



8/10/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

Staffing News

As you are aware, we have recently been engaged in recruiting an Assistant Head to replace the role that will be vacated by Mrs Nelson after the October half-term. After a rigorous recruitment process, I am delighted to announce that our own Miss Cole was appointed and will take on the position in the new term.

Miss Cole will be well known to many of you as our Year 5 Class Teacher. She has worked at Blue Coat Primary School for a number of years, after previously working at a school in Cheltenham. Miss Cole impressed us with her drive and ambition for all children at Blue Coat to achieve as highly as possible. She will work with myself, Mr Knill and Mrs Phillips within the Senior Leadership Team to ensure that the school goes from strength to strength in pursuing our “future ready” vision.

School Events

There are always exciting events happening at Blue Coat and this week has been no exception! We have just returned from our Harvest Service, where the children performed songs, readings and poetry. It will certainly take a while for me to get the song “Conkers” out of my head! You were, as ever, incredibly generous with your donations for the food bank. The children were able to hear from Rob Carruthers, who explained the importance of the food bank and how donations help people in need. With shortages of stock and fuel as well as changes to benefit at this point in time, enabling the children to learn about the work that food banks do was particularly powerful.

We also invited Daxa Meta to school. She worked with our Milepost 2 (Year 3 and 4) children in performing a Hindu dance. The children loved the experience and also found out more about the Hindu religion and culture. Our curriculum is designed around the needs of our children and celebrating diversity is a major facet of this.

Symn Lane

May I remind you all to be thoughtful when you drop your children off at school. Parents have informed me that cars have been stopping outside the school gates at drop off and pick up times, which has made crossing Symn Lane difficult for children. I thank you for your ongoing support in keeping our children safe.

Marathon Man

We would like to express our huge congratulations to Mr Evans for completing the London Marathon. He smashed his 4 hour target by finishing in 3 hours 59 minutes and 47 seconds! We



are very proud of the way he demonstrated commitment, training and perseverance to us all. Mr Evans would like to express his gratitude for all of your support.

Financial Update and the PTA

I wrote in July's Headteacher's Report to Parents, that the school is now in a much better financial position than in previous years. We are now setting a balanced budget for this and future years. This has meant that the school is in a strong place to provide for the wider needs of our children. However, funding in schools is still very tight. In order for us to provide children with great experiences (like the visit from Zoolab) and resources to build a link between the class and home (tablets for Seesaw), we are reliant on the incredible work of the PTA. This is funded by all of your amazing generosity.

The PTA met earlier this week for our AGM. We discussed different events that we can run and what the school may need in future. I would like to thank everyone who came to the event and for Sally, Chris and the team for all of their support (and the cheese and wine)! It looks like it is going to be a wonderful year, especially as we are now able to run events following the lifting of many restrictions.

The PTA disco is coming up and I am polishing my dancing shoes in readiness! If you have a small amount of spare time, we would love for your help within the PTA. The fantastic events that we are all used to, can only happen because of people being an active part of the PTA. The chance to support our children's education, whilst having wine and cheese, is surely an opportunity too good to miss.

September 2022

We have recently undertaken two successful Open Day events for parents who have children due to join reception in September 2022. We are incredibly proud of Blue Coat Primary School and what we do for the children and families who join us. We shall also be running school tours with myself, for any parents who were not able to attend the Open Days. However, our best advertisers are yourselves. If you know of anyone who is looking to find a school for September 2022, please tell them about our fantastic school and community.

Glyn Jones,
Headteacher