



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**Blue Hills
Federation**

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KEY DATES:

Harvest service at the church – 2nd Oct – 11am

Harvest lunch at school – 15th Oct 12pm

Acorn Class Trip to Acton Scott – 20th Oct

Half term – 26th – 30th Oct

Remembrance Service – 11th Nov 11am at the church

Christingle Service – 8th Dec

Pantomime trip – 9th Dec

Christmas Performance Afternoon – 14th Dec

Christmas Performance Evening – 15th Dec

Christmas Party – 17th Dec

Break up for Christmas – 18th December

Harvest Donations:
We are asking for donations to the local food bank to be brought in for our harvest service.
Thank you!



School Lunch Prices:

Unfortunately, due to the rising cost of energy and food prices, we have had to increase our prices.

School lunch will now cost

£3.00 per meal

SEPTEMBER 2026

The new academic year is well underway, and what a wonderful start we have had. It has been a real pleasure to welcome our new Reception children into our school family. They have settled in brilliantly and already become a valued part of school life.

While we were sad to say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils at the end of last year, it has been lovely to see everyone embracing their new classes and new challenges. Our new Year 6 pupils are already rising to the responsibility of being at the top of the school and setting a positive example for younger children.

Across the school, pupils have already started some exciting topics. In Key Stage 1, children are learning all about life on the farm, discovering where food comes from, learning about farm animals and exploring rural life. They are looking forward to bringing their learning to life with a visit to Acton Scott Historic Working Farm later this term.

Meanwhile, Key Stage 2 pupils are immersing themselves in their history topic, Crime and Punishment Through the Ages. They will be exploring how ideas about crime and justice have changed over time, from Roman Britain and the Anglo-Saxons through to the introduction of policing and prisons during Victorian times and the present day. As part of their learning, pupils will visit the Judge's Lodging in Presteigne, where they will take part in a range of hands-on activities linked to different crimes and punishments from the past.

There has already been some wonderful writing taking place across the school. In Key Stage 2, pupils have begun studying *The Lost Happy Endings*, which is inspiring some imaginative descriptive writing and creative storytelling. We are looking forward to seeing how their writing develops over the term.

In science, Key Stage 1 pupils are exploring animals, including humans, while Key Stage 2 pupils are investigating the fascinating topics of inheritance and evolution.

Year 6 Adventure at Arthog

What an absolutely fantastic time our Year 6 children had on their residential trip to Arthog! From start to finish, they threw themselves into every challenge with enthusiasm, determination and huge smiles.

The children enjoyed an action-packed programme of activities, including mountain climbing and scrambling, canoeing, team games on the beach and the firm favourite, gorge walking! They showed real courage, resilience and teamwork, encouraging one another when things became challenging and celebrating each other's successes.

Another highlight was the Nightline, which certainly provided plenty of laughter! Blindfolded, the children had to navigate a series of obstacles through the trees while communicating and working together to make sure that their whole team stayed together. It was a brilliant test of trust, teamwork and perseverance.

One of the loveliest parts of the trip was seeing how quickly our children made friends with the Year 6 pupils from the other schools. It was wonderful to watch them working, laughing and taking on new challenges together.

We could not have been prouder of our Year 6 children. They embraced every opportunity, supported one another brilliantly and represented our school impeccably throughout the whole trip. They returned home tired, muddy and full of stories, with some very special memories that we are sure will stay with them for a long time!

A Fantastic Visit to Healing Hills Farm!

This week, we had a wonderful visit to Healing Hills Farm, where the children had the opportunity to meet the animals and experience some of the jobs involved in caring for them.

We had great fun taking the alpacas and sheep for a walk, although things didn't always go quite according to plan! When some of the sheep made a bid for freedom, the children quickly sprang into action and helped to round up the escapees and return them safely to their pen!

There was plenty of hard work too. The children helped to feed the pigs and clean out their pens, getting a real taste of what it takes to look after animals properly. Everyone got stuck in brilliantly and approached each new task with enthusiasm.

This first visit was also a great opportunity for everyone to get to know the farm, the animals and their surroundings. Now that we know our way around, we are really looking forward to returning and getting stuck into even more activities next time.

A huge thank you to everyone at Healing Hills Farm for making us feel so welcome. We can't wait to come back!

Two simple ways to help at home

Two of the most valuable things you can do to support your child's learning are practising times tables and reading together regularly. All children have access to TT Rock Stars, so please encourage them to use it frequently to build speed, accuracy and confidence with their multiplication facts.

Please also continue to hear your child read aloud, whatever their age or reading ability. For older and more confident readers, the conversation around the book can be just as valuable as the reading itself. Discuss new vocabulary, ask questions to check understanding, encourage your child to predict what might happen next and ask them to retell or sequence important events. These simple conversations help children to develop the deeper reading and comprehension skills they need across the curriculum.