



Bloxwich Academy
www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk

Ref: SummerTermEnd2021/noc

Monday 19th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to begin my final letter of this academic year by saying thank you for making my first year as Headteacher at Bloxwich Academy Primary so wonderful. As parents/carers, you have supported the school during some of the most challenging times; embracing online lessons, helping your children with home learning, and adapting to staggered start times and bubbles. The children have been so welcoming and have been so eager to learn throughout the whole unusual experience, which has made all of our jobs at school so enjoyable, not to mention easier.

Yet again, I would like to give a massive thank you to you all for this; you have been amazing!

Even with the holidays fast approaching, the staff and I are eagerly making preparations for September and planning various topics and activities we would like children to enjoy. As you are aware, we are now utilising curriculum maestro to support our curriculum and every term we like to start our learning with a memorable experience.

Please find below detail of the themes planned for September:

Reception: Me and my Community

This project supports children settling into full time school, learning new rules and routines. Activities focus on children making new friends and feeling confident in their new classes. It teaches the children about being helpful, kind and thoughtful at home and in school. Your child will recognise that they are unique and special and how people in their family, school and local community can help them.

Year 1: Childhood

This project teaches children about everyday life and families today, including comparisons with childhood in the 1950s, using artefacts and a range of different sources. Our memorable day will be on **Monday 6th September** and children are asked to come in dressed as a 1950's child (if possible) and bring in one of their favourite toys.

Year 2: Movers and Shakers

Your child will learn about the life and impact of a significant person in the locality, and of 10 individuals from around the world who are historically important. They will use the words year, decade and century to describe dates and times and complete in-depth studies of explorers such as Christopher Columbus, and activists like Rosa Parks. Our memorable experience will involve a visit to the statue of Sister Dora and children will find out why she is a significant person in Walsall's history.

Year 3: Through the ages

We will be exploring the historical meaning of era, century, millennia, BC and AD. This project will teach our children about British prehistory from the Stone Age to the Iron Age, including changes to people and lifestyle caused by ingenuity and invention. On **Monday 6th September**, children are asked to come into school dressed as a person from the Stone Age. You could use animal print materials and children could make jewellery from stones, grass or sticks!

Year 4: Invasion

Your child will explore the effects of the Roman withdrawal and the chronology and geography of subsequent invasions throughout this topic. They will study the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings in detail, examining their reasons for invading, their settlements and their everyday life. During our memorable experience day, the children will be making Viking longship silhouettes, designing waterproof boats and creating Viking weapons



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Year 5: Dynamic Dynasties

Children will learn about the history of ancient China, focusing primarily on the Shang Dynasty, and explores the legacy of the first five Chinese dynasties, some of which can still be seen in the world today. Our memorable experience day on the **7th September** will involve acting out an ancient Chinese story - 'The Yellow Emperor and the Xia Dynasty'. This will give the children the opportunity to see what life was like in ancient China and begin to understand how the different legends in China determined and created the system of hereditary rule that lasted for thousands of years.

Year 6: Maafa

This project teaches children about black history, from the ancient beginnings of the great African kingdoms to the capture, enslavement and resistance of African people, including Britain's role in enslavement, the colonisation of Africa and significant black Britons who contributed their talents, tenacity and time to inspire change. As part of our memorable experience day on the **13th September**, the children will enjoy a steel drum workshop, will design and make an African tribal mask, and research how African countries are different.

Looking towards September, I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents/carers of our uniform policy. We recognise that being in and out of lockdown caused a number of problems for parents during the last 12 months. We have been extremely understanding of your situation since the start of the pandemic, however we really need to see our expected standards met from the start of September and maintained throughout the next academic year. Our uniform is plain black with white top as we want to make sure it is affordable and accessible for all of our parents. Also, can I remind you that black trainers are not acceptable. Please follow the link to find full details of our required uniform: <https://bloxwichacademy.co.uk/primary-uniform/>

Children from Years 1 through to 6 will return to school on **Friday 3rd September 2021** as below:

Years 1, 3, 4 & 5 – 8.45am – 3.15pm

Years 2 & 6 – 8.30am – 3.15pm

All pupils will enter onto the school site using the same entrances they have done this year.

Parents of new Nursery and Reception children have received details of their child's transition separately, however a reminder of important dates can be found online:

<https://bloxwichacademy.co.uk/ey-induction/>

You will have already received a letter confirming the teachers that will be working within each year group from September, and details of our plan to give children the best possible learning experience by working in smaller groups. Your child will be assigned to a registration group, and we will send details of this to you individually via text very soon. We can confirm that the registration groups are to be named after ascending peaks and mountains across the UK. This is part of our new aspirational theme that underpins the whole school philosophy of 'being the best you can be'; pupils will rise to the challenge, climbing higher and reaching new peaks, never looking back.

If you need any support or help during the summer holidays, our latest Newsletter is packed with useful links and contact information, and if you do need to contact us, the primarypostbox@bloxwichacademy.co.uk email address is monitored at all times.

Here's hoping you have a wonderful, sunny summer, just as you all deserve!

Yours sincerely,

Ms. S. Shepherd
Headteacher (Primary)

