



Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 14th November 2023

Christian Value for Term : Fellowship

Dear Parents / Carers,

It has been a very exciting fortnight since our last newsletter. Class 3 were commended for their attitude and behaviour on their class trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace on Monday. Miss Reitdyk was thrilled with the amount the children learnt during the day.

We also had the pleasure of showing prospective families around our school for open day and evening on Thursday. Our older pupils do an great job with tours and prove themselves to be excellent ambassadors for the school. A special thank you to our head boy, head girl and senior prefect who came back to school to lead tours on our open evening.

Miss Mayhew

As most of you will know, Miss Mayhew has correctly been nominated for this year's Ashdown Radio Teacher of the Year award. Many members of staff are joining Miss Mayhew at tonight's (Friday) awards presentation. We wish Miss Mayhew the very best of luck and you can be updated via our school X (formerly Twitter) feed or on the front page of the school website.

Attendance

In order to get the very best education at Blackboys School, we need children to be in school every day. This can be a challenge at this time of year with the increase in childhood illnesses and seasonal illnesses.

In all but the most extreme cases we are happy to have children in school with colds or coughs and would request that parents take a pragmatic approach to getting their child into school. The school's attendance in terms of unauthorised absence has improved hugely in recent terms, so we thank

parents for keeping holidays and trips to the 13 weeks school holidays and 52 weekends a year.

Should your child be very poorly and unable to attend school, please let the school office know as soon as possible, and specifically before 9:30am on the day of the absence.

A Note from the Governors

We are delighted to welcome Ken Howell to our Governing body as a Parent Governor. Ken has previous governing experience when his children were at school. Now eight of his grandchildren attend Blackboys, he's taking on the role once again. The role of a governor has been described as a critical friend - we both support and challenge the head teachers. We are led by our Chair of Governors Tim Murray, who can often be found welcoming parents and pupils into school with Mr Sullivan or Mr Bradbeer.

We are sure that Mr Howell will be a great asset to the Federation and look forward to working with him in his new role.

Cross Country

Record numbers of Blackboys Children represented Uckfield Schools in the recent North Wealden Finals. A big thank you to parents for taking and supporting their children. Head Boy Monty Coates ran particularly well and earned a seriously impressive second place. Monty now moves on to represent North Wealden Schools in the Sussex Finals. Well done Monty.

New Signing In Procedure

Those of you who kindly regularly volunteer here at School will have seen our fabulous new electronic signing in system located in the main entrance foyer to School. All visitors who come into our School can now sign in and out electronically with a pass being issued which includes a personalised photo. Please note if you are attending an assembly or whole school celebration there continues to be no need to sign in.

Christmas Whole School Lunch, 12th December

You will have received our letter regarding the Whole School Christmas Lunch and if you haven't already please return the slip at the bottom of the letter to the School Office (even if your child is having a packed lunch on the day). This will help the School kitchen with correct placing of ordering. Slips need to be returned to the School Office by Monday 04th December

In addition, on Tuesday (12th December) we shall be inviting pupils to wear to School a Christmas Jumper in place of their Blackboys School jumper/cardigan. This will be in exchange for a £1 which with donations going to the charity of the term.

PTA Christmas Fair, Saturday 02nd December, Midday-2.30pm

We, alongside the PTA, are getting super excited for the PTA Christmas Fair which is to take place on 02nd December. Please remember to bring your filled pots and sold raffle ticket stubbs and monies to School by Friday 01st December. More books of raffle tickets are available at the School Office should you require them.

PTA Wreath Making Wednesday 06th December, 7-9pm, School Hall

Come and enjoy an evening making your own door wreath under the expert guidance of Fern Cottage Floristry's, Laura Beale. The evening will cost £35 and includes all materials needed. To reserve your space, please make contact with a member of the PTA or the School Office.



Last week of After School and Lunch Time Clubs

Please remember that week commencing Monday 4th December will be the last week of all lunchtime and after school clubs for the Autumn Term. Wraparound care Breakfast Club and After School Club will both continue up until and including the last day of term, Friday 15th December.

Reminder: the last session of Netball Club takes place Thursday 30th November and Homework Club Wednesday 29th November.

A new Spring Term club choice letter will be distributed upon our return following the Christmas break, from Wednesday 03rd January '24.

Uckfield Late Night Christmas Shopping Event, 01st December

Next Friday 01st December Uckfield will hold it's annual late night shopping event. Throughout the evening local schools are invited to perform on the stage which is hosted by local station, Ashdown Radio. Blackboys allotted time on stage is 7pm, all pupils who are participating must arrive by the side of the stage at 6.55pm. Mr Boorman, Miss Rietdyk and Mr Sullivan will be there to greet you. We remind pupils to wear plenty of layers under their super smart school uniform to keep out the cold.

Festival of Christmas Trees

Please find attached to this newsletter information relating to the Holy Cross Church Festival of Christmas Trees taking place next week. This really is worth a visit, especially as our Federation tree will be covered in decorations created by every child at Blackboys and Framfield Schools!



Gold Book Awards for week beginning 20th November

Class 1

Ettie T: For her great work in Maths, using lots of different resources to make repeating patterns.

Emily B: For her lovely work in RE, participating in the whole class discussion about birthdays and Christmas.

