

Newsletter

13th September - Road Safety Year 2
14th September - School Photographs
18th September - Welcome drop in session 3.30pm
19th September - Year 6 Open Evening at Oxclose Academy at 6pm
29th September - Headteacher's coffee afternoon - Macmillan coffee afternoon 2.15pm
2nd October - Meeting for Robinwood 3.30pm
5th October - Movie night (whole school) 3.15pm until 5pm
9th October - Years 3,4,5,6 maths workshop for parents 2.15pm or 4.00pm
10th October - Year 6 class assembly 9.15am
10th October - Year 1 and Year 2 Maths workshop for parents 3.30pm
12th October - Harvest Assembly Year 3 and Year 4 parents invited 2.15pm
16th October - Parent consultations 3pm-6pm
17th October - Parent consultations 3pm-5.15pm
17th October - Year 5 class assembly 9.15am
19th October - Year 6 to visit Eden Camp
23rd October - 27th October - Half term
30th October - Year 6 to visit Robinwood
6th November - Bikeability week Year 5
6th November - Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents 3.15pm
7th November - Nursery/Reception phonics workshop for parents 3.15pm
7th November - Year 2 assembly 9.15am
13th November - Anti Bullying Week
14th November - Year 3 class assembly 9.15am
14th November - Nursery/Reception maths workshop for parents 3.15pm
17th November - Children in Need - Disco arranged for children during afternoon
24th November - Non-uniform day - children bring a donation for Christmas fair
1st December - Christmas Fair
5th December - Nursery and Reception Christmas performance 9.15am
6th December - Nursery and Reception Christmas performance 9.15am
7th December - Nursery and Reception to visit Washington Arts Centre
11th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Nativity 2.15pm
12th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Nativity 9.15am
13th December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas performance
13th December - Year 1 and Year 2 to visit Tyne Theatre
14th December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Performance
15th December - Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day
18th December - Nursery and Reception Christmas Party (am)
18th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party (pm)
19th December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party (pm)
20th December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party (pm)
21st December - Non uniform day
21st December - Reward for 100% attendance for Autumn term
22nd December - Inset Day (School closed to pupils)
8th January - School reopens for Spring term

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue:1
Date: Sep 17

Headteacher's Update

Welcome back to the new academic year! We trust that you all had a relaxing summer and enjoyed spending time with your children. We are all delighted with the way the children have settled in to their classes and adjusted to new routines. Our new Nursery and Reception children have made a fantastic start and impressed us all with their enthusiasm for school. Welcome to Evie in Year 6 too! We are looking forward to seeing you all at our drop-in session on Monday 18th September 3.30-5.00pm. Please call in to meet your child's class teacher, hear all about the curriculum and see photographs of what the children have been up to since the start of the new term. If you can't make it, we will forward relevant information to you. My first Headteacher's coffee afternoon will be on Friday 29th September at 2.15pm in the main hall. This will support the Macmillan coffee events across the country. There will be cakes and a super 'green' hamper to win. Year 6 and the school council will be helping to organise this event. Please take time to visit our school website as it is a wealth of information! Our calendar is very busy once again and we are well prepared for the year ahead. We are looking forward to building on our many achievements and are looking forward to working in partnership with you all this year.

Julia Watkins

A Warm Welcome to Our New Starters



Following an induction period for Nursery and Reception children last week, we are delighted that they are now all settled into school. They have all enjoyed making new friends, exploring the enhanced learning environment both in and outdoors and learning new skills and experiences. The Reception class photo will be published in the Evening Chronicle Supplement on Friday 29th September.

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Reading



Our reading challenge will be continuing this year. In order to help your child improve their reading and comprehension skills we ask that you hear them read as often as possible. When they have read to you (for at least 10 minutes) please sign their book to say they have been practising their reading at home. It will be useful for your child if you could ask them questions about what they have just read to aid with comprehension skills. At school we will listen to your child read in guided reading sessions and comment in their reading diary to inform you what comprehension skills we have been working on together. Children will be given the chance to change their home reading book once a week if necessary. If your child has finished their book, it will be beneficial for them to read other books at home to encourage a breadth of reading and a love for books. For each week your child has their diary signed they will receive a sticker. This term your child needs 10 signatures to achieve the reading challenge. At the end of a term, each individual child who has enough signatures will receive a certificate and individual prize. Over the term, our house and vice captains will collect the winning team/teams from each class to see which of our house teams has done the best. At the end of the term, the house team with the highest percentage will receive a treat. Thank you for your continued support and please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Pupil Voice

This year our school council will be changing. To make sure there are opportunities for more children to be involved and share the pupil voice of Blackfell, we will be changing the representatives from each class termly. Our year 6 class will be deciding on a new name for the school council. Each half term, a different teacher will support the school council in a different exciting project, for example working with charities and fundraising, preparing for and making items for the Christmas Fair or helping to improve the school allotment. Children who wish to be their class representatives will have the opportunity this week (11th - 14th of September), to present to their class why they think they should be chosen. Two children will be voted for by their class and will work on two projects over their two half terms. We will be announcing the successful children in assembly on Friday 15th September. We look forward to hearing and sharing the children's ideas and successes over the next term.

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School Photographs

The school photographer will be in school on Thursday 14th September to take individual/class/sibling photos from Nursery through to year 6. If you have children who are not yet in school and would like a family photograph taken please come into the school hall for 8.30am.

Oxclose Academy

Year 6 parent/carers and children are invited to Oxclose Academy open evening on Tuesday 19th September at 6.00pm. There will be a presentation by the chair of governors and Headteacher followed by a tour of the school. Letters were sent out to parents last week with details of how to apply for a secondary place for September 2018. Applications need to be submitted by 31st October 2017.

School Sport

Through a high standard of PE teaching, the amount of extra-curricular PE offered and participation in inter and intra competitive sport, Blackfell have again been awarded the highest standard of gold through 'School Games'; we are proud to have achieved this for the fifth year in a row!

We are delighted that so many children want to participate in and represent Blackfell through competitive sport. As we don't like to disappoint children wanting to represent the school, we try to vary as many players as possible to compete for either the football team in the Washington district league or participate in one of the many Oxclose cluster competitions held throughout the academic year.

Music Lessons

If you are interested in your child learning a musical instrument please contact the school office. Dan Bovill comes into school every Tuesday to teach guitar and drumming. He also runs an after school club rock band if anyone is interested in joining. Mr Marshall also teaches brass, we have a number of instruments in school to loan. Music lessons are priced at £3.00 per lesson.

House Captains

Congratulations to our new Captains and Vice House Captains for 2017/2018.

Pine - James, Leah D - Captain

Benjamin, Leah B - Vice Captain

Willow - Byron, Rebecca-Captain

Sarab, Matilda - Vice Captain

Oak - Caleb, Gabrielle-Captain

Grace, Thomas C-Vice Captain

Maple - Holly, Louie - Captain

Emily B, Lexie - Vice Captain