

St Thomas á Becket Church of England Federation

Blackboys CE Primary School
School Lane
Blackboys
Uckfield
East Sussex
TN22 5LL



Framfield CE Primary School
The Street
Framfield
Uckfield
East Sussex
TN22 5NR

Headteacher: Mr G Sullivan

Headteacher: Mrs L Pestell

06th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back

A very warm welcome back to school from the Summer break, and an extended welcome to the parents and pupils of all our new starters in the reception year group. We are super excited to additionally welcome four new pupils across the School and hope you settle in to School life quickly.

The term has begun by studying the school vision and motto in our Acts of Worship. As many of you know, "Be the best you can be; Living life in all its fullness" is based on John 10 in the New Testament, the parable of the Good Shepherd. We look forward to exploring this further with Rev Chris and the new pastor of New Life Church Blackboys, Clive Cernik.

School Uniform

It has been particularly noticeable that Blackboys School pupils are looking especially smart this September. Key Stage 2 have fully embraced the introduction of the school tie and the staff are very grateful for everyone's efforts on this. Thank you. We expect pupils to move on from summer dresses during September and have ordered extra ties to deal with this demand. Please see the school office or the uniform link on the school website to order. We strive to keep our high expectation of uniform and neatness.

School Office

The school office will be run by both Mrs Sheffield and Mrs Doherty this academic year. Mrs Doherty will be working Tuesday-Friday, with Mrs Sheffield working Mondays and additional hours during the week.

School Dinners

As per the ParentMail email sent out Wednesday 04th September the cost of our daily School lunches is now £2.05. Meals for all KS1 pupils are fully subsidised via the governments UIFSM (universal infants free schools meals) initiative. Pupils within KS2 can pay daily/weekly by cash or via ParentPay. Parents of Year 3 pupils: should you require an activation code to access your account please pop to the School Office who will be able to help.

Class Planning Meetings

As we do each term, we will be inviting parents into school to meet with the class teacher in order that they can give you an overview of the curriculum and classroom routines for the term ahead. These will be taking place from week commencing Monday 09th September, as below (for entry, please buzz and come to the main school office reception in the first instance, all meetings take place in the relevant classroom):

Monday 09th September @2.45pm - Class 1 Parents invited into class
Tuesday 10th September @2.45pm - Class 2 Parents invited into class
Wednesday 11th September @2.45pm - Class 3 Parents invited into class
Monday 16th September @2.45pm - Class 4 Parents invited into class

Following the planning meetings being held, a class newsletter will be distributed ideal for families who are unable to attend.

Reading

We are excited to soon be able to share our annual School Improvement Plan with parents. Reading will focus heavily on our Improvement Plan. We would like to raise the expectation that children read daily at home and fill out their reading record booklet daily too. All children will have a reading record book in their book bag, together with a book from school. The book from school will naturally be changed more often in Key Stage 1 classes, as older children tend to pick longer novels that may take them a couple of weeks to finish.

If at any stage your child is without a reading book or reading record book, please speak to their classteacher in the first instance. When a child has completed their reading record book, they will be rewarded with a certificate and issued with a new record.

Diary Dates

Keeping up with all the things that go on in school couldn't be simpler. We produce a fortnightly newsletter which is sent to all Parents via ParentMail and also given out on the school gate. Our first newsletter of the academic year will be distributed on Friday 20th September. You can also always access our school diary via the website, <http://www.blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk/> This itemises events well into the future to aid you in planning. Below, you will find some already notable dates for your diary:

EVENT	WHEN	DETAILS
ANNUAL WHOLE SCHOOL HARVEST FESTIVAL	WEDNESDAY 25 TH SEPTEMBER	CHILDREN TO BE DROPPED OFF DIRECTLY AT ST THOMAS Á BECKET CHURCH, FRAMFIELD, FROM 8.30AM+. ALL PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. KS1 PUPILS WILL BE RETURNING TO SCHOOL VIA A COACH (SUBSIDISED BY THE SCHOOL). SHOULD YOU WISH YOUR CHILD NOT TO RETURN ON THE COACH PLEASE CAN YOU INFORM US. THE PUPILS WITHIN KS2 WILL BE TAKING THEIR TRADITIONAL HIKE BACK TO SCHOOL. THEY WILL NEED A CHANGE OF CLOTHES IN A BAG (RUCKSACK) WITH SUITABLE WALKING/WEATHER 'GEAR' AND PACKED LUNCH REQUIRED. PLEASE, IF POSSIBLE SEND IN WITH YOUR CHILD A SMALL NON PERISHABLE DONATION TO BE MADE AT THE CHURCH. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO UCKFIELD FOODBANK. THERE WILL BE NO BREAKFAST CLUB TAKING PLACE.
CLASS 4 ACT OF WORSHIP	THURSDAY 03 RD OCTOBER	PARENTS ARE VERY WELCOME TO WATCH AT 9.05AM IN THE SCHOOL HALL.
CLASS 2 ACT OF WORSHIP	THURSDAY 17 TH OCTOBER	PARENTS ARE VERY WELCOME TO WATCH AT 9.05AM IN THE SCHOOL HALL.

