



Blackfordby Newsletter



'By their fruits shall you know them.' Matthew 12:33



From Ms Benson - Headteacher

Welcome back to the spring term! I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break. It has been wonderful to see the children return to school refreshed, smiling, and ready for the exciting learning ahead.

This first newsletter of 2026 brings together important safeguarding information and updates to ensure all members of our school community feel informed, supported, and connected.

Thank you, as always, for your continued partnership.

Warm regards,

Parents Evening

These are Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th March. Bookings will go live later today via Arbor.



Safeguarding at Blackfordby – Our Ongoing Commitment

At Blackfordby Primary School, safeguarding remains at the heart of everything we do. Every child deserves to feel safe, valued, and supported, and we work tirelessly to ensure our school provides a secure and nurturing environment.

What We Do to Keep Children Safe

- A caring, safe environment where all pupils feel respected and able to express their concerns.
- Highly trained, vigilant staff who receive regular safeguarding and online safety training.
- Clear, consistent safeguarding procedures embedded into daily school practice.
- Strong partnerships with families and external agencies to ensure children receive timely and effective support.

Online Safety – How You Can Support Your Child at Home

Ensuring children stay safe online is a shared responsibility. With children using devices more than ever—for both learning and leisure—here are some helpful ways to support safe online behaviour:

1. Have regular conversations

Talk openly about what your child is doing online, who they interact with, and the games or apps they enjoy.

2. Set clear boundaries

Agree on screen-time limits, discuss suitable platforms, and consider keeping devices out of bedrooms overnight.

3. Use parental controls

Most devices, apps, and internet providers offer settings to manage content, screen time, and privacy.

4. Check age ratings

Many social media platforms (e.g. Snapchat, Instagram, TikTok) require users to be 13+. Games also carry PEGI ratings to indicate suitability.

5. Talk about safe sharing

Remind children not to share personal information, including photos in school uniform or location details.

6. Encourage kindness online

Discuss how to behave respectfully online and what to do if they see unkind messages or experience online bullying.

7. Help them create secure passwords

Encourage strong, private passwords they do not share with friends.

8. Stay informed

Trusted websites such as the NSPCC, Childnet, and UK Safer Internet Centre offer excellent guidance.



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Operation Encompass – Supporting Our School Community

Our school continues to work in partnership with Leicestershire Police through Operation Encompass. This initiative ensures that schools are notified—before the start of the next school day—when a child has been involved in or exposed to a domestic abuse incident.

This early sharing of information enables our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Alison Benson, to offer timely, confidential support to affected pupils and families.

If you would like to know more about Operation Encompass or speak to our safeguarding team, please contact the school office. Our door is always open.

February

- Friday 13th - Inset Day
- Monday 16th - Friday 20th - Half Term
- Thursday 26th - Scootability - Year 2 - Details to follow

March

- Tuesday 3rd - Parents Evening
- Wednesday 4th - Parents Evening
- Tuesday 10th - School Nurse in for Height & Weight Measurement's - Details to follow
- Thursday 26th - Youth for Christ Assembly
- Friday 20th - Festival of Words - Author Visit
- Friday 27th - Last Day of Term



April

- Monday 13th - School Reopens

May

- Monday 4th - School Closed - Bank Holiday
- Monday 25th - Friday 29th - School closed - May Holiday