Blaenavon Heritage VC School News

Opening the door to your future… with God all things are possible!

Headteacher – Mrs Anna Britten
Deputy Headteacher – Mrs Alison Coombs
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Croeso! Welcome to our new look newsletter. Thank you to all those who have given us feedback on the accessibility of the previous version.

Dates for the Diary

- Monday 5th – Friday 9th October: Harvest Collection. Please send in long-life food items for FoodBank from Monday 5th.
- Saturday 17th October: Year 6 Fundraising Abseil with Crosfield Outdoors. Mr Booth will send out details soon. Event is open to school staff and Year 6 parents and carers. This one is too high for the children. Who's feeling brave?
- Monday 19th – Thursday 22nd October: Parent Consultations. These will be offered as face to face and telephone appointments. We will send a ClassCharts when the booking form opens.
- Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October: Half Term. Torfaen Play will be hosting another playscheme on site for part of the week.
- Sunday 8th November: Remembrance Sunday. Pupils are welcome to parade through Blaenavon with us. Details TBC.
- Friday 13th November: Children in Need. School Council will release details nearer the time.
- Friday 27th November: Elf Day. A chance to wear something Christmassy as we launch Advent.
- Wednesday 2nd December: Christmas Disco. Times TBC.
- Monday 7th December a.m.: Nursery Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 8th December a.m.: Reception Christmas Concert
- Wednesday 9th December: Christmas Dinner
- Thursday 10th December a.m.: Year 1 Christmas Concert
- Friday 11th December a.m.: Year 2 Christmas Concert
- Monday 14th December a.m.: Year 3 Christmas Concert
- Tuesday 15th December a.m.: Year 4 Christmas Concert
- Wednesday 16th December evening: Year 6 Christmas Concert
- Thursday 17th December p.m.: Year 5 Christmas Concert at St Peter's Church
- Friday 18th December: Christmas Party Day

Headlines

The New Pitch

Our new 4G / 3G+ (we still aren't sure of the exact term!) is finished and has been signed off for use. We are just awaiting the instruction manual and accompanying safe use signage and then it will be open.

The facility will be open for use by pupils in Year 3 – Year 6 at lunchtimes and breaktimes. In order to use the pitch, players must wear approved footwear. Details on this will follow. We are working to establish a bank of appropriate footwear that can be used by pupils who do not have their own. They will be allocated a pair for a season (or until their feet grow). Pupils who do not wish to play rugby or football will not have to enter the pitch.

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Bookings for the pitch will go live over the next few weeks. Local (Blaenavon and Forgeside) clubs will have an option for priority booking before the link is shared more widely. We will contact these clubs directly. Governors have agreed the following priority order for slots:



- Up to under 11s (primary school aged teams)
- Up to under 15s (secondary school aged teams)
- Up to under 18s (youth teams)
- Adult teams

The pitch is a local pitch, and its main purpose is to support local children and families in accessing quality sport facilities without having to travel. We hope to have 25 bookable weekday evening slots. Exciting times!

Year 6

Year 6 have settled into their role ruling the school well and started off with a topic on World War 2. The children have already thought about the experience of evacuees and as the year progresses, they will also look at the struggles of refugees in modern times.









I think Miss Tanner may have cheated with a bit of AI!



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Year 5

Year 5 have taken to swimming like ducks to water. Thank you for all your support in providing kit. One more thing to remember on a Friday morning! Feedback from the swimming instructors has been great.

Anxiety & Upset

We know we have a few children who feel anxious about coming into school. Miss Jones - our TIS Lead, Miss Richards and Miss Rondel - our ELSAs, Mrs White – our Community Engagement Officer, and Mrs Roberts – our ALNCo, are all highly-skilled and available to support. Please encourage your child to come into the building where we can use one of our cosy spaces to support them to regulate and feel safe.

If your child is worried or upset about something in particular, please contact us. We will always try to find a solution.

School Development Plan

The School Development Plan will be on the website at the end of next week. This year our focus will be on:

- Further developing teaching and learning through an explorative approach where children can be highly engaged and enjoy purposeful opportunities to apply their skills.
- Looking closely at reading and ensuring children are supported to become fluent readers who have the necessary skills to interpret challenging texts.
- Further developing the teaching of maths across the school so that children become more confident tackling problems and applying strategies.

Thank you for your ongoing support. There will be opportunities to get involved, particularly with developing reading. We want the best for every child in Blaenavon.

Blaenavon Active Living Centre

Don't forget, you have your very own leisure facility on our site. The new pitch will give BALC a fresh lease of life. The fitness suite is open weekdays between 5pm and 9pm, and on Saturday mornings. There are exciting classes in the dance studio, and our facilities are bookable for pickleball, table tennis and badminton. Our prices are competitive and we offer a unique experience in a quiet, local centre. And… we now have aircon in the dance studio!

<u>Actions</u>

- Please make sure you have filled out the annual admissions form via the link on ClassCharts. If you have any issues accessing it, please call in and Mr West can assist you. This information helps us to keep the children safe by ensuring we have current knowledge of their needs, any medication, and who they can safely be in contact with.