



September News Update

Friday, 12th September 2025

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to everyone for this first news update of the school (and nursery) year!

As you may have seen, the school has grown since the last news update, and we are all very proud and very excited that we now include a nursery!

The Blandford Children's Centre Nursery officially became a part of the school on Monday, 1st September and is now known as Archbishop Wake Nursery.

In addition to this, the school also officially took over the management of the after-school provision, Oscars. This is now part of the school's wraparound care offer and is officially known as Archbishop Wake CE Primary School Wraparound Care and Holiday Club.

As one might expect, with a lot of changes taking place, there are always minor issues and teething problems which we are working hard to resolve as we move forward together. Your help with this is invaluable, as sometimes we don't know what we don't know - please contact the school if there is anything we need to know to make the transition as seamless as possible. Please contact the school in the normal ways. If your question is specifically about the nursery, there is a new email address you can use: nursery@archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk¹.

Please be assured we will do everything to get back to you as soon as possible.

Breakfast Club and Wraparound Care

You can now book your child into both the school breakfast club and the wraparound care (after school). Both of these can be booked through Arbor.

Please note that before booking, you **must read the terms and conditions** and then confirm before being allowed to book your child.

All details can be found on the following page:

<https://www.archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk/breakfast-club-and-oscars>.

Stop and Drop...

Now we have the first few days under our belts and the new term is underway, please can we encourage everyone to use the 'Stop and Drop' system at the gates. In order to encourage the children to be independent and resilient, we are asking all parents/carers to part with their child(ren) at the school gate in the morning.

This develops independence and enables a calm and settled start in the classroom, where teachers will have organised start-of-the-day learning and activities.

Your help with this is greatly appreciated.

Contacting the school

If you need to get in contact with the school regarding your child (change of collecting adult, for example), please email the main school office (office@archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk²). Some emails are being sent to class email addresses and these may not be picked up or seen in time.

Thank you.

¹<mailto:nursery@archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk>

²<mailto:office@archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk>

Helping out

If you are free to support in school, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance. We are always looking for support with reading, and when we have trips and visits. Your help is always welcome!

Parking

Now we are back to routine, this is a reminder about parking in the school car park.

There is **strictly no parking** outside the bin store, which is opposite Local Food Links - this must remain free from parking as it is an emergency access route. There are several cones marking this area as well as signage.

In addition to this, please do not park in the disabled bay unless you have a blue badge. These bays are for everyone - not just the school and in the last week they have not been accessible due to cars parked there without a blue badge.

We will always encourage walking, scootering and cycling to school wherever possible - this helps alleviate the pressure on the car park, Black Lane and the neighbouring roads. It is also environmentally friendly and good for health and wellbeing.

Thank you for your support.

Diary Dates and Events

The Autumn Term is always a busy time, and there will be events, trips and visitors for children across the school over the coming months. Please make sure you keep an eye out for all in-app messages (through Arbor), the website, the calendar and emails. We will endeavour to let you know about all events and dates as soon as we can.

The school calendar can be found here³.

In the meantime, please see the information below:

Wednesday 24th September - Y6 River Trip to Delph Woods

Thursday 2nd October - Harvest Festival Service @ Blandford Forum Parish Church

Thursday 9th October - Year 5 trip to the Bovington Tank Museum

Wednesday 15th October - Class Worship: Dolphins (Y5)

Wednesday 22nd October - Year 4 iSingPop @ Salisbury Cathedral

³<https://www.archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk/calendar/?calid=2,3,4,5,6,7,8,1&pid=152&viewid=2>

Thursday 23rd October - Flu immunisation day (packed lunches only on this day)

Monday 27th October - Friday 31st October: Half-term break

Monday 3rd November - Inset Day - school closed for all pupils

Tuesday 4th November - All children return to school

Friday 7th November - Individual school photographs

Wednesday 12th November - Class Worship: Sea Otters (Y3)

Wednesday 26th November - Class Worship: Jellyfish (Y4)

Monday 1st December - Y6 Trip to the Houses of Parliament

Thursday 18th December - Christmas Service @ Blandford Forum Parish Church

Monday 22nd December - Friday 2nd December: Christmas break

Monday 5th January 2026 - Inset Day - school closed for all pupils

Tuesday 6th January - All children return to school

*As always, all dates are subject to change, but we will do our best to provide as much notice as possible.

