

Blowers Green

Bugle



Issue 22

Every Term

April 2022

Free

The voice of Blowers Green Primary School. Visit us at www.blowers.dudley.sch.uk

A message from Mrs Adams...

A very warm welcome to our spring edition of the Blowers Green Bugle! Wow, what a spring term it has been! Within this edition of The Bugle there are once again many examples of the exciting activities that have been happening across the different year groups which have served to enhance and develop our curriculum even further. Our children have been working so hard and we have seen such tremendous enthusiasm and engagement in learning experiences this term - the children should feel very proud of their efforts. We hope that you enjoy catching up with the latest news and sharing in their successes.

From all the team here at Blowers Green we wish you a safe, peaceful break that's full of sun, joy and chocolate!

**Reading Bug Sweeps
Blowers Green!**



**Ronnie the Dog
Visits Charitable
Children**



**Times Table Champions
Dominate the Rock Star
Leader Board**



**CHILDREN ENJOY A
SPLASHTASTIC TIME!**



LEARNING THAT INSPIRES

Having a Splashtastic Time!

Swimming and water safety are a vital life skill that every child should have. Aside from the numerous health and wellbeing benefits of swimming, it is no exaggeration to say that learning how to swim, and about the importance of water safety, are skills that could one day save a life.

Year 4 and 5 have commenced their swimming lessons at the brand new Duncan Edwards Leisure Centre, and they are having an absolutely splashtastic time learning this vital life skill!



"I am just loving swimming! We are getting to swim in a brand new pool. Today I learned to swim on my back without a float. I love going in the ocean and I know these lessons are making me a stronger more confident swimmer." Ava

Did you know?
Swimming saves lives.

Did you know?
Swimming results in better brain health.

Did you know?
Swimming opens up more employment opportunities.

Did you know?
Swimming is good for people with asthma.

Blowers Green's New Library is Open!

"Reading is the gateway for children that makes all other learning possible." Barack Obama

Our new library, boasting an array of fiction, non-fiction and poetry books, is now open to the pupils of Blowers Green! Children are able to visit at least twice a week during their designated class slot as well as during lunchtimes.

Our children are absolutely buzzing with enthusiasm and excitement about the joys of being able to choose a new book every week; they love the opportunity to relax and spend some of their lunch break immersed in quality texts and relish in the support and guidance available from our Reading Ambassadors.





World Book Day 2022

At Blowers Green we celebrate and promote reading for pleasure everyday with the message for all our children *'you are a reader'*! As part of our drive to maintain, promote and engage the children's interest in reading, children and staff donned their very best character costumes to celebrate 'World Book Day' on Thursday 3rd March 2022.

It was an absolute joy to see our school full of characters such as Alice in Wonderland, Peter Rabbit, Harry Potter and Cruella deVil engaged in lots of exciting, celebratory activities to promote reading for pleasure on World Book Day, and all-year round.



COMIC ART MASTERCLASS

To coincide with our World Book Day celebrations, comic creator, Kev F Sutherland visited us in school to work with children in KS2. Kev has been writing and drawing comics for many years and the school was once again, delighted to host Kev; a writer and graphic artist for comic magazines from **Beano** to **Marvel** to **Doctor Who** and **The Dandy**.



Kev, who worked with children in years 4 and 6, also worked with those children in our school who have been recognised as having a particular talent for the subject. Kev was as thrilled as the children were to be working side-by-side once again creating characters, building storylines and finessing their skills of drawing and sketching caricatures

We were able to capture just a few of the super comments Kev made about our very talented children:

'Michaela is a better artist than me!'

'Behaviour at Blowers Green was amazing and the children's imaginations blew me away'

'The drawing skills of all children were really very impressive'

A huge thank you to Kev for his wonderful input and for being such a fantastic source of inspiration to our pupils! We look forward to welcoming him back once again in the future.





Times Table Rock Stars of the Term!



National expectations are that all children should be secure in rapid mental recall of all times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of year 4. Times tables are so important as they are the foundation of all mathematics! Once you know them you're set for maths for life! Well done to all our rock heroes!

Well done to these children who earned the most coins on Times Tables Rock Stars this term!

Well done to class 4 who are our current leaders in the Battle of the Bands!



Joshua - 18, 109



Jovia - 32, 547



Nestor - 220, 768



23rd March - 25th April 2022

Class 2

60

Class 1

0

23rd March - 25th April 2022

Class 4

487

Class 3

214

23rd March - 25th April 2022

Class 5

67

Class 6

0

Blowers Green Catch the Reading Bug!

2022 saw Blowers Green's biggest and most important recruitment to date...fourteen enthusiastic Reading Ambassadors, from Nursery to Year 6, are now in post!

A Reading Ambassador is someone who simply loves to read, reads different genres and stories from different authors, and enjoys sharing books and stories with others. Being a Reading Ambassador is a very important role as one of the main jobs is to promote a love of books.

Our Reading Ambassadors have already been busy sharing the 'magic' of reading with others. From story swaps to reading aloud to other classes to book recommendations and leading library sessions with all year groups, our Reading Ambassadors have been promoting reading in order to ensure everyone at Blowers Green has caught the reading 'bug'!



