#### **ACADEMIC YEAR 20/21**

OCTOBER

FRIDAY 23RD LAST DAY OF TERM 1

MON 26TH-FRI 30TH AUTUMN TERM BREAK

SATURDAY 31ST CLOSING DATE FOR YR 6 TO YR 7 (TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL,

SEPTEMBER 2021) APPLICATIONS TO HAVE BEEN MADE VIA ESCC PORTAL

NOVEMBER

MONDAY 2ND START OF TERM 2

WHOLE SCHOOL TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHS BEING TAKEN IN SCHOOL HALL

CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

TUESDAY 3RD FLU IMUNISATION FOR ALL PUPILS WITH PERMISSION

WEDNESDAY 4TH YR2-YR6 PARENTAL SPELLING WORKSHOP VIA ZOOM 9.15-10AM

LUNCHTIME KNITTING CLUB STARTS 12.30-1PM

THURSDAY 5TH CLASS 3 FOREST SCHOOL 1.30-3PM

MONDAY 9TH CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

THURSDAY 12TH CLASS 3 FOREST SCHOOL 1.30-3PM

OPEN DAY - SMALL GROUPS, SOCIALLY DISTANCED, TO TOUR THE SCHOOL

OPEN EVENING - SMALL GROUPS, SOCIALLY DISTANCED, TO TOUR THE SCHOOL

FRIDAY 13TH CHILDREN IN NEED DAY

CLASS 2 TRIP TO MICHELHAM PRIORY 9AM-3PM

MONDAY 16TH PUPIL/PARENTAL RETURN OF MUSTARD SEED 'LOVE IN A BOX' PLEASE BRING

YOUR BOX IN WITH YOU AT DROP OFF CLASSES 4 AND 5 TRIP TO BATTLE ABBEY 9AM-3PM

CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

THURSDAY 19TH CLASS 3 FOREST SCHOOL 1.30-3PM

FRIDAY 20TH HAPPY SCHOOL RECYCLING SCHEME COLLECTION DATE FOR CLOTHES

DONATIONS (PTA)

As featured in the last newsletter, we are delighted to announce the winners of the Fuller and Scott design a 'Top Hat' competition. Congratulations to Benjamin, Agnes and Faye.





#### **INSET DAYS:**

There will be x3 more Inset Days for this academic year.

Once the dates have been confirmed, we shall of course inform you.



# **Blackboys Newsletter**

Friday 23rd October 2020

**Christian Value for Term:** Perseverance

### Message from Chair of Governors,

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends of the St Thomas à Becket Church of England Primary Federation,

As we approach the end of a very busy term I am sure you wish to join with me in saying a massive thank you to everyone who works at Blackboys and Framfield schools. We continue to live through troubling times, yet throughout our dedicated team put their own worries to one side and 100% effort into ensuring that the children in our community are safe and well cared for, enabling them to continue to progress in their learning and enjoyment of school. It is a privilege to work alongside them.

I also want to thank you as parents, carers and friends who are helping us keep our communities safe. You are following our rules and are communicating effectively and wisely with the schools when the need arises. This speedy communication between yourselves and us has been of paramount importance and will continue to be so over the weeks to come. Please continue to keep an eye out for messages from the schools regarding reminders and updates on our safety measures and continue to follow the rules outside of school. We are constantly reviewing our procedures to ensure we are providing the safest environment possible and working together with you in partnership is the best way to achieve this

We have much to be thankful for.

I wish you a very restful half term break - I think we all deserve it!

With best wishes, Katharine Rabson Stark, Chair of Governors

#### Parents Consultations

Thank you to all Parents/Carers who took part in the first ever telephone Parent Consultations. Whilst a different format to normal, we hope that the discussions around your child/ren were both useful and reassuring.

The dates for the Spring term Parent Consultations are already arranged and in the School diary. These will take place on Monday 08th February, 3.30-6.00pm AND Wednesday 10th February 5.30-7.30pm. Bearing in mind the current global situation, these have once again been scheduled as telephone appointments, however, should the situation change, we will revert back to face to face appointments. Regardless, we shall be keeping our online Parental/Carer booking system as this has worked well and enabled all to book appointments as required.

#### All Weather Pitch

Planning Permission has been granted this week for the new 'All Weather Pitch' which will be located on the field. The



work is due to start in half term and will take up to 3 weeks to complete. The installation will enable pupils to use the field space during the wetter winter months. We look forward to sharing the end results with you. A HUGE thank you to the PTA, and therefore you, who are funding the entirety of this project. Exciting times!

#### MDSA Position

We are potentially looking to employ a new MDSA (midday supervisory assistant) at Blackboys CEP School. The position is currently 7.5 hours a week spread across 5 days (1.5 hours a day, 12-1.30pm). If this is a role that interests you please speak in total confidence to Mr Sullivan.

