

# What's On?

If you have not yet done so, please complete the online ordering form for lunches next week. If your child will be at Quinta next week, please do not order them any meals! As always, the deadline for ordering meals is 6pm on Thursday.



## Wreath Making Workshop

Join The Friends Of The Blake School Association for a festive wreath making workshop to raise money for the school.

18th November 2022

7.30pm

£40 per wreath includes a glass of Mulled wine/non alcoholic alternative & some nibbles

Other refreshments will be available to purchase - cash bar only

To book please email  
friends@blake.oxon.sch.uk

## Dates for your diary

This Friday is an INSET day and school will therefore be closed.

The children in Year 6 are at Quinta next week, they need to be in school at 8am on Monday morning.

Year 5 will be enjoying a Greek Day on Monday – we are looking forward to seeing everyone in costume.

Whole school photos for all children will be taken on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October. Photos of siblings in school will be taken on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October. Your child will come home with a proof and ordering is online.

Term 1 ends at 3.15pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

Parents' evenings for children in Years 1 – 6 will take place predominantly after school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November and Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. It is our intention that these will be face-to-face appointments, but that there will be an online option for those who would prefer this. We will let you know when appointments are available to book.

## Sickness

All children are unwell from time to time. In general we find children to be resilient and most will manage a day in school with a cough or a cold. If ever we have any concerns about your child's health, we will call you.

If however your child has sickness, or diarrhoea, they are not permitted back in school until there has been 48 hours since the last episode. Sickness can go through the school very quickly, in order to protect our whole community, please respect this requirement and keep your child at home.

## Please make payments on time

ParentPay, our online payment system, provides us with regular reports that indicate where expected payments have not been made.

If your child has school lunches, attended Bikeability, attends our ABC provision or is going to Quinta, please do make sure your amount owing is cleared. If you have any problems making the payment please let us know.

## **Parent Governor**

Your child will tomorrow bring home a voting slip for the role of Parent Governor.

We have had two applications for the role, Heather Ross-McCue (mum to Cameron and Braedon) and Clare Huggard (mum to Evie). Before voting, please read the information from Heather and Clare below.

### **Clare Huggard**

My daughter Evie is in Year 1 and I would love an opportunity to become more involved with the school. I have already witnessed the school's vision in action whilst Evie was in Reception and look forward to seeing this continue as she progresses through the school. The welcome we all received and relationships that Evie built with members of staff and her peers was clear to see. Building relationship among the parents was equally important for me as I learnt about the workings of the school and found my feet as a school parent.

The opportunities Evie was offered to learn in Reception surpassed our expectations and the creativity and dedication of the staff is evident at the Blake. I would love to represent the parent body as a governor as I believe the school experience can only be strengthened by involving the whole family and not just the students. We are all part of one community, and I would love to see this community thrive.

Prior to my current role I worked in the charity sector for 10 years including several years of overseas mission work project managing building projects. This taught me first-hand how to integrate into new communities but also the power of teamwork and humility - learning from those around you to leave a positive impression and to effect positive change that can be maintained. I feel that I can offer a fresh perspective through the eyes of someone who is very new to the school environment.

### **Heather Ross-McCue**

My eldest son, Cameron, is in Year 3 at The Blake School and my youngest son, Braedon, is in Year 1.

I have worked in the Education Sector for the past fifteen years, the last eight of which I have been an English Teacher at Carterton Community College. As the Senior Leader for Teaching and Learning at the school, I have experience with working in a collaborative, collegiate and strategic way to drive the standards and quality of education forward. I know the benefits of a supportive Governing Body, who are able to act as 'critical friends' to the school, for the benefit of the children.

I am passionate about the transformational impact of education and supporting young people to achieve to the best of their potential. I have seen first-hand the lingering effects of the last year on children and the challenges schools face in supporting these children and their families.

As a Parent Governor, I would offer unrelenting commitment, enthusiasm and determination to support The Blake School in continuing their provision of academic excellence in a deeply nurturing environment.

Completed voting slips should be returned to school, either via your child, or the front office. The closing date for voting will be 3.30pm on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

October Half Term



## NW Inventors: Spooky Storytelling

Mon 24 Oct - Wed 26 Oct  
9am - 12pm

Join us this October half term to create spooky stories and thrilling drama. We will spend three days learning how to build tension in a story, create mysterious characters and give our audience a fright!  
For ages 8 - 11

Tickets: £45 for 3 days  
Full busary places available, contact Able for more information: [waltona@thenorthwall.com](mailto:waltona@thenorthwall.com)



## The Naughty Fox

Sat 22 October  
10am, 11.15am & 1.15pm performances

Snuggle up in a magical den with comfy creatures – Honk, Splash and TaWit TaWoo – as they teach The Naughty Fox a very important lesson: it's better to share. The Naughty Fox is an immersive, multi-sensory journey of friendship and play for little ones and their grown-ups. All performances are relaxed and fully accessible with creative captioning.

