



Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 02nd February 2024

Christian Value for Term : Courage

Dear Parents / Carers,

We were thrilled to be visited by the High Sheriff of East Sussex last week. Richard Bickerstaff spoke to us in assembly and then toured the school answering some of the children's challenging questions. His outfit and sword caused great excitement as was the fact that he was personally selected for the role by King Charles. You can see more via our X (formerly Twitter) feed at @blackboyschool

Swimming

A big well done to our year 5 and 6 swimming team who earned an excellent 3rd place in the recent Uckfield College Sport gala. There were also some excellent individual results. Thank you to Mrs Harper for taking the team.



School Shoes

May I take this opportunity to politely remind pupils and parents that school shoes need to be worn in school each day. We have suffered recently from a spate of trainer and boot wearing. It has always been clear in our uniform policy that trainers and boots should not be worn. In the very rare case that a foot injury dictates that a soft trainer or flip flop needs to be worn, or the rare case that a school shoe breaks, please let the school office know. We would expect parents to make every reasonable effort to replace broken

school shoes as quickly as possible.

There are a number of well known online retailers who offer next day delivery at discounted prices should a visit to the shops prove challenging. In cases of financial hardship, please contact the school office in strictest confidence as we may well be able to offer help with school shoes or uniform.

There has been an upturn in the wearing of boots, especially in girls in Key Stage 2. The uniform policy clearly states no boots. Again, we politely ask that the boots are replaced by shoes when grown out of.

In terms of children losing school shoes between arriving home and leaving again for school the next morning, may I suggest that a set place is allocated at home for the removal and storing of the school shoes, so that they are in position for the next time they are needed. This could then become part of the daily routine.

The school uniform policy can be found at <https://www.blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/00c-School-Uniform.doc.pdf>

Children's Mental Health Week 5th to 9th February

A document is attached giving details of Children's Mental Health Week. At Blackboys we incorporate this with Safer Internet Day. Our Children's Mental Health lead is Miss Mayhew and she has planned an exciting assembly and class based work to raise the profile of both these events, in a positive way. Miss Mayhew, Mr Sullivan and Mr Boorman are our school Designated Safeguarding Leads and work extremely hard to make sure our pupils are safe and happy. This is backed up by Mrs Sarah Cottingham who leads safeguarding from a Governors' perspective.

Cancelled After School Football Club

Due to our annual Year 6 trip to London and the Houses of Parliament there will be no after school football taking place **Monday 26th February**.

Careers Fair, Friday 9th February

As communicated within the last whole school newsletter, rather excitingly Miss Mayhew is organising a KS2 Careers Fair. The fair will be taking place in School next Friday 9th February, 1.30-3.15pm. Classes 3, 4 and 5 will be invited to the hall to tour the stalls and speak with businesses and individuals who have volunteered their time to help focus and share their stories with the next generation.



We have been lucky enough to have

received offers from Parents/Carers to spend the afternoon with the children answering their questions, but we welcome more and if you are able to spare the afternoon on the 9th February (set up from 1.15pm) and are passionate about what you do, we would love to hear from you and welcome you to be part of our careers fair.

Please make contact with office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk OR damayhew@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk for more information.

Parent Consultations- 5th and 7th February

We are looking forward to next week's Parent Consultations. Thank you to all those who have signed up. If you haven't, there is still time to do so. Please refer to the ParentMail emails sent out for instructions on how to secure an appointment.

Years 4, 5 & 6 We encourage pupils from these year groups to attend the Parent Consultation appointment with their Parent/Carer.

Please note that there is **NO** after school Football club taking place on Monday 5th February. All other clubs including wrap around care will continue as normal.

Parent/School Contact Details

As a School we currently use a system called SIMS (Schools Information Management System). This records all pupil details including home/parent/carer contact information.



Following an East Sussex tendering process and alongside the majority of other primary Schools during the Spring term we shall be moving from SIMS to a new cloud based system called 'Arbor'.

