

Blackawton Primary School NEWSLETTER

Creative - Confident - Caring



Friday 10th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Today, we celebrated **Hello Yellow Day**, a national event led by the charity Young Minds to raise awareness of the importance of looking after our mental health and supporting one another. The day encourages children and adults alike to recognise that everyone should be 'mentally healthy aware' and that it's okay to talk about how we're feeling.

It was wonderful to see the school filled with so much colour, positivity, and energy — children and staff all dressed in yellow to show their support. The classrooms and corridors looked so bright and cheerful!

Throughout the day, children took part in a range of activities focused on wellbeing — from mindfulness and gratitude exercises to exploring ways we can care for ourselves and others when we might be feeling sad or worried. They also discussed the importance of kindness, empathy, and talking openly about their emotions.

A huge **thank you** to all parents and carers for your continued support — whether through helping your child take part, dressing them in yellow, or talking at home about mental health. Together, we are helping our children build the confidence and resilience they need to look after themselves and one another.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes

Liam Fielding and Charlotte Buckle
Headteacher Deputy Head



We educate children so they can lead great lives





Monday 13 October 2025	Forest & Beach presentation to Yr4 parents
Tuesday 14 October 2025	Parent / Carer forum, 2:15 to 3:15pm
Wednesday 15 October 2025	Junior Life Skills and swimming gala, Yr6
Wednesday 15 October 2025	Apple juicing day
Friday 24 October 2025	Open classroom, 2:30 to 3:15pm
Friday 24 October 2025	Last day of term
Monday 3 November 2025	First day back to school
Thursday 6 November 2025	RNLI water safety visit to school
Friday 7 November 2025	School immunisations, Reception to Yr6
Monday 10 November 2025	NSPCC workshops; Yr2, Yr5 and Yr6
18th, 19th, 20th November 2025	Parents evening
Wednesday 19 November 2025	SEND Parent Forum, 2-2:30pm
Friday 21 November 2025	Children In Need
Wednesday 10 December 2025	Whole school Christmas lunch
Wednesday 10 December 2025	Parent / Carer forum, 5:30pm
Monday 15 December 2025	School panto trip
Tuesday 16 December 2025	Nursery and Reception nativity in the church
Wednesday 17 December 2025	Class 2, 3, 4 and 5 Candlelit Service in the church
Thursday 18 December 2025	Open classroom, 2:30pm
Friday 19 December 2025	Last day of term
Monday 5 January 2026	Back to school

Please note—More dates to come.
Further school trips being organised, tbc.
Finer details will be sent closer to events.

CLASS 'SNAPPY' NEWS

“I spy with my little eye”

Nursery

We've had a sensational week in nursery exploring the world around us using all five senses! We went on a bear hunt—tiptoeing through grass, squelching through mud, and feeling brave along the way! Our barefoot walk had little feet exploring different textures — squishy, smooth, and tickly! We also used our sense of taste by taste testing juices—from sweet apple to zesty orange, their taste buds were tingling!

We explored scented playdough, with lots of curious noses guessing the smells and our feely balloons were full of surprises, helping us guess what's inside just by touch.

A week full of wonder and exploration.



Class 1

We've been having fun learning about our senses in Class 1 this week: smelling, tasting, listening, touching and looking. The children have been enjoying making lots of smelly potions from herbs, playing the feely bag game and also tasting different fruit juices and then choosing their favourite flavour.



Class 2

Class 2 have started their new units in Maths and English this week. We have immersed ourselves in many traditional tales and have fixed sentences, so they have capital letters and full stops. In maths we have used part whole models to create addition sentences. In PE we have played attacking and defending games and learnt how to get into space. We have also evaluated different play structures in DT.



Class 3

Class 3 have been busy writers this term, completing their fantastic guides on “How to Care for Different Dragon Breeds.” The children used their imaginations brilliantly and produced some wonderfully creative work!

We are really enjoying our current class read, The Boy at the Back of the Class. As part of our learning, we even tried pomegranate, kindly donated by a parent – a fun (and tasty!) way to connect with the story.

