

## ACADEMIC YEAR 19/20

### DECEMBER

FRIDAY 13TH	PARENTS/CARERS OF CUP ASSEMBLY AWARD RECIPIENTS NOTIFIED SMOOTHIE FRIDAY 8.30-8.45AM KS1 NATIVITY PLAY 'LITTLE STAR'- IN THE SCHOOL HALL. ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND. SCHOOL GATES WILL OPEN TO ENABLE ENTRY FROM 1.40PM.
MONDAY 16TH	CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY! IF PUPILS WISH TO WEAR A CHRISTMAS THEMED JUMPER TO SCHOOL FOR THE DAY THEY ARE WELCOME TO FOR A DONATION OF £1 WHICH WILL GO TOWARDS THE CHARITY OF THE TERM WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH IN THE HALL 12—1PM RETURN OF ALL CUPS / AWARDS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE AWARDED AT THE END OF SUMMER TERM TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY <b>NO CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM</b>
TUESDAY 17TH	OPEN THE BOOK - DONKEY WALK AROUND BLACKBOYS 3-4PM
WEDNESDAY 18TH	KS1 CHRISTMAS PARTY IN THE SCHOOL HALL. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILD BRINGS WITH THEM A CHANGE OF CLOTHES IN A NAMED BAG TO CHANGE INTO FOR THE PARTY 1.30-3PM KS2 CHRISTMAS PARTY IN THE SCHOOL HALL 6—8PM
THURSDAY 19TH	LAST DAY OF TERM 2 NO CLASS 3 FOREST SCHOOL CUP ASSEMBLY IN THE HALL 2-3PM ALL WELCOME
FRIDAY 20TH	<b>INSET DAY—NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL</b>
MONDAY 23RD DEC—FRIDAY 3RD JAN	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS! <b>WE WISH EVERYONE A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>
<b>JANUARY</b>	
MONDAY 6TH	RETURN TO SCHOOL FOR TERM 3 CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM
TUESDAY 7TH/ WEDNESDAY 8TH	CLUBS LETTER AND WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL FOR SPRING TERM TO BE DISTRIBUTED. CLUBS TO COMMENCE IN FULL FROM W/C13/01/20
THURSDAY 9TH	CLASS 4 SELECTED PUPILS FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM
FRIDAY 10TH	SMOOTHIE FRIDAY 8.30-8.45AM
MONDAY 13TH	RETURN OF LUNCHTIME AND AFTERSCHOOL CLUBS FOR THE SPRING TERM CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM CLASS 1 PARENTAL PLANNING MEETING FOR SPRING TERM 2.45-3.15PM
TUESDAY 14TH	CLASS 2 PARENTAL PLANNING MEETING FOR SPRING TERM 2.45-3.15PM
WEDNESDAY 15TH	DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS FOR RECEPTION PLACE STARTING SEPTEMBER 2020 AT BLACKBOYS CE PRIMARY TO BE SUBMITTED TO ESCC VIA EAST SUSSEX WEB PORTAL CLASS 3 PARENTAL PLANNING MEETING FOR SPRING TERM 2.45-3.15PM
THURSDAY 16TH	CLASS 4 SELECTED PUPILS FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM CLASS 4 PARENTAL PLANNING MEETING FOR SPRING TERM 2.45-3.15PM
FRIDAY 17TH	INDIVIDUAL CLASS NEWSLETTERS DISTRIBUTED SMOOTHIE FRIDAY 8.30-8.45AM YR 3 CAFE. SCHOOL HALL. ALL WELCOME. 2.40-3.15PM

#### INSET DAYS:

**Friday 20th December 2019 \* Friday 3rd April 2020  
\* Monday 01st June \* Friday 10th July 2020**



# Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 13th December 2019

**Christian Value for Term : Fellowship**

### Dear Parents / Carers

This will be the final newsletter of what has transpired to be a very busy, yet successful term. Although we have received Inspections by both OFSTED and SIAMS this term, such pressures have had little or no impact on the way we celebrate and enjoy Christmas Time at Blackboys! So far our choir has visited Holy Cross Care Home near Cross in Hand and entertained the residents with Christmas carols and stories. This is a traditional, yearly visit and one that brings together the generations. Class 4 also ran their traditional Senior Citizen's Christmas Party on Friday 6th December. Although the inclement weather lowered numbers a little, those present enjoyed singing, a tour of the school and a hand crafted party tea. We have received lots of letters of thanks from the Senior Citizens who attended, praising the children for their confidence, manners and general knowledge.

Last night, Key Stage 2 were at their usual best with the Carol Concert at St Thomas a Becket Church. The bible readings were well received and the roof of the church is still reverberating from the strong singing. Many thanks to all who attended.

By the time this newsletter is read, we will have enjoyed our Key Stage 1 Nativity, Little Star's Story. If the dress rehearsal was an indication, it is going to be a show that lives long in the memory.

### Primary School League Tables

Although the hazards and issues associated with ranking schools in league tables is well publicised, today has seen the publication

of Performance Data for English Schools. The data available to parents is two fold, firstly looking at the actual results of the Key Stage 2 National Tests (Attainment) and secondly comparing children's results in Key Stage 1 to their results in Key Stage 2 (Progress).

