

Newsletter

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/Carer consultations 3pm-6pm
17th October - Parent/Carer consultations 3pm-5.15pm
17th October - Year 5 class assembly 9.15am
19th October - Year 6 to visit Eden Camp - bus leaving at 8.40 prompt
23rd October - 27th October - Half term
30th October - Year 6 to visit Robinwood
2nd November - Year 5 to visit Centre of Life
6th November - Bikeability week Year 5
6th November - Year 4 to visit Oriental Museum
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
22nd November - Year 4 at Durham Cathedral Choral Performance
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 - Nasal Flu programme
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:2
Date: Oct 17

Headteacher's Update

The weather is changing and the darker nights are fast approaching, this tells us that we are well into the autumn term here at Blackfell. It was lovely to see so many of you at our Macmillan Coffee afternoon last Friday and I would like to thank you all for the kind donations for our cake sale. We raised the fantastic amount of £350 - our best to date! Well done to the school council for organising this event.

Our 'meet the teacher' sessions were well attended at the beginning of term. I'm sure that you found all of the information very informative. You will have received your invitation to our Parent/Carer consultations on Monday 16th and Tuesday 17th October. At this meeting you will be able to view your child's work and discuss their progress with the class teacher. Please ensure you have booked your time.

It was a pleasure to interview and appoint our Year 6 children to numerous roles of responsibility across school. They impressed me with their letters of application and comprehensive answers to questions during the interview process. They have all made an excellent start to their new roles that include playtime paramedic, ICT technician, librarian, cloakroom monitor and buddy to name a few!

Attendance and punctuality are a school priority. Well done to Year 3 who are the first winners of our attendance of the month; they will be rewarded with popcorn and a movie of their choice. A reminder that we aim for all children to have 97% attendance across the year to match our school target.

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

Best Wishes

Julia Watkins



Harvest Festival

Our Harvest Festival is on Thursday 12th October at 2.15pm (parents/carers of Year 3/4 are invited only). We are delighted that Canon Hopper, the new minister for Oxclose Church, will be joining us for our celebration. Once again we would be very grateful for any non-perishable donations for Washington Food Bank. They would be grateful for tinned foods, dried food such as pasta/rice and tea, coffee and preserves. Please send these to the school office.

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Safe and Responsible Use of the Internet and Social Media

At Blackfell Primary School we are committed to promoting the safe and responsible use of the internet and social media. Our curriculum covers many aspects of this across school however it is important that any activity is closely monitored by parent/carers. If your child has access to a mobile telephone or an electronic device of any kind, please refer to our document '**Blackfell Primary School safe and responsible use of the internet**' that can be downloaded from our school website under 'Online safety' or 'Parent letters' to support you. A reminder that many websites and social media sites such as YouTube, Instagram, Snapchat, Whatsapp and Facebook to name a small few, are specifically for children **over 13 years old**. We have a duty of care as a school and will therefore notify you if it comes to light that your child has any of these accounts or reports of inappropriate use of the internet. If you allow your child to have an online profile, further guidance and recommendations are included in the document.

Pupil Voice

We are proud to announce our school council for the Autumn term are Benjamin Cook and Layla Casey (Y6); Grace Anderson and George Beat (Y5); Layton Wood and Bo Atwill (Y4); Ben Anderson and Lyta Carr (Y3); Elijah Williams and Laura Brown (Y2) and Jaycee Day and Morgan Tetchner (Y1). This half term the school council are working with Miss Kitchen on some charity projects. So far they have baked cakes and helped raise money at the Macmillan Coffee Afternoon where they raised £350. Our next project will be fundraising for Children In Need, more details to follow after the holidays. After October half term, the children will be working with Miss Henderson to contribute towards the Christmas Fair. They will be coming up with new ideas for stalls, making items and refreshments and helping to sell.

On Tuesday 10th October the school council from Y4 and Y5 will be attending the Anti-bullying Conference with Mrs Hutchinson at Washington Academy.



Newsletter

News

From 15th October 2017, old pound coins will cease to have any value. Please do not send any into school or they will be returned.



My Child's Art

Don't forget to go to the website mychildsart.co.uk to have a look at the fantastic pieces of artwork your child has produced. There is a wide range of gifts/Christmas presents available to order.

Username: Blackfell

Password: wRgLO6wU



Any children who are on packed lunches are invited to stay for a Halloween lunch on Tuesday 31st October. Children will be served Devils fingers (chicken goujons with ketchup) or snakes with sheeps eyeballs (meatballs and tagliatelle) followed by collywobbles and eyescream (jelly and ice cream). Please send £2 in a named envelope.

Bookfair

We have our annual Book Fair in school from Monday 16th October to Thursday 19th October from 3.15—4.00pm. Please visit in the breakfast club room after school where the school librarians will be helping out.



Attendance and Punctuality

Our attendance for September was 96.1%. Each week the class with highest attendance is rewarded with extra playtime. To date we have 138 children with 100% attendance for the term who are on track to receive an activity afternoon. We have a spot prize in November - following the half term holiday, all children who are punctual and in school for the first two weeks will have their name put in a prize draw. There will be winners chosen from Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

School has been notified there will be gas main replacement works carried out in the Blackfell area over the next couple of weeks. Children will be attending a 'Play Safe Stay Safe' assembly ran by Northern Gas Network to explain how to stay safe when outside playing.