I look forward to working with you and your families in the year ahead and during this exciting time for the school and everyone in its community.

Best wishes,

Mr Carter



Archbishop Wake
CE Primary School



Nursery Welcome!

My name is Lauren Root, and I'm thrilled to introduce myself as the Nursery Manager at Archbishop Wake Nursery!

It's a real privilege to be part of such a warm and vibrant setting. At Archbishop Wake Nursery, our ethos centres around creating a nurturing, inclusive, and stimulating environment where every child is encouraged to thrive.

We believe in the power of play, the importance of curiosity, and the strength of meaningful relationships between children, families, and staff. Our goal is to lay the foundations for confident, happy learners who feel safe, valued, and inspired. I look forward to getting to know you and working together to support your child's early years journey.

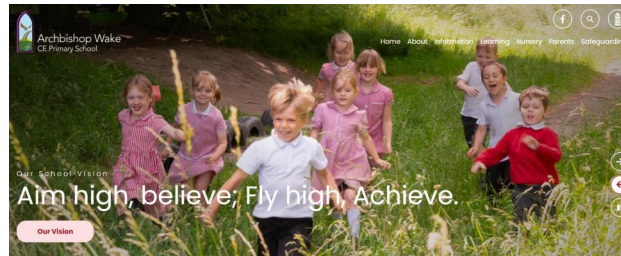


New Website!

You might have also noticed that the school now has a brand new website!

www.archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk⁴ is still the address you need to find the website, and we are working hard to ensure all information has transferred successfully.

The new website should also work more efficiently on mobile devices - the format is much more compatible with reading information on your mobile devices.



Uniform

The children have come back to school looking very smart! Thank you for your support.

This is just a reminder as we embark on a new school year...

- Red school sweatshirt/cardigan (or, alternative red jumper/cardigan) - ***strictly no other hoodies or jumpers***
- Black or grey trousers/skirt/shorts – no leggings or jeans
- White or red polo shirt (or white school shirt)
- **Black** sensible shoes - **no** high heels, trainers, or boots (black or white sandals may be worn in the summer, but children must still wear socks)
- White/black/grey/red socks or tights
- Summer dress – red check or stripe
- Baseball cap/summer hat for the summer term

*Please note: there is no requirement that the uniform has to have a logo – plain white or red polo shirts/sweatshirts/cardigans are also appropriate.

**Please name everything! This is especially important when attending clubs and changing clothes (please see the link below for 'Stikins')

PE Kit

PE kit can still be worn on the day a pupil has PE, but **only** for the days when PE takes place.

⁴<https://www.archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk>

- a plain white or red polo shirt (this can be the school polo shirt)
- black or blue PE shorts - strictly no skin-tight shorts
- appropriate trainers or plimsolls - no studded boots unless requested
- the school's red jumper or cardigan (the same as any other day) - ***strictly no hoodies or different coloured sweatshirts***
- in winter months, plain blue or black tracksuit bottoms / full-length black leggings

Many thanks for your support.

Friends of ABW - Welcome back, everyone!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to school, as well as extend a very warm welcome to our new families in the nursery! This update explains how the parents/carers and friends of ABW support the school and what we have been up to!

We recently received a grant of £1,500 from Tesco, which will be used to enhance our Breakfast Club activities. This funding will allow us to purchase new scooters (both 2-wheeled and 3-wheeled) and additional play equipment, such as skipping ropes, balls, and more. We expect these items to be delivered within the next month, so stay tuned for updates!

In another exciting development, our brand-new sports equipment has just arrived. This was provided by the 'Friends' and will enhance our already thriving sports curriculum.

