

Blackawton Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Creative - Confident - Caring



Friday 12th September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are well.

We have had the most amazing week here at Blackawton Primary School – so much learning has already taken place and there have been so many achievements to celebrate. What a fantastic start to the term!

It's exciting to be sharing with you our first full week back at school. As always, you'll find in this newsletter our class Snappy News, Forest School updates, curriculum news, term dates and wider curriculum highlights. Next week I will also share with you our 'key dates' for the academic year to help you plan for events with as much notice as possible.

Hopefully you have received the Autumn term's curriculum letter for your child's class. We hope you find these helpful in giving you a clear picture of what your child will be learning over the coming weeks. Each letter outlines the main topics for the term, key learning objectives and broader curriculum themes. Our aim is that these letters not only keep you informed, but also give you the opportunity to talk to your child about their learning at home and celebrate their progress along the way.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support in helping to make Blackawton Primary School such a vibrant and successful school community.

A parent shared this photo of Blackawton Church with Jude. It taken from the front of the school. We're pretty sure the end of the rainbow falls directly onto our school! What a beautiful photo. Thank you for sharing.

Have a restful weekend.

Best wishes,

Liam Fielding and Charlotte Buckle
Headteacher Deputy Head

Attendance to date	
Class 1	97%
Class 2	93%
Class 3	96%
Class 4	96%
Class 5	98%
National expectation	96%



We educate children so they can lead great lives





Wednesday 17 September 2025	Farmwise, Yr5 and Yr6
Wednesday 24 September 2025	SEND Parent Forum, 2-2:30pm
Friday 26 September 2025	European day of languages
Thursday 2 October 2025	Mini first aid
Monday 6 October 2025	Tempest whole school photos
Wednesday 15 October 2025	Junior Life Skills and swimming gala, Yr6
Friday 24 October 2025	Last day of term
Monday 3 November 2025	Back to school
Thursday 6 November 2025	RNLI water safety visit
Friday 7 November 2025	School immunisations, Reception to Yr6
Monday 10 November 2025	NSPCC workshops; Yr2, Yr5 and Yr6
Wednesday 19 November 2025	SEND Parent Forum, 2-2:30pm
Friday 21 November 2025	Children In Need
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

“Welcome back...”

Nursery

Welcome Back to Nursery!

It's been wonderful to see all the new faces and old. This week, has all been about playing and settling the children back into the routine of Nursery. So, we've dived into exciting activities like:

Building trains with our friends
Taking care of babies in our role-play area
Enjoying our outdoor spaces and exploring
Creating our own self-portraits to show how unique we are!

We can't wait to learn, play, and have lots of fun together this term.



Class 1

The children in class 1 have done fabulously in their first full week in Reception. This week the focus has been on getting to know each other, exploring the classroom and learning our new routines.



Class 2

Class 2 have had a brilliant first full week back, and it has been such a pleasure to see their enthusiasm and hard work. In English, the children have been inspired by our new story *Daisy Doodles*, writing their own imaginative tales about monster drawings that came to life. In Maths, we explored the different ways to make 10, while our Year 2s also investigated the relationship between counting in 1s and counting in 10s through fun exploration activities. The children also enjoyed a shape hunt in DT, spotting shapes all around us, and in History they created their very own family trees – a wonderful way to start thinking about the past and how families grow and change. It has been an exciting week, Class 2 have settled back into school life!

Class 3

Welcome back to school life. This week we have been busy getting to know each other and setting expectations for training our brains. We have explored with charcoal and created some rather messy but creative artwork, with extremely pleasing outcomes. We have also embarked on this term's hockey skills in PE too!

Look forward to next week, where we can explore our curriculum coverage further and explore further exciting opportunities to enrich learning!

Class 4

Class 4 have had a brilliant start to the term!

We've quickly settled back into our routines and it's been lovely catching up with friends after the holidays. In maths, we've been getting stuck into place value, and in English we're really enjoying our new book *Varjak Paw* – there have already been lots of exciting predictions about what might happen next! In art, we've been busy creating our own comic strips, and in history we've loved finding out all about the Anglo-Saxons. It's been a fun and busy week!

