

Bloxwich Primary Clubs/Activities

Day	Activity	Class Teacher & Room	Year Group	Lunchtime/ After School
Mon	KS2 Film Club	Miss Hennessy - 6H	KS2 12.30pm	Lunchtime
	Chess Club	Mr Kinsey – 5K	KS2	Lunchtime
	Bird Feeder Club	Mrs Yates – 2B	KS1	Lunchtime
	Cooking Club (Max 12)	Mrs Mann – 3M	Years 3/4	After School
Tues	Games Club (after half term)	Mrs Friend	KS1	Lunchtime
	Gardening Art Club (Max 12)	Mrs Webb (collect from dinner hall)	Years 1/2	Lunchtime
	Poetry Club	Mrs Parkes – 4P	KS2	Lunchtime
	KS2 Choir Club	Mrs Harper – Lower School Hall	KS2	Lunchtime
	How to draw club	Miss Roberts - 3R	KS2	Lunchtime
	ICT Club	Miss Hennessy – ICT Suite	Years 5/6	Lunchtime
Wed	Steel Band Music Club	Rock It Project	Years 3/4	After School
	Word Search Club	Mr Riaz – 4R	KS2	Lunchtime
	Maths Club	Mrs Bailey/Miss O'Connor – 2B	Year 2 12.20pm	Lunchtime
	Art Club	Mrs Jones	Years 3/4	After School
Thurs	Knitting Club	Mrs Yates – Library	KS2	Lunchtime
	Art Club	Mrs Jones	Years 5/6	Lunchtime
	Horse Club	Mr Aulton – 6A	KS2	Lunchtime
	Football Club	Mr Kinsey	KS2	After School
	Change for Life Club	Miss Roberts	KS2	After School
Fri	Dinner Stars	Mrs Aulton – Dining Hall	Invitation Only	Lunchtime



Bloxwich Academy
www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Primary Newsletter March 2016

Dear Parents,

We come to the end of another busy term, it may have been short but our March Newsletter is packed with the children's activities and achievements.

The children in Year 6 and Year 2 have been working particularly hard this term to help prepare for their upcoming tests with many Year 6 children staying behind after school for booster groups and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

It was a true delight to see so many of you this week attending our Parent Consultation meetings, parents can make a significant difference to their child's progress by supporting at home and learning in school. I hope you all gained much from your teacher consultation and you are pleased with the progress your child is making.

Please note the children return back to school on Monday 11th April at the usual time. I wish you all a lovely break and look forward to seeing you all in the new term.

Happy Easter

Mrs Aulton
Headteacher



February Attendance Challenge

During the month of February 278 pupils achieved 100% attendance. They all qualified to enter our Monthly Attendance Challenge prize draw. This month we had 20 lucky prize winners! We are now well into our March Challenge and wish all the pupils good luck!!



Dates for your Diary

Summer Term:

Term Starts : Monday 11th April 2016

Half Term : Monday 30th May 2016 to Friday 3rd June 2016

Early Years Sports Day : Thursday 14th July 2016

Sports Day : Friday 15th July 2016

Pupil Reports : Friday 15th July 2016

Year 6 Production : Monday 18th July 2016 PM

Term Ends : Thursday 21st July 2016

Autumn Term:

Teacher Training Day : Monday 5th September 2016

Term Starts : Tuesday 6th September 2016

Bank Holidays :

Good Friday : Friday 25th March 2016

Easter Monday: Monday 28th March 2016

May Day : Monday 2nd May 2016

Spring Bank Holiday : Monday 30th May 2016

August Bank Holiday : Monday 29th August 2016

Easter Production

On Monday 21st and Tuesday 22nd Reception and Year 1 performed an Easter production for family and friends. Almost 200 visitors attended over the two days which saw the children tell a story about spring life on a farm. The half hour performance included a variety of songs with actions and some fantastic acting from the pupils. Parents and staff combined their efforts to ensure those that needed them had costumes and props. We'd like to thank everyone for their support and say WELL DONE children.



Child Safety



It has been brought to our attention that some motorists bringing and collecting their children from

school (Bloxwich Lane entrance) are posing a danger to the children and other pedestrians on foot and restricting access for the buses. The Community Support Officer has been notified and the matter is being monitored. May I please ask parents to approach with absolute caution and consideration when driving and parking around the nearby streets.

African Drumming

On Monday 7th March and Tuesday 8th March the whole Academy took part in an 'African Drumming' workshop. Every child had an opportunity to play an African drum, called a Djembe, find out what it was made of, and create some rhythmic music. The children used their hands on the drum in different ways to create animal movement sounds. They stroked the drum skin, tapped it with their finger tips and tapped it with the palms of their hands. The children enjoyed this opportunity to play an instrument they had not experienced before.



