

Welcome back to school. As we begin the last half term of the year it is a good time to reflect on the school year and how quickly time passes for the children and families. Many thanks to you all for your ongoing support of the children and the school community.

We have enjoyed watching the children in Nursery and Reception become more independent and confident this year. Our Year 1s and 2s have been working very hard under the careful direction of the staff, enabling them to develop the vital basic skills of speaking and listening, reading, writing and maths whilst also developing the key skills of independence, resilience and problem solving that our school curriculum supports. As for our Y3s and Y4s, the expectations increase considerably in anticipation of Middle School and they are rising to the challenge. Well done everyone.

## **Exciting learning at BF\$- Summer 2025**

Thanks to Miss Bailey and the staff for our wonderful sport's day, celebrating the enjoyment of sport and also the competitive element that can be associated with team games and individual competition. Well done everyone. Here are photos of Sport's Day, working with our Artist in Residence Mark Riley, a visit from Danielle King to talk about her trek to Everest Base Camp and our cross school Arts Morning remembering VE Day.



## **Building works**

Many of you may have spotted the Nursery extension which has been specifically funded by the Department for Education to enable us to admit further nursery aged children. This will soon be completed.

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, further building works will take place which will prove a little disruptive during the remainder of the year. We will, however, work hard to reduce the disruption for everyone. The school does not have access to sufficient disabled facilities under regulations and Worcestershire County Council is funding a Bathroom Management Area conversion inside the main building. As a result of this, we will lose accommodation used by the other children and Worcestershire has therefore agreed to fund the building of an extension at the rear of Yellow Class (currently an unused area).

The main disruption is for children in Yellow Class who will need to vacate their classroom for a few weeks. Guess what? They will gain sole use of the hall during this period resulting in the use of a double sized classroom. Lucky children! Part of the back playground will also be heras fenced reducing the size of it temporarily so we will stagger playtime to ensure that there is plenty of play space in addition to the trail.

The funding provided by the PFTA (including the grant from Nationwide) will also enable a new children's play area by the trail and a music room. This work will be completed during the summer holiday.

Whilst we will do our best to notify you of any changes to drop off/ collection etc, we ask that you remain vigilant, especially when collecting the children as vehicles and equipment may be on the front playground area. Many thanks for your support.

### Wake and Shake winners



Well done Purple Class for winning last half term's competition!

### Learning during the last half term

As the children move into the last half term of the year, teachers will be working to ensure that the children make as much progress as possible in order to help them transition well into their new year groups.

Supporting them with reading, times tables (Y2-4), completing homework and talking to them about school will help them to engage with school and appreciate the value of education.

During the introduction to their 'Back in Time' topic on Monday, they learned about their history focus and received their new English text to motivate them. Hopefully, this learning will help them to appreciate how lucky they are not to have been born into a period time in history! Each class newsletter will outline the history focus.

Later this half term, Science will be the focus during the next topic and teachers will share more specific details about learning this half term in their class newsletters. These newsletters share the class learning with you all along with the homework sheets.

We hope that you all enjoy the last half term in school before the summer break.

### Collective Worship

In current times, it is more important than ever that we support the children in becoming responsible citizens in a changing world.

This week our theme has been 'Patience' and we will consider why this is an important value and how famous people in history have shown patience and its value, for example Marie Curie, Nelson Mandela, Shakespeare.

It is important for us to support the children in understanding and valuing differences in our society and helping them play their part in living as part of our British culture with shared values that underpin a successful nation. Community is important for people's mental well-being and supporting their community will form part of work this half term.



### Sport and the Arts

**Sports** – Sport's Day was a huge success thanks to Miss Bailey's hard work and was very much enjoyed by old and young alike.

**Arts** – The School Council are working towards a new arts project with Mark Riley, artist in residence, next term. Every child in school will be contributing to the work which will be hung on a new wall in school after the summer holiday.

### Calling 'crocheters'!

If you can crochet and fancy helping to create some crafty items to sell at the Summer Fair, please do ask Mrs Hilton for patterns...

[office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@blackwell.worcs.sch.uk)

### Parking at 'Drop off/ Pick up' times

In an effort to keep everyone safe at the start/end of the day, please continue to park safely (not obscuring driveways). Please supervise scooters and do not scoot (or ride bikes) on the playground as there are so many children around.

Remember that it is illegal to park on the yellow zig zags and, to ease congestion if you are able, please walk to school. Where this is not possible, please use the full length of road to park and the roads at either end of St Catherine's to walk along. Thank you.

### TERM DATES- Summer Term 2025

23.6.25 Purple Class Educational visit  
25 or 26.6.25 TBC Red Class Olympics event (visit)  
26.6.25 Purple Class Family Assembly 8.45am  
27.6.25 New Red Class children story visit 8.45am  
30.6.25 Blue Class Bellboating  
1.7.25 Blue and Yellow Class event all day at Artrix (TBC) with an evening concert performance. This is a cross school Bromsgrove event.  
3.7.25 New Red Class children story visit 8.45am  
5.7.25 Summer Fair 12-2pm  
7.7.25 Choir rehearsal at Prince Henry's High School- time TBC  
8.7.25 Choir concert at Prince Henry's High School – time TBC  
9-11.7.25 Residential Blue Class  
10.7.25 New Red Class children story visit 8.45am  
10.7.25 TBC Yellow Class PE event at Charford First School  
14.7.25 TBC transition visit for Blue Class children to their middle schools (morning only requiring drop off by parents. Letters from middle schools to follow)  
14.7.25 Children visit new classes for September 25  
14.7.25 5.30pm New Nursery parents family meeting  
14.7.25 6.30pm New Red Class parents family meeting  
15.7.25 Midland Sinfonia music day ending with a 3.30pm concert from Choir in St Catherine's Church  
15.7.25 6pm September 25 Green Class family meeting  
16.7.25 6pm September 25 Purple Class family meeting  
17.7.25 Red Class Family Assembly 8.45am  
17.7.25 6pm September 25 New to Yellow or Blue Class family meeting  
18.7.25 Blue Class Leavers' assembly 9am  
18.7.25 End of term