

Blackawton Primary School

NEWSLETTER

Creative - Confident - Caring



Friday 7th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

The run-up to Christmas is always such a wonderful and exciting time of year in school. The coming weeks promise to be full of learning, creativity, and celebration — from class projects and educational visits to performances, nativities, and festive events. It's a term where the school feels especially alive with joy, energy, and that unmistakable sense of anticipation that comes with this season.

We know, however, that this half term can also be a very busy time for families. Between school events, work commitments, and festive preparations, it can sometimes feel like there's a lot to juggle. Please do remember to pace yourselves, take time to rest, and look after your wellbeing.

As always, we're here to support you. If there's ever a way we can help — whether that's with learning, wellbeing, or just a listening ear — please don't hesitate to get in touch. Our door is always open, and we're more than happy to work together to make sure every child and family feels supported and valued.

We're really looking forward to sharing this half term with you all — a time full of laughter, learning, and plenty of Christmas sparkle!

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful weekend.

Best wishes

Liam Fielding and Charlotte Buckle
Headteacher Deputy Head

Attendance to date	
Class 1	96%
Class 2	96%
Class 3	95%
Class 4	96%
Class 5	92%
National expectation	96%



We educate children so they can lead great lives



CHECK:**Candlelit date****'Secondary School Life'****EYFS FC fun run**

Monday 10 November 2025	'Odd socks day' to mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 10 November 2025	NSPCC workshops; Yr2, Yr5 and Yr6
Tuesday 11 November 2025	Whole school remembrance service, top playground at 11:00
Wednesday 12 November 2025	Recycle Devon visit to school
Friday 14 November 2025	Author visiting KS2: Kieran Larwood
Monday 17 November 2025	Washwalk Farm, Yr6
Tuesday 18 November 2025	London, Yr5 and Yr6
Wednesday 19 November 2025	SEND Parent Forum, 2:00 to 2:30pm
Friday 21 November 2025	Children In Need
Tuesday 25 November 2025	'Secondary school life' talk to Yr6
25, 26, 27 November 2025	Parents evening
Monday 8 December 2025	Wreath making evening (book your place via fobs.org.uk)
Tuesday 9 December 2025	EYFS Christmas trip (book via fobs.org.uk)
Wednesday 10 December 2025	Whole school Christmas lunch
Wednesday 10 December 2025	Parent / Carer forum, 5:30pm
Thursday 11 December 2025	EYFS Father Christmas run
Friday 12 December 2025	Cake sale (Yellow House)
Monday 15 December 2025 <u>OR</u> Tuesday 16 December 2025	Class 2, 3, 4 and 5 Candlelit Service in the church
Tuesday 16 December 2025	Nursery and Reception nativity in the church, 2:15 to 3pm
Wednesday 17 December 2025	Panto trip (Yr1 to Yr6) (book via fobs.org.uk)
Thursday 18 December 2025	Open classroom, 2:30 to 3pm
Thursday 18 December 2025	EYFS Christmas party
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

“Starting term off with a bang!”

Nursery

We've had sounds of Ooooh!, Aaah, Bang, Pop! This week getting ready for Bonfire night. We have all enjoyed a trip down to the bonfire and was amazed how big it looks already. We've been singing songs about fireworks and pretending to be rockets and sparklers with some great movements. We've also learnt how to keep safe during firework/bonfire night too.



Class 1

This week has gone with a whizz, pop, bang and sizzle.....Class 1 has enjoyed exploring Bonfire Night and all the sounds, colours and movement that it brings. It was exciting to walk to the park on Thursday and check up on the preparations for our village bonfire this weekend.



Class 2

We have settled right back into amazing learning in Class 2 this week.

We have completed our unit in maths on addition and subtraction and now are exploring the place value of numbers from 0 to 100. We are loving using boardgames to practise counting and exploring numbers in their tens and ones.

In English we have explored the past and present tense as verb detectives.

In PE we have started our new sports of netball and tag rugby.

Class 3

Class 3 have been very busy this week! We've just started our new Maths unit all about addition and subtraction. Everyone is working hard to practise new strategies! In English, we have been writing our own stories about Lennox visiting England, using the same style as the book *Gregory Cool*. Our stories are full of great conversations adding speech to move the story forward. In History, we've been learning about why the Anglo-Saxons created their own villages and how they didn't use the old Roman buildings after the Romans left Britain. To bring our learning to life, we even made our own mini Anglo-Saxon villages in creative dioramas, understanding everyone worked together and did their bit! In PE, we had a great time playing netball — even though we got completely soaked in the rain! Everyone joined in with big smiles and brilliant teamwork, making it a PE lesson to remember. It's been a fantastic (and very fizzy!) start to the term!

