



Blackboys CE Primary School
School Lane
Blackboys
Uckfield
East Sussex
TN22 5LL

03rd September 2026

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back from the Summer break. We hope that you have all enjoyed family time and some good weather. It has been lovely to see the children return refreshed and eager to learn. We are particularly impressed with how smart they look. We welcome not only our Year R starters but also a new 'in year' year 2 pupil. We know the School community will ensure all are welcomed to our happy thriving School.

Vision and Values

Following consultation with staff, governors and parents, we are proud to share our unique school vision.

'Be the best you can be'

Rooted in 1 Samuel 16 vs 7 and 11, our school community opens the door for every child to belong, flourish and be ready to shine in the world.

Our Christian Values will be: Perseverance, Hope, Courage, Compassion, Respect and Thankfulness.

We launched our vision and values in today's School Collective Worship and we include a visual representation with this letter.

School Office

The School Office is open daily. We encourage Parents/Carers to either email office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk or call 01825 890 423 should you require Office assistance or have any queries. Mrs Underwood works Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 8.30-3.30pm and Mrs Doherty Thursday and Friday 8.30-3.30pm. There is also a window of opportunity to speak to Office staff at drop off and pick up.

September 2026, Attendance & Punctuality

At Blackboys our start time is 8.40am when the gate opens and a finish of 3:15pm each day.

We very much expect children to be in the playground by 8.50am when the bell is rung, the children enter the School and the register is taken.

Should your child arrive at School after the register has been taken in class a 'late' mark will be applied. Please note that an excessive amount of 'late' marks may lead to an attendance review meeting being arranged.

Can we additionally remind parents that we expect pupils to attend school **every day**. On the rare occasion that children are far too poorly to attend school, then they must naturally stay home (for example for 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea) but otherwise we would expect attendance. Our high level of attendance will be helped further by families taking holidays only in School Holiday time. There are 13 weeks school holiday a year, which together with weekends, is when we would expect holidays, day trips and outings to take place. Unless the absence is for a wedding, funeral or christening (as we are a church school, one day absence for these events will be authorised) all other absences will be unauthorised and penalty notices may be issued. Absence forms are available from the school office so everything can be recorded and accounted for. Attending school daily is the number one thing a parent can do to help their child succeed.

School Dinners

Please find attached the menu for term 1. The cost of our daily School lunches has been reduced and is now £2.95. Meals for all KS1 pupils are fully subsidised via the governments' UIFSM (universal infants free schools meals) initiative. Pupils within KS2 can pay daily/weekly by ParentPay. Please can we remind you to regularly check your ParentPay account and 'top up' as necessary. Please do not build up a debt.

Year 6 Bikeability Course

Year 6 will be taking part in the annual Bikeability course on the week commencing 14th September. Please refer to the letter sent in July with regards to equipment required in School for the duration of the course. If you haven't already done so, please return the School consent via ParentPay and East Sussex consent via the online portal to enable your child to take part.

Class Planning Meetings

We like parents to receive an overview of the curriculum and classroom routines for the term ahead. These will be taking place from week commencing Monday 07th September, as below:

Monday 07th September @2.45pm - Class 1 Parents/Carers in Class 1 Classroom
Tuesday 08th September @2.45pm - Class 2 Parents/Carers in Class 2 Classroom

For all Parents/Carers of pupils within Classes 3, 4 and 5 a class newsletter will be distributed to you via ParentMail email towards the end of w/c 07/09/26.

Our fortnightly school newsletter will be distributed from Friday 18th September via Parentmail.

Reading

All children, as soon as possible, will have a reading record book in their book bag, together with a book from school. The book from school will naturally be changed more often in Key Stage 1 classes, as older children tend to pick longer novels that may take them a couple of weeks to finish.

If at any stage your child is without a reading book or reading record book, please contact their classteacher in the first instance. When a child has completed their reading record book, they will be rewarded with a certificate and issued with a new record.

Reading record books are best stored in book bags or school bags.