Ingestre Riding Lessons

'Stan's Horse Club', is again proving popular this term. Many of the children who attend the horse club have taken the opportunity to visit Ingestre Stables near Stafford. They are able to ride in a beautiful and



historic stables that houses competition horses, some bound for the forthcoming Rio Olympics. A new dimension to this term's horse riding is the involvement of some of our lunchtime supervisors, who accompany the children and help to lead the horses. They are a dedicated group without whom the children would not be able to attend. The ladies have now been 'bitten' by the horse bug and will themselves be taking their first riding lesson after Easter. The enjoyment and health benefits that horse riding provides has encouraged lots of children to take part. As a result 'Stan's Horse Club' looks forward to introducing many more children to the sport of horse riding during the forthcoming summer term.

Year 3 Farm to Fork Tesco Visit

On Monday 29th February and Tuesday 1st March, Year 3 classes visited Tesco Walsall Superstore. We were invited to look around their store on a 'Farm to Fork' trail. We were able to look around the bakery to see what ingredients are needed to make the bread that gets sold in Tesco every day. We had to be careful – the ovens were very hot! We were then taken to the fish counter and we touched and smelt lots of different fish. Prawns, tuna, salmon to name but a few. One of the fish even had teeth! Our next stop was the cheese counter. There were lots of different cheeses to try. Onto the fruit and vegetables display. We took part in a treasure hunt to find different coloured fruit and vegetables and we were then given goody bags to bring home with us as well as hot cross buns. What an enjoyable day we had!



Shakespeare Week

National Shakespeare week marked the 400th Anniversary of Shakespeare's death with a week of activities provided by 'The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust'. All of the children had been given a Passport to Shakespeare; a booklet packed with Shakespeare activities. The children were introduced to a wide range of Shakespeare characters and stories, they learned how to use his language; found out about diet and the natural world from a Shakespearian angle, developing an interest in the study and an appreciation of one of our national treasures.



Early Years—People who help us

During this half term, Early Years have been looking at 'People Who Help Us'. We had a visit from the ambulance, fire and police services. The children were able to spray water with the firefighter's hose, sit inside the ambulance and put the sirens on, and learn from the police officers about keeping themselves safe.



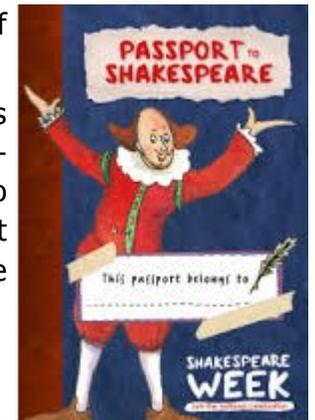
Shakespeare Week—146 Mile Walk

For Sports Relief and Shakespeare week, we had to walk/run a total of 146 miles together as a school. We did this because Shakespeare had to walk 146 miles from Stratford Upon Avon to London on a regular basis.

Lots of people helped including; Tomas Fellows, Alfie Price, Jake Myatt, Benjamin Hopkins and me (Mason Spellman). A total of 319 people ran 1/2 a mile round the playgrounds. We got past the target and got a total of 159.5 miles.

The people, who helped mark off the names of the people doing the walk, helped by walking the 1/2 mile as well. Lots of people who walked the distance once, wanted to do it again. That is how much people liked the sport and Shakespeare.

Written by Mason Spellman, Year 6



Easter Parent Workshops



On 21st March and 22nd March Early Years held Easter Parent Workshops. Parents worked with their children completing Easter crafts, such as card making, decorating Easter bonnets, cut and stick activities and making nest cakes.

Activities were held throughout the Early Years rooms enabling children and parents of Nursery and Reception to work together. It was lovely to see so many of you. Thank you for all your continued support.



World Book Week—Book Fair



This year the children took part in World Book Week. It gave the children and staff the opportunity to select a book as a focus for Literacy lessons during the week. It was brilliant to talk to the children about the different authors they were reading in class and see the fantastic

activities they were doing. The book fair was a huge success, with the Academy raising over £500. However, those children who have ordered books, there has been a slight delay with the ordering and they should be arrived after Easter.

Primary Football Team

A huge congratulations to the Bloxwich Primary Academy football team for reaching the final of the Willenhall E-Act Academy School mini football competition on Wednesday 23rd March. The boys reached the knock out stage by finishing in the top four of their mini league. They went on to play New Invention in the quarter final in which they just edged a nervy encounter. In the semi-final the boys took on a very good Bentley West A side. However the boys upped their game and came out comfortable winner, with Sonny Wilkes scoring a hat-trick. A huge good luck to the boys on Wednesday 23rd March.



