

Brize Norton Primary School

Striving, Helping, Inspiring, Nurturing, Excelling

We SHINE for ourselves and each other with kindness.



NEWSLETTER 01 – 12th September 2025

Head Teachers News

Dear Parent/Carers,

Welcome back to the new term and the new year. A very warm welcome too to the new families who are joining us, we all hope you and your children are settling in to the school.

It feels as though the summer is behind us with this autumnal weather already upon us, but through the wind and the cooler temperatures, there are smiles and warmth in the classrooms. The children and staff have all settled into the new term well, and as I have been walking around the school this past week, I am constantly met with smiles and stories of holidays or news about something new in the class. There is a real positive buzz here, which is wonderful to feel.

The new school year comes with a new focus and the next steps in our strategic development. This year we are going to be developing our approach to teaching which is informed by Cognitive Load Theory. We have been looking reflectively at our learning environments which we provide and considering how we can best utilise them to support the children's cognitive load. We have also further developed how we present information which is adaptive, scaffolded and yet challenging, as well as when we present information, including that of retrieving it, to ensure that it embeds in the long-term memory. The team has made a strong start on implementing this theory; the governors and I will be monitoring the impact this has throughout the year, along with the staff and pupils feeding back their thoughts. We are positive this approach will strengthen our offer here at Brize.

Best wishes,
Mrs Jones and team here at Brize.

We are celebrating ALL of our children for displaying our SHINE values and kindness for many different and varied reasons at the start of this term.



The children have settled in superbly and the staff have all commented on how the older children are really nurturing and helping the younger children as they settle into new routines. The sense of 'family' here at Brize is really strong and something we are immensely proud of. Well done children!!!

Attendance

Buccaneers: 99.34%

Hurricanes: 99.52% - Well done

Hercules: 96.16%

Voyagers: 97.34%

Falcons: 97.56%

Contact

Office: 01993 842488

Email: office.2250@brize-norton.oxon.sch.uk





Useful Information

Parents Evening – Thursday, 6th November

This year we are once again holding our Parents Evening on one night so please save the date. Appointments will be available from 3:30pm up until 8:30pm. Meetings will be held at school and bookings will be made available as usual with a signup form on the class doors. The office will notify you as to when this is. For those of you who aren't available at drop off and/or collection, you can email your time preference to the office. This is for all children as SEN Review week will be held the week before the Christmas Holidays and information will follow with regards to this.

Uniform – Pride in Presentation

As we start the term, just a gentle reminder about uniform. Please can children **wear navy** and not black or grey on their bottom half on both school **and** PE days. If you have purchased black or grey, there isn't an expectation for you to immediately replace as we appreciate the financial implication but do bear this in mind when you do need to buy your children their next sizes. PE bottoms should also be **plain navy** in colour.

Shoulder-length hair needs to be tied back and jewelry must not be worn (necklaces/bracelets). Finally, no hoop earrings please, studs only. These are all for health and safety reasons.

Road Safety

Just to make you aware, we have had a few reports of 'near misses' outside our school, particularly with older children running to cross the road without looking. Thankfully the road is 20mph, and this hasn't led to an accident however we wanted to make you aware. We will continue to deliver road safety messages in school, and have done so already this term, but please speak to your children about road safety, especially if they are allowed to walk to and from school alone. There is useful information further in the newsletter from the Oxfordshire Fire & Resue Service Road Safety Team regarding the Footsteps programme. Many thanks.

Music Lessons – Piano and Guitar

Our guitar and piano teacher both have spaces, if you are interested in your child learning one of these instruments, contact the school office for more details.

Cupcake Sale – Tuesday, 30th September

We are holding a cupcake sale after school on Tuesday, 30th September with the theme of 'sustainability'. Please bring in your decorated cupcakes the morning of the event. These will be sold for 50p each on the playground. There will be a small prize for the most captivating design. Good luck....

Service Families Information workshop – Tuesday, 21st Oct @ 2pm in the hall

Thank you to the parents in the service families who have completed the survey. We have found the information very useful and your responses will inform the school's next steps in our ever-growing provision. As you are aware, Miss Nelson has taken on the role of our Forces Liaison Officer, formerly known as our Service Children's Champion, and has already made a fantastic start in her role. We would like to invite the parents of our service children to an information workshop in the hall on the 21st October at 2pm. We will talk about our priorities for the year, how we use the Service Pupil Premium funding, along with upcoming events and much more. We would also like to hear from you, so if you haven't had the chance to complete the survey, we would still like to hear your thoughts.

Attendance

As a school we support the government's belief that pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school. As a school we monitor all children's attendance – the aim for each child is a minimum of 95% attendance over the school year. Holidays have a huge impact on a child's overall attendance. Please do take note of the letter attached as we are bound by the county council procedures.

