

Festive Term
Newsletter 2025

Blue Sky Learning

We believe in the achievable.



This Term Activities

We have had a very busy and festive term at Blue Sky Learning. The pupils have taken part in lots of creative and hands-on learning activities, and we wanted to share some of the highlights with you.

In our Arts and Crafts sessions, pupils enjoyed making Christmas decorations. They created paper cup grabbers and paper chain snowmen, and worked hard to design decorations that have made our classrooms look very festive and bright. These activities helped them to develop their fine motor skills, creativity and confidence.

In science, pupils investigated geodes. They learned how geodes are formed in molten rock and in sedimentary rock. They found out that hot liquid rock can harden and trap gases and water vapour inside, which later form crystals.

Pupils also learnt about the different layers of soil. They talked about what each layer is made from and then used different materials to recreate the layers in a practical activity. This made the learning more visual and easier to understand.

As part of a design project, pupils had lots of fun designing and making a model of Big Ben. This encouraged planning, problem-solving and creativity, as well as helping them learn more about an important British landmark.

In English, pupils were working on the correct use of inverted commas in direct speech. They practised writing sentences that showed when a character was speaking. They also learnt about apostrophes and how to use them correctly in their writing. These lessons helped to improve their writing skills and confidence.

As part of our Thrive approach, pupils create life-sized self-portraits. This activity supported emotional expression, self-awareness and self-esteem. It was lovely to see each pupil's personality reflected in their work.

It has been a wonderful term full of learning, creativity and festive fun. We are very proud of all the hard work the pupils have put in and the progress they have made.



NEW FEATURE: THRIVE TIPS IN EVERY NEWSLETTER

We are pleased to let you know that, starting this term, we will be including a Thrive Tip in each of our newsletters.

These short, practical ideas are designed to support the emotional development and wellbeing of our pupils both in school and at home.

THRIVE TIP

✨ DECEMBER REFLECT & CELEBRATE

December is a lovely time to pause and look back on the year together. Try sitting with your child and talking about what they are proud of – this could be something big, like settling into a new routine, or something small, like being kind to a friend or trying a new activity.

Noticing and celebrating these moments helps children see their own progress, strengths and skills. You might like to write down a few “proud moments”, make a little list, or even draw them together.

This can become a positive reminder they can look back on when things feel tricky. Taking time to reflect in this way boosts self-esteem, builds resilience and helps children feel more hopeful and prepared for the year ahead. ❤️



🎄 Festive Visit to the Garden Centre

This term, our pupils enjoyed a wonderful festive trip to Whitehall Garden Centre. The visit was filled with bright Christmas lights, cheerful displays, and a range of animals for the children to see. There were lots of joyful moments as pupils explored the different festive scenes, asked questions, and engaged with the activities on offer.

The experience helped to build confidence, curiosity, and communication skills as pupils moved through the displays together. The magical Christmas atmosphere created plenty of excitement, and it was lovely to see how much they enjoyed discovering each part of the garden centre.

Trips like this support our pupils' learning beyond the classroom and help them develop social skills, independence, and real-world awareness. It was a truly memorable visit full of fun, wonder and festive spirit.



Celebrating Our Headteacher's Achievement

We are delighted to share some exciting news with our Blue Sky Learning community. Our Headteacher has been Highly Commended in the Small Business Awards!

This recognition highlights her dedication, leadership and commitment to creating a nurturing, supportive environment for all our pupils. Her hard work and passion help shape the positive, caring ethos we are so proud of in our provision.

Stay in Touch Through Our Social Channels!



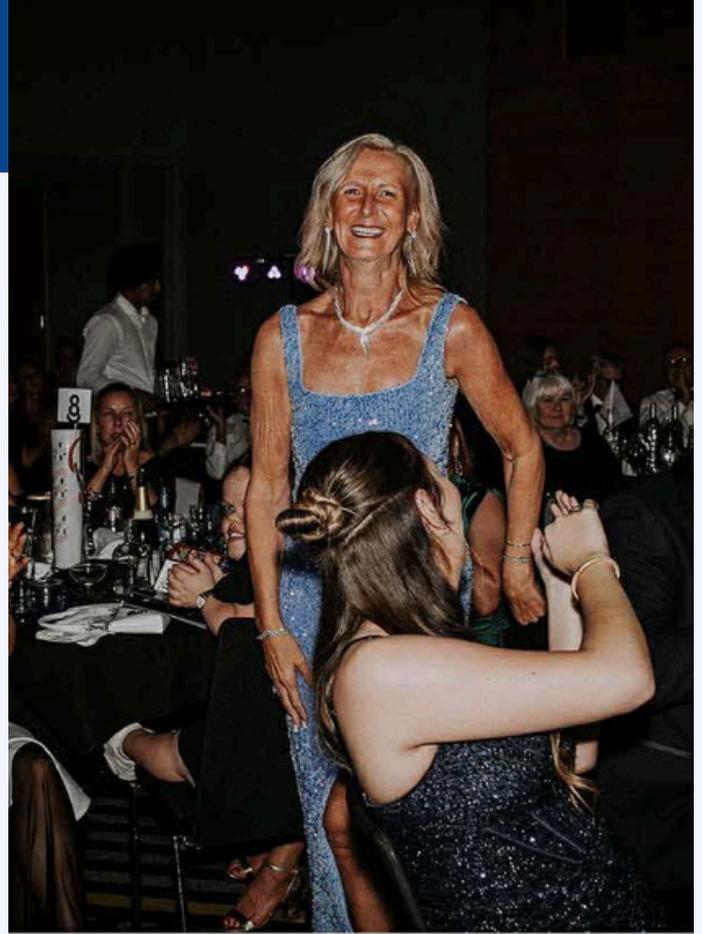
We're very grateful that we have permission to share images of our children. It helps us showcase the work we do, celebrate our achievements, and allows our community to see the impact of our programs.

