



Dear Parents and Carers,

Baby News

We have started the year with some wonderful news. Mrs Smith gave birth to her second daughter, Otilie Olive Smith, on the 7th of September. Mum, Dad, older sister Edie and Otilie are all doing well. Mrs Smith has let us know that Edie is loving being an older sister and is smitten with her new sibling. I am sure that you will join with us in wishing them all our warmest congratulations.

A Great Result

Each year primary schools across England undertake assessments with the children. These results include the phonics screening check in Year 1, the multiplication check in Year 4 and SATS at the end of Year 6. As with previous years, the children at Blue Coat Primary School have excelled, as shown in the results below:

Year 1 phonics

Pass rate 24/25	National Pass Rate 24/25
89%	81%

Year 4 Multiplication Check

School Average Score	National Average Score 23/24 (2025 yet to be released)
19.4	20.6

Year 6

Overall KS2 National Attainment Comparison

	School	National
Expected Standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics	71%	62%
Greater Depth Standard in Reading, Writing and Mathematics	21%	8%

Attainment by subject:

KS2 Performance Data	Reading		Writing		Mathematics		GPAS	
	School	National 25	School	National 25	School	National 25	School	National 25
Met the Expected Standard	83%	75%	77%	72%	75%	74%	77%	72%
Greater Depth Standard	46%	33%	27%	13%	29%	26%	21%	30%
APS	106.8	106			105.3	105	103.6	104



As you can see, Blue Coat's scores are above the National Average in almost every area assessed and in the vast majority of cases, significantly so. The number of children leaving the school in Year 6 with the Greater Depth Standard in all three areas of Reading, Writing and Mathematics is nearly three times greater than other schools, highlighting the hard work of our children and of our staff in every year group.

However, you will note that there are a couple of areas that we are targeting for improvement. One area is that we would like our multiplication scores to be even higher than they are in Year 4. Knowing your times tables up to 12x12 is a key skill for life. As such, we have a development plan for improving results within school. But we also know that our parents want to help too. This is why we have invested in TT Rock Stars and why Mr Bickle and I make ourselves look silly every term for a rock star assembly! We know that many of our children love this resource and playing this alongside your child is great fun and helps them to learn. For some of our children, they aren't so keen on the online game and prefer singing songs, completing multiplication grids and simply answering questions as a way to learn their tables. Neither method is better or worse. If you can spend a few minutes practicing with your child each day, they will flourish.

What impresses me most is the beaming smiles that the children bring with them each and every day to school. This tells me that it isn't just that the children are thriving academically but that they are having a fantastic time in doing so.

Mobile Phones

I was chatting to a parent of a child in Key Stage 1 recently and the subject of mobile phones in schools came up. During the conversation, they explained that parents of younger children often do not know the rules about mobile phones at Blue Coat. We both agreed that this would make a good section for a newsletter.

Some older children's parents ask them to bring phones to school when they are walking home unaccompanied. In these circumstances, as soon as the children enter the classroom door, the phones are turned off and handed to the classroom teacher. They are then locked away until the end of the school day. They are only returned to the child as they leave the class door to walk home. We ask children to keep the phones away until they leave the school site. We appreciate that phones can be reassuring for parents when their child is walking to and from school but we also ensure that phones are not used or even visible within the school day.

Glyn Jones
Headteacher