Class 5

This week, Class 5 have truly settled back into school. We have had time to reflect on who we are as individuals and what that will bring to our new class team. We have been learning about 'power of 10' in maths and the language of 10 x bigger or smaller. Lots of us have enjoyed challenges around this knowledge too. In English, we have started to explore 'The Everyday Journey of Ordinary Things,' by Libby Deutsch. We have looked at how explanations need to be sequenced in order to understand them properly and have looked specifically at the journey of chocolate. It has been lovely to get back into learning!



In Other News

Welcome Back to Forest School!

We're so excited to welcome all our wonderful children back to Forest School for the autumn term! After a summer of sunshine and play, it's time to pull on our wellies, wrap up warm, and step into a new season of adventure.

As the leaves begin to turn and the air gets crisp, we'll be embracing everything that this magical time of year has to offer. Autumn is a season full of wonder, and we'll be using all our senses to explore the changes happening in our woodland.

This term promises lots of fun and hands-on learning through play and creativity. We'll be getting stuck into autumnal crafts, including leaf painting, natural art, and seasonal scavenger hunts. We'll also be celebrating Apple Day with some delicious activities, and planting seeds and bulbs ready to bloom in spring.

Our vegetable garden is bursting with goodness, and we'll be harvesting our crops to make a warming Forest School soup over the fire — a perfect way to enjoy the fruits (and veggies!) of our hard work.

Of course, no Forest School term would be complete without some classic favourites! We'll be building dens, making fire, and finding new ways to work together, challenge ourselves, and connect with nature.

We can't wait to see all the children back in their element — playing, discovering, and growing together in our beautiful outdoor classroom.

Here's to a season full of muddy boots, rosy cheeks, and unforgettable memories!



In Other News

MUSIC

Music has got off to a resounding start to the new academic year here at Blackawton. The sounds of chime bars and glockenspiels, recorders and ocarinas have all been heard, along with some wonderful singing. Preparations and rehearsals are already underway for Harvest Festival, and both music clubs are already in full swing. A great start to the new year!

New House Captains and Vice Captains Elected!

This week, our school held elections for our brand-new house captains. Each family group listened carefully as the impressive candidates stood up and shared their thoughtful speeches with confidence.

We were blown away by the number of talented public speakers in our school! Every child who put themselves forward showed great courage, determination, and a real passion for making our school the best it can be.

Although only a few could be elected to the official role of house captain, it is clear that the future is bright here at Blackawton School. Many of our children are finding their voices and making a stand for what they believe in.

We know that those who were not elected this time will still have plenty of opportunities to shine. They will no doubt be called upon to represent the school in many other important ways throughout the year.

Well done to all of our candidates – you made us proud!



ECO News

Our school focus is: Biodiversity this year!

MISSION: Enrich Blackawton School grounds to encourage more wildlife.

Gardening club: starts on Monday, we look forward to Harvesting the remaining summer harvest and plant some more winter crops.

Please try to minimise plastic wrappers coming into school for breaktime snacks. We have a waste recycling system at lunchtime but not a breaktime. Less wrappers support Our Zero Waste Campaign.

WANTED: glass jars and lids. Need for our chutney making enterprise. Please drop at the office /give to Miss Harris or Fleur.

PLANTERS : Do you have handy woodwork skills? We are looking for some basic square planters to replace the old ones around UKS2 entrance.

Do let us know if you are able to support us fulfil our missions.

Miss Harris and Gardening Team

Back to School – and Back to the Garden!

Blackawton Primary School is buzzing once again with the sound of children returning – and heading straight into the garden to harvest the fruits (and vegetables!) of their labour.

Thanks to the wonderful support of our community over the summer holidays – from weeding and strimming to picking produce – the school garden has thrived. We've had an especially bumper crop of **cucumbers and runner beans** this year, many of which have made their way to the community shop. We hope you've had a chance to enjoy the fresh, local flavours!