Your support allows us to thrive and continue providing meaningful experiences for every child.

We've been busy developing our social media presence and are excited to share that our new Instagram page is now live! Follow BSL Education to keep up to date with our latest news and support the work we do.



We continue to embed the Thrive Approach in all our work. This approach helps us support children's emotional development, build strong relationships, and create a positive, nurturing environment. By focusing on individual needs, we ensure every child feels understood, supported, and empowered to thrive.



*"Play is the highest form of research."
Albert Einstein*



CALNE TOWN COUNCILLOR VISIT

HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE
OF ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

We were delighted to welcome a Calne Town Councillor, Cllr Aitch King, to Blue Sky Learning this term.

During the visit, the councillor had the opportunity to tour our provision, and see firsthand the supportive, nurturing environment we work hard to create for our pupils.

The councillor spoke about the vital role Alternative Provision plays within the community, especially in supporting young people who may not thrive in traditional school settings. They recognised the importance of creating safe, personalised learning environments where pupils can rebuild confidence, develop key skills, and experience success at their own pace.

Their visit highlighted the growing awareness and appreciation of the essential work carried out by APs across the region. It also reinforced the positive impact that collaboration between local authorities and educational providers can have on children and families.

We are proud to share the work we do and grateful for the continued support from our local community and representatives.

A Kind Reminder to Parents and Guardians

Please do not send children to school if they are unwell.

This includes cases of high temperature, sickness, or diarrhoea.

Keeping children at home when ill helps them recover fully and prevents the spread of infection to others.

Scan the QR code below for clear guidance on common illnesses and absence times.



SWINDON AP! NEW!

We are now finalising the last details and are hopeful that we will be operating our new Alternative Provision (AP) in Swindon from the beginning of next year.

This new site will allow us to extend our services and reach more children who can benefit from our tailored support.

We have also successfully secured a tender in Swindon Borough, a significant achievement that reflects the trust the community and local authorities place in our work.

This expansion is a huge step forward for us. It will enable our experienced team to bring innovative learning approaches, therapeutic support and a nurturing environment to even more children.

We are proud to be growing and to continue making a real difference in the lives of the children and families we serve.



Message from Headteacher

As we come to the end of this festive term, I would like to take a moment to thank all our pupils, families, and staff for their incredible hard work and support throughout the year. It has been a term filled with growth, creativity, and many moments of joy across our provision.

I wish all our families a peaceful, joyful Christmas and a well-deserved break.

Warm regards,
Kirsty Burridge Head Teacher

Important Dates

Start of term 3 Monday 5th January 2026

End of term 3 Friday 13th February 2026

Start of term 4 Monday 23rd February 2026

End of term 4 Friday 27th March 2026

If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call.
01249 811 736





Blue Sky Learning Calendar 25/26

September 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
38	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
39	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
40	29	30					

October 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40			1	2	3	4	5
41	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
42	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
43	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
44	27	28	29	30	31		

November 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44						1	2
45	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
46	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
47	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
48	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

December 2025							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
51	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
52	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
1	29	30	31				

January 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
1				1	2	3	4
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
3	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
4	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
5	26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5							1
6	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9	23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9							1
10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
12	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
13	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
14	30	31					

April 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
14			1	2	3	4	5
15	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
16	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
17	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
18	27	28	29	30			

May 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
18					1	2	3
19	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
22	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
26	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	29	30					

July 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
27			1	2	3	4	5
28	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
29	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
31	27	28	29	30	31		

August 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
31	31					1	2
32	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
33	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
34	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
35	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Bank holidays 2025/26 UK

25 December '25	Christmas Day	1 January '26	New Year's Day	4 May '26	Early May Bank Holiday
26 December '25	Boxing Day	3 April '26	Good Friday	25 May '26	Spring Bank Holiday
		April '26	Easter Monday	31 August '26	August Bank Holiday

Term Dates

Term 1 - 01/09/25 ~ 22/10/25	Term 2 - 3/11/25 ~ 19/12/25	Term 3 - 05/01/26 ~ 13/02/26
Term 4 - 23/02/25 ~ 27/03/25	Term 5 - 13/04/26 ~ 22/05/25	Term 6 - 01/06/26 ~ 22/07/26

Training Days
 Holidays
 Bank Holiday