In Art, we explored gestural drawings, experimenting with expressive lines and movement. Everyone loved getting creative and seeing how their artwork could capture energy and emotion.

In the Open the Book assembly, we watched The Gardener story come to life. It was a lovely reminder of kindness, patience, and how small acts can make a big difference.

Class 4

Class 4 have had a really full and exciting week. They took part in first aid training and were fantastic at learning how to stay calm and help others in an emergency. In maths, they've been getting to grips with rounding and estimating, using what they've learnt to solve everyday problems. Our geography lessons have focused on informal settlements, and the children have shown real curiosity about how people live in different parts of the world. We also joined the whole school for our Harvest celebration — a lovely reminder of how important it is to share, be thankful, and look after one another.



Class 5

Class 5 have welcomed a new member and everyone is delighted!

We have enjoyed learning about factors, multiples, prime numbers and square numbers in maths. In English, we have produced some thorough explanations for processes which interest us individually.

We are now moving onto Kensuke's Kingdom and adding descriptive detail to stories, developing a plot, and characterisation. We have also measured the amount of mould growth on our bread experiments, drawing some interesting conclusions.



In Other News

Forest School Focus: The Magical World of Mushrooms

This week at Forest School, we explored the **wonderful world of mushrooms**! With so many mushrooms popping up in our outdoor area, the children were full of curiosity and questions. We had some fantastic conversations about just how *fabulous* fungi really are.

We were especially fascinated to learn about the "**Wood Wide Web**" – the incredible underground network of **mycelium** that helps mushrooms **communicate, heal, and connect the roots of trees**. Nature's very own internet!

The children got stuck in (literally!) with **clay play**, creating their own imaginative mushrooms, toadstools, and even fairy mushroom houses. Their creativity really shone through!

We also tried our hands at **decoupage**, making beautiful mushroom-themed bookmarks using pictures of different fungi species. A wonderful mix of art, nature, and fine motor skills.

One of the highlights of our week was gathering around the **firepit**, where we shared some **funny mushroom jokes**. Laughter echoed through the woods as we all agreed—we know that *mushrooms are such fun guys*, they get invited to every party!

A huge thank you to the helpful children in **Class 5** who raked and planted **wildflower seeds** in our dedicated wildflower area. We can't wait to see a burst of colour when they bloom next summer!

And a big **thank you to Nursery**, who helped to create a cosy **hedgehog home**! We had so much fun **tucking it under a blanket of colourful autumn leaves**—the perfect hiding spot for a sleepy hedgehog as the weather turns colder.

Another **sunny, joyful week** of learning, exploring, and connecting with nature at Forest School.







First aid—Mini Medics

Over the last week, our children have taken an exciting and important step in learning how to help others by taking part in first aid training here at school.

The sessions were specially designed for primary-aged children and delivered by Liz from Mini First Aid who made learning about safety and first aid both fun and practical. Through hands-on activities, discussions and demonstrations, the children discovered what to do in common situations such as minor cuts and grazes, burns, embedded objects, nosebleeds and choking. The children were taught essential first aid skills to help them respond confidently in an emergency.

They also learned how to:

- Stay calm and get help in an emergency
- Call 999, 112 or 911 and explain what's happened
- Use basic first aid skills, including CPR, safely and confidently

Our young first aiders showed fantastic enthusiasm, as you will see from the following comments:

"I enjoyed learning about first aid, and I had fun. Liz, who taught us, was great and very informative".

"I liked learning about first aid. It was really fun. I think it is good that we learn how to help in an emergency".



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

SEND Signpost



Vicky Llewellyn
SENDCo



WHO WE ARE?

We are a group of professionals including psychologists, psychiatrists, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists, nurses, administrative support and many other professions.

WHO CAN GET HELP?

Anyone aged under 18 who lives in Devon (excluding Plymouth) and Torbay can get specialist care from CFHD.

WHAT WE DO?

CFHD provides integrated, specialist care across physical and mental health for children, young people and their families in Devon and Torbay.