Our young gardeners will soon be busy transforming some of the harvest into delish chutneys using local produce. Keep an eye out for jars on sale soon – perfect for your autumn cheeseboards!

This term, we'll be planting **spring bulbs** to and we're thrilled to be planting **two new pear trees**, kindly donated by **Little Green Change**. A huge thank you to them for helping us grow!

We'd also like to extend a **special thank you to Garden Time**, who generously supplied us with seeds and mulch for our planters – your continued support means so much.

Looking ahead, our focus this year is to **increase biodiversity** across the school grounds. As part of this, we're excited to host a **willow weaving workshop** later this term—**watch this space for more details!**

We're currently on the lookout for:

- **Large plant pots**
- **Weed matting**
- **Winter crop donations** – if you're clearing your garden and have room to grow a few extra veggies for us, we'd love to hear from you.
- **A local craftsperson** to help us build some new wooden planters for the school grounds.

If you can help with any of the above, please get in touch – every contribution supports the children's learning and the future of our flourishing school garden.

Thank you again to everyone who has supported us. The garden is a true community effort, and we couldn't do it without you.

— The Blackawton School Gardening Team

Maths Problem of the Week - Family fun!

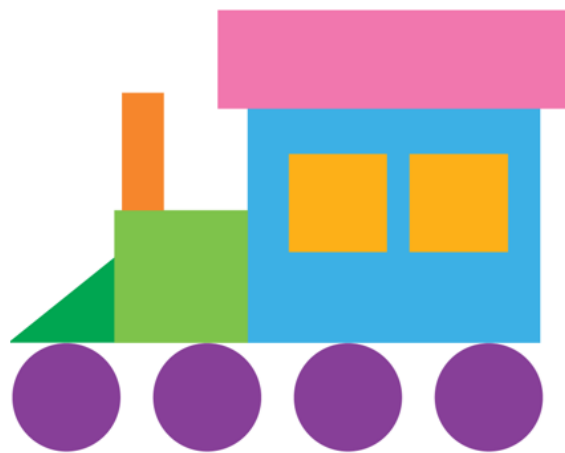
Have a go at this mathematical thinking to get your maths conversations happening at home.

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 your own forms of transport out of shapes? What about a bus or a car? A plane or a boat?

Challenge: Can you name the shapes?

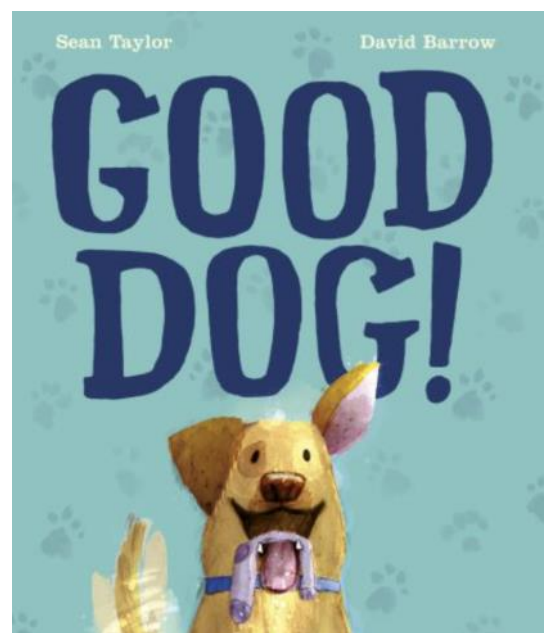


Miss Burt's Recommended Read:

Dog really tries his best to be a *Good Dog!* for his owner, Melvin.

But unfortunately it's just not that easy. First there's the case of the missing extra-delicious-smelling pizza slice - but that's really nothing to do with him. Then there's giant surprise SNIFFLE SNUGGLES when Melvin is lying down asleep. Then there's the smashed lamp... and the wee-wee on the floor... But it really is SO DIFFICULT to be a Good Dog. Will Dog ever succeed? Find out in this hilarious, heart-warming story of one lovably clueless dog and his owner.