Year 1 Leather Museum

Year 1 visited the Walsall Leather museum and took part in a range of activities which helped them develop their DT knowledge and skills as well as covering some of the historical facts linked to the leather industry. Using the traditional story of the 'Elves and the Shoe Maker' as a stimulus, the children took on the role of the elves to create their own slippers made from leather. They learned where leather comes from and got hands on with a variety of leather artefacts including bags, coats, armour and holsters. They really enjoyed being able to handle and dress up in these items and even learned to tell the difference between real and fake snake skin leather. The children were also able to take part in making a dog collar using traditional methods and each made an embossed key ring to take home. The staff were particularly complimentary of the children's behaviour and enthusiasm. Well done Year 1.



Steel Pan Band



The Bloxwich Academy Steel Pan Team joined together with Christ Church to perform two pieces at the World Music Festival hosted by Blue Coat at St Matthews Church.

They were able to experience performances from other Rockit Music Project groups as well as a few special numbers from other

groups.

The team performed brilliantly and beyond expectations playing Jessie J's 'Price Tag' and Michael Jackson's 'Thriller'. At the end they were also able to join together for a collective item with all of the other schools singing Bob Marley's '3 Little Birds'.

It is amazing that after only starting in November they are able to perform at such prestigious events, showing their hard work and dedication to the team.

I would like to thank family and friends who were very supportive by providing encouragement throughout the performance. Here's to many more concerts in the near future! Miss Ridley.

Sports Relief

A big thank you to all parents and children who donated and made a huge effort in ensuring they were showing their support by wearing red for Sport Relief. It was a very impressive sight in the assembly that morning to have a sea of red tops before us. The children raised over £380, thank you and well done.



Commonwealth Day



Monday 14th March was Commonwealth Day, the children of Bloxwich Academy were invited by the Mayor of Walsall to attend the raising of the Commonwealth Flag Ceremony outside the Council House building in Walsall. The Academy held a competition to decide which child was going to represent the Academy. This year the children had to write a newspaper article about the

Commonwealth. Bloxwich Academy received many wonderful entries and after careful deliberation a huge congratulations went to Lola-Mai Williams of 4R whose article was judged to be the best.

Lola, her family and Mr Kinsey attended the event. They experienced wonderful hospitality from the Mayor, it was a privilege to be part of such an occasion. A big well done to Lola for representing the Academy in such a fantastic way.

Year 5 Bikeability

Eleven excited pupils took part in the Bikeability scheme which was held at our Academy. The course was held over a period of two weeks and pupils were taught to control their bike and prepare to cycle on the road in week one. By week two pupils were able to cycle on a single-lane road whilst using junctions. The pupils were awarded Level 2 Bikeability certificates, booklets and badges in a whole school assembly and we are very excited to announce that there will be another course running in September.



Living Eggs—Hatchery Programme



Our Living Eggs Hatchery Programme was delivered into the Academy on Monday 29th February, consisting of ten special eggs, an incubator and a brooder box. The 10 eggs were



placed in the incubator and the waiting began. However, we didn't have to wait long as by the following morning our first egg had hatched! Over the next 3 days we listened to the eggs chirp and saw them slowly crack. One by one 8 beautiful chicks hatched, 3 girls and 5 boys. As the chicks hatched, dried out and fluffed up they were moved into their brooding box, there the children have been able to watch closely their behaviour, mannerisms and how



quickly they grow and develop their feathers. We are excited to be able to keep the 3 girls. The children will be able to watch them develop and grow into fully feathered chickens. A huge thank you for the kind donation of a hen house too! It is very much appreciated.



World Maths Day

On Wednesday 2nd March it was World Maths Day. Early Years celebrated the day by carrying out a variety of Maths activities, including board games, dice games, number recognition games and games involving using shapes. The children thoroughly enjoyed the day and were able to embed their Mathematical skills and knowledge in fun, practical and exciting ways.



Year 4 Groovy Greeks

On Thursday 3rd of March Year 4 children travelled to Wolverhampton Grand Theatre to see a Horrible Histories production of 'The Groovy Greeks.'

We were sat up in the grand circle with a fantastic view of the stage. The children were very excited and eagerly awaited the start. The first half consisted of a brief history of Greece with stories told in the format of television shows. The Trojans became the Simpsons and Greek philosophers were in the Big Brother house.

There was a brief interval where 3-D glasses were handed out, then the interactive second half began. We were treated to an exciting 3-D spectacular. We found ourselves in the middle of battles, where arrows and spears were flying towards us. We travelled through the maze with Theseus and confronted the Minotaur. We were even treated to performances by the Gods on 'Olympus Has Got Talent.'

The children thoroughly enjoyed every minute and behaved impeccably, setting a brilliant example for our Academy.



Watch This Space!



Our Academy has been chosen to take part in a national science experiment involving the International Space Station (ISS). This is a great privilege and we are all really excited because its out of this world!! At the moment this is a big secret and even MI5 don't know what we're up to! All will be revealed after Easter. In the

meantime you can check out what life is like on the ISS by going to http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/main/index.html