LEADING TOGETHER

Making a Difference

Introducing...the Junior Leadership Team

At Blowers Green, we believe that every child should have a voice. This ensures that all children have their right to article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - 'Respect of the views of the child' - met.

The Junior Leadership Team are a group of pupils who were elected to represent the views of all pupils and work together to promote teamwork and improve their school, the community and the world. They uphold and embody our school values, meeting with staff regularly to discuss issues that are important to the children. They have an agenda, which they create, and a member of the Junior Leadership Team takes the minutes and another chairs the meeting. The Junior Leadership Team are working hard on their action plan.

Currently they are focussing on creating an 'Eco Warriors Team' to support their work around helping the planet. Their first project has involved them writing to Dudley Catering Services to share their views on single use plastics in school; something that pupils are very concerned about. Keep an eye on the Blowers Green fortnightly newsletter to see how we move forward with this very important project...



Let's Debate!

Should children wear school uniform?

The 'hot topic' up for debate in year 5 this term has been around school uniform and whether children should wear it. Year 5 have gathered evidence and opinions around this subject by interviewing members of staff and researching the 'for' and 'against' arguments before writing a balanced argument and then debating the topic in front of a 'live' audience (other classes).

Year 5 really impressed us with their clear and concise arguments and the way they listened to each other and respected any opposing views is to be commended. Both teams were very convincing!

Next month year 6 will be debating their 'hot topic' live in front of an audience...watch this space!





Let's Go!



Hannah Escott

GB Cycling Team Racer and
2x Women's World Series
4X Mountain Bike Champion.

Most of us learn how to ride a bike during childhood. But as we grow older, many of us stop riding and put those once-beloved bikes in storage. Years later, when we discover these relics and hop on, it's as if we never stopped biking!

It is Open Trail's aim to ensure that all children leave school being able to ride a bike. The health benefits of cycling are endless but, not only this, it is one of the most enjoyable and efficient ways to get around and it's great for the environment too.

Over the last two weeks, we have welcomed 'Open Trail' into Blowers Green. Open Trail is a charity that was founded by Hannah Escott (a cyclist who competed for Great Britain!). Their activities develop children and young people's self-confidence, work ethic, emotional resilience and team work through the completion of small, fun and achievable tasks. During their time in Blowers Green, they taught pupils who could not ride a bike independently to do so in, what felt like, record time!

Staff and children reported that it was as if the instructors had 'magical powers' as they taught the children a skill which seemed impossible to teach in such a short space of time. By the end of their session (2 hours), EVERY child was able to ride a bike confidently and without stabilisers - what an achievement! Well done to all of the children involved. We are so proud of you! And a huge thank you to 'Open Trail' for your time and support in teaching our children this lifelong skill.

I can't believe how quickly I learned to do this. I was a bit scared and wobbly at first but now I just feel really proud!

It was challenging at first but then it was so easy when I knew how! The dinosaur stepping and bob and weave really helped with balance. bike! It's a great achievement.



Parents Get Creative with Crafting!

Parents and carers were invited into school this week to join in the end of term fun with their children by taking part in some Easter arts and crafts activities. It was just wonderful to see everyone spending valuable time together creating and crafting! A special thank you to everyone who came to these Easter craft workshops. It really was a lovely atmosphere and we know that the children very much enjoyed sharing part of their school day with you as much as we did.



RESPECTING EACH OTHER AND OUR WORLD

Here at Blowers Green we recognise the importance of supporting people and charities in our local community and in the wider world. Thank you for your kind generosity and the support that you have given to the school's fundraising efforts for our chosen charities this term. The combined efforts from everyone has resulted in us raising some amazing amounts to help fund these important charities that continue to support so many people all over the world. Here is a snapshot of some of our fundraising this term...

RED NOSE DAY 2022



Wow! The effort Blowers Green went to on Friday 18th March was amazing and we loved seeing your creative ideas for adding a red accessory to your school uniform to raise funds for Comic Relief. Thank you to everyone for your generosity. Our combined efforts raised:

£64.34

The money raised will make a massive difference. Remember, whatever you do, no matter how small, you can help people live free from poverty, violence and discrimination. This includes funding organisations that are supporting people right now in Ukraine. Because, together, we have the power to change lives.

Spring Break Cake Sale and Raffle!

Yesterday we hosted yet another successful cake sale after school to raise money for our school fund. Thank you to everyone who donated, made or bought a cake or two! We hope you enjoyed your sweet treats—what a lovely start to the spring break! We have also been selling raffle tickets to win lots of prizes from a range of Easter craft activities to Easter eggs! We are thrilled to announce that, so far, we have raised **over £110!**

Year 5 Easter Eggstravaganza!

Over the last week, year 5 have been getting children 'eggstra eggcited' about the Easter countdown by running a 'guess the number of chocolate eggs' competition to raise funds for their class charity - Whizz-kidz (the UK's leading charity for young wheelchair users). For this important charity, whose vision is a society in which every young wheelchair user is mobile, enabled and included, year 5 have raised a brilliant **£45.00** so far! Well done year 5 and thank you to everyone that has entered.



