



Blandford St. Mary
CE Primary School

'Let all that you do be done in love'

'Love, Hope, Respect, Perseverance, Responsibility'

Headteacher: Mrs Rosaleen Beaver PGCE BA (Hons)

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Friday 28th February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Remembering Bill Erskine

As many of you will know, we sadly lost Bill Erskine earlier this year. Bill was a much-loved and dedicated member of our school community, giving countless hours to our Friends of School and continuing to volunteer in our school long after his son had moved on to secondary school. His commitment to our school library—tidying, scanning books, and ensuring it was a welcoming space for our children—was truly invaluable, and he will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

I had the privilege of attending Bill's service, where it was shared that anyone wishing to make a donation in his memory could do so to either, 'Help for Heroes', in recognition of his career in the army, or 'Cancer Research UK'.

As a school, we want to honour Bill's memory in a way that reflects his kindness, dedication, and love of books. In partnership with our Friends of School, we will be hosting a special Afternoon Tea in our school hall on World Book Day to raise funds for these two worthy charities. We warmly invite parents and carers to join us in the school hall from 1:45pm to enjoy a hot drink and some cake or biscuits.

During this time, we will also be holding our Book Character Parade- a wonderful opportunity for children to showcase their costumes and celebrate their favourite book characters. The parade will begin at 2:00pm with Reception, with each year group taking turns to walk through the hall, finishing with Year 6 at around 2:50pm. Of course, any child not wishing to 'walk the catwalk', will not be made to do so.

We hope you will be able to join us for this special event to support two worthy causes close to Bill's heart.

Kindest regards

Mrs Rosaleen Beaver
Headteacher

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