



# Blackhorse Primary School Newsletter

## T2 Wk5: 5th December 2025

### Year 4 travel back in time



**Year 4 travelled back in time this week during their visit to the Museum of Somerset in Taunton. The trip was designed to support their enquiry 'Who were the Saxons and Vikings?'**

They took part in a series of workshops designed to give the children an understanding of life in Wessex during the reign of Alfred the Great. They had the chance to make clay medallions with their name in Saxon runes. They also used Saxon runes to devise and write rules they would have if they were in charge of their very own village.

The children put their engineering skills to the test by designing and building their very own Saxon village and then watched with fingers crossed as their village was attacked using a trebuchet.

They enjoyed dressing up as Saxon characters and having the chance to role play. Maxwell was a particularly impressive Alfred the Great.

One of the highlights for the children was re-enacting the Battle of Edington in 878AD in which Alfred the Great defended the Kingdom of Wessex against the Vikings. The triumph secured the survival of Wessex as an independent Anglo-Saxon kingdom.

The museum also contained an exhibition on wartime throughout history and the children enjoyed interacting with the exhibits and trying on the uniforms. Our children demonstrated Champion behaviour throughout and made the staff very proud.



### A week of more visitors



**Having been visited by Ofsted last week, Blackhorse played host to two more visits this week as our reputation as a school attracted visits from a Government minister on Tuesday and a delegation of Headteachers from Bristol on Wednesday.**

Having been identified by the DfE as being a 'beacon for excellence in inclusion' (their words) we had none other than the Minister for School Standards, Rt Hon Georgia Gould visit on Tuesday to learn about our practice. She was joined by local MP Claire Hazelgrove, the SW Regional Director of Schools, Lucy Livings, AND the Leader of S Glos Council, Ian Boulton, who was also joined by the LA Head of SEND, Will Pritchard. They were astonished by the depth of our universal offer, with Georgia noting that ours was the best Resource Base she'd seen. Congratulations to all our inclusion staff and teachers for earning this national recognition.

On Wednesday a group of eleven headteachers from across Bristol visited to tour the school and talk about how we prioritise the personal development of our pupils alongside our academic aspirations.

They were very complementary on how well the children engage in their learning and commented on the high quality work on display around the school.

## Term 2 Diary Dates:

**Mon 8th Dec: Yew swimming begins**

**Mon 8th Dec: KS1 Christmas Performance 9:30 & 2**

**Tues 9th Dec: Reception Nativity 9:30 & 2:30**

**Weds 10th Dec: Christmas Lunch**

**Thurs 11th Dec; PTA Christmas Carols & Winter BBQ**

**Fri 12th Dec: Rec & KS1 Achievement Assembly 9:15 & 2:15**

**Mon 15th Dec: Y3/Y4 Christmas Performance 2 & 6**

**Weds 17th Dec: Y5/Y6 Christmas Performance 2 & 6**

**Thurs 18th Dec: Blackhorse Talent Show**

**Fri 19th Dec: Christmas Parties**

**Fri 19th Dec: Last Day of Term 2**

**Mon 5th Jan: Inset Day—school closed to pupils**

**Tues 6th Jan: Term 3 begins**

## This week's Champions!

Each week, the staff nominate one child per class who has been a model pupil, demonstrating the values which we look for in Champion Learners!

This week we have been focussing on the school value of respect. This week our Champions are:

Year	Nominees
Resource Base	Ivy & Vienna
Reception	Irene & Piper
Year 1	Erin & Hallie
Year 2	Ezra & Maisie
Year 3	Tommy & Ada
Year 4	All of Year 4
Year 5	Ayah & Sophie
Year 6	Harrison & Riley C

## Attendance Champions this week:



It has been another very positive week for attendance with 4 year groups exceeding our target of 97%. Year 1 are top of the list with attendance of 97.8% The runners up are

Year 4 and Year 6 both with 97.6%, and Year 2 with 97.4%

Birch, Willow and Ash all exceeded 99% which is amazing and Oak, Poplar, Elder and Elm all exceeded 98%.

## School Catering Survey

**We are very proud of our team in the school kitchen and the service they provide every day of the school year. Maria, Kath and Anna often go over and above to make the children's experience at lunchtime a positive one and the choice on offer every day is above what many schools offer.**

The Leaf Trust are reviewing the school catering offer across the Trust and would greatly value your thoughts. Your feedback will help them ensure we are all providing the best possible meals for our pupils.

**Please click [here](#) to complete the short online survey by Friday, 12th December.**

## This week's Champion...

**Respect is our focus this week and Tommy in Elm has been chosen as our Champion.**

Miss Bettany writes 'Tommy comes into school every single day with a brilliant attitude to learning. He is kind and respectful to everyone he works with and is always offering a helping hand to anyone who needs it. Tommy shows pride and bravery by putting his hand up to answer questions, taking on feedback, and trying his very best in everything he does. What stands out most about Tommy is his kind and caring nature towards others, which is a truly lovely quality to have. He is a role model to all and completely deserves his place in the Hall of Champions.'



## Talent Show Auditions

**On the afternoon of Thursday 18th December we will be holding our annual Blackhorse Has Talent show.**

Each class nominates one act to represent them in the show. Children can prepare an audition for their class to present in person or on screen. All entries need to be with the class teacher by Monday 15th December.