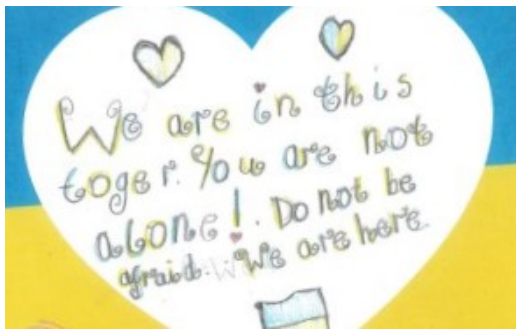
Year 2 Readathon

Year 2 have had their heads 'buried' in books (something they love to do) to raise funds for their class charity—WWF (World Wildlife Fund). Children spent the afternoon engaged in a readathon of fun reading activities! They did not stop reading for a whole afternoon! What a wonderful way to raise money for this amazing cause who protect so many animals in the wild. So far, class 2 have raised **£150.46!**





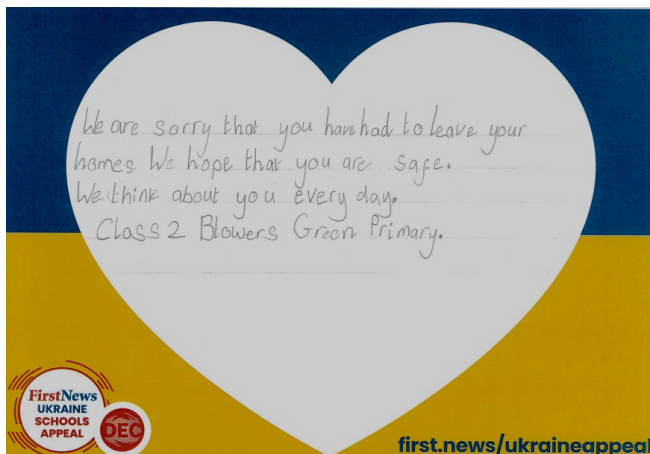
On Wednesday March 16th, like many other schools across the country, we took part in 'A Day for Ukraine'. In partnership with the Disasters Emergency Committee, First News organised a day where children were invited to wear blue and yellow and make a donation which will be sent to the appeal fund. In addition, every class sent messages to the people of Ukraine; below are just some of the wonderful messages we posted.



Our sincere thanks are extended to everyone who supported this worthwhile cause and we are delighted to announce that we raised a total of **£76.50**.

With the situation developing in Ukraine, your child may be asking questions that you are unsure on how to answer. We know how important it is for you and your child to have a trusted news source on issues like this, so we wanted to share this edition of First News - a newspaper written for children aged 7-11 years. **Follow the link below** to make sure your child has the information they need to feel reassured now, and to help your family tackle this complicated conversation. There is a six-page special report in this issue which has been written specifically to help parents and children understand what's happening, presenting the events in a non-sensationalised and unbiased way. The edition also showcases some of the positive actions and people that have come out of this terrible event, to show children there are more good people than bad in the world.

<https://subscribe.firstnews.co.uk/ukraine-special-report-free-access/>



YEAR ONE—HELPING PUT AN END TO ANIMAL CRUELTY

Every year thousands of animals suffer from neglect, cruelty and abuse. Year one are supporting charities to help end this misery...

Year one's class charity is the RSPCA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). To raise awareness of the work of the RSPCA and to support them and other animal rescue charities that do such good work, they had a very special visit from the CEO of Dudley Academies Trust, Jo Higgins, and her wonderful dog Ronnie.



Rescued and supported by Rain Rescue based in Rotherham, Yorkshire, Ronnie is a rescue dog who, thankfully, was rescued as a puppy and given the opportunity to lead a much better life! Children in year one learned all about Ronnie's journey so far, including some of the challenges he has faced as well as his favourite past times.



Despite having metal plates in both of his back legs, he is still able to live his life to the full! Ronnie loves to relax, enjoy the sunshine, dress up and meet people...this was easy to see by just how very friendly and happy he was to meet all the children in year one.

Thank you so much for visiting year one Ronnie! The children loved giving you lots of tummy rubs and you helped them to understand how vital and helpful charities such as the RSPCA are to animals in need of care, support and a loving home and family. We hope you enjoyed the doggy treats! Please come and visit us again soon!



Ronnie was so calm and gentle. I love him!
Isla



DREAMING BIG

REWARDING EFFORT



Perfect Presentation



Pupils were rewarded for their hard work up to the end of this term with a very special Perfect Presentation award to recognise the effort, commitment and hard work that they have applied to ensuring that every single piece of work they produce is the best that it can be! To celebrate their achievements in this area, each pupil was awarded with a certificate and a chocolate bunny. A huge well done to our learners below. The pride you take in your work is to be commended!



Madeeha

Cameron

Nihal

Ruqaiya

Bethany

Hafsa

Grady

Tasmia

Daniela

Dhilan

Idris

Haniah

Kashfiya

Rohan