The system change will take up to 12 weeks and will be a monitored and implemented with the assistance of East Sussex ICT.

To ensure your child's contact details are as up to date as possible, in preparation of the data transfer, at Parents Consultations you will be given a 'Data Collection Sheet' which is a unique, bespoke individual print-out of information relating to your child and held on our current SIMS system. Please can you take the time to check and amend any details and returning to the box in the hall at your chosen Parents Evening or by Friday 9th February to the School Office.

At this stage there are no additional actions required from our Parents/Carers.

Gold Book Awards for week beginning 29th January

Class 1

Molly B: For trying hard with her writing both at home and school, putting lots on the 'writing box'!
Ettie T: For working hard in our hand-writing sessions to improve her letter formation.
Lucy G: For showing a great understanding of the story we are reading in Whole Class Reading.

Class 2

Alfie S: For some amazing independent Maths work.
Fletcher J: For always working so hard and getting tasks done, but also being prepared to make corrections or improvements in purple pen.
Dottie F: For being so confident in Whole Class Reading, answering all the questions and reading fluently.

Class 3

Poppy W: For her growing confidence with adding money and getting change.
Heidi C: For being more focused in lessons.
Florence R: For her sentences using coordinating conjunctions.

Class 4

James E: For great contributions in PSHE lessons, thinking about his dreams and goals for the future.
Hugo B: For working hard to produce a great non-chronological report.
Saffron MC: For showing serious improvements with her spelling and timetables!

Class 5

William P: For excellent work with his SPAG and arithmetic.
Eva C: For great contributions in RE this week.
Nico J: For braving a solo in music yesterday.

ACADEMIC YEAR 23/24

FEBRUARY

FRIDAY 2ND

10 YEAR 2 PUPILS READING TO 'YOUNG AT HEART' GROUP HEATHFIELD CRICKET CLUB. LEAVE SCHOOL 1.10PM LEAVE FOR A 1.30 START - RETURN IN TIME FOR END OF SCHOOL.

FORTNIGHTLY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED
SCHOOL COUNCIL CAKE SALE AFTER SCHOOL, ALL MONEY RAISED TO GO TOWARDS A TIME TO TALK, THIS TERMS CHARITY. 3.15-4PM

MONDAY 5TH -
SUNDAY 11TH

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

MONDAY 5TH

CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM
NO KS2 FOOTBALL CLUB
PARENT CONSULTATIONS 3.30-6PM

TUESDAY 6TH

YR 5/6 TAG RUGBY COMPETITION @ UC BOTTOM FIELD 3.45-4.45PM

WEDNESDAY 7TH

PARENT CONSULTATIONS 5-7.30PM

THURSDAY 8TH

FATHER JAMES LED ACT OF WORSHIP - ALL WELCOME 9-9.30PM
SELECTED CLASS 4 PUPILS FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

FRIDAY 9TH

LAST DAY OF TERM 3
PARENT/CARER RETURN OF PUPIL DATA COLLECTION SHEETS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY
YEAR 6 RETURN OF COMPLETED CONSENT SLIPS FOR LONDON TRIP 26 02 24
CAREERS FAIR IN THE HALL FOR KS2 1.30-3PM

MONDAY 12TH -
FRIDAY 16TH

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

TUESDAY 13TH

MISS ZARA - DANCE WORKSHOP DAY 9.30AM - 3PM

WEDNESDAY 14TH

ELSA STUDY SIGN UP CLOSES

THURSDAY 15TH -
FRIDAY 16TH

ARCHEO DISCOVERY HALF TERM CLUB 10AM -3PM DAILY. SEE INFORMATION SENT VIA PARENTMAIL EMAIL.

