

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are already at the half way point of Term 5, with much going on in school and in the world. This term we are focusing on the Christian Value of Understanding and our Bible scripture to support this is: "But it is the spirit in a person, the breath of the Almighty, that gives them Understanding." which is taken from Job 32:8. Understanding isn't just about knowledge but about applying what is known and making good decisions with that for the good of others.

Year 1 and Year 5 2023/24

Next week we shall be sending out letters to current Reception and Year 4 parents offering the opportunity for a telephone conversation to discuss Year 1 and Year 5 class placement. As parents/carers are aware, to have manageable class sizes, we need to share our Year 1 cohort between Class 1 and Class 2 and our Year 5 cohort between Class 4 and Class 5.

It is important for parents/carers to understand that children follow their year group curriculum regardless of what class they are placed in. Our class teachers are skilled in differentiating work for mixed year groups and we have a specially designed curriculum to ensure no one repeats any subject content.

All circumstances are unique, but to make decisions about Year 1 placements we look back at how a child has got on in Reception: looking at their independence and skills in reading, writing and maths together with how well they independently demonstrate the characteristics of effective learning (engagement, motivation and thinking). Parents/carers may wish to peruse <u>https://</u> www.earlyyearsresources.co.uk/ <u>blog/2018/09/characteristics-ofeffective-learning/</u> For Year 5 placement we look carefully at Year 4 reading and maths assessment results and teacher assessments for writing, as we need to identify children who will be able to cope with some elements of the Year 6 curriculum if they are placed in Class 5.

Moving On

Miss Reis has decided to leave Blackboys School at the end of the academic year. Miss Reis has had a very positive impact on our school in the 2 years she has been with us. While the community will miss her when she relocates to a different part of the country, we are sure her memories and experiences at Blackboys will hold her in good stead for a continued successful career. I know everyone will support and understand Miss Reis's decision.

This week we have interviewed to replace Miss Reis in Class 3 and will keep you informed in the coming weeks about the successful candidate.

SATS for Year 6 and Year 2.

From Tuesday 9th May, our Year 6 children will be taking their National SATS assessments in line with all Year 6 pupils in the country. They are a super year group who have revised hard for these assessments and I know they will 'Be the best they can be'. It is vital that the Year 6's are well rested for next week, that they attend school each day and arrive punctually, so that they give themselves the best chance to do well. They will be taking their assessments in the school hall under exam conditions.

The following week is time for our Year 2 pupils to take their Key Stage 1 assessments. They take these assessments in their classroom with Mrs Sullivan and like Year 6 we are confident they will do a great job. Good luck to both year groups.

Class Led Acts of Worship, Term 5

Class 3 assembly will take place Wednesday 10th May, 9.05am, School Hall.

Class 4 assembly will take place Wednesday 24th May, 9.05am, School Hall.

Parents / carers are very welcome to come along to these assemblies. May we take this opportunity to remind Parents/Carers they are welcome to join us weekly on a Thursday for our Acts of Worship, which take place in the School Hall from 9.05am.

Year 6, French Trip, Wednesday 24th May

The much anticipated Year 6 French trip is fast approaching, please can we remind Parents/Carers to complete the consent forms sent home earlier this week to return them to the School Office as soon as possible.

Wrap Around Care Bookings

As previously communicated, please can we remind Parents/Carers who use our wrap around care provision of Breakfast and/or After School Club, should their child not require their place to cancel their spot. We are now at a stage where due to ratios we are having to turn bookings away and should a booking be made and not taken we shall charge. Please remember to cancel your child's place even if they have a place at an after school club, this will not automatically be done.

In addition to this we have had a number of children being dropped off to Breakfast Club without a booking. Please either email office@blackboys.esussex.sch.uk or call the Office to book your child in. You are welcome to make bookings well in advance if dates are known for both Breakfast and After School Club.

Parent/Carer/Staff Netball Club Thursdays at School 6-7pm

Thank you to all who came to the first Netball Club, a great time was had by all! New members are most welcome to join in! Please let the School Office know if you would like to come along.

Celebrating the Coronation of King Charles III

It has been wonderful to see the children celebrating the King's Coronation wearing red. white and blue today! A special Coronation Picnic was enjoyed at lunchtime; thank you to Miss Pitt for putting up the PTA bunting this morning. We hope the children have enjoyed the day and huge thank you to the PTA for their Commemorative Coins!



Recent Sporting events

We sent a small group of Year 4 children to Victoria Recreation Ground to have a tennis experience. The children were taught some tennis skills and given the opportunity to take part in a competition to try the skills out. The children thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.

Mr Sullivan recently took a group of Year 5 and 6s to Uckfield College to play hockey. As with the tennis, the children were given some coaching before playing in a fun tournament against other schools.

This week we have sent two Year 5 children to Playground Leaders training in preparation for them taking on responsibility for leading play at lunchtimes.

Summer Uniform

Now that the weather has started to improve the children are welcome to start wearing their summer uniforms. Please remember to label all clothing your child brings to school as they are more likely to remove cardigans/ jumpers in the warm weather.

During Terms 5 & 6 we expect the children to also be in summer PE kit (shorts and t shirt). We still have several children who haven't brought their PE kits back after the Easter holidays, so please ensure that your child has their kit and it has appropriate clothing in it.

