Family Communication	18th 10am	Improving Family Communication	18th 10am
Autism: Improving Communication	18th 7pm	Autism: Improving Communication	18th 7pm
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	19th 10am	Understanding Addictive Behaviour	19th 10am
Supporting a Child with ADHD	19th 7pm	Supporting a Child with ADHD	19th 7pm
Understanding Anger	25th 10am	Understanding Anger	25th 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	25th 7pm	Supporting Healthy Screen Use	25th 7pm
Facing Defiance	26th 10am	Facing Defiance	26th 10am

To find out more, contact info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk / www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk





A session of fun and educational activities for you and your child(ren). Led by Jo Mitchell, our Nursery Leader

Refreshments provided for children and adults

£1 donation please



BLACKAWTON VILLAGE HALL

CASH BINGO

FRIDAY 15TH AUGUST
EYES DOWN 7.30pm
BIG CASH FLYER TO
FINISH!

Light Refreshments & Raffle

ALL PROFITS TO KINGSBRIDGE FOODBANK





https://dynamicadventurescic.co.uk/summer-holidays-adventure-club

Summer Holiday Adventure Club

Join us for an unforgettable summer of adventure, exploration, and fun! Our action-packed camp offers a range of thrilling outdoor activities, from kayaking on the River Dart to rock climbing on Dartmoor and coasteering by the sea. Whether you're navigating the woods, tackling the river, or diving into the sea, there's an adventure waiting for everyone!

Dates:

4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th August 2025

11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th August 2025

18th, 19th, 20th, 22nd August 2025

Time: 9am-4pm

Location: Meadowfields, Velwell, Totnes, TQ9-6AB

Summer Holiday Activity Club from 4th August for three weeks . You can book one day or multiple days.



https://dynamicadventurescic.co.uk/summer-holidays-adventure-club







Join us for the the NEW program at Totnes with at least 6 activities each day.



TOTNES LEISURE CENTRE

UNRIVALED ACTIVITIES



GLOW SPORTS

NERF WARS
SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS



BUBBLE FOOTBALL
TENNIS
BASKETBALL



SWIMMING

ARCHERY TAG

TEAM BUILDING GAMES



INFLATABLES
FOREST SCHOOL
AND MUCH MORE

GOOD TO KNOW

- ∠ Ages 5 12
- Ofsted Registered

- 28th July 29th Aug 2025
- な £35 Standard Day
- ★ £25 short day
- £157.50 Week (10% discount)

→ 9am - 3pm (Short Day)

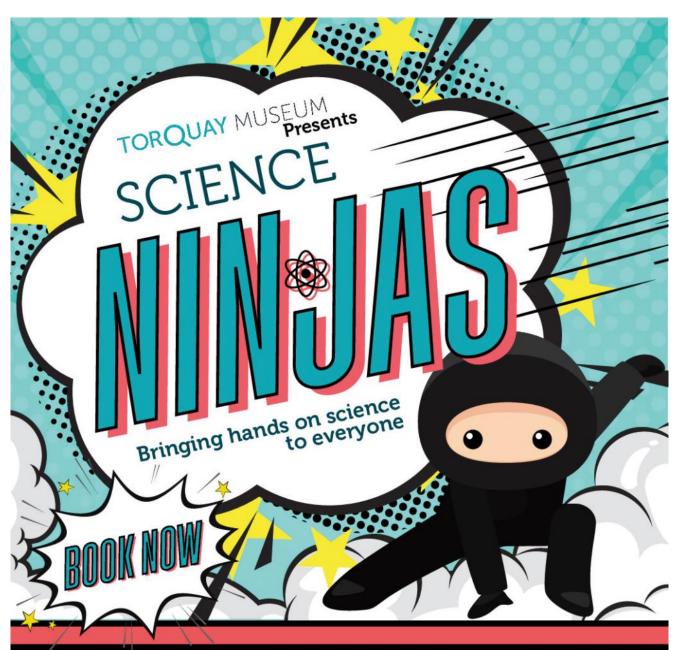
4 8:15am - 5:15pm (Standard Day)

SCAN TO BOOK



More information **07721638935**

Visit our website sportystars.co.uk





Exciting, hands-on experiments for families to watch and take part in.