The data is for last year's Year 6 cohort and parents may wish to view this at <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/school/114547/blackboys-church-of-england-primary-school/primary>

As a school we are pleased to continue to have attainment results that exceed that of both East Sussex and National figures. This is particularly pleasing for pupils who have achieved at a higher standard than the expected. This was a target for the school.

Although our progress scores are graded as average on the website, we continue to work hard to ensure such these become graded higher in the future. Should any parent have any questions about this data, please do not hesitate to contact Mr Sullivan via the school office

### 'Open the Book' Donkey Walk Nativity.

Until recent years, the live nativity donkey walk around the village led by Suzanne Hammond was a mainstay of the Blackboys School Christmas. We are therefore delighted to see this event brought back for 2019. Now part of our fortnightly 'Open the Book' act of worship, Suzanne and her volunteers are holding the event from 3pm on Tuesday 17th December.

There has been a letter sent out about it, so please bring your reply slip in as soon as possible.

## Uckfield Late Night Shopping

A number of our KS2 pupils took to the Uckfield FM's stage to sing some festive songs during Uckfield's Late Night Shopping Extravaganza last Friday evening. Our choir sang Every Christmas, Sussex Carol and Unto Us a Child is Born. The members of the choir made up of KS2 pupils sang brilliantly, opening the late night shopping event.

As per previous years the event was broadcast live via Uckfield FM. For those of you who were unable to make it, tune in via their website [www.uckfieldfm.co.uk/](http://www.uckfieldfm.co.uk/) where you will find a direct link to the recording of the live broadcast.

## Monday 16th December

As well as being the whole school Christmas lunch on Monday 16th December, we are also inviting children to come into School wearing a festive jumper. In exchange for a £1 (which will be donated to term 2's charity, Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare) children may replace the Blackboys jumper or cardigan, with a festive jumper, should they wish, for the day.

## Last Week of Clubs

Don't forget that this week was the last week of ALL lunchtime and after school clubs. There will be NO after school clubs taking place next week. This newsletter will be the last one before the end of term. Our welcome back to school letter alongside the new club choices for the Spring term will be distributed once we return to School from Monday 06th January 2020. Of course our daily After School Club facility will still be running during the final week and should you wish for your child to attend a session please do not hesitate to contact the School Office to make your reservation, plus any reservations you may have for the New Year.

## KS1 & KS2 Parties

Next Wednesday (18th) will be our KS1 and KS2 parties. The KS1 party will take place in the afternoon in the School Hall, so please don't forget to send your child in with a change of clothes in a named bag, pupils will change for their party at lunchtime. KS2 pupils are invited to return to School for a 6pm party start to enjoy games, tea and music. Parents/Carers to return at 8pm to collect their children. If you haven't already done so please sign your name against an item of food to donate to the parties. The lists are on a board located in the foyer area when wet or play-ground when dry. We are asking for a couple of parental volunteers to assist with the KS2 party and if able to help please contact the School Office.

## Return of Cup/Awards

If you haven't already done so and your child was a recipient of an award at the end of Summer term please drop this to the School Office asap in preparation of end of term cup assembly, Thursday 19th December.

**Don't forget Friday 20th December is INSET Day, no children in School!**

## Christmas Tree ~ a Thank You!

Our annual thanks must be extended to the Cottingham family and Staverton Nursery for generously donating our beautiful Christmas tree which is currently adorning our school hall.

A huge thank you to all parents, pupils and local community who came and supported the two PTA December events last week. It was great to see many parents at the wreath making evening being guided by Mrs Beale throughout the event ensuring that they took home a fabulous wreath to adorn doors through the festive period. The PTA Christmas Fair was a splendid affair. Many children enjoyed visiting Father Christmas in his tipi on the field and the visiting carol singers from the 'wine & cake club' topped the event off beautifully. A HUGE thanks to all those who helped, contributed and came to the Fair. We look forward to letting you know the final figure for the amount raised in the New Year.

## Forest School

There is NO Forest School taking place during the last week of term, next week Monday 16th & Thursday 19th December. New Forest School rotas for the Spring term for Class 1 and now Class 4 will be distributed shortly.

## Rainbow Theatre, Dick Wittington

On Monday of this week, The Rainbow Theatre Company visited us to deliver a festive Pantomime to the whole school. Dick Wittington was a brilliant production which was enjoyed by pupils and staff alike. *Thank you to the PTA for covering the full cost of this event.*

## Gold Book Awards for W/B 2/12/19

### Class 1

Emilia Briscall- For always trying her best.

James Eves- For having great winter poem ideas.  
Bertie Fieldhouse- For offering lots of ideas during an RE lesson.

### Class 2

Elizabeth Willcox- For hard work during Nativity Practices.  
Marcie McKeever- For being a great angel during Nativity practice.  
Hattie Dunbar- For great poetry explanation.

### Class 3

Fyfe Dunbar- For excellent efforts during Class 3 assessments.  
Logan Hill- For excellent efforts during Class 3 assessments.  
Zac Sharp- For excellent efforts during Class 3 assessments.

### Class 4

Hugo Ullmann- For asking some deep political questions to a parliamentary candidate.  
Natasha Whiteman- For great effort in her assessments.  
Rebecca Sullivan- For marvellous singing at Holy Cross Care Home.