



Blackboys Newsletter

FRIDAY 23RD May 2024

Christian Value for Term : UNDERSTANDING

Understanding – Our Value This Term

As we come to the end of another busy and joyful term at our school, we want to take a moment to reflect on our school value of the term: Understanding.

Throughout the past weeks, children and staff have explored what it means to truly understand one another. From listening carefully to friends, to thinking about different perspectives during class discussions, we've seen many examples of empathy, patience and kindness in action. In assemblies, we've reflected on how Jesus showed understanding to all he met and how we can follow His example in our own lives.

This value has encouraged us to be more thoughtful in our words and actions, to recognise how others might be feeling, and to remember that even small gestures of compassion can make a big difference.

As we head into the half term break, we thank you for your continued support and partnership. We wish all our families a restful and refreshing week. May it be a time of joy, peace, and – of course – understanding! We look forward to welcoming the children back, ready for another term of learning, growth and community.

Our OFSTED Report

We hope by now most parents have had a chance to read the excellent report from our recent Ofsted. Thank you to those parents who have reached out with questions and comments. You can read the report using this link <https://files.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50277244>

KS2 SATs and Year 6 French Trip

Last week, our Year 6s took their end of KS2 SATs tests. I was really impressed with how maturely the children approached their tests and the perseverance they showed in working through some of the more difficult questions.

Thanks to the hard work of Mr Boorman and Mrs Harper, the children were well practised and we know they were 'being the best they could be.'

Having enjoyed a post-SATS milkshake, cookie and strawberry treat, Mr Boorman talked to the pupils about their upcoming school production of *Wind in the Willows* as well as the exciting things associated with the end of year. The school will receive the SATS results in July and they will be passed on to parents via the school reports.

On Wednesday the year 6s recently enjoyed an exciting day trip to Boulogne, France. From exploring the charming old town to practising their French in local shops, they embraced every moment with enthusiasm and curiosity. Staff and members of the public commented on their excellent manners and sense of adventure. This term has reminded us that our Year 6 children are ready for the next stage of their learning journey. We give thanks for each of them and look forward to celebrating all they've achieved in the weeks ahead.



Years 3-6 Uckfield Primary Schools Athletics Tournament

35 children from our Years 3-6 have been invited to represent the School in a local Athletics Tournament taking place on Wednesday 04th June. We are looking forward to telling you how they get on. If your child has been invited to take part, please complete and return the consent slip as soon as possible to the School Office. If you are able to assist with lifts it would be hugely appreciated. This event takes place at local School, St Philips.

Year 6 Swimming, Term 6

During Term 6, Year 6 will be attending Swimming sessions every Monday afternoon at local Primary School, Cross-In-Hand. The letter has been sent home via bags and ParentMail email. Year 6 Parents/Carers please ensure that the consent and information slip has been returned to the School Office as lessons start on our first day back after half term. Don't forget your swimming kit!

Term 6 Lunch Options

Upon our return to School, from Monday 02nd June there will be an exciting addition to our lunchtime options offered to the children. As well as the daily hot lunchtime meals we will have the addition of a choice of cheese, ham or tuna baguette in a lunch bag with cucumber or carrot sticks and a cake or cookie. A copy of this update on the menu choices from Chartwells was sent by ParentMail earlier today.

Miss Zara's Dance Club

Miss Zara is returning to Blackboys for PE lessons in term 6 and also to run her popular after school club on Tuesdays. This runs weekly from 3rd June to 15th July. Please sign up using this link: <https://app.classmanager.com/portal/zara-breeze/enrolment/classes/term-6-blackboys-school-dance-club>

Charities

This term we have been supporting a local charity. Children have worked hard to raise valuable funds for the Uckfield Guide Hut in Hempstead Lane, which is desperate need for a new roof. We have lots of Rainbows, Brownies and Guides at our school. From a local scale to a global scale for our term 6 charity; the school council have chosen to support UNICEF and we look forward to finding out more about this important children's charity.

PTA Events

Plans are well underway for our upcoming PTA Summer Fair on Saturday 5th July. A super bouncy obstacle course has been booked and our friends at BrightSparks Sports are lined up to get everyone up and moving. We will also have our usual stall and food outlets. It's looking like a fun day.

Term time holidays.

We know how special family time is, and we understand that holidays can be a chance to make wonderful memories together. However, we kindly ask that families avoid booking holidays during term time wherever possible.

Every day at school matters. When children miss lessons, they can find it harder to keep up with their learning. Even just a few days away can make a big difference - not just academically, but socially too, as children benefit so much from being part of their class community.

We work hard to make school a place where children feel happy, safe, and inspired to learn. This was confirmed by our recent Ofsted inspection. Regular attendance helps build strong friendships, feel more confident, and make steady progress throughout the year. We understand that travel can be expensive, especially during school holidays, but taking time off during term can have a lasting impact on your child's education.

For clarification we expect all holidays and trips to take place in the 13 weeks school holidays each year. As a Church of England Primary School we only authorise absences of 1 day for close family weddings, christenings or funerals. We also appreciate families being honest with us. If you make out your child is poorly when really you are on holiday it tends to be discovered and creates an awkwardness between school and families. We teach the children about honesty and expect that from our school parents too.