Diary Dates

Keeping up with all the things that go on in school couldn't be simpler and we urge you to regularly keep updated in order that nothing is missed! We produce a fortnightly newsletter which is sent to all Parents via ParentMail. Please contact the School Office if you would like a paper copy put in your child's bag. Our first newsletter of the academic year will be distributed on Friday 18th September. You can also always access our school diary via the website, <http://www.blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk/>

Already set for Autumn term are;

Date	Event
Friday 25 th September	European Languages Day - more info to follow - including wear your own clothes to school in European flag colours!
Tuesday 29 th September	Harvest Festival - please see more information later on in the letter about this.
Friday 2 nd October, 9.00-9.45am	Reception & KS1 Phonics Parent Workshop - more information to follow shortly!

Friday 16th October, 9.00-9.45am	Reception Writing Parent Workshop - more information to follow!
Monday 19th October 3.30-6.00pm	Autumn term Parent Consultations
Wednesday 21st October 5.00-7.30pm	Autumn term Parent Consultations
Friday 20 th November	INSET Day

Breakfast Club & After School Wrap Around Care

We are delighted to be able to offer our daily Breakfast and After School wrap around care. Our fabulous Breakfast Club is run by TA, Mrs Harper, daily 7.45-8.45am with our After School Club being run by TAs, Mrs Pomfret and Miss Mylon.

Booking is essential and should you need to make a cancellation (even if your child starts a new after school club) please inform the School Office to avoid a charge being made. When signing up for an after school club and your child normally attends wrap around after school care, please ensure you have cancelled their place at wrap around care.

Please see below the costings for each club.

BREAKFAST CLUB 7.45-8.40AM £5.50 BREAKFAST & CHILDCARE £4.50 CHILDCARE ONLY	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB 3.15-4.15PM CHARGED AT £5.50	AFTER SCHOOL CLUB 4.15-5.30PM INCLUDING LIGHT TEA CHARGED AT £7
IF BOOKING BOTH AFTER SCHOOL SESSIONS A CHARGE OF £12.50 WILL BE MADE		

PLEASE CAN WE ASK THAT AT LEAST 24 HOURS NOTICE IS GIVEN WHEN BOOKING EITHER SERVICE TO ENABLE CORRECT RATIOS.

In the first instance please email office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk

Payment terms: 14 days after invoices are received. We reserve the right to refuse bookings for any child who is not up to date with their payments

Due to Harvest Festival there will be no breakfast club taking place on Tuesday 29th September.

Forest School

During Autumn term **Class 3** will be partaking in weekly Forest School on a Wednesday, starting on Wednesday 9th September. Mrs Godfrey, our Forest School leader, is solely reliant upon Parent Volunteers to enable the children to enjoy Forest School down at the woods. Please can we urge you to volunteer for a session. Class 3 Forest School dates and rotas will be distributed via ParentMail and bookbags by the end of this week. Please contact the School Office who will be able to pop your name down next to a date. Should we not have enough offers of assistance, Forest School will remain in School.

Class 1 Forest School will continue all year round on a Monday afternoon, using the School grounds. This will start from Monday 07th September. Rota dates will be distributed via ParentMail email by the end of this week.

School Uniform

All uniform orders to be placed directly with our supplier SignOsaurus. There is a direct link to their bespoke Blackboys School ordering pages via the School website www.blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk/. We strive to keep our high expectation of uniform and neatness. We do hold a small amount of uniform in School, in the event of an emergency, it is worth checking with the School Office to see if we are able to source quickly. Please remember that we expect children to wear black, traditional school shoes, not boots or trainers.

Contact with teachers

Should you wish to make contact with your child's teacher, please can we ask that in the first instance you email them. All staff will happily communicate through email during working hours. Please see below contact email addresses for our teaching staff and other key School contacts.

Class 1, Mrs Booth	sbooth@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
Class 1, Mrs Nobes	jnobes@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
Class 2, Mrs Sullivan	hsullivan@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
Class 3, Miss Rietdyk	crietdyk@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
Class 4, Mrs Taplin	dtaplin@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
Class 5, Mr Boorman	rboorman@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
Mr Sullivan, Headteacher	head@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk
School Office	office@blackboys.e-sussex.sch.uk

Class Assemblies and Thursday Act of Worship

Weekly on a Thursday and starting from Thursday 10th September, we welcome Parents/Carers to share our Thursday Act of Worship weekly with us. Please come to the hall for a 9.05am start throughout the term. Please see below table for notable Acts of Worship. Please keep an eye on the diary and forthcoming whole school newsletters for other class assemblies taking place during term 2.

