

Newsletter

11th March - Year 2 class assembly 9.15am. Parent/Carer invited
13th March - Sports Relief £1 donation to wear sports gear
16th March - Year 5 to visit Washington Library
20th March - Year 1 to visit Captain Cook Musuem
27th March - Nursery and Reception to visit Seven Stories
25th March - Easter Production 9.15am (Year 5 parents/carers invited to attend)
1st April - Easter Bake off
2nd April - Easter bonnet parade for Nursery and Reception 9.15 am
3rd April - Last day in school
20th April - School reopens summer term
22nd April - Year 4 to visit Gibside (residential)
28th April - Year 2 to visit Grace Darling Museum Bamburgh
29th April - Year 3 to visit Wallington Hall
6th May - Year 1 class assembly 9.15am
7th May - Community room used as polling station
7th May - Year 3-4 VE day celebration 2pm (Parents invited to attend)
8th May - Bank Holiday School Closed
11th May - SATS week - Breakfast club free for all Year 6 children
18th May - Nursery sports morning 9.15am
18th May - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 sports afternoon 1.30pm
19th May - Year 3,4,5,6 Sports afternoon 1.30pm
22nd May - School Closed - Inset Day
25th May - Half term holiday
1st June - School reopens
3rd June - Reception class assembly 9.15am
5th June - Year 3/4 Swimming Gala
5th June - Headteacher's coffee afternoon 2.15pm
8th June - Phonics screening week Year 1
8th June - Health and fitness week
11th June - Year 3 School nurse visiting-Healthy Eating
15th June - Year 3 and Year 4 to visit Gurdwara Temple
23rd June - Whole school summer event from 11.45am
25th June - Year 5 to visit Cragside
30th June - Year 6 Surfing at Tynemouth
10th July - Reports to parents/carers
13th July - Drop in for parents/carers 3.15pm
15th July - Year 6 leavers 5pm
17th July - Break up for summer holidays (last day in school)
1st September - School closed to children (**Inset Day**)
2nd September - School reopens

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



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Headteacher's Update

As the end of the spring term draws near, we have many things to look forward to. This includes our Easter assembly led by Year 5, our Easter Bake Off competition for Years 1 to 6 and Easter Bonnet Parade for Nursery and Reception children. All children have a school visit arranged either this term or summer term.

Any child that would like to enter the **Easter Bake Off** needs to design and bake a cake, biscuit or bread at home. The theme is simply Easter so everyone can be as creative as possible. All entries need to be brought to school at 9am on Wednesday 1st April. Mr Taylor, a co-opted governor, has kindly agreed to judge the competition for 2020. The school hall will open from 3pm on this day if you would like to purchase any cakes, biscuits or breads entered in the competition. Good luck to everyone!

I am delighted that we have been able to organise a four session **Forest School experience** for all children across school. This work, led by a qualified Forest School leader from Scouted, will take place in June. We will be developing personal and scientific skills in our school grounds linked to our Science and PSHE curriculum. The sessions will be completely funded by our fundraising events in school such as our Christmas Community afternoon, Headteacher's coffee afternoons and raffles at class assemblies. Further details will follow.

Enjoy the Easter holiday when it comes; we are all looking forward to lighter nights and warmer weather!

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

Headteacher

Attendance

The attendance figures this year from September is currently 95.1%. 51 children have achieved 100% attendance this year and 108 have achieved this term. Any child who is in school for the next 3 weeks will go into a prize draw to win vouchers. There will be winners from each key stage. The target is that every child achieves 97% attendance. A reminder that no holiday request can be authorised, however, for safeguarding purposes a leave of absent request form needs to be completed so school is aware of the whereabouts of your child. Fixed penalty notices are issued by Sunderland Council if children are absent from school due to holidays.

Newsletter

World Book Day

World Book Day 2020 was a huge success. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who supported with costumes and dressing a potato as a book character. The children and staff looked fantastic and the potatoes were very creative. It was very hard for Wendy our cook to pick the winners from each class.



We celebrated World Book Day in classes with activities, a book swap and a teacher 'shelfie' competition where children had to match the teacher to their book shelf. Children really enjoyed this and we had 4 winners who received bowling vouchers. They were Chloe and Lily (Y4) and Beaux and Lily (Y5).



British Science Week 2020 starts on 6th March to the 13th March. Over the course of the week, children will be taking part in a range of hands-on scientific investigative activities. They will have the opportunity to make their own choices to guide their learning. Please see the website for pictures of what the children have been up to.

Newsletter

The theme of World Book Day this year was 'Share A Million Stories'. We are trying to raise the profile of reading and encourage more children to read for pleasure and to enjoy being read to. To help us do this, we are arranging for classes to visit the Washington Library.

Children can sign up with their parents/carers to the library at any time for free. Additionally, we will be introducing some 'Snuggle Up With A Book' suitcases for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Children will be chosen to take a book suitcase home on a Friday to be returned on a Monday. Inside there will be a book and some treats to share with parents/carers as well as instructions on what should be returned to school. We hope you enjoy.



Year 6 visited Safety Works this week. They had a brilliant time and learnt about how to stay safe in the community. They took part in 5 different workshops where they found out about fire safety including hoax calls; first aid training where they learnt the recovery position; metro safety including where to stand when waiting for a train to arrive; road safety which covered using a pedestrian crossing and how to make the right choices when under peer pressure. Children had a great time and will discuss what they have learnt during their PSHEC lessons in the following weeks.