Contact

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New Team Members

We have welcomed some new members to our team this year....

Mrs Drinkwater – Office Admin Assistant

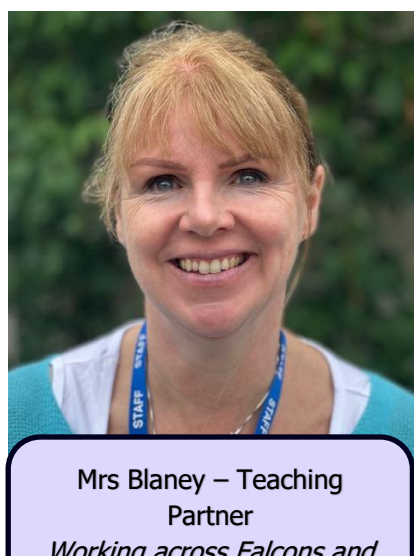
Mrs Drinkwater is with as as Miss Williams maternity cover.



Miss Adams – Voyagers Class Teacher



Miss Henley – Teaching Partner
Working in Buccaneers



Mrs Blaney – Teaching Partner
Working across Falcons and Voyagers



Mrs Sudworth – Teaching Partner
Working with Year 2 and Hercules

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As Autumn approaches and the mornings and evenings get darker, parents and children walking to and from school need to be even more aware of the potential dangers they face as pedestrians and the importance of wearing bright or reflective clothing to make it easier for other road users to see them.

It is never too early to start talking to your child about road safety as, having a good understanding of road safety skills, could one day save their life.

Our Footsteps guide will give you some ideas of how to begin to support your child in developing the decision-making skills that will help them become a pedestrian able to keep themselves safer when they eventually walk to school or a friend's home independently.

If they are ill-prepared, children are more likely to be killed or injured in a road traffic incident, as seen by the fact that the number of child pedestrians injured rises significantly around 10 -12 years of age – the time at which they begin to go out unaccompanied by adults.

The Footsteps programme is simple to use as it can be carried out in normal everyday situations such as walking to school or to the local shops. Rather than telling children what to do, you are encouraged to ask lots of open questions to make the children think about the decisions they are making. Making these decisions safely, while in the company of a supporting adult, will mean they will be better prepared for dealing with roads and traffic once they begin going out on their own.

Learning to cope with traffic is a practical skill, which cannot be learnt in the classroom. As parents / carers, you are the best people to help your child develop this knowledge as you spend the most time out and about with them.

Please follow the link to the Footsteps guide [Footsteps](#) and start giving your children the skills and knowledge they will need to stay safer on our roads.

Remember – Be Bright Be Seen.

Oxfordshire Fire & Resue Service Road Safety Team
Oxfordshire County Council



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Dates for your Diary

Autumn Term 1	Mon, 15 th Sept	Skateboarding Clun and Cycling Proficiency begin
	Thurs, 25 th Sept	Flu Vaccinations
	Mon, 29 th Sept	Voyagers Solar Farm Visit
	Tues, 30 th Sept	Cake Sale in aid of our Service Families
	Tues, 30 th Sept	Falcons Solar Farm Visit
	Fri, 3 rd Oct	Year 5 and 6 Visit of Junior Citizens
	w/c 6 th Oct	Art Week
	Tues, 7 th Oct	Art Workshops from Cygnets Art School
	Fri, 10 th Oct	Individual School Photos
	Tues, 21 st Oct	Harvest Service (chn only)
	Tues, 21 st Oct	Service Families Information Workshop
	Wed, 22 nd & Thurs 23 rd Oct	RE Focus mornings
		w/c 27 th Oct
	3 rd Nov	INSET DAY
Autumn Term 2	Thurs, 6 th Nov	Parents Evening (3:30 – 8pm)
	w/e 10 th Nov	Anti-bullying Week
	Mon, 10 th Nov	Odd Sock Day
	Thurs, 13 th Nov	World Kindness Day
	Tues, 25 th Nov	Antibullying Ambassadors Training day
	w/c 1 st Dec	Assessment Week
	Mon, 1 st Dec	KS1 (Yr 1 and 2) Nativity play for families – 2pm and 4:30pm
	Wed, 10 th Dec	Year 1 – 6 Panto Trip
	Thursday, 11 th Dec	Buccaneers Nativity for families @ 2pm
	Wed, 17 th Dec	Year 3 Carols at Church @ 4:30pm
	Thurs, 18 th Dec	Christmas party/Lunch/Jumper Day
	Fri, 19 th Dec	End of Term 2 – School finishes at 1:15pm
	22 nd Dec – 2 nd Jan	CHRISTMAS Holidays
	Mon, 5 th Jan	INSET DAY
Spring Term 1	Thurs, 15 th Jan	Young Voices – Upper School
	Tues, 10 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
		w/c 16 th Feb

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