Class 4

This week in Science, Class 4 have begun learning all about the digestive system and the fascinating role that saliva plays in helping us break down food. The children have enjoyed exploring how our bodies process what we eat and have been making some exciting discoveries along the way!

In Maths, we've been investigating prime numbers, square numbers and cube numbers, deepening our understanding of how these special types of numbers are connected.

It's been a busy and engaging start to the term, with plenty of curiosity and enthusiasm in every lesson!

Class 5

Class 5 have had a great first week back.

We have seen the results of our most recent tie-dyeing and agree that we have upskilled ourselves ready for the final piece now. We have also enjoyed portrait drawing and getting down to the finer details of drawing the intricate parts of the human eye.

In maths, we have been looking at the order of calculations and how it makes a difference between getting it right and getting it wrong.

We have also started our final drafts of adventure story writing.



In Other News

Forest School Newsletter – “Remember, remember the 5th of November...”

This week at Forest School, we've been sparkling with creativity and adventure! Our little explorers celebrated Fireworks Week with a bang — quite literally (in spirit, of course).

The children have been full of energy, creativity, and curiosity as they explored all things bright and sparkly. They began by making their own sparklers using natural materials. Next came some wonderful bonfire pictures, full of bold colours that captured the excitement of fireworks night. The fun didn't stop there — the children also designed and painted their own wooden medals, each one decorated with colourful bursts inspired by fireworks in the night sky.

And of course, the highlight of the week was when they built a real bonfire! Together, they collected sticks and logs, learning about fire safety, teamwork, and the science of fire. The children even had a chance to use flint and steel to spark the flames — a brilliant way to experience how fires were traditionally made. There was such a sense of excitement and pride as the first sparks caught and the bonfire began to glow!

We've had a wonderful week celebrating outdoors. The children have shown great creativity, cooperation, and enthusiasm — and we're so proud of everything they've achieved.

Here's to more exciting adventures in Forest School this term!





Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



With the
support of



This **ANTI-BULLYING WEEK** we are holding

ODD SOCKS DAY on
MONDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 2025



Come to school
wearing your odd
socks to celebrate
what makes us all
unique!

If you're worried about bullying you can speak to ...

#OddSocksDay
#AntiBullyingWeek
#PowerForGood



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and Wales no. 1507771. registered office:
23 Hartmore Terrace, London, E1 3JL. A
Company Limited by Guarantee.



ORGANISER



ANTI-BULLYING WEEK



PARTNER

Blackawton Primary School Presents



We are excited to announce we are organising our **very own House Team Events** to raise awareness for BBC Children in Need. We are so excited to be getting involved and can't wait to get **everyone together on Friday 14 November for a fun-filled day, organised by our House Team captains.** We're raising money to help fund projects and people that provide vital support to children when they need it most right across the UK. Too many children across the UK are facing life's toughest moments alone.

As a whole school, we are challenging every child, parent, carer to **donate 25 coins to fill a large 25 chalked out in the school...** this will form our whole school donation to the BBC Children in Need appeal.

If you would like to donate more generously, you can do via the just giving link:



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Eco News



Competition - Crocus Bulb Creation Competition:

Crocus planting fun - for the whole school. If you would like to enter, we ask that you plant your bulbs as a family this Autumn and bring to school Mid January for judging. Prizes for:

- Most colourful blooms,
- Prettiest crocuses

Unusual design

The blooms will then be planted in the

How to grow a crocus:

Crocus bulbs should be planted from September to December, to allow roots to develop before winter. Plant them about 3-4 inches (8-10 cm) deep in well-drained soil, with the pointed side facing up. Planting time can extend as late as December, as long as the ground isn't frozen.



We have purchased a new bird feeding station, to encourage different birds to our grounds ahead of Bird Watching Week 2026. If you have any feeders you would like to donate to the school, please do drop them into the school office.

Let's Cut Your Carbon!

Whilst the big responsibility lies with governments and big businesses to make large changes, we can help too!

Through small changes, like walking instead of driving or turning off devices, we can lower carbon emissions and protect our planet.

This November, we challenge YOU to complete 6 fun activities with your family and friends to Cut Your Carbon!



What's Next?

You'll get a Cut Your Carbon checklist to take home. Complete the six challenges at home with friends and family across November.

At the end of the month, we'll count up how many of you joined in, add up the estimated carbon saved, and celebrate your amazing efforts!