Molly W: For her great work in Maths, solving the addition problem independently.

Class 2

James V: For good understanding in Maths over the past couple of weeks.
Dottie F: For showing great enthusiasm in Whole Class Reading.

Lyla H: For showing fellowship when we had a child join us for a taster day.

Class 3

Evie C: For putting in 100% effort with her English and Maths.

Poppy W: For being very focussed on her work and wanting to add extra information into her report.

Astrid G: Despite being poorly last week, Astrid has come back and managed to write her report with all key features included; neat handwriting and very detailed, showing good perseverance and positivity!

Class 4

Poppy R: For joining in well with dance in PE, coming up with great ideas with a smile on her face!

Myla B: For working really hard on her narrative.

Alex G: For really persevering with his handwriting and excellent attitude for learning - I can finally read a story! Well done!

Class 5

Delilah N: For excellent effort with her writing this week.

Jacob BB: For good contributions to discussions in class.

Elizabeth McL: For good work in her newspaper-style sentences this week.

ACADEMIC YEAR 23/24

MONDAY 27TH	CHESS PLAYERS RETURN OF CONSENT SLIP TO SCHOOL OFFICE BY FOREST SCHOOL CLASS 1 BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
WEDNESDAY 29TH	YR 5/6 BOCCIA FESTIVAL @ UC SPORTS HALL 12.30-3PM LAST HOMEWORK CLUB OF TERM 3.15-4.15PM
THURSDAY 30TH	CLASS 4 LED ACT OF WORSHIP, SCHOOL HALL, ALL WELCOME 9-9.30PM CHESS Primary Cup Group D FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL. WILL RETURN TO BLACKBOYS FOR 3.30PM. FOREST SCHOOL CLASS 3 BY ROTA 1-3.15PM LAST NETBALL CLUB 3.15-4.15PM
DECEMBER	
FRIDAY 1ST - SUNDAY 3RD	HOLY CROSS CHURCH, UCKFIELD FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES.
FRIDAY 1ST	RETURN OF PTA - FILLED POTS, SOLD RAFFLE TICKET STUBBS/MONIES TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN PREPARATION OF THE SCHOOL FAIR SENIOR CITIZEN CHRISTMAS PARTY, SCHOOL HALL 1.45-3PM UCKFIELD LATE NIGHT SHOPPING EVENT. CHOIR TO PERFORM AT 7PM.
SATURDAY 2ND	PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR 12-2.30PM
SUNDAY 3RD	INVITED PUPILS - CAROL SERVICE EVENT REHEARSAL, ST THOMAS Á BECKET CHURCH, FRAMFIELD 5-6PM
MONDAY 4TH - FRIDAY 8TH	LAST WEEK OF LUNCHTIME AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
MONDAY 4TH	RETURN OF PARENTAL CONSENT SLIP FOR PUPIL PARTICIPATION IN OPEN THE BOOK DONKEY WALK WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH OPTION SLIPS TO BE RETURNED TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY FOREST SCHOOL CLASS 1 BY ROTA 1-3.15PM
TUESDAY 5TH	SELECTED PUPILS RETURN OF PANTO SLIPS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY
WEDNESDAY 6TH	RETURN OF CUPS (TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE) AWARDED DURING SUMMER TERM FOR END OF AUTUMN TERM CUP ASSEMBLY PRESENTATION NO HOMEWORK CLUB PTA WREATH MAKING EVENT WITH FERN COTTAGE FLORISTRY 7-9PM
THURSDAY 7TH	CLASS 3 LED ACT OF WORSHIP, SCHOOL HALL, ALL WELCOME 9-9.30AM FOREST SCHOOL CLASS 3 BY ROTA 1-3.15PM NO NETBALL CLUB OPEN THE BOOK DONKEY WALK. ESCORTING ADULTS WILL BE ALLOWED INTO SCHOOL AT 3PM (PARTICIPATING CHILDREN WILL BE RELEASED FROM CLASS AT 3PM) TO ALLOW CONGREGATION IN THE PLAYGROUND FOR A 3.15PM LEAVE. FINISH ETA 4.30PM
FRIDAY 8TH	LAST FORTNIGHTLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED OF AUTUMN TERM
SUNDAY 10TH	CAROL SERVICE EVENT, ST THOMAS Á BECKET CHURCH, FRAMFIELD. INVITED PUPILS TO ARRIVE FOR 6PM FOR LAST REHEARSAL. EVENT TO START AT 6.30PM

23/24 Dates for your diary

Please remember to take keep as up to date as possible, take a look at the homepage of our Blackboys website. You can click through week by week to see what is planned.

Inset Days 23 24:

Tuesday 02nd January Monday 22nd July Tuesday 23rd July

HOLY CROSS CHURCH UCKFIELD

FREE
ENTRY

dedicated
donations

Festival of Christmas Trees 2023

100+

Uniquely Decorated
Christmas Trees

Vote for your favourite tree!

FESTIVE MUSIC

& Entertainment

Refreshments, Hot Lunches
& Mulled Wine

FRIDAY 1 DEC | 10AM-9PM

SATURDAY 2 DEC | 10AM-7PM

SUNDAY 3 DEC | 11AM-4.30PM

Festival Closing Service with Carols 5pm