

Newsletter

Remote Learning

If your child has to self isolate or is absent from school for a period of time we will be using Microsoft Teams as a platform for setting and receiving work. This can be accessed from any computer, tablet or smartphone. Information was sent home last Friday, along with a workbook and a user guide. The login details, as well as those for Timestables Rockstars, Numbots and Purple Mash can be found on the laminated card that was also sent home.

Internet Safety

Please ensure that you have website safety restrictions on any device at home and that all group chats that your child is on are monitored. For further information and support with parental control on devices visit <https://www.webwise.ie/parents/>

Ground Maintenance Team



Mr Colling Site Supervisor is working alongside Daniel, Benjamin, Dainton and Ben from Year 6 as part of the Grounds Maintenance Team. They are enjoying learning new skills and working outdoors helping to keeping the school safe, clean and tidy.

Anti- Bullying Week

16th - 20th November 2020

United Against Bullying



To continue supporting our great achievement in gaining the Anti-Bullying Platinum award, we will once again be celebrating Anti-Bullying week in school. The theme this year is 'United Against Bullying'. Throughout the week the children will be taking part in a range of activities to help promote the importance of Anti-Bullying. We will kick start our Anti-Bullying week with an **Odd Socks Day on Monday 16th November**. All children are invited to come to school that day wearing Odd Socks. The idea of this is to highlight the importance of everyone being different but united against bullying. All classes will be sharing their super work and activities from the week with you via our school website.

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue: 2
Date: Oct 20

Headteacher's Update

What a fantastic start we have had to this academic year. All children are very settled and enjoying all aspects of school life. Thank you for your continued support throughout these challenging times. Please feel assured that risk assessments are continually reviewed across school to ensure we keep the school, staff and children as safe as we possibly can. These are available on the school website.

It was a pleasure to read all applications and appoint our Year 6 children to numerous areas of responsibility across school last month. They impressed me with their letters of application and have all made an excellent start to their new roles that include house captains, vice captains, grounds maintenance team and librarians to name a few!

Our reading challenge is proving a real incentive for our children to work to earn points for the class. The challenge will continue throughout the term to encourage all children to practise reading at home. At the moment, Year 2 and 3 are in the lead to be rewarded with a prize at the end of the term.

Thank you all so much for your kind Harvest Festival donations that have been collected for the Washington Food Bank.

We have many things to look forward to next term. It is a little early to be mentioning Christmas but be assured that Christmas celebrations will go ahead at Blackfell including trees, parties, Christmas lunch and Christmas jumper day! Further details will follow next month.

Enjoy the half term holiday when it comes.

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

Birthday 'shout outs' for October

Nursery Eadie-Rae, Amber

Reception Joseph, Harrison, Isla, Scarlet-Rose

Year 1 Anna, Ashton, James

Year 2 Macy, Ethan

Year 3 Cameron, Harry

Year 4 Thomas

Year 5 Miya, Ellis, Jessica, Mia-Lily, Cerys, Joshua

Year 6 Ruby

Applications are now open for Nursery and Reception places for September 2021. If you or a relative would like to have a visit to the school site and a 1:1 tour with Mrs Watkins, please do not hesitate to contact school on 0191 9171665 or email school@blackfell.org.uk

Newsletter

Harvest Festival



Thank you to all parent/carer and children who donated food for the Harvest Festival. Team Captains Daniel, Jack, Lyta and Leon helped to unpack all the donations. Washington Food Bank were delighted with the contributions that will help families during these difficult times. The food bank is located in the Galleries (opposite Virgin Money) and is open 12pm-3pm Tuesday to Friday.



Newsletter

Winner of Themed Lunch Day

School Meals ran a themed lunch day during October. Children who had a school meal were entered into a prize draw across the City. We are delighted that Theo Drummond from Reception was one of the lucky winners. Theo will be presented with a £15 Amazon gift card. We hope you enjoy spending it over half term.

Walkwise

Year 2 will be taking part in a 3 week programme after half term. During the training sessions children will cover the following road safety topics:

- Understanding the importance of road safety
- The Green Cross Code
- Car Safety
- Identifying dangers and safe places to cross

This will give children a great knowledge of road safety and encourage them to keep safe and use the rules when they're out and about.

Attendance

We continue to reward and celebrate good attendance in school. Year 1 won Attendance of the Month for September. Attendance for the first half term is currently 97.2%. During these challenging times, if your child is absent because you or a family member has had a test or are self isolating, it is really important to inform school as daily returns are required to be sent to the Department of Education.

My Child's Art

Children have been busy creating a drawing that can be ordered as Christmas gifts/cards, cups candles water bottles etc. The theme for the children was 'something that makes them feel happy'. Look out for a leaflet (on Friday) which will give you all the details of how to view their artwork and how to order online. This is also a fund raising event for school so the more orders that are made the more commission school will make.

Parent Governor

We will be sending out details of a parent governor vacancy that will be effective from 8th November. Information will soon be available on the website. Nomination forms will be available by contacting the school office. If you would like more information about the role of a parent governor please contact Mrs Watkins who will be happy to discuss this.