



## Blanche Nevile Primary Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all for your on-going support for the school as we move closer to end of the academic year.

Last week we supported National Mental Health Awareness Week for adults and children.

The main focus of the week was anxiety.

Anxiety is a normal emotion in everyone and sometimes can get out of control, becoming a mental health problem.

Staff and students are working towards good mental health for all.

We continue to focus on protecting people's mental health all year round.

This time of year is all about assessment and we are so proud of all our students who have taken part in Key Stage assessments and external examinations.

We have completed many trips and visits with more planned for the last half term.

My heartfelt thanks to all in the Blanche Nevile community and I hope we all have a happy, restful and safe half term.

Stay safe, stay well and we look forward to seeing the children on Monday 5th June.

*Best Regards*



Martyn Rawlinson  
Interim Headteacher

### Mae's Class

We've had a fun half-term learning about the growth of plants and even grew our own different vegetables! We performed The Magic Paintbrush to the school where they danced with ribbons and sang. We also had lots of fun exploring the allotment, making clay faces and finding ladybirds.

Not only that, we've been watching our caterpillars grow over the past few weeks waiting to see them transform into beautiful butterflies!



### Simon's Class

We travelled back to the late 1930s and early 1940s where our topic was 'Away from Home'. We learnt about the lives of the evacuees during World War 2, who moved to the countryside from London. We dressed up, became evacuees ourselves, and experienced the lives of evacuees hiding in an Anderson shelter. We discovered that pupils from Blanche Nevile in 1939 were evacuated to a safe location in south Wales! After learning all about the evacuees, we wrote a couple of diary entries. We also created a gas mask and a suitcase and wrote a persuasive letter to their parents to allow them to pack one more toy into their suitcase.

Pupils in Year 4 also embarked on a residential trip to Tolmers in Cuffley for three days and two nights, participating in several activities with our mainstream partner class at Highgate Primary School. Last week, we had our first swimming lessons this term, and it has been an enormous splash of success. The class have loved every nanosecond spent in the water, and soon enough, we will have a massive cohort of Deaflympics swimmers!



### Rose's Class

Year 1 and 2 have had another great half-term learning all about amazing architects as well as celebrating deaf awareness week and the King's coronation. They've had a lot of fun drawing local buildings, visiting Kenwood House and walking up North Hill to learn more about the houses and shops there. The children have been busy in all their other subjects too, learning about halves and quarters in maths, fantasy stories in literacy, materials in science, how to sign shapes in BSL, how to type on a keyboard, how to work more independently, how to spot hazards and how to stay safe. In Forest School they have been exploring what it means to play outdoors; building bridges from crates and planks of wood, looking at the new tadpoles in the pond we helped to build, making sticky-weed coronation crowns, getting braver climbing trees and more! We can't wait for our next topic: Plants and Insects.



## Conor's Class

Year 5 are excited to share an update on our latest topic of study this term: Benin - An African Kingdom. Over the past few weeks, our inquisitive pupils have delved into the rich history and cultural heritage of this remarkable African kingdom. During history lessons, Year 5 has embarked on a captivating journey through time, uncovering the fascinating story of the Benin Kingdom. Our young historians have been enthralled by tales of the powerful kings and queens who ruled over this ancient civilisation. They've learned about the kingdom's well-structured society, artistic achievements, and its significant impact on trade and commerce in the region. They even had the opportunity to create their own unique Benin-inspired artwork, showcasing their imagination and artistic skills.

In science, the topic of 'Forces' propelled our curious learners into an exciting adventure. Through engaging experiments and interactive activities, our Year 5 scientists have gained a comprehensive understanding of the fundamental forces that shape our world. They have explored gravity, friction and magnetism. We are already looking forward to exploring air resistance, water resistance and marvellous mechanisms next term.



## Sarah's Class

What a half term it's been. In such a short space of time Year 6 have been busy. In science we have really enjoyed our topic: Light. The picture shows us looking at Nick's pupils change as he opens his eyes and they adjust to the light. It really was an eyeopener! We also have been experimenting with materials and their transparency and investigated how light only travels in straight lines.

We joined our mainstream classes for a trip to Alexandra Palace and braved the ice...everyone was very determined and persevered - we were very impressed with everyone's improvement in such a small amount of time. There were a few falls but a great time was had by all.



This half term's topic has been the Shang Dynasty and we have been looking at artefacts and into the history and geography of Ancient China. We created our own terracotta warriors with clay and they are currently standing guard in our classroom protecting us and seeing that we make it to the end of this half term!



## Important Dates

<b>End of Summer 1</b>	<b>Friday 26th May</b>
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>Monday 29th - Friday 2nd June</b>
<b>Start of Summer 2</b>	<b>Monday 5th June</b>
<b>End of Summer 2</b>	<b>Friday 21st July 2023</b>
<b>Summer Holidays</b>	<b>Monday 24th July 2023 - Friday 1st September 2023</b>



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have now reached the end of Summer Term 1. It's hard to believe we only have one half term left until the end of this school year!

Over the last few weeks, the children have enjoyed a range of trips and visitors and the lovely weather has been an extra treat. We were so pleased that our Year 4 pupils were able to enjoy their residential trip to Tolmers. I joined them every evening and they made us so proud as they grew in confidence and independence every day. A big thanks to the staff who gave up their evenings for the trip to be possible. After half term it will be the turn of the Year 6 as they go on their week residential to Pendarren in Wales. Huge thanks again to the staff team who have agreed to support the children for the week they are away. We wish them a safe journey.

It was lovely to celebrate the King's Coronation and get into the spirit of this moment in history. A fun day I'm sure the children will remember for many years!

I'm sure you will join me in thanking the staff for their continued commitment and support and for working hard with your children to achieve all that they have.

As always, I wish you and your families a lovely holiday and thank you again for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Kathryn

Kathryn McCarthy