

# Newsletter

## Home Learning

Should your child have to self-isolate, meaning a period of sustained absence, the school will provide timetabled learning for them to complete at home. Home learning resources on our website were used well last term and a similar system will be used again. However, there will also be higher expectations of how much your child will do each day. This will be appropriate to the age of the child and any additional needs. The general principles are outlined below:

- Home learning will be provided daily which will include a Maths activity, an English activity and another subject such as History, Science, Art etc.
  - Teaching videos will be provided and, across the week, there will be learning in different areas of the school curriculum.
  - We will be asking that the children send their work back to school so that the teacher can check the learning and provide feedback as necessary.
- You will be able to request paper copies of the learning if you have no access to the internet.

We will be using Microsoft Teams as a platform for setting and receiving work. This can be accessed from any computer, tablet or smartphone. Your child will have an individual username and login: the login details, as well as those for Timestables Rockstars, Numbots and Purple Mash, can be found in your child's home reading log on a laminated card to keep at home. This will be sent out next week.

Please do not hesitate to contact school should you require any further information or support.

## Admissions to Reception and Secondary School 2021

Children in our current Nursery and Year 6 have received a letter from school admissions to apply for places for September 2021. Please ensure these are completed and returned to the school admissions team or alternatively you can apply online at [sunderland.gov.uk](http://sunderland.gov.uk) website. The deadline for Reception 2021 is 15th January 2021 and Secondary school is 31st October 2020. Do not miss the deadline as this impacts on your allocation of places.

# Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



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## Headteacher's Update

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school. A special welcome to all our new children and families that have joined us. We are all delighted with the way the children have settled in to their classes and adjusted to new routines. All children have made a fantastic start to the new academic year and impressed us all with their enthusiasm for school.

We all understand that things will be very different this year but want to assure you that we still are very much a community. Although we are unable to allow gatherings and unlimited access to the school, we are here to support and work together for the positive outcomes for all of the children.

I hope that you have all received your invitation for your child's parent/carer consultation over the next few weeks. The class teacher will be telephoning parent/carers to introduce themselves, share how your child has settled into new routines and what they will be learning this term. With your appointment time, the teacher will be sending home a piece of work that your child is very proud of from their new class.

We love to share and celebrate all children's achievements both in and out of school. Unfortunately, at the present time we are unable to host large gatherings including whole school assemblies so we have been carrying them out virtually! Monday is our whole school celebration assembly. Each week the class teacher chooses one child to speak about and share their achievements and qualities. They are presented with a special certificate and our stars of the week names are shared on our school website.

Class pages on our school website show photographs of what the children have been up to and are updated weekly. Please take a look as everyone has been very busy.

### Birthday 'shout outs' for September

**Reception** Amelia, Sienna, Oliver  
**Year 1** Oliver, Robyn, Isla  
**Year 3** Jack, Lana  
**Year 4** Lydia  
**Year 5** Nathan  
**Year 6** Daniel, Ollie, Alecia

We are looking forward to building on our many achievements and to working in partnership with you all this year.

Best wishes  
Julia Watkins

# Newsletter



## Anti-Bullying

We would like to share our good news with you all. Just before the summer holidays we were awarded the Platinum Anti-Bullying Charter Mark Award from the local authority which is the highest award you can achieve. The assessment for the Platinum Anti-Bullying Charter Mark was carried out by the Anti-Bullying coordinator from the local authority who assessed the evidence and presentation we entered. We are extremely proud of our achievements linked with Anti-Bullying and the award supports and celebrates the super work that happens throughout everyday within our school. Throughout the coming year we will continue to work alongside our Anti-Bullying Team and champions to ensure that the good work continues. A big thank you to all.

## New Starters

A big welcome to our Nursery and Reception children who have all made a super start to the new school year. All children have settled well into school and our daily routines. They have all enjoyed getting to know each other and are forming some lovely friendships. The children have been having super fun exploring their new indoor and outdoor learning environments and have begun taking part in a range of new exciting curriculum activities. Our topic this term is 'I'm a Superhero' and the children have already come up with some imaginative ideas and ways in which to create their superhero. The children have also enjoyed sharing their 'Superhero Chatterbox' with friends and staff and it has been wonderful to find out who the children have picked as their superhero. Some examples have not just been Spiderman, Black Panther and Wonder Woman but, brothers, dads, grandparents and dogs. Thank to all the parents and carers who helped to put the Chatterboxes together. Please keep checking our pages on our school website to see what we are taking part in every week.



# Newsletter

## School Meals

The school full menu has resumed giving children a choice of hot and cold food at lunchtime. Dinners have increased to £2.30 per day £11.50 per week (payable on a Monday). Due to current restrictions with Covid we ask that parents pay on-line for payments to school. The website is [www.sunderland.gov.uk](http://www.sunderland.gov.uk), choosing online payments, school, Blackfell Primary, then school dinners. School then receives a notification of payment. If this is not possible please send money in a sealed named envelope with your child and this will be collected by the class teacher. Dinners must be paid for in advance or on the Monday of that week.

If your child currently brings a packed lunch, no thermal flasks with hot soup etc are allowed.

Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have access to fruit everyday for breaktime.

Due to the restrictions in school we are not currently running tuck-shop for Year 3,4,5,6. We understand that children can become hungry at breaktime and are therefore allowing children to bring in a healthy snack. No crisps or chocolate bars are allowed. We encourage children to bring their own water bottles from home as the fountains are out of use. Children can refill their bottles. Please ensure there are no fizzy drinks or glass bottles (only water or flavoured water).

## School Photographs

The school photographer is booked for Tuesday 20th October. Tempest have advised that only individual photographs of children be taken. Due to restrictions around school and class bubbles, siblings and family groups cannot be accommodated at this time. We hope to revisit this in the summer term.

## Flu Nasal Spray

Children from Reception to Year 6 were issued with flu vaccination letters from the school nursing team at the beginning of term. Children who have returned the forms will receive their flu nasal spray on Wednesday 18th November in school.

## Baby News



We are delighted to announce that Mrs Stockman gave birth to a healthy baby girl Connie Grace back in July. We wish all the family well on their new arrival. Mrs Reeves started her maternity leave this week. We will keep you updated with any news.