GET IN TOUCH

Single Point of Access Team

t: 0330 0245 321

e: CFHD.DevonSPA@nhs.net

www.childrenandfamilyhealthdevon.nhs.uk

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SEND Signpost



Children & Family Health Devon

REQUESTING HELP FROM CFHD

Anyone aged under 18 who lives in Devon (excluding Plymouth) can get specialist care from CFHD. To get help from CFHD you will need a referral. A referral is the way to ask to see an NHS specialist.

If you need urgent help there are lots of places that offer instant access support over the phone, by text or online.

WHAT ARE PATHWAYS OF CARE

After we've received a referral, our experts decide whether the child or young person needs specialist care from CFHD.

If they do, the child or young person and their family will receive care from one or more CFHD Pathways depending on their particular needs.

Each Pathway covers a particular set of issues. Healthcare specialists work together within each Pathway to provide the best care and support.

CFHD PATHWAYS OF CARE

- Urgent Care
- Speech, Language and Communication
- Physical and Sensory
- Community Children's Nursing
- Neurodiversity
- Business Support and Single Point of Access
- Early Child Development
- Specialist Learning Disability
- Addressing adverse childhood experiences
- Mental Health Support Team
- Mood, Emotions and Relationships
- Eating Disorders

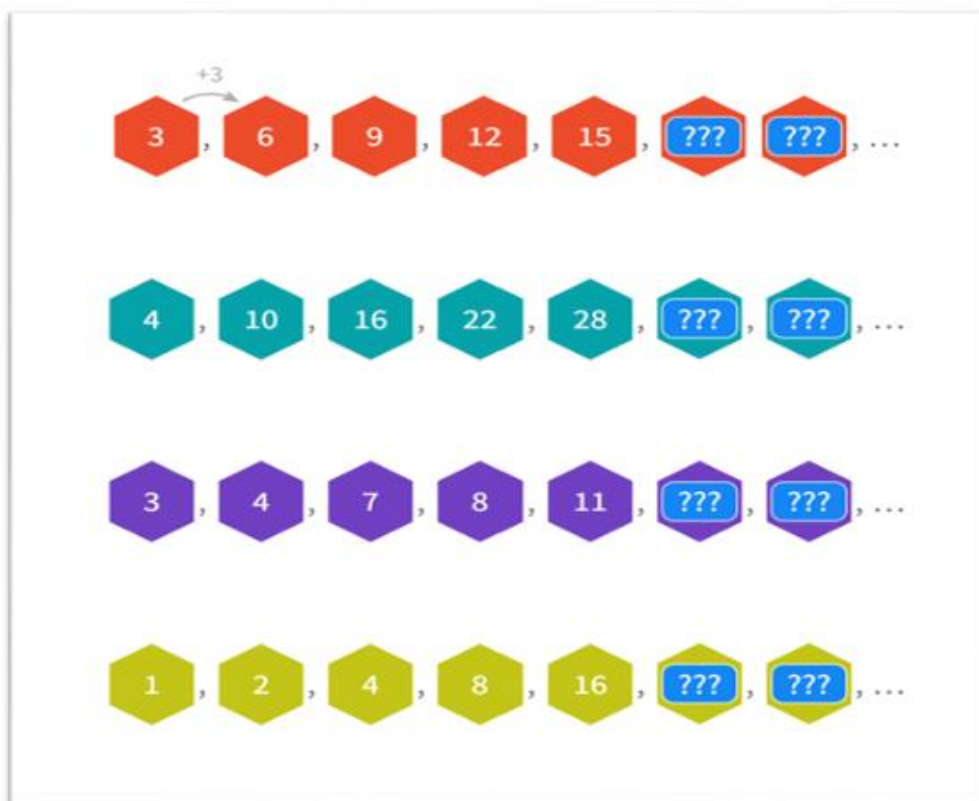
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR
MORE INFORMATION



Maths Problem of the Week - Family fun!

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

Can you complete the sequences? Can you create any of your own?