Breakfast Club

Our fabulous Breakfast Club is run every morning from 7.45am by Mrs Withers and Miss Pavitt. Please see below the cost of Breakfast Club. Our Breakfast Club also organise and run our weekly Smoothie Friday.

BREAKFAST CLUB PRICES 2019+
 £4.50 BREAKFAST & CHILDCARE
 £3.50 CHILDCARE ONLY

REDUCTION FOR
 SIBLINGS ATTENDING:
 £3.50 BREAKFAST & CHILDCARE
 £2.75 CHILDCARE ONLY

THERE WILL BE NO BREAKFAST CLUB
 TAKING PLACE ON WEDNESDAY 25TH
 SEPTEMBER 2019 AS IT IS THE ANNUAL
 HARVEST FESTIVAL.

Volunteering in School

We welcome parental assistance in school, be it reading in a class or helping at Forest School. If you are able to offer a regular hour or two it would be very much appreciated. All our volunteers require an up to date Blackboys School DBS and we will happily arrange this with and for you. Please see Mrs Sheffield or Mrs Doherty in the School Office to start the process

Contact with teachers

Should you wish to discuss anything with your child's teacher, you are welcome to pop along to the classroom at the end of the day. If there is a matter of urgency which needs discussing, teachers can be seen in the morning but obviously their availability is somewhat limited. All staff will happily communicate through email and at the first instance any such email should be directed to office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk with the classteacher's name in the subject line.

Reminder about Security

For all new parents and for all established, a reminder about access to School:

Morning Routine

The pedestrian gate will be opened by the member of staff on gate duty at 8.40am each morning, allowing parents and pupils access to the playground. You can still buzz the main door to be let into the school office area to drop off consent slips, payments of trips etc. to Mrs Sheffield or Mrs Doherty. The gate will be closed at 8:55am, by which time it is expected that children will be in school. Should you arrive after 8.55am you will need to be buzzed into school via the main gate with your child, ensuring that you sign the late book in the school office area.

For those parents who drop children off at Breakfast Club / early morning clubs etc., please buzz at the main gate and again at the school door to be let in. Children attending Breakfast Club will go directly to the school hall with their bags and coats.

Afternoon Routine

The pedestrian gate will be opened at 3.10pm for access to the playground for the normal end of school pick up. As in the mornings should you then need to access the school office or classteachers, please buzz in at the main door. The gate will then be closed at 3:25pm.

After School Club Routine

Club leaders will escort children to their parents and facilitate gate opening for parents at the end of club sessions.

Children are not to let adults or other children into or out of school via the main gate or main door. That task is the responsibility of school staff. We also request that parents do not let other adults in through the security systems.

Thursday Act of Worship

All parents are welcome to join us on a Thursday each week to participate in our Act of Worship at 9.05am in the school hall. These are normally led by Rev Chris Lawrence or Clive Cernik from New Life Church who has taken the lead following the departure of Rev Guy Partridge. It is always nice to for Parents/Carers to join us. We hold a collection on each of these assemblies, so it would be good if children were able to bring a coin or two in for this. Reading certificates and other awards are given out at this assembly also.

Cafe

Parents are welcome into the school hall from 2.40pm on a Friday. Cafe dates for the academic year will be published on the School diary on the website and displayed on a poster located in the School Hall, facing outwards into the playground. Weekly Café will start with Year 6 on Friday 20th September. Children (by year group) will be on hand to serve you with tea or coffee and a baked cake which they have cooked, all for a small donation. We look forward to seeing you through the year.

Dates for Cafe are always available via the School online diary on the homepage of the School website. If in doubt as to whether your child has Cafe on a Friday, please check the diary!

Smoothie Friday

We invite all pupils (and Parents/Carers) into School every Friday morning from 8.30am to enjoy a fruity smoothie which has been made by our Breakfast Club attendees. The smoothies are served through the small kitchen hatch located towards the end of the hall and are charged at 50p a smoothie! Service stops at 8.50am in time for clear up and start of the School day. Smoothie Friday will recommence Friday 13th September.