Sunday 27th July Sunday 3rd, 10th & 17th August

> Booking essential Just £1 with a valid museum ticket!



TORQUAY MUSEUM

www.torquaymuseum.org





Registered Charity No. 1025390









Stories & Puppets

Puppet making, Lots of fun morning for the



12th, 13th & 14th August 9:30am - 12:30pm

G Playground

Young People's Theatre

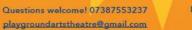
Summer School

9-13 years at Moor Imagination Centre Buckfastleigh



28th July-1st Aug

5 days 9:30am - 3:30pm Limited places Booking essential



facilitators with enhanced DBS



Limited places Booking essential Questions welcome! 07387553237 plaugroundartstheatre@gmail.com

Highly experienced and inspirational facilitators with enhanced DBS









SLAPTON LEY HAF NATURE DAYS!

AUGUST 2025



Get out and active exploring nature this Easter with our **free** HAF programme. A packed morning of nature-based activities, then back to Slapton Ley Field Centre for a **hot lunch**.

Available for children **aged 7-11** eligible for benefit-related Free School Meals. There are also some extended criteria places available.

Free collection and drop off each day from Kingsbridge and villages along the A379 to Slapton, or meet us at the Field Centre



TIMETABLE 09.30 - 14.15

12TH - 15TH OF AUGUST 27TH - 29TH OF AUGUST











Scan the QR code to find out more and book or visit eequ.org/experience/14349









£40 a day*

LET THE WILD TIMES BEGIN!

Thursdays and Fridays from 31st July - 29th August - Pondfields, Dartington ACTIVITIES

Outdoor Games

Woodland Wanderings

Free Play

Campfire Cooking

Team Challenges

Den Building

Bushcraft

Waterway Adventures

And Much More

BOOK NOW: www.wildembers.org/wildadventurers or scan the QR code

*Discounts for multi-bookings and siblings









The Children's Bookshow

showcases the **best children's books** with authors and illustrators live on stage. **Come and see**

Author, Alom Shaha, & illustrator Sarthak Sinha



Join us for a fun morning exploring Art,
Science and Literature through the book,
How to Find A Rainbow! Author and teacher
Alom Shaha will bring the science of light
to life on stage with some stunning
demonstrations, and he'll read stories too.
Indian illustrator, Sarthak Sinha, will draw for
us live, talk about his process and materials,
and reveal the important role of light when
creating picture books. Don't miss it!

Venue: Northcott Theatre, Exeter, Devon, EX4 4QB

Date: Tuesday 11 November

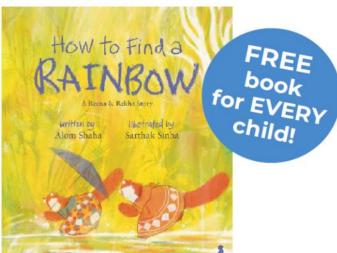
Time: 10.30am

Duration: approx. 1 hour

Age: Years 1, 2 and 3

Tickets: £7 (includes free

book for every child)



Four **FREE** in-school workshops with Alom and Sarthak (worth £500) available for schools attending the performance *



Get in touch with Katy Webster to book tickets for this event: katyw@thechildrensbookshow.com 07904 068084

Find out more and how to book at www.thechildrensbookshow.com/performances



^{*} terms and conditions apply







Should I keep my

child off school?



Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics



but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek





Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit https://grco.de/minfec.

Join our school on Classlist

Classlist is the parent app that brings you into the heart of our school community.

- Get in touch with parents in our school
- Ask questions to the parents in your child's class
- See what's coming up for you and your child
- Find like-minded friends in our community
- Organise meet-ups and birthday parties



It helps me to see who's who at my school and see who lives nearby

I can organise my child's birthday party and see who's coming



I can stay in the loop with important school info & PTA events coming up

Now I know who my child is friends with, I can get in touch with their parents

Round-up emails help me keep up with what's going on even when I'm busy

Is Classlist moderated?

Yes! This keeps our community friendly, welcoming and useful.

How much information do I need to share?

You're in control! You decide how much information to share and what notifications you want.

Is Classlist safe?

Yes! It's fully GDPRcompliant, private and secure.

Sign up today! It's easy and completely free



Download the Classlist app on iOs or Android



Select our school and sign up



Classlist Smarter together.

www.classlist.com