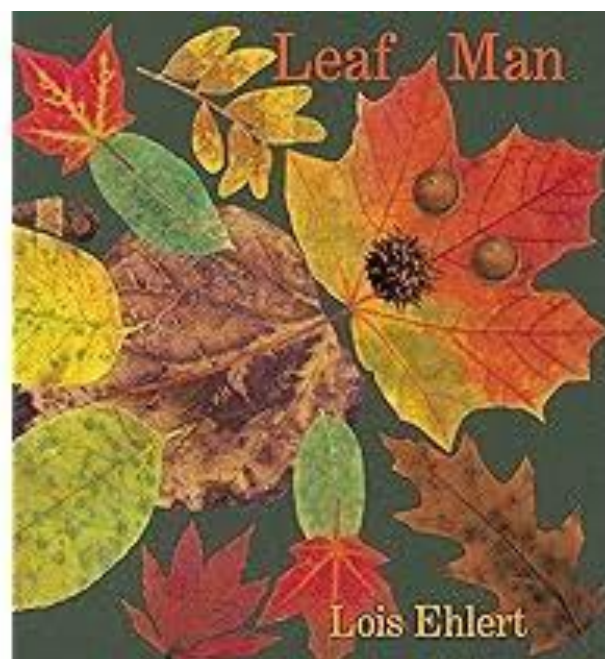


Miss Burt's Recommended Read:

As the leaves begin to turn and drift to the ground, our recommended read this week celebrates the beauty and imagination of autumn.

Leaf Man by Lois Ehlert is a stunning picture book made entirely from real autumn leaves - turned into people, animals, and landscapes.

As the wind blows, Leaf Man drifts away on a journey past fields, lakes, and forests, reminding us to look closely at the natural world around us.



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Road Safety Reminder

Due to a recent road closure, there has been an increase in traffic through French Furze. Members of the community have noticed that some vehicles are travelling at significant speed through the estate and are concerned for the safety of all pedestrians, especially the children.

We kindly ask all parents, carers, and visitors to **please drive slowly and with extra care** when passing through French Furze and entering the car park for drop-off and pick-up times.

By working together and being mindful of our speed, we can help ensure the safety of all our children and families when accessing school. Thank you for your continued support in keeping our community safe.



Breakfast Club's hoglet rescue

This morning, a hoglet was discovered alone at school by Lauren and the children at Breakfast Club. Obviously everyone was very concerned so following the advice of 'Prickles in a Pickle', the hoglet was contained safely and then Lauren drove the hoglet to the 'Prickles in a Pickle' for expert care. They will keep Lauren updated on it's recovery so that she can share any news with the children.



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**BLACKAWTON
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**APPLE
DAY**

**WEDNESDAY
15TH OCTOBER**

**LOCAL COMMUNITY
WELCOME**

3.30-5pm

BRING YOUR OWN BOTTLE

**LET'S GET
JUICING!**

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Blackawton Nursery Stay and Play

TUESDAY MORNINGS

FROM 10:00 to 11:00am



NURSERY HUT



at Blackawton Primary School

Playing / Arts & Crafts / Making Friends

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

£2 per family



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Scouts Prize Bingo!

Saturday 11th October 2025

Townstal Community Hall

Doors open:

6.30pm

Eyes down: 7:30pm

Caller: Linsey Little

Raffle Refreshments

With Cash flyer (must be over 18 to play)

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Available in school!



Piano lessons with Jess Heywood, available in school

(with option to work towards accredited piano exams)

Contact:

jess_h_heywood@yahoo.co.uk

Jess is the Director of the Youth Festival,
Dartmouth Music Festival
and is available for new bookings

Please book your child's place by contacting Jess directly
or get in touch with the school office.

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Farming and the Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy: Thursday 16 October 6 to 7.30pm

Find out how farmers and land managers can use the Devon (Local Nature Recovery Strategy) LNRS to understand the species and habitats in their area and the actions that could support their conservation and recovery.

We'll run through the LNRS website and interactive map, followed by a Q&A session.