From the team that brought you My Mum Always Looks After Me So Much.



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Vicky Llewellyn
SENDCo

SEND Signpost

The correlation between glue ear and language development

Glue ear happens when sticky fluid blocks part of your child's ear. This makes sounds seem muffled, like having fingers in your ears. Your child might find it harder to hear you or friends, especially when it's noisy. Listening can take lots of effort, so they may get tired, distracted, or struggle to hear words clearly. This can sometimes affect their talking and understanding.

Glue ear is very common – about 8 in 10 children in the UK will get it at some point. It often happens after a cold and usually clears up on its own within a few months.

How you can help

- Turn down background noise like the TV or music.
- Get face-to-face with your child so they can see your expressions.
- Say their name or gently touch them to get their attention before talking.
- Speak slowly and break instructions into small steps. Repeat if needed and give them extra time to respond.
- If your child says something incorrectly, repeat it back the right way as a model. For example, if they say "I see lil' tat," you can say, "Yes, you see a little cat!"
- Tell your child's nursery or school so they can support them too.

Most children catch up once glue ear clears, but if it lasts a long time it can affect speech and learning new words.

If you're worried:

- Talk to your child's nursery, school, GP, or audiologist.
- Try the **Progress Checker** on speechandlanguage.org.uk.
- In some cases, children may need hearing aids or grommets if glue ear doesn't go away.

Visit: www.speechandlanguage.org.uk/help-for-families/resource-library-for-families/glue-ear/ for a great video clip giving more information.

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Starting Tuesday 23 September

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 donation please



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



OPEN EVENTS

Secondary Open Mornings 2025

Monday 15th September
Wednesday 1st October
9.30am - 10.30am

To book your place
please scan the QR
code or visit our
website



Tel: 01803 839700

Email: admissions@dartmouthacademy.org.uk
www.dartmouthacademy.org.uk - Milton Lane, Dartmouth TQ6 9HW

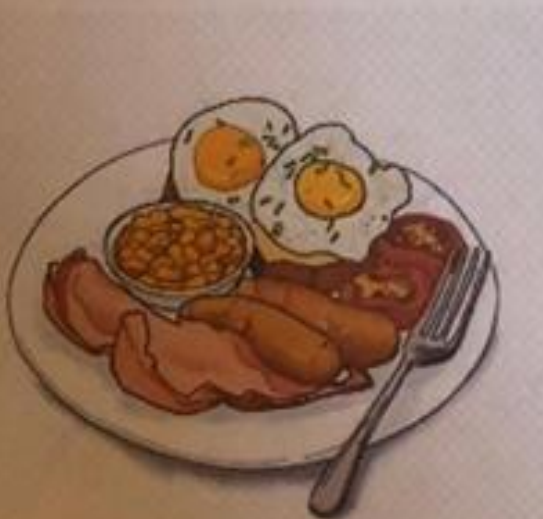
Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Dartmouth Young Farmers

Invite you to our
Charity Big Breakfast
Saturday 20th September
9-11am

Moreleigh Village Hall
Raising funds for Devon YFC



DEVON
Federation

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Better Housing Better Health

The Warmth & Wellbeing Service

HOME ENERGY ADVICE

Better Housing Better Health (BHBH) is a charity working locally to improve your warmth & wellbeing. In a preventative approach, our free helpline provides you with a single point of contact for services, advice and financial support in order to help improve the energy efficiency of your property.

BETTER HOUSING BETTER HEALTH CAN HELP WITH:

**ENERGY BILL
SUPPORT**



**HOME
ENERGY
VISITS**



**FINANCIAL
SUPPORT**

**PRIORITY
SERVICES
REGISTER**



CALL US FOR FREE

0800 107 0044

OR VISIT : WWW.BHBH.ORG.UK

THE NATIONAL ENERGY FOUNDATION - REGISTERED CHARITY NO. 294911 - REGISTERED IN ENGLAND WITH LIABILITY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE NO. 2076071

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



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

FREE ONLINE TRAINING ORAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT

NHS
Oral Health
Improvement Service



SUPPORTING CHILDREN

(1.5 hour session)

Wednesday 8th October 2025

at 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Book here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/SNCW7Szqqi>



*A FREE online webinar
for parents, teachers,
and carers*



rduh.ohesds@nhs.net



01392 405 705

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Junior Hockey Years 4 to 9

Tuesday's 5.00pm - 5.50pm

KCC AWP

Girls & Boys

Starting Tuesday 16th September



You will need to wear trainers, shin pads and a mouth guard. Hockey sticks can be provided. Please bring a drink.