Let's help our planet – one small step at a time!



CYC

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Visiting author coming to school on Friday 14 November: Kieran Larwood

We're very excited to share that award-winning children's author Kieran Larwood will be visiting our school on Friday 14th November, thanks to generous funding from FOBS.

Kieran is best known for his much-loved Podkin One-Ear series and the thrilling Dragon Runners books, which have captured the imaginations of readers across the country.

His visit promises to be an inspiring day for children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6, as he talks about his stories, characters, and what it's like to be a writer.

There will also be a book signing opportunity on the day, and pupils will be able to purchase Kieran's books if they wish. Details about book prices and the exact timing of the signing will be shared soon. We're delighted to be able to offer this exciting opportunity for our pupils to meet a real author and celebrate the joy of reading together!

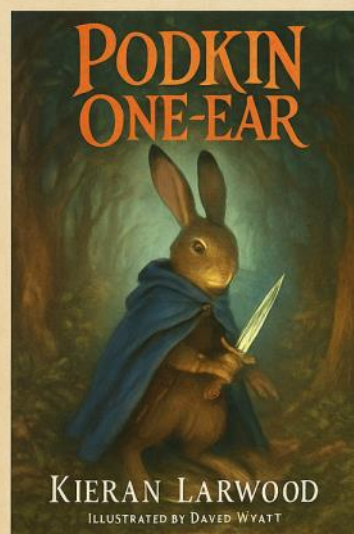
AUTHOR VISIT

FRIDAY 14TH NOVEMBER

FOR YEARS 3, 4, 5 AND 6

FUNDED BY FOBS

KIERAN LARWOOD



BOOKS WILL BE ON SALE
KIERAN LARWOOD WILL DO A SIGNING

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

SEND Signpost



Vicky Llewellyn
SENDCo

We'd like to let you know about Devon Information Advice and Support (DIAS); a free, confidential and impartial service for families of children and young people aged 0–25 with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND).

DIAS offers clear, practical advice to help you understand how SEND support works in schools, what to expect from Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans, and how to make sure your child's needs and voice are heard as they move through education.

You can find out more on their website: www.devonias.org.uk

If you ever have questions or concerns about your child's progress, or think they might need some extra support, DIAS is a great place to start. They can help you prepare for meetings, explain the SEND process, and share useful resources to help you work closely with your child's teachers.

Free Energy Advice and Support



We can help you with:

- Making your home more energy efficient / lowering bills
- Grants to help you in hard times*
- Problems with energy companies/ bills/ meters
- Damp and condensation
- Funding to insulate your Home*
- Broken appliances*
- Boiler repairs*

*subject to eligibility criteria

Get in touch today for free and impartial help:

0800 112 3044

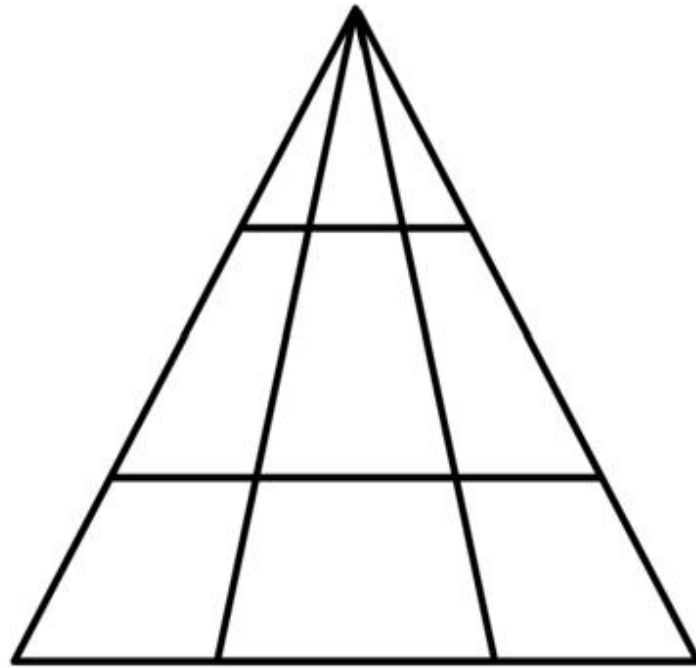
www.sdce.org.uk

Community Benefit Society Registration number 7353

Maths problem of the week – family fun!

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

How many triangles can you count?