For ages 0 - 5 (physical/cognitive)  
Tickets: £8 (£6 concessions)



## Fundraising

One of our former pupils, Rowan, who is now in Year 7, had been growing his hair. On his dad's birthday he had his hair cut in order to donate it to the Little Princess Trust, who will change his hair into a wig for a child who needs one.

If you would like to help Rowan make this happen, you can find out more on his [Just Giving](#) page.

Well done, Rowan!

## Stay in touch

If you changed any of your contact details over the summer months, or would like to change emergency contacts, please do let the admin team know asap.

Thank-you!

Workshops and Plays [www.thenorthwall.com](http://www.thenorthwall.com)

Book online

# Intermediate Orchestra

FOR ALL ORCHESTRAL  
INSTRUMENTS  
GRADE 2-5

Autumn 1	15/10/2022
Autumn 2	26/11/2022
Spring 1	04/02/2023
Spring 2	25/03/2023
Summer 1	13/05/2023
Summer 2	01/07/2023

Proposed Concert in  
Dorchester Abbey

7 or 8 July 2022

Email – [music.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:music.service@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/music-service/music-groups/orchestras/oio>

At the Centre  
for Music,  
Oxford



Oxfordshire  
Music  
Education  
Partnership



ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



OXFORDSHIRE  
COUNTY COUNCIL

## Come and join our team

Following the resignation of one of the long-standing members of our lunchtime team, we have a further vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor.

If you would like to come and work at The Blake, you can find out more information by looking at the [vacancies tab](#) on our school website. Applications for the vacancy must be received in school by 5pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October.

## Applications for Year 7

Parents/Carers of children in Year 6 should make an application to join secondary school by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

The simplest way to apply is [online](#), but if you would prefer to submit a paper application, you can collect a form from the school office.

## National Trust giveaway

The National Trust is giving away a limited number of free family (2 adults/4 children) tickets to their venues. Click on [the link](#) to access a free ticket, which will be valid until the end of November.

The offer expires when all the free tickets have been issued. Sign up today!

ChatHealth NHS Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust

### ParentLine 5-11 years

New School Health Nursing messaging service for parents and carers of children 5-11 years attending a state school in Oxfordshire

Text **07312 263227**

## Thank-you

Thank you to everyone who, following our recent pleas, has stopped using our staff entrance as a turning circle.

Please also remember not to park on the zig-zag lines at the front of the school, not even for a moment!

# Gloji Energy

**FREE service**  
helping children be a healthy weight

**Fun and energetic sessions:**  
• Trampolining  
• Dodgeball  
• and much more

**Learn about food, portions, snacking, self-esteem and more...**

**1-to-1 and group sessions**

**Get the whole family moving more and making healthier lifestyle choices together**

**gloji groups** Call on **01865 590292**

<https://www.achieveoxfordshire.org.uk/services/gloji-energy>

*Gloji Energy is a FREE healthy lifestyle programme for children and families that supports them to lead healthier lifestyles. Gloji Energy is fully funded by Oxfordshire County Council and accessible for children aged 4-12 years old. There will be both group and one to one sessions available, dependant on the needs of each family.*

*Gloji Energy isn't about introducing your child or family to a diet, it is to provide children with 45 minutes of various physical activity whilst parents/carers learn healthy lifestyle tips and tricks which include subjects such as, regular eating patterns, portions, making and breaking habits, staying active, sleep and meal planning. There is also a 15 minute interactive activity at the end each sessions for the whole family to engage in.*

*Locations where Gloji Energy is being held include Oxford, Bicester, Witney, Berinsfield, Abingdon and Didcot.*

*Families can find out more information on locations and dates of the programmes and sign up by accessing Achieve Oxfordshire's website:*

# October Half Term Tennis Course

**Monday 24th - Friday 28th October**

**Witney Lawn Tennis Club**  
**For ages 4 - 16**

Fun and Educational  
Small Group Sizes  
Limited Spaces Available  
Flexible Bookings

**Half Day:**  
9:00 - 12:00 or 12:30 - 15:30  
**Short Course (kids 4 - 7):**  
9:00 - 11:00 or 12:30 - 14:30  
**Full Day:**  
09:00 - 15:30

**Childcare Voucher Accepted**

For more information please contact:  
**EXCEL Tennis Academy** 07734 059769  
info@exceltennis.co.uk  
www.exceltennisacademy.co.uk

*Loving, learning and flourishing in community*