Summer Term is busy!

With the final term of the academic year being incredibly busy, can we urge all Parents/Carers to keep up to date with all things School via our calendar which is constantly updated on the homepage of our Blackboys School website <https://www.blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk/>

Please also keep a close eye on your ParentMail emails as letters are sent via this form of communication regularly.

Gold Book Awards for the week beginning 19th May

Class 1

Scarlett H - for her great work in RE, building a church using junk modelling resources.

Olivia W - for working hard in English and writing her sentences independently.

Levi C - for his lovely work in Maths, folding shapes to find a quarter.

Class 2

Erin G - for creating beautiful textured paper in Art.

Rosie H - for some great descriptive writing in their animal catalogue.

Luka D - for remembering the name of the countries in the UK and the seas surrounding it and putting them in the right place on the map.

Class 3

Daisy H - for her amazing abstract sculpture in Art.

Fletcher J - for his excellent knowledge on the UK which helped him place mountain ranges on the map.

Aggie T - for her excellent use of similes in her mountain peak poem.

Class 4

Finley G - for working really hard on his narrative - using resources to help him get all of his ideas down!

Izzy M - for some excellent History work in preparation for our trip to Cutty Sark! A great application form and route planned!

Missy-Rose R - for all round impressive work in every subject; working independently and remembering more.

Class 5

Alex G - for his excellent efforts at speaking French on Wednesday.

Alice P - for working really hard, even when she wasn't allowed to speak!

Muffin S - for working hard on editing her writing this week.

ACADEMIC YEAR 24/25

MAY

MONDAY 26TH

TUESDAY 27TH -
FRIDAY 30TH

WEDNESDAY 28TH

THURSDAY 29TH -
FRIDAY 30TH

MONDAY 2ND

TUESDAY 3RD

WEDNESDAY 4TH

THURSDAY 5TH

FRIDAY 6TH

MONDAY 9TH

TUESDAY 10TH

WEDNESDAY 11TH

THURSDAY 12TH

FRIDAY 13TH

MONDAY 16TH

TUESDAY 17TH

WEDNESDAY 18TH

THURSDAY 19TH

BANK HOLIDAY

MAY HALF TERM

MAY HALF TERM MISS ZARA ACROBATIC ARTS WORKSHOP

MAY HALF TERM ARCHEOLOGY CLUB

START OF TERM 6

SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
YEAR 6 SWIMMING AT CROSS IN HAND (LEAVE SCHOOL 1.50 SWIMMING
SESSIONS ARE 2.15-3.15PM) PARENT COLLECTION DIRECTLY FROM
CROSS IN HAND AT 3.15PM

ADULTS NETBALL - SCHOOL PLAYGROUND 6-7PM

ATHLETICS AFTERNOON @ ST PHILIPS SCHOOL 12.15-3.05PM

SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
CHOIR CLUB TO SING AT LYDFORDS CARE HOME,
EAST HOATHLY 3.45-4.30PM

YEAR R FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 TASTER SESSION 9.15-10.15AM
MAYFIELD KWIK CRICKET TOURNAMENT - SELECTED YR 5/6 PUPILS 9.30AM-3PM
CLASS 3 TRIP TO BRANCHING OUT 9.45AM-2.50PM

SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
YEAR 6 SWIMMING AT CROSS IN HAND (LEAVE SCHOOL 1.50 SWIMMING
SESSIONS ARE 2.15-3.15PM) PARENT COLLECTION DIRECTLY FROM
CROSS IN HAND AT 3.15PM

STOOLBALL FESTIVAL UCKFIELD COLLEGE BOTTOM FIELD 3.45-5.15PM
ADULTS NETBALL - SCHOOL PLAYGROUND 6-7PM

YEAR R FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 TASTER SESSION 9.15-10.15AM

SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM

WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED
SEND Coffee and chat with Kerry Grindell @ Framfield Primary -
About food and eating 9.05-10.05AM

CUTTY SARK YEARS 4/5 TRIP 7.30AM-5PM
SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
YEAR 6 SWIMMING AT CROSS IN HAND (LEAVE SCHOOL 1.50 SWIMMING
SESSIONS ARE 2.15-3.15PM) PARENT COLLECTION DIRECTLY FROM
CROSS IN HAND AT 3.15PM

SEPTEMBER YEAR R, STARTERS PARENTAL MEETING 5.30-6.30PM
ADULTS NETBALL - SCHOOL PLAYGROUND 6-7PM

CLASS 1 TRIP TO WAKEHURST PLACE 9AM-3PM

SELECTED PUPILS CLASS 2 FOREST SCHOOL 1-3.15PM
2 x YEAR 6 PUPILS TO TAKE PART IN WEEKLY MATHS MASTERCLASS AT
UCKFIELD COLLEGE 3.45-4.45PM

24/25 Dates for your diary

If you take a look at the homepage of our Blackboys website, you will find that 'main' School events like Year 6 Summer events, Sports Day(s) and end of School Performances are detailed within. You can click through week by week to see what is planned.

Inset Days 24 25:

Monday 21st July 2025 *Tuesday 22nd July 2025*