

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016

12th October - Year 2 to visit Bamburgh Castle - bus leaving at 8.45 prompt
12th October - Year 3 to visit Oxclose Church
13th October - Year 2 to visit Oxclose Church
13th October - Year 1 to visit Alnwick Castle - bus leaving at 8.45 prompt
13th October - Year 6 to visit Eden Camp - bus leaving at 8.30 prompt
17th October - Be Safe, Be Fit, Be Happy week
17th October - Parent/Carer Consultations 3pm - 6pm
17th October - 20th October Book fayre in school
18th October - Parent /Carer Consultations 3pm - 5pm
18th October - RNLI visiting school
19th October - Harvest Festival 9.15am Year 1 parents/carers invited
20th October - Year 3 to visit Centre for Life
20th October - Anti Bullying Conference Washington School
24th October - 28th October - Half term
31st October - School closed Inset Day
1st November - School reopens for children
2nd November - Friendship Disco
3rd November - Year 4 to visit Oriental Museum Durham
8th November - Year 1 Phonics meeting for parents 3.30pm
9th November - Year 2 to visit Washington Library
14th November - Anti Bullying Week
15th November - Year 6 class assembly 9.15 am
18th November - Children in Need (cake sale)
18th November - Headteachers Coffee Afternoon 2.15pm
21st November - Movie night - whole school
2nd December - Christmas Fair 2pm - 4pm
5th December - Nursery & Reception to visit Art Centre to see Santa's Little Helper (am)
6th December - Nursery Christmas Singing 9.15am
7th December - Reception Christmas Production 9.15am and 2pm
8th December - Punctuation show Y1-Y6 pm
9th December - Year 1 & Year 2 Christmas Production 9.15am and 2pm
13th December - Year 5 & 6 Carol Service 2pm
15th December - Year 3 & 4 Carol Service 2pm
16th December - Christmas Dinner, Christmas jumper day
19th December - Reception, Year 1,2 & 3,4 Christmas Party
20th December - Nursery party am
20th December - Year 5 & 6 Christmas party pm
21st December - Last day of Autumn term 100% attendance lunch
9th January - School reopens Spring term

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue:2
Date: Oct 16

Headteacher's Update

We are now well in to the autumn term here at Blackfell. Thank you for supporting our Macmillan coffee morning last week. We raised £295 and everyone who attended enjoyed delicious cakes and refreshments donated by the school staff. We have so many further opportunities to involve families in the life of our school. All dates and planned events are on our school website and included in this newsletter.

At the beginning of the term our 'Meet the teacher sessions' were very well attended and feedback was very positive. You should have all received your invitations to Parent/Carer Consultations on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th October. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to see your child's work and discuss their progress with the class teacher. The book fayre will also be set up in the Breakfast club room. Please pop in after school with your child to have a look at the great selection of books on offer.

I recently interviewed our Year 6 children for a number of roles and responsibilities across school. These positions include Playtime Paramedics, Register Monitors, Assembly Technician, Librarians, Cloakroom Monitor to name a few. I was very impressed with the children's letters of application and their comprehensive answers in their respective group interviews. They have all made a fantastic start to their roles. Well done - you all are a credit to our school! Our house team challenges are once again proving a real incentive for our children to work with others across the school. The Bookworm Reading challenge will continue this year and has ensured much excitement as has our 'Class of the Month' attendance award. I am delighted that attendance for September was 97.9%. Our target for every child is 97% across the year - thank you for supporting us to achieve this.

We all hope that you have an enjoyable half term holiday when it comes.

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

Be Safe, Be Fit, Be Healthy Week and Sponsor Event

The week before the half term holiday, we will all be involved in a Be Safe, Be Fit, Be Healthy Week across the school. The children will have many opportunities to work on a range of activities such as internet safety, cooking and healthy eating, sporting events with a difference and we will be joined by a host of outside agencies and visitors to explore themes with the children. In addition we will be having a sponsored event linked to a class 'stepathon'. Mr Barrass will be sending out further details soon.

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Building Learning Power at Blackfell

The 5Rs; relationships, resilience, risk-taking, reflection and resourcefulness, underpin our values and ethos at Blackfell. They are at the heart of our work and support the children to develop into independent, successful learners. Our assemblies and every day school life are celebrated reinforcing these life long learning skills. We have decided to celebrate one of the Rs each half term. This half term it will be **Relationships**. At the end of the half term the children in every class will vote for a child that they think has consistently demonstrated or made significant improvements in that area. The children selected across the school will be invited with their parents and have a special afternoon tea with the headteacher and receive a special award and certificate. At the end of the academic year all those children who have been voted for by their peers will be rewarded with a special educational visit.



Health and Safety

Please ensure all children/toddlers are supervised at the end of the school day. Please refrain from allowing children to run up to the main school doors as these are electronic and open automatically. We do not want any accidents or children getting fingers jammed. Thank you for your co-operation.

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Anti Bullying Week

November will soon be here and once again we will be taking part in Anti - Bullying week. This year the date is week commencing 14th November and the theme will be 'Power for Good'. Mrs Hutchinson will be overseeing the week with the school council. Friendship discos will take place on Wednesday 2nd November.

Attendance

Our attendance for September was 97.9%. Each week the class with the highest attendance is rewarded with extra playtime. To date we have 181 children with 100% for this term and who are on track to receive an Italian themed lunch in December. Well done to class Year 3 who achieved the highest attendance for September. They will have a film and popcorn afternoon. Look out for the 100% attendance 'spot prize' in November for the first two weeks after half term!

Harvest Festival

We will be collecting food items at the school office for Harvest Festival from Wednesday 12th October. We would welcome any tinned/dried products (no nuts). All food donated will be given to the Washington food bank. Year 1 parents are invited into the assembly on Wednesday 19th October at 9.15 to hear the children sing.

Nissan Visit

Year 6 enjoyed a recent visit to Nissan. The children had a fantastic day learning about the Nissan brand and an insight into how car manufacturing works. A big well done to Katie McEvoy who designed the winning logo. She was presented with a lego set and goodie bag. Many thanks to Nissan for giving the children the opportunity and providing the transport. The visit inspired many children to want to work at Nissan in the future.