Cost is £25.00 subscription for the year and £30.00 for 12 sessions, from September to December.

If you would like more information, please email Sarah Budgen at
slb1.home@outlook.com

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

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

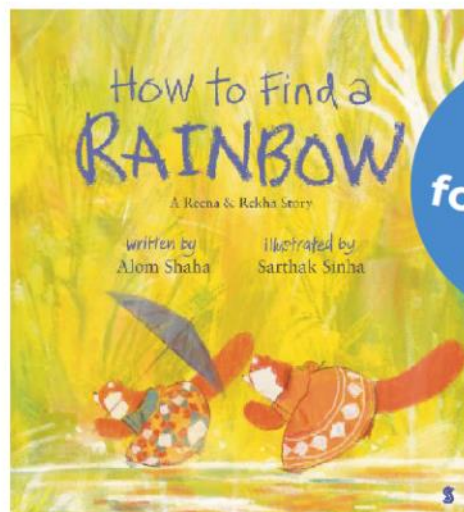
Date: Tuesday 11 November

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

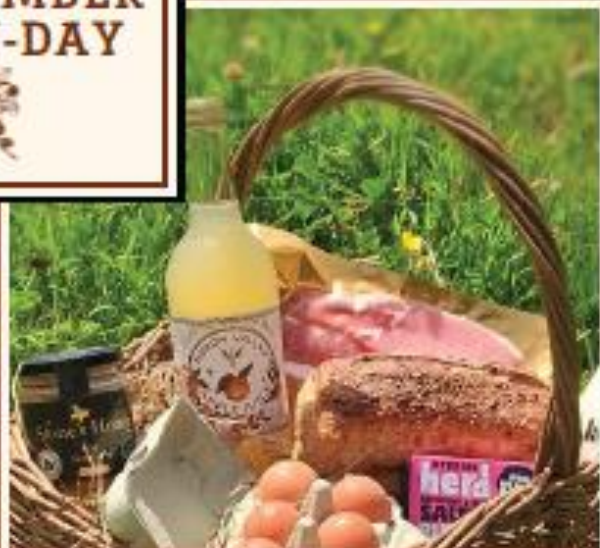
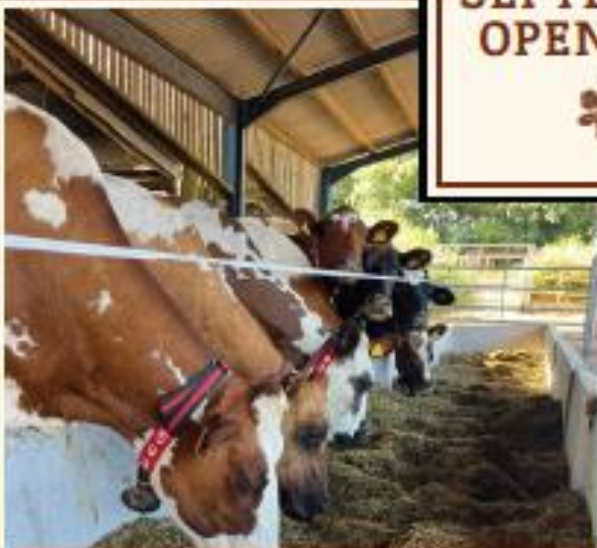


Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



SEPTEMBER
OPEN-DAY



21st September

10:00 - 16:00

Old Parsonage Farm Dartington

hello@hownowdairy.co.uk



BOOK NOW

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