

# Newsletter

11th October - Harvest Festival  
12th October - Athletics festival  
15th - 18th October - Book fair in school until 3.45pm  
15th October - Parent/Carer consultations 3pm-6pm  
17th October - Parent/Carer consultations 3pm - 5pm  
18th October - Year 2 class assembly 9.15am  
22nd October - 26th October Half term  
29th October - 31st October Robinwood residential visit for Year 6  
1st November - Year 5 visit to Durham Cathedral  
1st November Year 4 visit to Durham Oriental Museum  
5th November - Year 5 Cycling Proficiency  
6th November - Maths Workshop for Nursery and Reception parents 3.15pm  
7th November - Remembrance Assembly 9.15am Year 1 parents invited  
9th November - Bullying Awareness workshop Year 5 and Year 6  
9th November - Year 2 to visit Discovery Museum  
9th November - Quicksticks hockey festival  
12th November - Anti Bullying Week  
13th November - Phonics workshop for Nursery and Reception parents at 3.15pm  
14th November - Year 6 class assembly 9.15am  
16th November - Non uniform - dress in blue and bring a donation for Christmas Fair  
20th November - RNLI in school  
23rd November - Futsal festival  
26th November - Year 1 visit to Newcastle Castle  
28th November - Year 4 class assembly 9.15am  
30th November - Christmas Fair from 1.30pm  
30th November - Girls futsal festival  
4th December - Reception nativity 9.15am  
5th December - Nursery sing a long 9.15am  
7th December - Nursery and Reception to visit Washington Art Centre to see Snow Play am  
10th December - Year 1 and Year 2 nativity 2pm  
11th December - Year 1 and Year 2 nativity 9.15am  
**12th December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Carol Service 2pm at Oxclose Church\***  
**13th December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Concert 9.15am\***  
14th December - Christmas lunch/Christmas jumper day  
17th December - Nursery/Reception party am  
17th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas party pm  
18th December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas party pm  
19th December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas party pm  
20th December - 100% attendance reward

**\*Please note change of date**

## Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue:2  
Date: Oct 18

### Headteacher's Update

We are now well in to the autumn term here at Blackfell. Thank you for supporting our Macmillan coffee afternoon last week. We raised £335 and everyone who attended enjoyed delicious cakes and refreshments donated by the school community. We have so many further opportunities to involve families in the life 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 15<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to see your child's work and discuss their progress with the class teacher.

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. Attendance for September was 96.3%.

Our new house team challenge 'Spelling Buzz' is proving a real incentive for our children to work with others across the school. The challenge will continue throughout the year to encourage all children to practise spelling to support their writing. At the moment Maple team are in the lead to be rewarded with a prize at the end of the term.

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

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

We are delighted to inform you that Miss Kitchen gave birth to a baby boy - Leo Paul. He weighed a healthy 9lb 7oz. Both mother and baby are doing well. We are looking forward to them both visiting school very soon.

# Newsletter

## News

### 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 will once again celebrate one of the Rs each half term. This half term it will be **Relationships**. The children voted for by their peers for someone they think has consistently demonstrated or made significant improvements in this area, will receive a cuddly elephant and special certificate at the end of the half term. All winners across the year will be invited to an educational visit at the end of the academic year.

### Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop

A member of staff from Durham University delivered an interactive and hands-on workshop about the Great Fire of London for Year 2. The children looked at a range of different sources historians used to learn about the fire. They also had the opportunity to re-enact imaginary scenes from London at the time and practise writing with quills. Year 2 are looking forward to share their learning at their class assembly on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October at 9.15am. Refreshments will be served to family and friends in attendance.



# Newsletter

## News

### Attendance

Our attendance for September was 96.3%. Each week the class with the highest attendance is rewarded with extra playtime. To date we have 129 children with 100% for this term and who are on track to receive a themed lunch. Well done to 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!

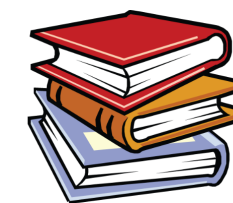
Can I remind parents of the importance of notifying school if your child is absent due to illness or is absent due to a holiday. No holidays in term time will be authorised however there is a special leave request form that needs to be completed for safeguarding purposes.

### 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 12th November and the theme will be 'Choose Respect'. Mrs Hutchinson will be overseeing the week with the school council. On Friday 16th November children can wear non uniform something blue to support anti bullying week and donate a prize for the Christmas Fair.

### Book Fair

Please support our book fair which arrives on 15th October until 18th October. Children will be given the opportunity as a class to visit the fair to view the books. Children who purchase a book will be given a raffle ticket with the chance to win a book of their choice.



### Harvest Festival

Cannon Hopper will be leading our Harvest Festival assembly on Thursday. Thank you to everyone who donated a food item for the Washington Food Bank.



### Robinwood Residential

Year 6 will be visiting Robinwood for 3 days when we return after half term. The dates for next year are confirmed for 27th-29th November. If your child is in Year 5 and would like to attend please return the consent and deposit by 2nd November.