MONDAY 19TH

START OF TERM 4

CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

TUESDAY 20TH

YEAR 3 PERSONAL CHALLENGE FESTIVAL 3.45-5PM

WEDNESDAY 21ST

ELSA STUDY 3.20-4.30PM

THURSDAY 22ND

SELECTED CLASS 5 PUPILS FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

FRIDAY 23RD

NETBALL TEAM TO MAYFIELD SCHOOL FOR GIRLS HIGH FIVE NETBALL TOURNAMENT. PARENTS TO COLLECT DIRECTLY FROM 'FRIENDS PAVILION' MAYFIELD SCHOOL AT THE END 12 - 3PM
BABY & TODDLER GROUP 'BLACKBOYS BABIES' IN HALL 2-3PM

MONDAY 26TH

YEAR 6 TRIP TO LONDON AND HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT 8AM-8PM
CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM
NO KS2 FOOTBALL CLUB THIS WEEK

TUESDAY 27TH

YR 5/6 NETBALL A @ UC SPORTS HALL 3.45-5.15PM

WEDNESDAY 28TH

CLASS 3 TRIP TO ROYAL PAVILLION, BRIGHTON 9AM-3.30PM

THURSDAY 29TH

SELECTED CLASS 5 PUPILS FOREST SCHOOL 1-3PM

2024 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 2024:

* Monday 22nd July * Tuesday 23rd July

My VOICE MATTERS

Place2Be's
**CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK**

TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Are you a parent or carer who wants to talk to your child about mental health?

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, whoever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe - "My Voice Matters".

We visited primary and secondary schools to ask students what they wanted from the week – to help shape the activities we create for schools, the messaging we give to teachers, the tips we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families.



LOOKING FOR FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour. and act on their views.

[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK](https://parentingsmart.org.uk)

Here's what children and young people told us they need from you:

- 1 We don't need to have 'one-off conversations about our mental health' – sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.
- 2 I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say, without interrupting me.
- 3 Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling – it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.
- 4 Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.
- 5 Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.
- 6 Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying – I don't always need answers (or lectures)
- 7 Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me – I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.
- 8 If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.
- 9 Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age – my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.
- 10 Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported.



WHAT MATTERS TO YOU? CREATIVE VIDEO ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

These wellbeing activities can help children and young people think about and share what matters to them.

[For primary children: bit.ly/3PzCGI8](https://bit.ly/3PzCGI8)

[For secondary children: bit.ly/3LBD2wK](https://bit.ly/3LBD2wK)

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Some ways to start a conversation with your child about mental health could be...

TELL ME ABOUT
YOUR DAY

WHAT WAS THE BEST
THING ABOUT TODAY?

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST
STRESS / WORRY IN YOUR
LIFE RIGHT NOW?

WHAT'S YOUR
ONLINE LIFE LIKE?

WHO WOULD YOU TALK
TO IF YOU WERE FEELING
WORRIED ABOUT YOUR
MENTAL HEALTH?

WHAT CAN I DO
TO HELP YOU?

THE FRAMFIELD STAGERS PRESENT

BY PAUL BARRON

THE GOOD

THE BAD

AND THE PANTO



FRAMFIELD MEMORIAL HALL

16TH - 17TH FEBRUARY 2024

Dear Parents/Carers at Blackboys School,

The Early Surveillance for Autoimmune Diabetes Research Study - ELSA Study

In mid-January, we shared details of this national research study which is seeking to screen children aged 3-13 years to find out their risk of getting type 1 diabetes. The study clinic will run at Blackboys C of E Primary School on Wednesday, 21st February. We included details about how to enrol in the study using an online link. The Clinical Research Network team is offering a webinar on **Wednesday, 7th February from 5pm to 5.45pm** for those families who would like the opportunity to discuss the study further and have their queries answered. You can drop in at any point during the session. Please click on the link below to join the meeting on MS Teams. You don't need to have MS Teams downloaded– you can also join on your phone, laptop or computer using your internet browser:

[Click here to join the meeting](#) (Meeting ID: 322 126 209 051)

Many thanks,

Helen Membrey

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