



BLEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM MR ROWDEN

Welcome back! I hope you had a wonderful festive break, no matter how you spent it. Since our return, it's been notably cold, but we've been lucky that the weather hasn't caused any disruptions to our school grounds so far.

I have been extremely impressed with how the children have returned to school life after extended time off. As I walk round, pupils are engaged in their learning and enjoying their time back with their peers and school adults.

Finally, if you have a child that is due to start Reception year in September 2025, you have until 15th January 2025 to state your preferred school choice. This can be done by [clicking here](#).



Bike Marking Event

Canterbury Community Safety Unit will be hosting a free bike marking event on:

Saturday 11th January 11:00am - 3:00pm at South Quay, Whitstable CT5 1AB

Sunday 12th January 11:00am - 3:00pm at Rose Lane, Canterbury CT1 2JP

If anyone received a new bicycle from Santa please consider going to this event. This is a free bike marking service that may deter thieves. New or old bikes are welcome although they do have to be relatively clean or the marking will not take.

Engagement Van

Please be aware that on **Monday 13th January** between 2:00pm - 4:00pm a police engagement van will be parked outside the school to engage with the public. Please keep this in mind when collecting your children at the end of the day as it will reduce available parking and make the surrounding area busier.

Attendance Winners

We are pleased to inform you that this week's attendance winners are...

Year 4
97%

We are pleased to inform you that this week's attendance House winners are...

Beech
97.1%

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2025



Mastering Numbers at Home Workshops

This is a reminder that the Mastering Number Workshops for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 are taking place on the following dates:

EYFS: Yassin Class - 22.01.2025, 09:10am -10:00am

Year 1: 24.01.2025, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Jemison Class - 22.01.2025, 10:10am - 11:00am

Year 2: 21.01.2025, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

It is not too late to book your slot, please do so by using your Reach More Parents App under Payments and Bookings.

Last year, lots of parents, who participated in the workshop chose to buy double-sided counters to use at home rather than using the cardboard ones provided. As this proved popular, this year we will again have sets of counters available to buy in groups of 10 - £1 (for EYFS), 15 - £1.50 (for Year 1) or 20 - £2 (for Year 2). We are only able to accept cash payments for these.

These will be available at the workshops or you can send in the money into school in a named envelope ahead of the workshop and we will have your counters ready for you on the day. You do not need to buy these; the cardboard counters will work adequately for the home activities.

Year 3 Swimming

The Year 3 swimming payments are now live; you can access this payment via your Reach More Parents app. Alternatively, you can pay via the card machine at the school office. If you have a current Blean DBS and are able to help with swimming, please contact either your child's class teacher or the school office. May we also remind you that there is a Swimming survey to complete. You will find this on your app, under forms.

Year 6 Activities Week

This is a reminder that full payment for the Year 6 Activities Week is due by the **30th April 2025**. This can be paid in installments. You can pay via the Reach More Parents App, under payments and offers. Thank you.

Extended School

We would like to remind parents and carers that children need to arrive at Breakfast Club by 8:20am in order to have enough time to have breakfast. Can we also remind you that children need to be collected from After School Club by 6:00pm and if your child/ren are going to be absent from Extended School for any reason, please ensure that you email both office@blean.kent.sch.uk and extendedschool@blean.kent.sch.uk, before 3.00pm. Thank you.

Collecting from Clubs

Can we please ask that when collecting your child(ren) after a club from the school office, you come into or stand by the entrance, as it is difficult for members of staff to identify parents/carers when it is dark outside. Thank you for your co-operation.




