



Uniform

A reminder that hoodies are not to be worn as part of school uniform. These are part of the PE uniform and should only be worn during PE lessons or at playtimes. Please ensure earrings are removed before children come to school. There are a number of items in our lost property box. Please label all clothing with your child's name.

Washington 50

To celebrate Washington 50 your child has received a booklet by the Friends of Washington Old Hall in collaboration with the Washington History Society. It is one of the projects marking the 50th anniversary of the designation in 1964 of Washington as a new town.

Dates for your Diary

2nd Dec -	Year 3 to visit Bowes Museum (bus leaves at 8.45a.m)
2nd Dec -	Year 4 Quicksticks Festival
4th Dec -	Year 1 to visit Oxclose Church
5th Dec -	Nursery/Reception Christmas Production 9.15am
9th Dec -	Year 3,4,5,6 Christmas Show 9.15am and 2pm
10th Dec -	Nursery, Reception Year 1 and Year 2 to Washington Art Centre
11th Dec -	Christmas Lunch
12th Dec -	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Production 9.15am and 2pm
15th Dec -	Nursery and Reception Christmas Party 1.15pm
15th Dec -	Performance of Sinbad for Year 3,4,5 and 6
16th Dec -	Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party (pm)
17th Dec -	Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party (Children's Entertainer booked)
18th Dec -	Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party (pm)
19th Dec -	Musical Assembly 9.15am
19th Dec -	Break up for Christmas Holidays
5th Jan -	School reopens Spring term
22nd Jan -	RNLI Water Safety visit
6th Feb -	Parents Coffee Afternoon at 2pm
11th Feb -	Year 2 class assembly at 9.15am
12th Feb -	Year 2 Sats talk for parents at 3.30pm
12th Feb -	Movie night Reception, Year 1, Year 2 (3.15 until 5pm)
13th Feb -	Non uniform day - Valentines Lunch
13th Feb -	Break up for half term



Headteacher's Update

It is a very busy time for everyone in school in December. We are all looking forward to all children across the school being involved in Christmas performances. They begin with Foundation Stage children on Friday and Key Stage 1 and 2 next week. We also have Christmas lunch, Magicians, parties and lots more to look forward to.

We hope that you can join us for our Christmas Fair on Friday from 2pm. It was lovely to meet and hear ideas and suggestions for the fair at our coffee afternoon. Many thanks for your wonderful ideas and support to organise the event. Due to your suggestions things will be a little different this year with the fair being held across both halls and into our Community Room.

The children have been a real credit to us all this term. They have all worked very hard, enjoyed many new learning experiences and contributed so well to the success of our school. Thank you all for your continuing support and contributions. We hope that you all have a lovely festive family Christmas and everyone at Blackfell wishes you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Julia Watkins

Family Learning

If you would like to get involved with your child in making crafts we will be once again working with Apextra. The theme is "Let's Get Crafty For Christmas". On Tuesday 9th December from 9.15am - 11.15am Nursery/Reception children will have the opportunity to work alongside their parents making crafts such as bath bombs. We have spaces for 8 parents/children from Nursery and Reception class. If you are interested in taking part in the workshop please contact the school office.

Washington Library

Washington Library is holding a number of Christmas events over the coming weeks. On Saturday 6th December there will be Christmas wreath making for adults, shown by expert Victoria Calder-Mahon, Saturday 13th December Christmas 3D baubles for children and Saturday 20th December Hanging Christmas Stockings (for children over the age of 5). Booking is essential so please contact the library on 0191 561 3441 to reserve a place.

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Bookworm Challenge

The last day for this terms bookworm challenge is Friday 12th December. Please ensure your child continues to read with you at home and get their reading record signed. All children who complete the challenge will receive a bookworm badge and certificate to celebrate their achievements.

2015 School Admissions

Please ensure that applications are in for children who are due to start our Reception class in September 2015. The deadline for applications is 15th January 2015. You can apply online at Sunderland Council or contact school admissions on 0191 5611425 if you require a form.

Christmas Card Competition

Well done to Lyta Carr a Reception pupil, who was runner up in MP Sharon Hodgson's Christmas Card Competition. Lyta won a £20 Toys r Us voucher and a family cinema ticket for 4. We look forward to seeing her entry printed on to Christmas cards.



Christmas Festivities

We are looking forward to Christmas Lunch on Thursday 11th December. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will receive a free lunch. If your child is in Year 3,4,5 or 6 and normally has a packed lunch, it is not too late to send in £1.90.

The Christmas Choir will be singing at Barclays Bank in the Galleries on Thursday 11th December. Please call along between 9.45am - 10.15am. Many thanks to Barclays who will also be match funding our Christmas Fair. If any parent works for local companies and would like to work in partnership with the school please let us know.

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Class Assemblies



Parent/families enjoyed our Year 1 class assembly. The children showed off their talents singing, dancing and talking about their topic of Castles.

We all enjoyed Year 6 class assembly. They impressed us with their learning all about World War 1. Check out our school website on class pages for more photos.



Attendance

This terms attendance is currently 97.3% a great achievement! 95 children are currently on track to achieve 100% attendance and receive this terms prize of Dominos Pizza lunch. All children who achieve 95% or above will receive either a bronze, silver or gold certificate.