

Loving, learning and flourishing in community

Message from Mr Edwards-Grundy

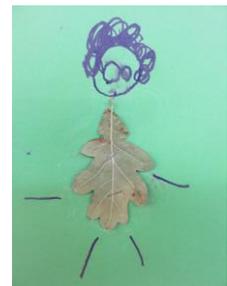
As this term begins to draw to a close, children across the school have been writing and producing art-work celebrating autumn, it is a joy to see and hear their creative work. I hope you enjoy looking at the pictures produced by our youngest children, which look great on the walls of the Reception classrooms.

This week's newsletter is a bit longer than usual owing to the inclusion of the poster about the virtual bake off this week, being run by Helen and Douglas House. As many of you will know, following the death of Mrs Lynch's son Toby earlier this year, this is a cause very dear to the hearts of the staff team at The Blake School. If you can get involved and support this very special cause, please do and if you take some photos of your bake off creations, please do share them with us, we would love to see them.

Today, in Collective Worship, Mrs Laithwaite was talking about the story of Joseph and how he was honest, even when to do so was risky. Joseph decided that to say what he believed God had told him and to be honest, was the best decision. As restrictions change in relation to Covid-19 we are all faced with a similar challenge, to do the right thing, even when no-one is looking and even when it is the harder thing to do. Please can I encourage you, like Joseph, to do the right thing and to continue to adhere to the government guidance, even when it is more time consuming, difficult or inconvenient? There is little doubt that there are challenging days ahead for us all, thank you for continuing to work with us, working together is surely the only way we will continue to keep each other as safe as we can.

News from around the school

As they reach almost the end of their first term in school, we were delighted to have a chance to find out what the children in Reception have been up to this week. The children have been learning all about autumn and have used leaves in pictures of themselves.



Today we really enjoyed listening to the children using musical instruments for the first time in school – they had a great time exploring all the different sounds that they could make.



Whip out your wooden spoon, bring out your baking bowls and make a stir to celebrate National Baking Week



18th
October
2020

Prizes

3 Food mixers
and baking kits
Worth £250
each



We knead you! Take part in our virtual bake off



Do you have the flour power to help local families who have terminally ill children?




Helen & Douglas House
hospice care for children

Sign up today at
www.hdh.org.uk

Registered with



FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR

Registered charity no 1085951

As you will be aware, Mrs Lynch's son Toby was cared for by Helen and Douglas House earlier this year, providing outstanding care to the whole family. As a staff team we really hope that as many of you as possible will be able to support this fun event and raise much needed funds for this amazing facility.

Join the 100 club

We invite parents/carers to take part in the new 100 Club, as part of the Friends' fundraising activities. It is just £1 per month, payable in advance as a one-off £10 for the remainder of this school year, via ParentPay.

Each participant will be allocated a number, and every month a winner will be picked and will win half of that month's takings, with the other half going to the Blake Friends. The more people involved, the greater the prize money! For example, if 100 people sign up and your number is picked, you would win £50.

If you are able to, sign up for several numbers, as there is no limit. This is open to all parents/carers of children currently at The Blake School, as well as to current members of staff.

Please register your interest no later than **Thursday 22nd October**, by emailing: friends@blake.oxon.sch.uk. More details to follow ...

Our clothing recycling bin

Please give me:

- Adult and children's clothing
- Shoes and trainers
- Handbags and belts
- Sheets, curtains and towels

The clothing put in here last year raised £1142.40 for our school. This money will go towards our new adventure zone!



Textiles that can't be worn are made into new things.

Good quality clothes are shipped to people who need them

Please do not leave bags by the side but wait until I have been emptied.

I can't digest toys, books, bric-a-brac or electrical goods!

Please **don't** give me **duvets and pillows** as they are not accepted so we must pay to take them to the tip (and they block the chute).

If your **bag** of textiles is **too big** to fit through the chute easily, please **empty** it and put the items in one by one so that the chute does not get blocked for other users.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION!

Hello from ODST

The Blake CE School is part of the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust.

As part of ODST The Blake enjoys a wide range of support from the Trust's central team, in areas such as HR, finance and health and safety.

A key part of this team are the School Improvement Advisers (SIAs). The SIA team is made up of a number of experienced former headteachers, who provide challenge and support to the school's leadership team.

The SIA at The Blake is Bob Pattenden. Bob is a regular visitor to our school, usually in person but more recently often 'virtually'!

Bob was a headteacher for nearly 27 years in five different schools and so brings a wealth of experience to our school.

As well as providing regular support to the school, Bob was part of the ODST team who supported the school through the OFSTED process earlier in the year.

Bob's visits are welcomed by the whole staff team, he is always a friendly and smiling face who always brings words of encouragement as well as challenge.

Your own clothes for cash!

The Friends are looking at a wide range of activities and events to raise funds at a time when it is not possible for many of their usual events to run.

On Friday (the last day of term) children are being encouraged to wear their own clothes and bring in a £1 donation, which will go to The Friends.

Remember to send your child into school wearing their own clothes and with a £1 donation.

We really value the work of 'The Friends', whose contributions make such a difference to so many things that we do in school – please do support them if you can.