



# Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 03rd May 2024

Christian Value for Term : **UNDERSTANDING**

Dear Parents / Carers,

This is the first of our fortnightly newsletters for Term 5. I hope parents have had the chance to see the class newsletters last week. These can also be found on the class pages of the school website. Our Christian Value of the term is Understanding, and the children have been exploring this value in assemblies and acts of worship, including a very entertaining act of worship led by Father James and his trumpet!

We also welcome officially a number of new pupils and new families to Blackboys. Please make new families feel welcome in the playground at drop off and pick up. We are such a friendly school, and long may that continue.

## SATS for Year 6

From Monday 13th May, our Year 6 children will be taking their National Tests, commonly known as 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'. That is all we ask from our pupils; that they try their best.

It is vital that the Year 6's are well rested, 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. We all wish them the best of luck. It is the ultimate in 'Living life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) after all!

After SATS weeks, the year 6s turn their minds towards the rapidly approaching French Trip and our term 6 school play.

## Year 1 and Year 5 2024/25

Before the May mid term break 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 and that our expectation for them remains high. Our class teachers are skilled in adapting challenging work for mixed year groups and we have a bespoke curriculum to ensure no one repeats any subject content. Year groups join together each day for phonics in key stage 1 and spelling in key stage 2. There are other times year groups come together for subjects like Computing, RE and PSHE.

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 specifically at their independence, development and their ability to self-start and self-correct in reading, writing and maths together with how well they independently demonstrate the characteristics of effective learning (engagement, motivation and thinking).

To make decisions for Year 5, we use the assessment data we have for each child (our pupils take standardised assessments 3 times a year) to spot the 10 children who would be able to keep pace with the predominantly Year 6 cohort in Class 5.

Please note that we do not create class groups based on pupil friendship groups (as all our children are friendly) or parents' social circles.

## Keeping up on news

Don't forget to check out our Twitter/X feed @blackboyschool

## Class Led Acts of Worship, Term 5

Class 3	Thursday 09th May, 9.05am, School Hall
Class 4	Thursday 23rd May, 9.05am, School Hall

Parents / carers are very welcome to come along to these assemblies. May we also 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.

## Parent/Carer/Staff Netball Club Wednesdays, School 6-7pm



Thank you to all who joined the sessions of Netball Club so far; a great time is had by all! New members are most welcome to join in! You are welcome to drop in regularly or one off, there is a charge of £1 per session (cash only please).

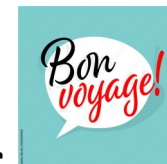
## Summer Uniform

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.

## Year 6, French Trip, Wednesday 22nd May

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



## School Council, Term 5 Charity

The School Council this term has chosen The Evelina, London Children's Hospital to support this term. Any monies collected during Thursday Act of Worship shall be sent to the hospital.



In addition to this, the School Council has arranged a competition to design and draw a new monster for Monster Phonics. The winning design will be awarded a prize. Entries should be handed into the School Office by Friday 17th May, along with 50p entrance fee. Again, all monies will be sent to The Evelina.

### Year 1 & 2 Parents/Carers, Phonics Workshop

Mrs Sullivan invites all Parents/Carers of pupils within Year 1 and 2 to a Phonics workshop session taking place in the School Hall on Friday 10th May, straight after drop off at 9.00am. The session will last no longer than 30 minutes and will help Parents/Carers:

- \* To understand what the phonics screening check is and when it takes place.
- \* To understand what the phonics screening check asks children to do.
- \* To develop parents' confidence in helping their children with sounding out and blending.



### Gold Book Awards for week beginning 29th April

#### Class 1

Ruby B - for her hard work in phonics and for doing well with her reading.  
Jonah C - for writing lots of facts about great white sharks.  
Benji D - for wanting to share his ideas more during whole class carpet time.

#### Class 2

Erin G - for some very careful sewing and adding beads to her textile art.  
Thomas P - for working really hard on telling the time.  
Ariana C - for some amazing retrieval about the Hannukah story.

#### Class 3

Sylvie C - For all her hard work with fractions of amounts and building her confidence with answering word problems.  
Jessica R-H - for her explanations on how different mountains are formed, with lots of detail!  
Jess P - for her hard work and engagement across all subjects this week!

#### Class 4

Freya C - for showing great understanding of key concepts in RE when learning about Hinduism.  
Oliver I - for some great knowledge of electrical conductors and insulators in Science.  
Hope W - for making some great progress with her writing.