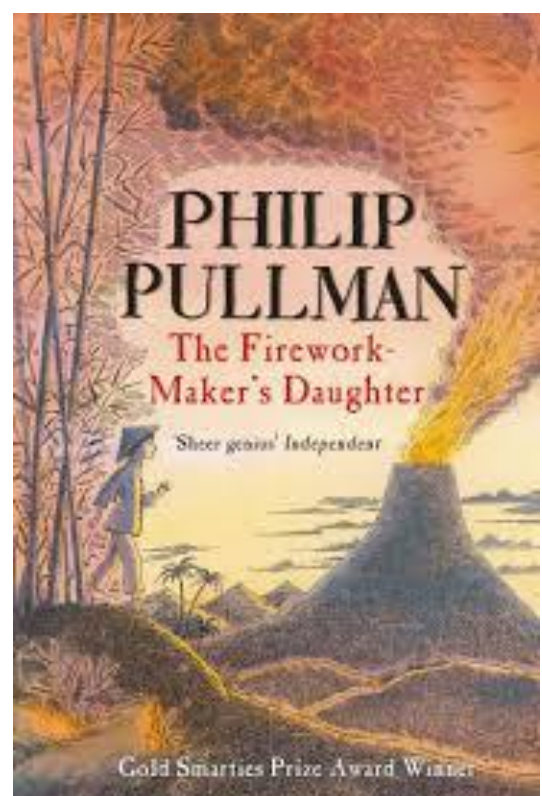
Miss Burt's Recommended Read:

The Firework-Maker's Daughter by Philip Pullman

As Bonfire Night lights up the skies, what better time to dive into a story bursting with colour, courage, and creativity?

Philip Pullman's The Firework-Maker's Daughter follows Lila, a young girl who dreams of becoming a great firework-maker like her father. But when she sets off alone on a daring journey to find the secret ingredient of fireworks – the mysterious Fire-Fiend – she learns that true brilliance comes not just from magic, but from bravery, friendship, and believing in yourself.

This beautifully written adventure sparkles with imagination, humour, and heart – perfect for readers who love stories of discovery, determination, and a touch of danger.



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Music News

Class 1 have begun learning about musical pitch, and had lots of fun tracing Sammy the Snake with their voices.

Class 2 have started learning about instrument families and the different sounds that different types of instruments make.

This week our learning was based on the story of Peter and the Wolf. We will listen to various genres of Christmas music and discover some of the many different styles and sounds of the season.

Class 3 are increasing their bank of notes on recorders and ocarinas. This will lead to playing a little something Christmassy as the weeks go by.

One group of KS2 children are tackling song-writing this term, whilst the other group are forging ahead with playing as an ensemble. They are building on skills learnt last term and understanding how chords play a part in accompanying songs. Glockenspiels allow the children to visualise the chord and choose which notes of the chord they wish to play. Both groups will play/sing seasonal pieces by Christmas.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal:

A message from Rachel Moss

A big thank you to all who brought in shoeboxes , or donations for shoeboxes. I delivered a total of 38 boxes from Blackawton School & Village community.

This is the most I have collected in the years I've been supporting this amazing project.

All these boxes will be travelling to Ukraine & Moldova, where I know the children will be so, so happy and excited to receive their gifts.

Thank you very much everyone.



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

After School Club is available from Mondays to Thursdays for pupils in Reception to Year 6

3:20pm to 4:30pm: £6

3:20pm to 5:30pm: £8



TERM DATES

Monday 3 November 2025

to

Thursday 18 December 2025



Monday	Games Club
Tuesday	Film Club
Wednesday	Cooking Club
Thursday	Sports Club

To book your child (Reception to Yr6) in to after school club, please email
admin@blackawtonprimary.org.uk or call 01803 712363

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



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

GLURBS



LANGUAGE LEARNING MADE SIMPLE



Completely safe, ad-free and designed by the specialists at Language Angels for children to learn and play independently in a way parents can trust.

- ★ It's not just fun, it's effective
- from first word to fluency.
- ★ The more you play, the more you learn!
- ★ Boosts memory, creativity & communication.



**HOW TO GET AN ENTIRE YEAR'S
SUBSCRIPTION FOR JUST £1.99:**

1. Register a new account
2. Go to 'Settings'
3. Tap **LAOFR25**



**ON MOBILE?
CLICK HERE**

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Having a pre Christmas clear out?

Looking for preloved gifts?



Indoor Car Boot Sale

Saturday 22nd November

10am – 12 noon

(Sellers from 9am)

Blackawton Village Hall

£5 per table

Refreshments available

Email: denmark26fundraising@outlook.com to book

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.

