

Newsletter

Autumn Term 2016

13th September - Florence Nightingale to visit Year 2
14th September - Walkwise begins in Year 2
15th September - School Photographs
19th September - Welcome drop in sessions 3.30pm - 5pm
21st September - Student Accident Prevention to visit Year 6
23rd September - School Council Elections
26th September - Year 5 cycling proficiency
30th September - Year 6 to visit Nissan
30th September - Headteacher's Coffee afternoon 2.15pm
3rd October - Fairytale character to visit Year 1
6th October - Year 5 to visit Centre of Life
7th October - Deposit due for Derwent Hill
12th October - Year 2 to visit Bamburgh Castle
13th October - Year 1 to visit Alnwick Castle
13th October - Year 6 to visit Eden Camp
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
19th October - Harvest Festival 9.15am Year 1 parents/carers invited
20th October - Year 3 to visit Centre for Life
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
14th November - Anti bullying week
15th November - Year 6 class assembly
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
6th December - Nursery Christmas Singing 9.15am
7th December - Reception Christmas Production 9.15am and 2pm
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
21st December - Last day of Autumn term 100% attendance lunch
9th January - School reopens Spring term

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue:1
Date: Sep 16

Headteacher's Update

Welcome to our first newsletter of this 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. This week you will receive your invitation to our 'Meet the Teacher' drop in sessions. At these sessions you will have the opportunity to meet your child's teacher, share the curriculum overview for the term, see your child's classroom and view photographs of their first couple of weeks in school. Please complete the return slip by Friday so we can ascertain numbers. If you can't make it, we will forward any information to you. My first Headteacher's Coffee Afternoon is Friday 30th September at 2.15pm. I hope as many as you as possible will be able to join me. Our calendar is very busy once again. All dates for the academic year are shown on our school website and we will continue to keep you updated of further events added.

We are all 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, 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. Reception class photograph will be printed in the Evening Chronicle on 30th September so please reserve your copy.

Newsletter

News

Attendance Initiative

It is really important that children attend school regularly. We aim for every child to have at least 97% attendance and above. Last academic year our overall attendance was 96.6%. Once again we will be rewarding attendance over the year in a number of ways. Attendance is celebrated every Friday in our Celebration Assembly. The class with the highest weekly attendance receives a certificate of achievement and will also be rewarded by an extended playtime during the following week. We will continue to present class of the month termly rewards. Children with 100% attendance will be rewarded with a gold certificate and be treated to a VIP lunch in school served by the Headteacher and school staff. This term (from September to the end of term) the VIP lunch will be Italian. Children who have attendance of 100% for the whole academic year will be part of a 'Bowling Bonanza' on the very last day of term (21st July). This includes a trip to local bowling alley with snacks and a drink. In addition to this, the class with the highest attendance for the month will receive a surprise treat. We will have a number of spot week prizes for attendance throughout the year to celebrate. We understand there are times when your child may be unwell and can not attend school, please contact the school office at the beginning of the day so that attendance registers can be accurate and updated for safeguarding purposes. If your child has a medical appointment, please ensure that the letter or appointment card is brought to school. Holidays during term time can not be authorised except in exceptional circumstances as agreed by the Headteacher and Chair of Governors.

Any unauthorised absence will be reported to the Attendance Team in line with Sunderland Authority's policies and procedures. This may result in a fine. Please contact the school office with any queries about attendance or with any questions or concerns.

House Captains



Maple



Oak



Pine



Willow

Congratulations to house captains and vice captains who will lead their house team in many activities and initiatives this academic year.

Newsletter

News

Football Tickets

We are delighted that Sunderland AFC has invited school to take advantage of their popular school fundraising initiative for a home league game at the Stadium of Light. You have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the Sunderland v Crystal Palace on Saturday 24th September. The price of tickets (one adult and one child is only £20, additional tickets can be purchased for £10 each). If you would like tickets please contact the office by 16th September.

Reading Challenge

This academic year we will be continuing with our reading challenge and team challenge. Please encourage your child to read as much as possible and continue to sign their reading diaries weekly. The school council will be helping pick the rewards. Your child needs 10 signatures to receive their prize this term. Washington Library will be joining us in Celebration Assembly on Friday to present rewards to children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge.

School Council

Election campaigns begin next week for children who want to represent their class on the school council. This year, following campaigns and speeches, classes from Year 1-Year 6 will vote for a boy and girl to represent them at meetings throughout the year. Elections take place on Friday 23rd September and all councillors will be presented with badges in assembly the following week. Duties this term include supporting our Harvest Festival, Anti Bullying Week activities, visiting other schools, getting the views of children, ideas to improve school even further, helping to run the KS2 tuck shop and helping to organise our Christmas Fair.

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.

School Places

If you know anyone who is looking for a school place we currently have spaces in our Nursery, Year 2 and Year 3 classes.

Cycling Proficiency

Year 5 will be taking their cycling proficiency week commencing 26th September. Please provide your child with a helmet and ensure their bike is road worthy. If children do not live local they can leave their bikes in the main school hall throughout the week.