Pupil Premium Funding

Have you considered whether your family may qualify for Pupil Premium Funding? This funding is used to support your child, provide extra opportunities for them to access a wider curriculum and resources to support and enhance their learning. This would make a drastic difference to our budget. If this extra funding went unclaimed, it could result in a missed opportunity for your child to receive the very best experiences at school that we can offer. Your child might be eligible if they have been registered for free school meals any time in the last 6 years or if you have access to: Income Support, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit run-on, Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income not exceeding £7,400). Please click [here](#) to see further information on the criteria. You are able to register yourself or check to see if you are eligible for Free School Meals and therefore Pupil Premium, by following this link. It takes roughly 2 minutes to apply and you just need your National Insurance number. If your application is successful, the school will be notified and your child should start receiving their free school meal within 24 hours. If you have any further questions, or you would like the school to confidentially apply on your behalf, please do not hesitate to contact the School Office.

Solihull Approach Group

We will be running another Solihull Approach Group from 3rd February 2025. This popular 10 week course looks at child development and behaviour. If you would like to attend, please contact Miss Llewellyn on 01227 471254 or senco@blean.kent.sch.uk

UNDERSTANDING YOUR CHILD
S O L I H U L L A P P R O A C H

'Understanding your Child'
A Solihull Group for Parents, Carers and Grandparents
facilitated by 
Miss Llewellyn and Mrs Gibbens

A 10 week course which reflects on child development, behaviour and building family relationships.

Course dates: **03/02, 10/02, 25/02, 03/03, 11/03, 17/03, 24/03, 31/03, 21/04, 28/04** Session time: **1.30-3.25pm**
Please note 25/02 and 11/03 are Tuesdays, all other dates are Mondays.

Please contact Miss Llewellyn for more information or to book your place: 01227 471254 senco@blean.kent.sch.uk

For the course to be the most successful for you and your child we ask that all sessions are attended. Maximum of 2 places per family. Refreshments provided.

See what some of our parents had to say about taking part in our first Solihull group.



"Thank you so much! You've been able to change negative experiences into opportunities to learn."

"I have thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and appreciate the support it offers."

"I have learned that I am not alone."

"I have a better understanding of what my children's behaviour is trying to tell me"

"Despite our different parenting styles, we all have similar experiences with kids' emotions and behaviours"

Cross Country

Kent College JUNIOR school will be running Cross Country events again for all year groups and younger siblings.

The dates are as follows:

Saturday 8th February – Register before 10am

Friday 28th February – Registration at 4pm

Friday 14th March - Registration at 4pm

Please arrive early as parking can be very difficult. Sign in, then meet Miss Irons under the tree near the sign-in tables. I look forward to seeing my regular runners. If you haven't given this a try before, why not make it your New Year's resolution? It would be great to have more runners! Miss Irons.



Girls Football

Our Year 5 and 6 Girls Football team played Bysing Wood last night, winning 2-1 in a confident and determined manner. They played exceptionally well as a team and worked very hard to secure the win. Goals scored by Aurora and Evie in a great game - well done girls!



Year 6 1940's Day

The children in Year 6 have been studying World War 2 and have enjoyed a morning of going back in time to the 1940's to experience life as an evacuee. All of the evacuees prepared for their train journey and arrival at their new homes and schools, equipped with their name tags, gas masks and cases. The Year 6 Classrooms were then transformed into their new 1940's class room for some old-fashioned, very strict learning in their lessons.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

For term dates, please [click here](#).

Term 3	06.01.2025 - 14.02.2025	Inset Days 2024/25
Year 3 Swimming Lessons	17.01.2025	24.02.2025
Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop - Year 2	21.01.2025	21.07.2025
Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop - EYFS	22.01.2025	22.07.2025
Mastering Numbers at Home Workshop - Year 1	24.01.2025	
		Forest School Dates
		Amos Class: 20.01.2025, 03.02.2025
		Kariko Class: 13.01.2025, 27.01.2025, 10.02.2025
		Marhaver Class: 21.01.2025, 04.02.2025
		Agrawal Class: 14.01.2025, 28.01.2025, 11.02.2025
		Packham Class: 23.01.2025, 06.02.2025
		Johnson Class: 16.01.2025, 30.01.2025, 13.02.2025
		Mace Class: 22.01.2025, 05.02.2025
		Seagull Class: 15.01.2025, 29.01.2025, 12.02.2025