Inset Days 19/20

Inset days set for this academic year are:

INSET DAYS 19/20
FRIDAY 20 TH DECEMBER 2019
FRIDAY 03 RD APRIL 2020
FRIDAY 10 TH JULY 2020
THERE WILL BE ONE MORE INSET DAY TO BE CONFIRMED FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR AND WE SHALL NOTIFY YOU WHEN THIS HAS BEEN DECIDED.

Parental Contact Details

In case of emergencies, School holds contact details for all parents (and other family members which you have given as a contact) against each pupil. Should you have moved house, jobs or wish to add another contact number please can you make sure that you inform the School Office of this. If in doubt you are welcome to check with the office what numbers etc. are held.

ParentMail

In general as a school we use ParentMail to communicate things like fortnightly school newsletters, uniform orders etc. with Parents via the Parentmail texting/emailing service. Please ensure that you update your contact details on this to ensure that you are kept up to date with all news The school office is unable to amend any parents details for them who have 'connected' via ParentMail. As you will notice a lot of our clubs are limited on spaces and we send notifications of whether pupils have been successful or not in gaining a club entry via ParentMail.

Medicine and Illness

Please can we remind all parents that we are only able to administer medicines prescribed by a Doctor in School. You will need to complete a medicine consent form when you first bring the medicine to the School Office.

In the event of your child being sick or having an upset tummy, we ask that you keep your child away from school for 48 hours from the last bout of illness. This is to hopefully help with the reduction of keeping illnesses away from school.

Forest School

We are lucky enough to be able to continue to offer Forest School throughout the School. Led by Mrs Godfrey our Forest School lead, Class 1 will take part in Forest School on a rota basis every Monday with Class 3 enjoying Forest School on a Thursday for the Autumn term. Class 4 will be partaking in Forest School during the Spring term and Class 2 are to experience Forest School in the Summer term.

Class 1 and 3 parents have already been sent the Forest School rota for the Autumn term. Forest School dates for all the aforementioned sessions are available to view on the Blackboys School website parental diary. Can we also take this opportunity to remind you that all Forest School sessions rely on Parental offers of assistance. If you are able to assist, don't forget to sign up on the Forest School signing up sheets located for Class 1 on the back door to their classroom and for all other classes located on the main School Office door.

Clubs - Autumn Terms 1&2 2019

Attached are the lunchtime and after school club options for the term. We are delighted to be able to offer a large number of choices for clubs this term. As ever we are particularly thankful to all the parent volunteers who are running clubs.

Please note the start dates of clubs as these do vary.

You will note there are limited clubs available for the new Reception pupils. This is a deliberate decision to allow the pupils time to adjust to the school environment and routine.

Please fill in the tear off slip at the bottom of this letter with any club choices and return it to the School Office. If the club has a maximum number of attendee's a Parentmail text will be sent out informing you of your child's allocation of place or not, as the case may be. Please ensure your contact details are up to date!

Where payment is due for a club please can you arrange payment (noting who made payable to dependent on which club!) to be brought in alongside the club choice slip. **We are also asking that should you put your name down for a club that attendance is required for the duration of the club.**

Yours sincerely

Mr G Sullivan
Headteacher

Club Authorisation:

I would like my child/ren _____

DAY	CLUB	ATTENDING (PLEASE TICK)	PAYMENT REQUIRED?
MONDAY	TAG RUGBY		
	SCHOOL COUNCIL		
	NETBALL		
TUESDAY	CHOIR CLUB		£18 FOR TERM 1
	AFTER SCHOOL SPORTS CLUB		
WEDNESDAY	KNITTING		£21 = 7 SESSIONS £18 = 6 SESSIONS IF AT PGL £15 = 5 SESSIONS FOR BEGINNERS
	AFTER SCHOOL CHESS		
	KS1 FOOTBALL SESSIONS		£24 FOR TERM 1
THURSDAY	GUITAR CLUB		RED BUTLER MUSIC SCHOOL WILL CONTACT YOU DIRECTLY - PLEASE LEAVE CONTACT DETAILS IN THE 'ATTENDING' TICK BOX
	KS2 FOOTBALL CLUB INCORPORATING GIRLS' FOOTBALL		
FRIDAY	SOCIAL CLUB		RED BUTLER MUSIC SCHOOL WILL CONTACT YOU DIRECTLY - PLEASE LEAVE CONTACT DETAILS IN THE 'ATTENDING' TICK BOX.
	GUITAR CLUB		
	HOCKEY CLUB		
	READING CLUB		

I agree to pay any fees due in advance directly to the appropriate agency and will ensure that I arrange to collect my child/ren at the stated time.

Name: _____ Signature: _____