

## East Sussex Library Service Summer Online Reading Challenge

We are delighted to announce that the East Sussex Library Service will once again be running their annual Summer Reading Challenge.

This year the theme is:



The Silly Squad is a celebration of funny books, happiness and laughter, featuring bespoke artwork from award-winning children's author and illustrator, Laura Ellen Anderson.

The Reading Agency, who produce the scheme each year, have designed an all-new updated Summer Reading Challenge website <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> which will be launched on Friday 5th June to keep children reading over the summer and support parents and carers with children already at home. Please note that this will be the only way for children to take part in the Challenge this year, due to the disruption caused by Covid-19. Because children will be taking part at a national rather than local level we will be unable to send finishers' certificates to schools in the Autumn term for presentation. A whole host of virtual events with guest celebrities and authors will take place on the Summer Reading Challenge Facebook page on Friday 5th June to mark the launch of the digital Challenge. The Challenge website will be free to access and a place for children to rate and review their books and work towards their reading goal. It will also feature video content, games, quizzes, and digital and downloadable activities to incentivise and encourage children and their families to take part in the Challenge at home.

Although we won't be offering the usual incentives through our libraries we do hope that children will still participate by borrowing books from our great e-book collection where we have over 1400 titles for children to choose from: <https://eastsussexlibrary.overdrive.com/library/kids>

We also have information about how to borrow e-books and e-audio books on our website:

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/libraries/online/ebooks-audiobooks/ebooks/>

You can find out how we are supporting Silly Squad through virtual events and promotions on our East Sussex Library events page <https://www.facebook.com/events/1453159094886506/>

You can find out more about all our online services at <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/libraries/online/online-library-help/overview/>



# Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 12th June 2020

Christian Value for Term : Thankfulness

## Dear Parents / Carers

It has been truly fantastic to welcome back children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. They have all settled into school brilliantly and have been welcomed back by our Key Worker Pupils, who have been at school with staff since Monday 23rd March.

### Covid-19 and Blackboys School

Like everyone, we were disappointed that plans to return all children to school before the Summer Holidays appear to now be challenging. Schools' version of social distancing is of course having small class sizes on 15, who stay together for the day with their teacher in a "bubble". We currently have 4 "bubbles" in the school each with one of our classteachers and a TA. Although keen for more children to return, it is a question of available space and available adults while abiding to the 15 pupil guideline. We are currently exploring ways of how other year groups could return to school, for some time with a teacher before the summer. This may be in the form of a transition session or two with next year's teachers, or perhaps some year group workshops, focussing on writing and maths. Please be assured that we are thinking and planning and hope to be in touch with plans in the next week or two. In the meantime, we continue to be impressed with everyone's efforts in home learning, and although swift responses via email is now difficult for teaching staff, we are still happy to communicate and respond to children's work.

### Academic Year 2020/21

We are thrilled to be able to let children and parents know about classes and teachers for September 2020. As previously communicated, we will be welcoming two new teachers to

Blackboys and adding an extra class in Key Stage 2, having said a fond farewell in Miss Cross in July.

### **Blackboys Class Set Up for 20/21:**

Class 1	Year R&1	Mrs Booth and Mrs Nobes
Class 2	Year 1&2	Mrs Sullivan
Class 3	Year 3	Miss Sanderson
Class 4	Year 4&5	Miss Mayhew
Class 5	Year 5&6	Mr Boorman

As parents understand, we will need to make some decisions into which class will be most suitable for pupils who are in our split year groups; Year 1 and 5. This is decided on attitudes to learning (resilience, independence, maturity) as well as academic performance. Which ever class your child is in, they will naturally follow the curriculum for their own year group, as with all our mixed age classes, our teachers are skilled at differentiating the work accordingly. As a staff, we have worked hard during the last 2 months to create a curriculum that ensures children do not miss out on vital knowledge or skills. We are keen to engage with current Reception and Year 4 parents to discuss which class would be most suitable. Further communication will be given to those year groups next week.

### Zoom Assemblies/Acts of Worship

It has been brilliant to see so many home learners get involved with our daily assemblies via Zoom. We feel it helps structure the day and keeps everyone in touch. An email with joining instructions for the week will come from the office each Monday morning.

## Summer Term Events

As previously communicated we still plan to have an INSET Day on Friday 10th July. This is necessary for all staff to get together for planning the school curriculum. There will not be any home learning set on this day and school will be closed for all pupils.

We have sadly found ourselves cancelling most School events which would normally take place during this final term of the academic year. This is a real shame, but we are sure everyone understands the circumstances.

Although internally planned, it looks highly unlikely that KS2 will take part in any Swimming lessons, which traditionally take place during the Summer term and hope that this will return for next academic year.

We are currently working on a Sports Day to take place in some form. This may well need to be an event which runs virtually.

We are also currently working on a School production for our Year 6 to perform either to smaller, socially distant year 6 family audiences or via Zoom.

We intend to mark the Year 6 moving onto Secondary and hope that we will be able to celebrate in some fashion before the last day of term. If this is unsuccessful we will endeavour to re-group the Year 6 after they have moved on to secondary school. Our traditional bowling, laser quest and burger eating still looks doubtful at present.

We are still intending on sending out pupil school reports (by post if necessary) on Friday 17th July.

The PTA Summer Fair has been cancelled, but please pencil in your diary Friday 25th September in the hope that we will be able to get together for a whole School PTA Quiz Evening (7pm for a 7.30pm start). This will be an excellent opportunity to welcome new parents to the school.

We shall of course keep you informed of any information relating to all the above and anything new which may occur in the meantime.



## Gold Book Awards for W/B 8/6/20

### Class 1 (Reception Pupils)

Bertie Fieldhouse: For working really hard with his handwriting. He is trying to work independently and use his sound mat to sound out tricky words.

Alice Passey: For some great accurate measuring in capacity work.

Saffron Morton-Cobb: For her great work in phonics with Miss Butler.

### Class 2 (Year 1 Pupils)

Alex Gill: For really hard work in phonics and some accurate spelling.

Milly Marden: For great independent work in all subjects.

Harrison Brodie: For a superb explanation of using commas in a list.

### Class 3 (Key Worker Pupils)

Jacob Fordham: For excellent effort and for getting on with things.

Agnes McKeever: For some great work with her reading.

Benji Lehotzky: For a very positive first week back!

### Class 4 (Year 6 Pupils)

Natasha Whiteman: For her great effort in the 'mini-marathon'.

Noah Farley: For coming back to School with a great attitude.

Owen Cottingham: For a fantastic long jump!

### Home Learners

Year 2, Sophie Wevill: For some beautifully drawn and coloured bar charts.

Year 3, Leo Blackmore: Thanks to Mum and Dad for sharing photos of his excellent work.

Year 4, Danny Willett: Lots of excellent work in all areas this week!

Year 5, Isaac Cottingham: For his great setting description and hard work on spelling.

## **INSET DAYS:**

**\*Friday 10th July 2020\***

**\*Thursday 03rd  
September 2020\***

**\*Monday 05th October  
2020\***