Tempest, School Photographs

On our first day back following half term, our annual visit by School Photographer, Tempest will be made (Monday 02nd November). From 9.05am. This year, due to Covid-19, distancing and our internal bubble arrangements we will only be able to facilitate individual pupil pictures. There will unfortunately be no pre school sibling or in school sibling pictures.

#### Flu Immunisation

Following the return of your child's form the School Nursing Team will be visiting on Tuesday 03rd November to deliver flu sprays to those pupils whose Parents/Carers have consented. This will take place during the school day, again using Covid-19 safe procedures.

ParentPay

As some of you will have noticed we are now able to utilise ParentPay to enable Parents/Carers to pay for items such as School trips, Breakfast and After School club as well as some after school clubs. At the end of all letters which require a payment to School you will get the option to pay via ParentPay, please denote this on your return slip to School and your account will be debited.

## Love in a Box

Yearly as a School, we support the Charity 'Love in a Box'. This year is no exception and your gifts are required more then ever. Leaflets were sent out last week with all the details of what to put in your donated boxes. Your filled 'Love in a Box' will then need to be returned on Monday 16th November. Unfortunately, we are unable to take them before this date.

Happy School Bag-PTA FundRaising

Your child will be bringing home with them today a bag for you to fill with unwanted, yet reusable clothing, paired shoes, handbags & accessories. Please pop any donations into this bag and drop them off at School on the 20th November. The 'Happy School Bag' van will then come an collect your

#### OPEN DAYS FOR SEPTEMBER 2021 RECEPTION PUPILS

Please join our Headteacher, Mr Sullivan, on one of our tours for potential pupils starting school in Year R, September 2021. Choose from:

All sessions will be held socially distanced and in small groups. We shall be requesting full contact details for 'track and trace' purposes and all adult visitors will need to wear a face covering.

To make an appointment on your preferred date and time please email <a href="mailto:office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk">office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk</a> OR telephone 01825 890 423.

If you are unable to join us on date/times offered & would like to view our thriving school at another time, you would be most welcome to contact the school office to make an appointment on the contact details above.

If you are able to display a poster for our open mornings and evening, please let the school office know. We are always keen to publicise.

Thursday 12th November 9.30-10.15am 6.00-6.45pm 10.15-11.00am 6.45-7.30pm 1.45-2.30pm donations, where they will then be weighed and any monies raised will be returned to the School PTA for much needed funds. If you need additional bags, please contact the School Office by email or telephone who will pop one in your child's bag for your use. Due to lack of storage we are unable to take any donations before the 20th November.

## Years 2-6, Parental Spelling Workshop





We are offering the opportunity to all parents/carers of Year 2 to Year 6 attend the forthcoming Zoom Spelling Workshop as detailed below.

We look forward to seeing you on screen!

#### Purpose of the Workshop:

To discuss our new approach to spelling at Blackboys.

- · Would you like to know more about the year group expectations for spelling?
- Would you like to know more about how we teach spelling at Blackboys?
- Are you curious about how we encourage good spelling?

#### Who is the Workshop for?

These workshops are for all Parent/Carers of children who are in Years 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6.

We encourage all parents/carers to take part.

#### When and where will the Workshop be?

When?	Where?
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November 9.15 - 10am	Via Zoom (details to be sent by Parentmail the day before)

\*PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PUT THIS DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW!\*

If you are unable to take part, the workshop will be recorded and placed on the School website.



## Gold Book Awards for week beginning 19th October

Class 1

Poppy Weddell: For great work in Literacy, describing her fairy tale "baddie". Sylvie Coates: For being passionate about her Castles learning.

Arthur Thompson: For being kind and caring.

Class 2

Marcie McKeever: For working really hard in Literacy and for using her spelling "have a go" sheet. Milly Marden: For an excellent "house drawing".

Max Davies: For being brilliant at ten more or 10 less of an 2 digit number.

Class 3

Theo Morton Cobb: For writing a great storyline to the finish of Journey. Nico Jacques: For his knowledge of the 10 Commandments and for playing Moses in our Open The Book Assembly. Ralph Brinkhurst: For great work in Whole Class Reading and for having a super knowledge of The BFG.

Class 4

George Saunders: For an epic 6 page story!

Henry Pistel: For going above and beyond with his work, particularly his DT split pin models.

Ayla Wright: For working hard on her spellings and getting her personal spelling words consistently right.

Class 5

Robbie Mclean: For being far more accurate with his punctuation.
Miles Redman: For great efforts with different tenses in his writing.
Logan Hill: For his great observations in Maths.

Our Learning Coder of the week this week was Heidi Saunders for being the best she could be with some stunning home learning.