Scooter and Skateboarding

As last year, we will soon be welcoming Team Rubicon into school to run scooter and skateboard workshops for the whole school.

<u>Gold Book Awards for week</u> Beginning 1st May

Class 1

Arthur M: For his positive attitude to his learning, trying his best when working with adults. Alfie S: For his great work in Maths, recording all the different ways to make 5. Alfie G: For the amazing facts he can recall about African animals.

<u>Class 2</u>

Fletcher J: For excellent work this week on learning to tell the time. Vivi C and Astrid G: For great

computing work, learning to program using Logo.

<u>Class 3</u>

Freya C: For some excellent teamwork alongside Jonah and Finley with building a yeti hut. Max M: For consistently working through his Early Bird Maths quickly and accurately. Elodie D: For some great work in Maths, adding and subtracting money.

<u>Class 4</u>

Milly M: For some great editing of her narrative. Eva C: For picking up speed with her work, particularly writing. Karina E: For having the courage to put her hand up more in class, showing growing confidence.

<u>Class 5</u>

Evie M: For excellent work on her biography writing. Millie G and Lucas C: For continuing effort in their Maths revision this week.

ACADEMIC YEAR 22/23

| MAY | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| MONDAY 8TH | EXTRA BANK HOLIDAY - KINGS CORONATION |
| TUESDAY 9TH - FRIDAY 12TH | KS2 SATS TESTING PERIOD |
| TUESDAY 9TH | YEAR R SEPT '23 ADMISSIONS FORMS AND ACCEPTANCE OF A PLACE TO BLACKBOYS RETURN COMPLETED FORMS TO THE OFFICE BY |
| WEDNESDAY 10TH | CLASS 3 LED ACT OF WORSHIP, ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND 9-9.30AM RE ARRANGED - YEAR 5/6 GIRLS TO UCKFIELD COLLEGE - 3G PITCH - #LETGIRLSPLAYFOOTBALL. 3.45-5PM |
| THURSDAY 11TH | OPEN THE BOOK LED ACT OF WORSHIP ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND 9-9.30AM CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL BY ROTA 1-3PM SELECTED YR 6 PUPILS TO TAKE PART IN UCKFIELD COLLEGE, MATHS MASTERCLASS WEEKLY 3.45-4.45PM |
| SATURDAY 13TH | UCKFIELD GRASSHOPPERS SUSSEX SIXES DAY FAB FOOTBALL U8 (YEAR 3) GIRLS TEAM TAKING PART AT WEST PARK RECREATION GROUND, UCKFIELD 8.20AM-12.30PM |
| MONDAY 15TH | CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL BY ROTA 1-3.15PM |
| TUESDAY 16TH | YR 5/6 ROUNDERS @ UCKFIELD COLLEGE BOTTOM FIELD 3.45-5.15PM |
| THURSDAY 18TH | YEARS 4 AND 5 TO NEWHAVEN FORT 9AM—3PM KATE DILLINGHAM LED ACT OF WORSHIP - ALL WELCOME 9-9.30AM CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL BY ROTA 1-3PM NETBALL TEAM, FRIENDLY MATCH WITH ANNAN FARM AT BLACKBOYS 3.30-4.45PM SELECTED YR 6 PUPILS TO TAKE PART IN UCKFIELD COLLEGE, MATHS MASTER- CLASS WEEKLY 3.45-4.45PM |
| FRIDAY 19TH | WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED INVITED YEAR 3 PUPILS READING TO 'YOUNG AT HEART' GROUP HEATHFIELD CRICKET CLUB 1.30-2.45PM MAYFIELD KWIK CRICKET TOURNAMENT FOR SELECTED YEAR 5 & 6 PUPILS 10AM-3.30PM |
| MONDAY 22ND | YEAR 6 PASSPORTS/GHIC'S TO BE HANDED INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN PREPARATION OF TRIP ON WEDNESDAY CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL BY ROTA 1-3.15PM |
| WEDNESDAY 24TH | YEAR 6 FEDERATION FRENCH TRIP 6.10AM-7.30PM CLASS 4 LED ACT OF WORSHIP - ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND 9-9.30AM |
| THURSDAY 25TH | COLLECTION OF YEAR 6 PASSPORTS/GHICS FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF NOT TAKEN DIRECTLY FROM TRIP YESTERDAY OPEN THE BOOK LED ACT OF WORSHIP ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND 9-9.30AM CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL BY ROTA 1-3PM SELECTED YR 6 PUPILS TO TAKE PART IN UCKFIELD COLLEGE, MATHS MASTERCLASS WEEKLY 3.45-4.45PM |
| FRIDAY 26TH | CURRENT YEAR 4/5 PGL INSTALLMENT FOR SEPT '23 PGL TRIP DUE LAST DAY OF TERM 5 BABY & TODDLER GROUP 'BLACKBOYS BABIES' IN HALL 2-3PM |
| MONDAY 29TH- FRIDAY 2ND JUNE | MAY BREAK |
| JUNE | |
| THURSDAY 1ST- FRIDAY 2ND | HALF TERM DIG SCHOOL AT BLACKBOYS SCHOOL! 10AM-3PM |
| MONDAY 5TH | FIRST DAY OF TERM 6 |

REMAINING INSET DAYS 22/23:

FRIDAY 21ST JULY 2023