EVENT	WHEN	DETAILS
UCKFIELD FOODBANK	THURSDAY 17 TH SEPTEMBER 9.05AM	SCHOOL HALL
FATHER JAMES	THURSDAY 8 TH OCTOBER 9.05AM	SCHOOL HALL
CLASS 5 LED ASSEMBLY	THURSDAY 22 ND OCTOBER 9.05AM	SCHOOL HALL

If you are able to send your child into School with a couple of pennies each Thursday, they will then be given the opportunity to offer their contribution during the assembly. All monies collected go towards a charity each term which is decided by the School Council.

Annual Whole School Harvest Festival

Our annual Whole School Harvest Festival will take place on Tuesday 29th September, starting promptly at 9.00am. Children can be dropped off directly to the Church, St Thomas á Becket, Framfield from 8.40am. All Parents/Carers are welcome to attend.

Our KS1 pupils will be returning to School via a Coach (paid for by the School). Should you wish your child not to return on the coach, please inform us via the office email address.

Pupils within KS2 will be taking their traditional hike back to School and will require a change of clothes in a bag (rucksack) with suitable walking/weather clothing/footwear and a packed lunch with drink required. A plastic bag or similar would be beneficial to sit on.

There will be NO breakfast Club taking place on this day.

Parental Contact Details

In case of emergencies, School holds contact details for all parents (and other family members which you have given as a contact) for each pupil. It really is **very important** that should you have moved house, jobs or wish to add another contact number please can you make sure that you inform the School Office of this. If in doubt you are welcome to check with the office what numbers etc. are held.

ParentMail

As a school we use ParentMail to communicate things like fortnightly school newsletters, uniform orders etc. with Parents. Please ensure that you update your contact details on this to ensure that you are kept up to date with all news. The school office is unable to amend any parents' details who have 'connected' via ParentMail.

Changes to Free School Meals

All families in receipt of Universal Credit will now qualify for free school meals. Where a household is in receipt of Universal Credit and household earnings are below £7,400 per year, parents should apply via the East Sussex website: <https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/education-learning/schools/school-life/school-meals/free-school-meals>

PTA

Our PTA worked hard last year to put on some very profitable and enjoyable events. These events cannot go ahead without the support and engagement of the whole school community. We urge you to join our current PTA group, on the evening of Tuesday 22nd September at 7.30pm in the School Hall where the PTA Annual General Meeting will take place. We look forward to seeing you there.

In addition to the AGM our PTA warmly invite all Parents/Carers to an informal coffee morning meet up next Friday 11th September 9am in the School Hall. Come and socialise over a cup of coffee or tea, enjoy a biscuit and get to know our wider School community. This is a particularly useful event for new parents/carers.

Clubs - Autumn Terms 1&2 26/27

Attached are the lunchtime and after school club options for the term. We are delighted to be able to offer a number of choices for clubs this term.

You will note there are limited clubs available for the new Reception pupils. This is a deliberate decision to allow the pupils time to adjust to the school environment and routine.

Please complete the Google Form below to register your child for clubs by Wednesday 9th September.

[Google Clubs Form](#)

If the club has a maximum number of attendees, a Parentmail email will be sent out informing you of your child's allocation of place or not. Please do ensure your contact details are up to date.

If there is no maximum number stated, please be assured your child can attend.

Where payment is due for a club, please arrange payment directly and also tick the club on the Google Form so that we are aware your child will be attending.

We are also asking that should you put your name down for a club, that attendance is required for the duration of the club.

As mentioned previously, can we remind those of you who use Wrap Around After School Care and your child takes up a club it is important that you notify the office of your wish to remove your child from the relevant session of the After School session to prevent a charge being made.

We are all looking forward to a productive first term.

Yours sincerely

Mr G Sullivan
Headteacher

LUNCHTIME & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB AUTUMN TERM 26/27
UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED, CLUBS RUN FOR THE WHOLE OF AUTUMN TERMS 1 & 2

