

Newsletter

4th March - Parent/Carer Consultations 3pm - 6pm
5th March - Year 5 to visit Gibside
5th March - Infant agility Year 1
6th March - Parent/Carer Consultations 3pm - 5pm
7th March - World Book Day
11th March - Anti Bullying production Y2-Y6
12th March - Travelling book bus in school
13th March - Year 3 to visit to Durham University - Wear Roman experience
19th March - Year 1 to visit Preston Park
21st March - Year 3 class assembly 9.15am
25th March - Spring Discos
25th March - Ducks arrive in Nursery/Reception
3rd April - Easter egg competition Y1—Y6/Easter Parade Nursery and Reception
8th April - 22nd April - Easter holidays
2nd May - Community room used as polling station
13th May - SATs week
21st May - Year 4 to Gibside Residential visit
24th May - School closed to children - Inset Day
27th May - 31st May - Half term holiday
3rd June - School closed to children - Inset Day
4th June - Raising Aspirations/Inspiring the Future week
4th June - Year 6 to visit Safety Works
10th June - Phonics Screening week
17th June - Nursery sports morning/Be Fit, Be Safe, Be Healthy Week
17th June - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 sports afternoon
18th June - Year 6 to visit Sunderland University
19th June - Year 3,4,5, 6 sports afternoon
26th June - Winners of 5R school visit- Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
27th June - Winners of 5R school visit - Year 3,4,5,6
1st July - Transition week for Year 6 children
9th July - Summer picnic
11th July - Reports to Parent/Carers
17th July - Year 6 leavers assembly 5pm
19th July - Break up for summer holidays
2nd September - INSET DAY Closed to pupils
3rd September - School reopens

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue:7
Date: Mar 19

Headteacher's Update

We had a fantastic event last Friday afternoon. It is always lovely to see so many parent/carers being part of school life and supporting the many events we have across the school year. This term, my coffee afternoon was supported by our school council who shared their work from across the school. A raffle was held to support the charity MIND as we raised awareness for positive mental health. All members of the school council presented so well in front of a huge audience and told us all about our Healthy Eating initiative and changes that we have made. It was a pleasure to see families working alongside their children to make healthy snacks such as fruit kebabs and to hear our school choir perform. Thank you to everyone who attended and to Miss Stockport and Mr Whitfield who have led the school council so successfully this term. We raised £114 for this worthwhile cause.

As we head towards the end of the spring term, we have many things to look forward to. This includes World Book Day, Year 3 class assembly, School Discos, our Easter assembly, our annual egg decorating competition for Years 1 to 6 and Easter Bonnet Parade for Nursery and Reception children. The theme for this year's egg competition is 'a trip to the moon' to celebrate the first man to walk on the moon 50 years ago. All completed decorated eggs need to be brought to school at 9am on Wednesday 3rd April. Canon Hopper has kindly agreed to judge the competition for 2019. Good luck to everyone!

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our parent/carers consultations this week. You will have the opportunity to share your children's learning and receive your child's mid year report.

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

Young Writer Competition

The young writer competition is now in its fifth year and is organised and promoted by the Rotary Club of Washington. The competition is open to pupils aged 7—10 years old. Children can enter by writing a creative story on an A4 page or 500 words on a theme of their choice. The prizes available are overall winner £100, school winner £100 and runners up £50. Entries need to be handed in to their class teacher by April 26th. Winners will be notified by 24th May.

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We always love to hear about our children's efforts and experiences out of school. Over the half term holiday, Ellis and Isla Kerry made a visit to London and were invited by Sunderland's member of parliament, Sharon Hodgson, to represent Washington and visit the Houses of Parliament and House of Lords. They were lucky enough to be there on a special day when the Prime Minister Question Time was taking place and they were able to see the speaker of the house.

Big Battery Hunt

We are taking part in a nationwide recycling challenge in school. Children have been given a Duracell box which can be filled with old batteries from home. Once filled the boxes can be emptied into the battery recycling unit which is situated in the main school entrance. Once this is filled we will arrange to have this collected and school will have the chance to win prizes and certificates for the children. The challenge will run until 20th May.



Parent Governor

We currently have two parent governor vacancies. A governor is expected to contribute to the strategic discussions at meetings, hold senior leaders to account by monitoring the school's performance and ensure high standards of achievement for all children in the school. If you would like any further information on the role of a governor, please contact Mrs Watkins or Linda Jobson, Governors clerk on 0191 7070125 ext 4.

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Year 6 visit to Nissan

Last week, Year 6 enjoyed a visit to Nissan, Sunderland. Children were able to learn more about the local industry and the cars which are manufactured in our area. Children found out about the origin of Nissan and its Japanese background. They were able to explore the production lines and the different work which is needed to build the vehicles on site. Children enjoyed a tour around the Nissan training centre, observing fork lift trucks and robotic hands. Children also had a go at carrying out some of the skills needed to create cars including screwing and hammering. The class were inspired by their visit and many of them ended the day wanting to become Nissan employers themselves.



Sport

After Easter swimming lessons will change from George Washington Primary to Washington Leisure Centre. The decision has been made to support our Healthy School Initiative, facilities on offer and value for money and to support the decreasing school budgets. Children will walk to and from the Leisure Centre - this will support our aim and expectation that all children participate in two hours of physical activity every week. All children are required to swim 25m by the end of their time in primary school. We are encouraging as many children to reach this goal as early as possible. At the end of every term children will be assessed and swimming groups reviewed. Year 4 will start on Wednesday 24th April. Further details and arrangements will be sent out to Y4 parents next week.

Well done to Sadie, Alecia, Ollie, Ben, Aaron and Dan from Year 4 who represented the school at Silksworth Puma Centre in the Hockey Final. The team had great fun and came 2nd in the heat.

If your child is interested in trying any new sports or wanting to join a club away from school, please visit www.sportsthewinner.com/washington-sports-hub. Here you will find all the information you need.