Register for a free ticket:

[Register for a free ticket for the Farming and the Devon LNRS – Farming and the Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy – Microsoft Teams](#)

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WildWeek in Dartmouth -

Autumn adventures in nature this half-term

Family-friendly, free-to-attend events - talks, activities, theatre
hosted by **BeWild** at Dartmouth's welcoming Coastal Trail Café

Plan your
WildWeek



From Monday 27th to Friday 31st October, drop into the café at 2pm to find out more from local experts about bird migration; the wonderful world of bats; the extraordinary life in our rock pools, or that prickly favourite, the hedgehog. Come and be inspired, informed and entertained - a brilliant way to connect with the natural world on our doorstep.

And on Tuesday 28th, we have *Fungi Frida and the Myco Heroes*: a delightfully fun and silly show with songs, puppetry and games, alongside mind-boggling facts about the astonishing properties of our fantastic fungi. For under-12s and their families. Can fungi save the world?? Come along and find out!

Full details of the week's events at <https://bewild.uk/october-wild-week-coastal-trail/>



• Talks • Activities • Child-Friendly • **BeWild** • Free •

WildWeek

@ COASTAL TRAIL

6 SOUTH EMBANKMENT DARTMOUTH TQ6 9BH

27-31 Oct 2025, 2pm daily

BeWild are returning to the **Coastal Trail Café**, Dartmouth for a **WildWeek** of daily inspirational talks, hands-on events and activities designed to connect our community with the incredible wildlife right on our doorstep. **Get involved!**

Plan your
WildWeek

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

fun, interactive theatre for 0 - 12 year olds and their families!

Fungi and the Myco Heroes Frida and the Heroes by georgie taylor



Coastal Trail Cafe, Dartmouth

2pm

28th Oct 2025

Free!

Part of Autumn Wild Week with

Be Wild

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

KINGSBRIDGE GYM CLUB

HOLIDAY CLUB

£25

ALL DAY 9AM - 3:30PM



MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER



TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER



WEDNESDAY 29TH OCTOBER



THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER



BOOK HERE

[HTTPS://PORTAL.ICLASSPRO.COM/KINGSBRIDGEGYMCLUB/BOOKING](https://portal.iclasspro.com/kingsbridgegymclub/booking)



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Free casual swimming included

**SWIM HAPPY,
SWIM WITH
CONFIDENCE**

Learn to swim with Fusion Lifestyle

- ✓ Preschool, junior & adult lessons available
- ✓ Kids swim for FREE* in general swim sessions
- ✓ Track your child's progress online



Scan the QR code to find out more

Swim School

Following the **Swim England** | Learn to Swim Programme

fusion

fusion-lifestyle.com/swimschool

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Young People's
Theatre



Playground
Arts

October Half Term Clubs



'Telling Tales' 6-9 yrs

The Mansion 27th & 28th
October

10am - 2:30pm

£65

'Create a Play in
2 Days' 10-14 yrs

MiC 30th & 31st October

10:30am - 4pm



Questions welcome - for more info contact Sarah 07387553237
playgroundartstheatre@gmail.com

THE
MANSION

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Buckfastleigh
Town Council

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Shoobox Appeal 2025



A reminder that this year's Shoobox Appeal is coming up just before half-term, this year channelled through or2ee, (Christian Response to Eastern Europe), operating from Exmouth.

These shoeboxes will be heading to **Moldova** and **Ukraine**. Moldova is one of the poorest countries in Europe, and Ukraine is still in the grips of war. We know every single box will be gratefully received this Christmas!

Please bring any completed shoeboxes, (or contributions to put into boxes), to school by Monday 20th October (later than this will be too late!!) So ideally, this date!!