#### Class 5

Harriet N - for settling in well and impressing Mr Sullivan with her Maths knowledge.  
Theo M-C - for making a good start on his biography writing.  
Eva C - for showing great commitment despite her injury!

### ACADEMIC YEAR 23/24

#### MAY

FRIDAY 3RD	WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED SEN Tea and Talk at Blackboys for invited Parents/Carers. School Hall. 2-2.45PM
MONDAY 6TH	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
WEDNESDAY 8TH	SELECTED YR 3/4 PUPILS TENNIS FESTIVAL @ VICTORIA PARK, UCKFIELD 1-3PM ADULTS NETBALL - SCHOOL PLAYGROUND 6-7PM
THURSDAY 9TH	CLASS 3 LED ACT OF WORSHIP - SCHOOL HALL. ALL WELCOME. 9-9.30AM SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM NETBALL MATCH ANNAN SCHOOL 3.30-5PM
FRIDAY 10TH	YEAR R SEPTEMBER NEW STARTERS DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF ADMISSION / TASTER SESSION FORMS PHONICS WORKSHOP, IN SCHOOL HALL 9-9.30AM
MONDAY 13TH - THURSDAY 16TH	KS2 SATS WEEK
MONDAY 13TH	SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
TUESDAY 14TH	YR 5/6 ROUNDERS @ UC BOTTOM FIELD 3.45-5.15PM
WEDNESDAY 15TH	ADULTS NETBALL - SCHOOL PLAYGROUND 6-7PM
THURSDAY 16TH	REV JANICE LED ACT OF WORSHIP - SCHOOL HALL. ALL WELCOME. 9-9.30AM SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
FRIDAY 17TH	SCHOOL COUNCIL MONSTER PHONICS COMPETITION ENTRIES TO BE HANDED INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE WITH 50P ENTRANCE COST WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED CLASS 2 TRIP TO HERSTMONCEUX SCIENCE CENTRE 9.30AM - 3PM KWIK CRICKET AT MAYFIELD SCHOOL WITH YR5/6 SQUAD 9.30AM - 4.30PM
MONDAY 20TH	YEAR 6 TO HAND INTO THE OFFICE - PASSPORTS AND/OR EHIC/GHIC CARDS IN PREPARATION OF TRIP TO FRANCE SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
WEDNESDAY 22ND	YEAR 6 FEDERATION FRENCH TRIP 5.30AM - 7.15/7.30PM ADULTS NETBALL - SCHOOL PLAYGROUND 6-7PM
THURSDAY 23RD	YEAR 6 PUPILS PARENTS/CARERS TO COLLECT EHIC/GHIC AND/OR PASSPORT FROM THE FRENCH TRIP FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE CLASS 4 LED ACT OF WORSHIP - SCHOOL HALL. ALL WELCOME. 9-9.30AM SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
FRIDAY 24TH	LAST DAY OF TERM 5 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.
MONDAY 27TH	<b>BANK HOLIDAY</b>
TUESDAY 28TH - FRIDAY 31ST	<b>MAY HALF TERM</b>
TUESDAY 28TH	MISS ZARA HOLIDAY DANCE CLUB 10AM-3PM
THURSDAY 30TH - FRIDAY 31ST	MAY HALF TERM ARCHEOLOGY CLUB 10AM - 3PM DAILY
MONDAY 3RD	START OF TERM 6 SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM YEAR 6 SWIMMING CROSS IN HAND 1.45-3.15PM

#### 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 AND Tuesday 23rd July\*\*

HOLY CROSS CHURCH UCKFIELD

# SPRING

# Festival

FREE ENTRY

A Fun-Packed Family Day Out!

## MONDAY 6 MAY

## 10AM-4PM ~ LUXFORD FIELD

FREE Garden Games

Books, Toys, Games, Activities & Family Fun

BBQ Kids Bracelet & Jewellery Making



BOUNCY CASTLE

FREE Kids Arts & Crafts

Uckfield Community Fire Station



INFLATABLE SLIDE

Sand Art

Facepainting



by Fayzpainting

Vintage Tea Room & HOMEMADE CAKES

Hook-a-Duck

FREE Kids Planting & Messy Play

Spring Cocktails

Handcrafted gifts

Bubbles & Balloons

Glitter Tattoos



Rainbow Raffle

### LOTS of Local Stallholders!

Music & Entertainment throughout the day!

From Uckfield Community Choir, Baby Ballet,

Uckfield Theatre Guild, Drumming Circle, Holy Cross Church Children & Youth Choirs!