Please mark your calendars for our upcoming meetings on September 16th, October 14th, and November 11th, all at 6:30 PM at the school. We are also exploring the option for virtual attendance at the next meeting. Plus, we'll have cake and hot drinks—what could be better?

Join us for our annual fundraising quiz on Friday, October 3rd, at 7:00 PM at The Royal British Legion in Blandford. Last year's event was a huge success, including staff teams from ABW and The Blandford School competing against each other.

We would love to see you at our meetings and hear your ideas for further fundraising and spending, which will benefit all the children, from nursery, right through to our Year Six children!



Flourishing @ ABW

A new academic year always brings fresh hope, renewed optimism and a positive outlook for the year ahead.

This year, we will need everyone's help and views on continuing to strengthen and develop the school and enable flourishing for everyone. From the youngest children in the Nursery, through to all adults, staff and community involved in the school.

As you know, the school has a vision which has a biblical foundation from Isaiah Chapter 40 v31 - *“Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not faint.”*

The children also know the strapline, '**Aim high, believe; Fly high, achieve**' very, very well.

It is true that the school's Rainbow Values have been in existence for a very long time.

With the recent changes to the school and looking ahead to the future, it is time to revise and think about the values and ensure they still reflect the school and what we wish to achieve for our community in the future.

In the coming weeks, you will be invited, along with the children in school and nursery, to give your views about the current seven rainbow values and decide if we are going to make any changes as we move into this exciting new era for the school. More details about how you can get involved will follow soon...



Harvest 2025

It is that time of year when we give thanks for all that we have, and one way we can do this is by supporting others.

Our Harvest service will be held at the Blandford Forum Parish Church on Thursday, 2nd October, and we warmly invite you to join us for this special celebration.

We will be accepting donations, which will go to the Blandford Food Bank, which is called 'Nourish'. The main donation time will be Monday 29th, through to Thursday 2nd, but you can always drop a donation in the box which sits in the main entrance. All donations are gratefully received.

Thank you, as always - we are always proud to support our wider community whenever we can.

For more details about Nourish, please use this link⁵.

Working days: Monday-Thursday

Nourish

United Reformed Church, Salisbury Street,

Blandford Forum DT11 7PY

Mobile: 07936643542

⁵<https://faith-works.org.uk/locations-across-dorset/nourish-blandford/>



Nourish
A community larder
and food bank

HARVEST FESTIVAL!



- Tinned Meat
- Tinned Vegetables
- Soup
- Pasta Sauce
- Tinned Fish
- Beans
- Jam/Marmalade
- UHT Milk
- Fruit Squash
- Pasta
- Toilet Roll
- Shampoo

Thank you for restocking our empty shelves!





Are your details up to date?

It's that time of year to ensure that all of the details held by the school are up to date.

Can you please ensure that all contact details (mobile numbers in particular) are up to date?
This is important information, especially if needed in case of emergency or illness.

If you have any difficulty or have any questions, please contact Mrs Knight in the main school office. Your help with this is appreciated.



Arbor

Adult Learning

Skills and Learning courses in Blandford

Skills and Learning is the Adult Education provider for Dorset and is affiliated with Dorset County Council.

The courses offered are a great way to either improve your career prospects to make new friends through leisure activities,

Courses which broadly develop career and employability skills are free for learners earning less than £25,000, but those on higher incomes will pay a fee.

Courses which broadly relate to learning for wellbeing are charged for, but learners earning below £19,995 pay a 40% concessionary fee.

The courses available in Blandford can be seen by using your phone to read in the QR code below and then following the suggested internet link.



Contact Details

Archbishop Wake CE Primary School and Nursery

Black Lane

Blandford Forum

Dorset

DT11 8SW

01258 453 120

nursery@archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk⁶

Facebook: Search for 'Archbishop Wake CE Primary School'

Visit us on the web at <https://www.archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk/>



Archbishop Wake
CE Primary School



Archbishop Wake
Nursery



Diocese of Salisbury
Academy Trust
'Beyond expectations for all of God's children'

⁶<mailto:nursery@archbishopwake.dsat.org.uk>