Suggestions for contributions to children's shoeboxes:

Hat	Scarf	Gloves	Socks / tights
Hairbrush	Soap	Toothpaste	Toothbrush
Shower gel	Shampoo	Deodorant	T-shirt
Calculator	Colouring book	Paint Box	Pencils
Felt-tip pens	Wax crayons	Colouring pencils	Exercise books
Cuddly Toy	Tennis ball	Jigsaw Puzzles	Torch
Biscuits	Chocolates	Sweets	Pyjamas
For girls.....	Tights	Dolls	Beads
Friendship Bracelets	Craft Items	Glow Sticks	
Hair Clips & Slides	Lip Gloss	Purse	Jewellery
For boys	Lego Bricks	Toy Cars	Wallet
Glow Sticks	Airfix Type Models	Magnifying Glass	

Please label each completed box with the approximate age and indicate BOY or GIRL. You are welcome to include photos of your family and a covering letter, but **no address** please. There is **NO COST** for transport or need for a paid barcode!

or2ee has been sending shoeboxes to Moldova for over 20 years, and those organising the boxes know the poorest families well. Since the outbreak of war, they have also been delivering boxes to children in Ukraine, where normal life for children has been totally destroyed, and so these boxes will make Christmas very special for them.



Bless you and Thank you!

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

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

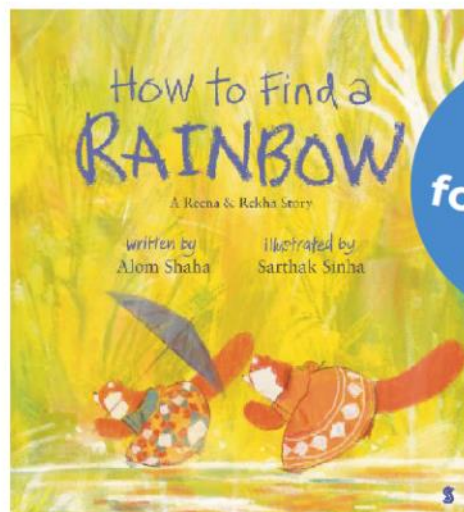
Date: Tuesday 11 November

Time: 10.30am

Duration: approx. 1 hour

Age: Years 1, 2 and 3

Tickets: £7 (includes free
book for every child)



**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



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

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Staying Healthy

Illness

Feelings

Getting Help

A fun and interactive resource
for learning about health

Games

Activities

Quizzes

www.healthforkids.co.uk

Psst! Parents!

As well as enjoying the content with your child, you can get advice on supporting their health and wellbeing.



www.healthforkids.co.uk/Devon

Follow us: Health for Kids: Grownups healthforkidsgrownups @HealthforKids1



ChatHealth

Text a school nurse for confidential advice and support

07520 631721

Or scan the QR code
for further service
contact details:



Disclaimer: We may need to inform someone if we are concerned about your safety but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored securely and can only be accessed by other authorised health care professionals who follow the same strict confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to your message within one working day and you should get an immediate message back from us to confirm we have received your text. If you need help before you hear back from us, please contact your GP, nearest walk-in centre or dial 111. In an emergency please dial 999. Unfortunately, our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some number masking mobile apps). To opt-out of receiving messages from a healthcare professional, please text 'STOP' to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rates.

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

HALF TERM FUN FOOTBALL DAY



FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER

VENUE: KEVICC, TOTNES TQ9 5JX

£20 | Age 5-14 Years | 10am-3pm



LIMITED PLACES • BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT
TO BOOK VISIT www.shearsoccer.co.uk

Contact Adam on 07967 124844 or info@shearsoccer.co.uk



COACHING SESSIONS • SMALL SIDED TOURNAMENTS • FUN COMPETITIONS
TROPHIES & PRIZES • CERTIFICATES • PLAYER OF THE COURSE AWARD
IMPROVE PERFORMANCE • BUILD SELF-CONFIDENCE • MAKE NEW FRIENDS
FOR BOYS & GIRLS OF ALL ABILITIES • ALL STAFF UEFA/FA & CRB QUALIFIED

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

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

No

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

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



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.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
- ✓ Buy event tickets & RSVP to invitations



I can ask the parents in my child's class questions

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 GDPR-compliant, private and secure.

Sign up today! It's easy and completely free

1

Download the Classlist app on iOS or Android

2

Select our school and sign up



Classlist

Smarter together.

www.classlist.com