



BLEAN PRIMARY SCHOOL



MESSAGE FROM MR ROWDEN

Our new extended building project will begin during half term! For those who don't know, our current extended school mobiles and the music studio will be replaced with a brand-new brick building. Hopefully, this will be completed by the end of this academic year. The first phase will be the demolition of the mobiles which will take place over half term. When we return, our playgrounds will look slightly different as there will be secure fencing around where the building work will take place. If you use our extended school provision, all access will be from the main school office from Term 2 onwards. I will update you with further information when we have more!

Toys

We have seen an influx in pupils arriving to school with toys brought in from home. Please can you make sure your children leave their personal items at home as we have had some upset children who have lost, given away or damaged their toys and it has caused unnecessary sadness. We cannot be held responsible for the loss of these items. In special circumstances, some pupils have an agreement with our school Inclusion Lead in place. This allows those pupils to bring a

personal belonging with them as a strategy to help them through the day. Thank you for your understanding.

Reviewing our security measures

You might be aware that a new law came into force called Martin's Law that has been created to improve public safety as well as protecting staff and pupils. We are currently reviewing our procedures and would like to remind parents/carers that the school gates are closed at 9am and at 3.40pm each day. Please make sure you have left the grounds by these times. If you need to speak to a member of staff that might go beyond these times, please contact the school office so we know who is on our school grounds (we do have pupils and staff on site until 6pm). In the interest of safety, we ask all parents not to walk through the school building whilst the pupils are in school. All adults have to wear security lanyards during the school day and be signed in.

Thank you Mrs Tidwell!

Mrs Tidwell will be leaving us at the end of this term to start an exciting new adventure as an HLTA. I am sure you will join me in thanking Mrs Tidwell for her hard work during her time with us and we wish all the very best in your new role!

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REMINDERS

Reception Intake September 2025

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021, they will be due to start school next September. Please go to www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions for further information or email: primaryadmissions@kent.gov.uk or call 03000 412121. **The online application process opens on 5th November 2024 and closes on 15th January 2025.**

We are pleased to announce we will be holding tours on the following dates:

Thursday 7th November 1.30pm **FULL**
 Tuesday 12th November 1.30pm **FULL**
 Thursday 14th November 1.30pm **FULL**
 Wednesday 20th November 9.15am **FULL**

Friday 22nd November 1.30pm **FULL**
 Tuesday 3rd December 9.15am **FULL**
 Thursday 9th January 9.15am

To book a place on one of our tours, please contact the school office on **01227 471254**, Option 5, or email office@blean.kent.sch.uk. If you have a sibling due to start school next September, please could you email the school office if you intend to apply for a place at Blean, even if you do not intend to join one of our tours.

End of Term & Inset Day

Please may we remind you that the last day of term is **Thursday 24th October**. Friday 25th October is an inset day, therefore the school will be closed. We will welcome the children back to school, after the half term, on **Monday 4th November**.

No Clubs - Week Commencing Monday 21st October

Please be aware that next week, week commencing 21st October, there will be **no internal clubs and no martial arts running for the entire week**. Rocksteady will continue as normal. Thank you.

Donations Needed

We are in need of miniature toys and objects for Sand Play sessions as part of the wellbeing support for our pupils.

- People: domestic, military, fantasy, mythological
- Buildings and structures: houses, schools, churches, castles, bridges, fences
- Animals: prehistoric, zoo, farm, marine
- Vehicles: land, air, water, space, military
- Vegetation: trees, shrubs, plants, flowers
- Symbolic Objects: Wishing wells, treasure chests, trophies, jewels, goblets

We are also looking for toys and dressing up clothes for our new activity 'zones' during KS1 playtimes

- Megablocks
- K'nex
- Dressing up costumes suitable for ages 5-7 with theme of 'people who help us' (doctors, police officers, firefighters etc)

Any donations would be greatly appreciated! Please bring any donations to the School Office.



Parking

It has been brought to our attention that a number of cars are either parking on the kerb or across our visitor car park entrance. Our gates need to be accessible in case of an emergency. Please may we remind you that if you are parking outside of the school, you park in the marked bays and not across the zigzag lines and/or on the kerb. We understand that parking can be limited, but please park safely along the busy road. Thank you for your understanding.

Y3 Trip to Dover Museum

Please may we remind you that the payment for the Year 3 trip to Dover is due on **Thursday 24th October**. The payment will be available on your Reach More Parents App. The payment will appear in 'offers', once you have clicked payments.

Cross Country

Kent College are running Cross Country events once again this season at their Junior School. The upcoming event is: **Saturday 23rd November**. All members of Blean School are invited to attend these events. You can sign up on the day and refreshments are served throughout the afternoon. All Runners need to sign in at the tables when you arrive and receive a number.

Ambassadors

We have great pleasure in announcing our Ambassadors for this year. Over the last couple of weeks, pupils in Year 6 and staff have been voting for 8 new Ambassadors. Mr Rowden visited both classes to share the news. We are pleased to inform you that Simba, Ellis, Benjamin, Rupert, Ariella, Emily W, Emily R and Tilly have been successful! They will be very busy supporting Mr Rowden and the school over the next year.



