



NEWSLETTER

Friday 8th September 2023



School Lunches

Our new menu and lunchtime routines have worked brilliantly this week – children have enjoyed the new menu, having longer to eat and play, as well as sitting with more of their friends and helping themselves to salad, bread that is freshly made on site each day, and a wider range of puddings.



Week commencing Monday 11th September, we will be on **WEEK 2** of the new menu. The full menu can be found on our website.

Monday: Chicken sausage, cheese, & baked bean pie, herb diced potatoes and peas.

Tuesday: Chicken in tomato sauce with pasta, corn on the cob.

Wednesday: Roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings

Thursday: Beef chilli, rice and tortillas

Friday: Jumbo fish fingers, chips and baked beans

Monday - Roving Bookshop

On Monday 11th September we are welcoming the Roving Bookshop to Bluecoat.



This is a one day only book fair! You should have received a letter and a money wallet this week. If you are happy for your child to purchase a book, please can you put some money in the money wallet and send it in to the class teacher. The children can then purchase their book when their class visits the bookshop.

Books are priced between £7-£10 however, there are some special half-price books at around £3.50. The bookshop will also be open after school in the hall whereby adults can come in and browse with their children. We look forward to seeing you there!

Jeans for Genes Day



Did you know that there are between 4,000 and 6,000 diagnosed genetic conditions? It is estimated that one in 25 children is affected by a genetic condition. Some genetic conditions are apparent at birth while others are diagnosed at different stages throughout childhood, and sometimes into adulthood.

Jeans for Genes is all about raising awareness of the daily challenges faced by those living with genetic conditions and raising money to fund projects that make a tangible difference to the lives of those affected. This year, Jeans for Genes awareness week is on Mon 18th - Sun 24th September.

At Bluecoat Primary Academy, we will be raising awareness on Friday 22nd September. We will be inviting children and staff to come into school wearing jeans on their bottom half and normal school uniform on their top half. If you are able to, we are also asking for a donation of £1 for this good cause. Class teachers will have a collection envelope in their classroom for any donations. During the day, children will find out more about what causes a genetic condition and watch some videos, sharing some real life accounts of children with different genetic conditions.

Phonics Parent Workshops

We have launched an exciting new phonics programme this year called Little Wandle to help pupils make better progress in their early reading. We will do lots in school but to really help your child to become a super reader, they will need to practice at home too. We will be holding two parent workshops to tell you more about how we teach reading and phonics as well as how you can best support your child with their reading at home.

EYFS (Peacocks & Flamingos) parents - Tuesday 19th Sept

Key Stage 1 (Year 1 & Year 2) Parents - Monday 18th Sept

We will also discuss the main differences with the new reading books and how to best support your child at home.

We're teaching every child to read with Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised
A complete SSP validated by the Department for Education



PE Timetable

Please see below for details of which classes have PE on which days. Please ensure your child has a PE in school on these days – white T-shirt and black bottoms.

Mon: Eagles, Penguins, Emus, Peacocks, Falcons

Tues: Kiwis, Puffins, Owls, Flamingos, Toucans

Wed: Emus, The Nest, Hummingbirds, Kingfishers, Kiwis

Thurs: Owls, Ospreys, Eagles, Parrots

Fri: Hummingbirds, Kingfishers, Ospreys, Ducklings, Falcons



Blue Badge Parking

If you have a blue disability badge and need some additional support with parking near school, please contact the school office. We will then ask to see your disability badge and take details of your car reg. We are working hard to try and provide more options for you. There will soon be additional disabled spaces marked out on the road. If you are still struggling get in touch and we will see what support we can offer.



Child Illness

As children return back to us for a new school year, we have been asked by the Department for Education (DfE) to provide you with a clinical and public health perspective on mild illnesses and school attendance.

We are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic may have caused some parents to feel less confident with assessing whether their child is well enough to be in school so we have laid out some information which we hope you will find helpful.

There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children and young people attending school regularly.

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

In addition to respiratory illnesses, we are aware that more children may be absent from school due to symptoms of anxiety than before the pandemic.

Worry and mild or moderate anxiety, whilst sometimes difficult emotions, can be a normal part of growing up for many children and young people. Being in school can often help alleviate the underlying issues. A prolonged period of absence is likely to heighten a child's anxiety about attending in the future, rather than reduce it. DfE has published useful guidance on mental health issues affecting a pupil's attendance and those who are experiencing persistent symptoms can be encouraged to access additional support.

You are welcome to come to school to administer pain relief or if prescribed by a doctor our staff can give antibiotics or other medication, if this has been prescribed by a Doctor and is to be given four times a day, please ask our school office for a medication form.

If your child has vomited or has had Diarrhea, please do not bring your child into school. You may bring your child back to school after 48hr of the last episode of illness.

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.



TikTok

Is TikTok safe? How does it work? And can I do a duet with my kid? Everything you need to know about this popular musical singing and sharing app can be found on the attached sheet.



Some dates for your diary:

- **Monday 11th September** - Roving Bookshop
- **Thursday 21st September** – Ospreys Library Visit
- **Friday 22nd September** – Jeans for Genes Day
- **Thursday 28th September** – Falcons Library Visit
- **Thursday 5th October** – National Poetry Day
- **Thursday 5th October** – Emus Library Visit
- **Friday 6th October** – Individual & Sibling Photographs
- **Friday 6th October** – World Dyslexia Awareness Day
- **Thursday 12th October** – Kiwis Library Visit
- **Thursday 19th October** – Toucans Library Visit

This week in school...

The Nest children have had a brilliant first week back! They have been enjoying exploring some new resources, getting to know some new routines and have been enjoying lots of sensory play.

Reception have settled so well during their first week and we are proud of them! The children have drawn pictures of themselves on their first day at school, something special for us all to look back on at the end of the year and remember how small they were. Well done everyone!

Year 1 had their first art lesson! The Penguins and Puffins were introduced to the artist Orla Kiely and how she uses repetitive print to create patterns in the style of patterns. We loved creating our own variations

Year 2 received a very exciting letter this week from The Big Bad wolf, which asked them to help to prove his innocence. The wolf told the children that he had been asked to look after Granny's house while she was on holiday but Little Red was trying to get him in trouble. The children became brilliant detectives and looked closely at the clues they found at and near Granny's house

Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic launch into their new topic of Civilisations. In particular, they have loved learning about the process of mummification. They have even carried out the mummification process on a tomato. It was very messy!

Year 4 had a wonderful day out with the first trip of the school year. They travelled to Yorkshire Wildlife Park where they were able to explore the Amazonas enclosure and find out all about different animals that live in the rainforest to launch our rainforests topic. We then spent some time in the educational classrooms with Park Keeper Alex who taught us all about the different layers of the rainforest and let us handle some of the park's rainforest animals. Of course, we made sure to see some of the other habitats too while, we were there!

Year 5 started their first week in upper Key Stage 2 by studying the work of Henri Matisse. We explored his 1948 painting called Polynesia, The Sea and used techniques he used to create it. We mixed colours and shades and then moved to cut out, using our scissors like pencils, to craft each shape. The work is to appear in a glare space above each classroom door. They have done really well.

Year 6 as part of PSHE, the children have been exploring the idea of collaboration. They put their teamwork to the test by building bridges in under 20 minutes! It was great to see them all listening and taking on each other's ideas.

