

Newsletter

6th October - Year 5 to visit Centre of Life
9th October - Year 2 to visit Washington Library
13th October - Year 4 to visit Bedes World
14th October - Year 6 to visit Beamish Museum
15th October - Year 2 to visit Grace Darling Museum Bamburgh
16th October - Coffee Afternoon 2.30pm
19th October - Harvest Festival Assembly 9.15a.m Reception parent/carers welcome to attend.
19th October - 22nd Book Fayre in school
20th October - Parent consultations 3pm-5pm
21st October - Parent consultations 3pm - 6pm
26th October - 30th October - Half term
2nd November - School closed Inset Day
3rd November - School reopens for children
9th November - Phonics meeting for Reception and Year 1 parents 2.30pm or 4.00pm
10th November - Year 2 class assembly 9.15am parents/carers welcome
10th November - We connect Art Project to work with Year 4
13th November - Children in Need (cake sale)
16th November - Anti Bullying Week
19th November - Friendship Disco
20th November - Non uniform Day - Wear blue and bring a donation for Christmas Fair
23rd November - Anti Bullying production Y1-Y6
24th November - Movie night (whole school)
1st December - Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to Washington Art Centre to see Snow Child
3rd December - Nursery and Reception Christmas production 2pm
3rd December - Year 3 to visit Bowes Museum
4th December - Nursery and Reception Christmas production 9.15am
4th December - Christmas Fair 2pm-4pm
8th December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Carol Service 2pm
9th December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Carol Service 2pm
11th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Production 9.15am and 2pm
14th December - Nursery and Reception Party 1pm (no nursery session in morning)
15th December - Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Party 1.15pm
16th December - Year 3 and Year 4 Christmas Party 1.15pm
17th December - Year 5 and Year 6 Christmas Party 1.15pm
18th December - Last day of Autumn term 100% attendance lunch
4th January - School closed - Inset Day
5th January - School reopens for children

Blackfell Primary School Newsletter



Issue:2
Date: Oct 15

Headteacher's Update

We are now well in to the autumn term here at Blackfell. Thank you for supporting our Macmillan coffee morning last week. We raised £215 and everyone who attended enjoyed delicious cakes and refreshments donated by the school staff. We have so many further opportunities to involve families in the life of our school. All dates and planned events are on our school website and included in this newsletter.

At the beginning of the term our 'Meet the teacher sessions' were very well attended and feedback was very positive. You will receive your invitations next week to Parent/Carer consultations on Tuesday 20th and Wednesday 21st October. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to see your child's work and discuss their progress with the class teacher. I hope that you found my communication about the changes to 'assessment without levels' informative and any questions about this can be clarified at the meeting.

I have been interviewing our Year 6 children this week for a number of roles and responsibilities across school. These positions include Playtime Paramedics, News Production Team, Librarians, Cloakroom Monitor to name a few. I was very impressed with the childrens' letters of application and their comprehensive answers in their respective group interviews. Well done - you all are a credit to our school!

Our recently introduced house team challenges are proving a real incentive for our children to work with others across the school. The Bookworm Reading challenge has ensured much excitement as has our 'Class of the Month' attendance award. I am delighted that attendance for September was 98.4%. Our target for every child is 97% across the year - thank you for supporting us to achieve this. My next coffee afternoon is on Friday 16th October at 2.30pm. I will be discussing Assessment without levels. I hope you can join me.

We all hope that you have an enjoyable half term holiday when it comes.

Best wishes

Julia Watkins

Attendance

Our attendance for September was 98.4%. Each week the class with the highest attendance is rewarded with extra playtime. To date we have 162 children with 100% for this term and who are on track to receive an Italian themed lunch in December. Well done to Year 3 who achieved the highest attendance for September. They will have a film and popcorn afternoon. Names of all the class were put into a hat and one lucky child won bowling vouchers for Washington Bowling. Look out for the 100% attendance 'spot prize' in November for the first two week after half term!

Newsletter

News

Following elections on Friday the following children have been elected as school councillors for this academic year.

Year 1 - Sadie Castling / Benjamin Ball

Year 2 - Honey McAulay / Logan Forester

Year 3 - Maddie Chan / Lewis Waggott

Year 4 - Leah Dunlop / Louie Harris

Year 5 - Aicha Bounkhaila / Ryan McGuire

Year 6 - Terri Ann Carmen / Reece McCann



Year 5 and Year 6 school councillors are invited to attend the Anti Bullying Conference which will be held on 14th October at Washington Secondary School. The conference is to raise awareness around bullying issues, to explore differences and to provide strategies to combat it for children in a variety of settings. The morning will be a series of interactive workshops as well as keynote speakers. Children will be given resources to bring back to school to share with the children. Councillors from Years 3,4 and 5 are invited to attend Living Streets to celebrate International Walk to School Month. Children will visit the Baltic Centre on Wednesday 7th October to take part in a walking

Sporting Festivals



Children from Year 5 were involved in sports hall athletics festival at Oxclose Academy. Throughout the year there are many other sporting events planned including High 5 netball, tag rugby, girls futsal, in2hockey, swimming, quicksticks, cross country, tennis, skipping and volley ball. Our new entrance will have a trophy cabinet which we hope to fill with many sporting trophies and achievements.

Newsletter

News

Harvest Festival



We are collecting food items for Harvest Festival on Monday 19th October.

We would welcome any tinned/dried products (no nuts). All food donated will be given to the Washington food bank. Reception parents are invited into the assembly at 9.15am to hear children sing a selection of Autumn songs.

Blackfell Parent and Toddler Group

A parent and toddler group for pre school children is held in the community room every Monday and Friday mornings at 9.15am and Wednesday afternoon at 1.15pm. The session is ran by parents and is only 50p which includes snacks for the children and tea/coffee for adults.

Maths Week and Sponsor Event



Following the week after the half term holiday, we will all be involved in a Maths week across the school. The children will have many opportunities to work in their house teams and with all teachers to solve mathematical challenges. In addition, we will be having a sponsored event linked to maths. The children will have a challenge to learn and practise over the holiday. Mr Barrass will be sending out further details soon.

Anti Bullying Week



November will soon be here and once again we will be taking part in Anti Bullying week. This year the date is week commencing 16th November and the theme will be Cyber Bullying and E safety. Mrs Hutchinson will be overseeing the week with the school council. Friendship discos will take place on Thursday 19th November.

Music



We are looking to increase the number of children who play musical instruments. If your child is interested in starting to learn the violin, guitar or a brass instrument please contact the office for further details. Lessons are £3 for a half hour session per week.