Congratulations

We would like to congratulate Joshua in Year 5 on his wonderful musical achievement. Joshua has recently received an offer from the prestigious Junior Guildhall Music Program for his piano study. After a highly competitive audition process, his hard work has paid off. The Guildhall School of Music and Drama is one of the world's top musical schools (ranked 4th in the world for music in 2024 QS World University Rankings), Well done Joshua, what an incredible achievement!





Lost Friend

We have had a little mermaid visit us in the office. If she is yours, please pop to the office to collect her.



Our Poet in Residence Visits Year 5

Over the past few months, we have been building a link with local poet, Tom Delahunt – the author of 'The Wandering Lamb' which he shared with us last year. His passion for all things creative has enabled us as a school to think about how we can use his skills and enthusiasm with the children. Tom has now become our 'poet in residence' and will be working with us to develop the creative skills which we feel are so important to instil in our children throughout their time at Blean.

Earlier this week, Tom spent the day in Year 5 with Packham Class to introduce his next book: 'The Butterfly Farmer'. The day was all about spontaneous creativity based on a simple walk around our outside space where the children were encouraged to gather any objects which would inspire a piece of poetry or art. I was lucky enough to spend the day with the children and was totally blown away by the way they were completely hooked on the day's activities and embraced every minute to be creative.

The children used words like 'confidence', 'transformed', 'chilled', 'calm' and 'inspirational' to describe their day. Tom summed up the day with: "Wow... Just wow... Nothing else to say..." We are already looking forward to his next visit in the Spring where we will be developing a butterfly garden outside alongside our very own butterfly farms. This will be another amazing opportunity for the children to get creative.

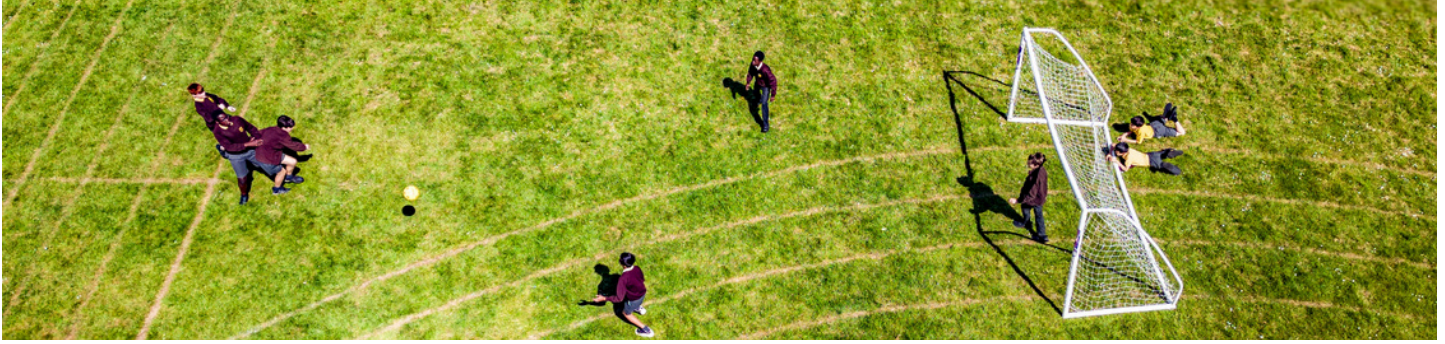
Tom shares his creativity in so many ways. If you are interested to read more, please follow this [link](#).

He also wishes to let parents know they can follow him on [substack](#).

Creativity is such an important part of every child's learning experience and we are very excited to watch this evolve and fly, just like a butterfly does...

Mrs Prior





Staff News

We would like to announce that Mrs Hales had a baby boy at the end of last week. I am sure you will join us in wishing her congratulations.



Year 6 Forensic Science Workshop

As part of the History learning in Year 6 this term, the children have been studying Crime and Punishment through the ages. This morning, Year 6 enjoyed a visit from Robert Green OBE, who is Professor of Forensic Science at The University of Kent.

The children were given a lesson about fingerprints: how they are formed, the different types and patterns, where to find them and how they can be used to identify individuals.

Everyone then had the opportunity to fill out a police fingerprint form with their own prints, which in real life would be used to put them on to a data base. All children also made a fingerprint for their very own souvenir key ring! Who knows, in years to come, some of our students may become forensic scientists themselves...



Blean Beavers & Cubs

We would like to say a huge well done to the Blean Beavers and Cubs for supporting at the local Food Bank last Friday. They took part in 3 activities: sorting the food that had been donated onto shelves and checking 'use by' dates; packing a food parcel for a child using a list and making cards of kindness to go into the food parcels. We are so proud of pupils and the feedback we have received. We have been told that the children were absolute superstars and worked incredibly hard to ensure that all donations were organised and packed ready for delivery. The Food Bank mentioned that they had been overwhelmed by the amount of donations received from Blean families and that they were so grateful for the children's help as well. Well done and thank you to Blean Beavers and Cubs and the leaders of the groups too! A great community effort.





Seagull - Issey for always participating 100% in every aspect of her learning – a true role model.

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

Year 2
99.5%

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

Beech
96.8%

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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

September 2024