DAY	CLUB	WHO FOR?	TIME	ESSENTIAL DETAILS
MONDAY	SCHOOL LEARNING COUNCIL	TWO REPRESENTATIVES PER CLASS	12.30-1.00pm	Mrs Booth takes the lead on a new look pupil School Learning Council. Any pupils keen on making a difference or having their voice heard are welcome to put themselves forward to represent their class for upcoming class elections. The children will enjoy an assembly about this on how to put themselves forward. Starts Monday 14th September
	BOOK CLUB	YEARS 1-5	12.00-12.30pm	Miss Mylon leads our popular School book club, exploring all types of books in a fun and inclusive setting. Starts Monday 14th September
	GUITAR CLUB	OPEN TO ALL PUPILS	12:00-1.00pm (half hour sessions)	Jack from Red Butler Music School will return for Guitar club. If your child took part in this club last year and would like to continue or if your child would like to try, please use the club return form to inform the School Office. Red Butler Music School will contact you directly with regards to payment. If your child hasn't taken part before please add your email address to the reply sheet and we shall pass your address on to Red Butler who will then be in direct contact. Starts Monday 07th September
	KS2 FOOTBALL CLUB INCORPORATING GIRLS' FOOTBALL	KEY STAGE 2 (YEAR 3, 4, 5 & 6) CHILDREN ONLY	3.15-4.15pm	Mr Sullivan, Mr Boorman and Mr James would like to see keen Key Stage 2 footballers, boys and girls, for this free club. Please wear shin pads and appropriate clothing. <i>No Shin pads=No play!</i> Pupils will need to bring both football boots and trainers to each session as the field and all weather pitch will be used. Starts Monday 21st September DUE TO PARENTS EVENING THERE WILL BE NO FOOTBALL CLUB 19TH OCTOBER
TUESDAY	CHOIR CLUB	OPEN TO ALL PUPILS	12.30-1pm	Mrs Taplin invites all singers to a club learning to perform classic and contemporary songs for special occasions. A positive 'can do' attitude is essential. The club will take place in Class 4. Starts Tuesday 15th September
	ART CLUB	YEARS 2-4	3.15-4.15pm	Miss Rietdyk leads her friendly art club, focussing on creating and learning from famous artists from around the world. Limited to 15 spaces. Participants of the club will be informed of their place via ParentMail. Starts Tuesday 15th September

WEDNESDAY	KS1 FOOTBALL SESSIONS	KEY STAGE 1 ONLY (YEARS R, 1 & 2)	3.15-4.00pm	Mr James invites all budding KS1 pupils to join him after school for some football fun! Trainers required (NO FOOTBALL BOOTS) as the club will take place on the all-weather pitch or playground. Warm clothes are a must! The club will be limited to 18.. <i>Participants of the club will be informed of their place via ParentMail.</i> Starts Wednesday 16th September THE FINAL SESSION WILL BE WEDNESDAY 2ND DECEMBER.
THURSDAY	CHESS CLUB	YEARS 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6	12.30-1.00pm	Mr Sullivan leads a lunchtime Chess Club. Limited to 20 players. To take place in Class 5. Participants of the club will be informed of their place via ParentMail. Starts Thursday 24th September
	KS1 CONSTRUCTION CLUB	KEY STAGE 1 ONLY (YEARS R, 1 & 2)	12.30-1.00pm	Mrs Nobes welcomes passionate constructors to get involved with Lego, Duplo and 'junk modelling'. Starts Thursday 17th September
	NETBALL	KEY STAGE 2 (YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6) CHILDREN ONLY	3.15-4.15pm	Mrs Sullivan and Mrs Howell offer quality free coaching to keen Key Stage 2 children. Please wear appropriate clothing/PE kit. <i>No trainers = No Netball!</i> Starts Thursday 17th September
EVERY DAY!	EXTRA - CURRICULAR READING CLUB	OPEN TO ALL PUPILS	BREAK TIME / LUNCH TIME / AFTER SCHOOL	Mr Sullivan are always on the lookout for keen readers who want to try something different or challenge themselves. Come to Mr Sullivan's office during your break, lunchtime or even quickly after school to select a book and begin your reading challenge. Starts immediately!
NO SIGN UP REQUIRED!	LUNCHTIME WHEELIE WEDNESDAY	BY YEAR GROUP ON A ROTA BASIS	12.30-1.00pm	Mrs Pomfret will be leading this club. Year groups will be invited on a rota basis and informed via assembly when it's their turn to take part. Pupils will enjoy time on scooters and skateboards, improving their co-ordination and time outside! Starts Wednesday 9th September

Please fill out the Google Form below to register your child for clubs.

[Clubs Google Form](#)

Please complete this by Wednesday 9th September.