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



Libraries
Unlimited

Lantern-making workshop

Saturday 8th November 2025
10:30–12:30pm

*Create your lanterns for the Candlelit
Dartmouth Procession.*

01803 832 502

Dartmouth.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



FOBS Christmas wreath making workshop

You're invited to the Friends of
Blackawton School wreath-making
evening with Faye Luscombe

Monday, 8th December
at 6.30 pm

in Blackawton school hall

Tickets £35 per person, available from
FOBS.org.uk

1 glass of mulled wine included
Book early to avoid disappointment

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Making Christmas Manageable



Citizens Advice

|Simple ways to enjoy the festive season without overspending

Christmas can be a great time to relax and spend time with family, but it often comes with extra costs and pressure to spend more than we'd like. With household budgets already stretched, a bit of planning can make a real difference.

1. Set a Realistic Budget

Work out what you can comfortably afford to spend and stick to it. It's easy for small extras to add up, so keep a list of what you need — and what you don't. If you can, set aside a small amount each week to spread the cost.

2. Keep Gifts Simple

Children often remember the fun and attention more than what's under the tree. Low-cost or homemade gifts, or pooling together for a "Secret Santa" within the family, can keep things fair and affordable for everyone.

3. Plan Food Carefully

Christmas dinner doesn't need to be over the top. Planning meals in advance helps avoid waste, and sharing the cooking with friends or relatives can save both time and money.

4. Make the Most of What's Local

There are plenty of free or low-cost events in Teignbridge over the festive period — from school fairs to community activities. These can be a great way to get into the Christmas spirit without spending much.

5. Don't Feel Pressured

It's fine to say no to things that stretch your budget. A walk to see the lights, a film night at home, or a board game with family can make just as good memories as anything that costs money.

Need a Bit of Advice?

If you're worried about money or would like some support with budgeting, benefits, or local services, the **Citizens Advice Schools Project** can help. You can speak to your school for a direct referral.

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard

Let's Keep Blackawton Clean and Beautiful

We all love walking our dogs around our lovely village, but please remember to always carry waste bags and clean up after your pets.

Dog mess left on paths, verges, and play areas **isn't just unpleasant** – it's a health risk, especially for children.

South Hams District Council is asking all dog owners to do their bit by **bagging and binning** their dog's waste responsibly.

Anyone caught not cleaning up after their dog could face a **£100 fine**.

If you notice dog mess or have information that could help identify repeat offenders, please report it on the South Hams District Council website – just search **“report dog fouling”**.

Together, we can keep Blackawton clean, safe, and a place we can all be proud of.

Bag it. Bin it.
Keep Blackawton beautiful!



**South Hams
District Council**

www.southhams.gov.uk/report-it

Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



FULLY FUNDED
FOR ALL CHILDREN AGED 5-14
ELIGIBLE FOR BENEFIT RELATED
FREE SCHOOL MEALS
[£25 PER DAY FOR PUPILS NOT ELIGIBLE]

FESTIVE SPECIAL
10am - 3pm DAILY FOOTBALL
& MULTI-SPORT
ACTIVITIES

NUTRITIOUS COOKED
MEAL EVERY DAY

NUTRITION
GUIDES

MAGICIAN & ENTERTAINER

LOCAL TRIPS

CERTIFICATES, PRIZES
and much more!

ANIMAL
HQ VISIT

FOR LOCATIONS, DATES AND BOOKINGS PLEASE VISIT
SHEARSOCCKER.CO.UK

OR FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT ADAM SHEARER 07967 124844

TOTNES | NEWTON ABBOT | DARTMOUTH



Blackawton Primary School Noticeboard



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

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

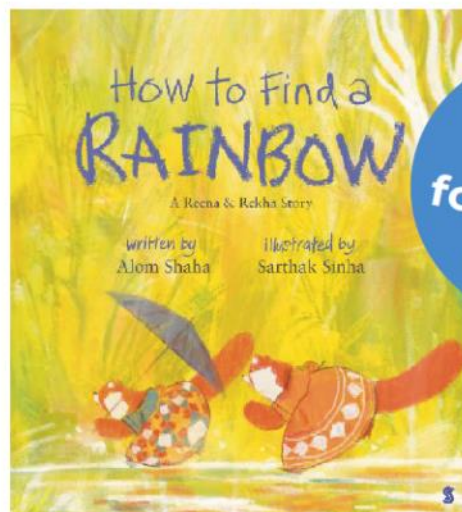
Date: Tuesday 11 November

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



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



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

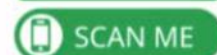
Until...

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



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