



BLACKTHORNS COMMUNITY PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER – 31st March 2017

What's great at Blackthorns?

- Class 2N thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Chessington Zoo on Tuesday. The weather was glorious and they were very lucky to see many of the animals close-up.
- Classes 4H and 4H really enjoyed their trip to Frog Firl Farm on Monday. They took part in a range of geographical activities linked to their Rivers topic, although rolling down a very large hill was the real highlight for the children.
- Class 6J have been working incredibly hard on their writing and have had a particular focus on their spelling.
- Class 5D really enjoyed their visits from both Mr and Mrs Richmond and have learnt a huge amount about their politics topic.
- Class RH have been using a range of strategies to find one more or one less than a number.
- Class 1T are enjoying some storytelling this week.
- Class 5D took part in a very enjoyable French café role-play with Mrs Collins this week.

Parking

Another reminder not to park on both sides of Blackthorns Close please, as this makes it impossible for emergency vehicles to access the school.

Staffing news

We have recently welcomed Miss Bekki Forrest as a new Teaching Assistant, working in Year 4. Mrs Paul is currently away from school for personal reasons and Mrs Anna Montiel has increased her teaching hours to ensure that the level of provision is maintained for our children.

FOBs' Quiz Night

Our Quiz Night was very well-supported last Friday night and was very much enjoyed by all teams. The evening also raised a magnificent £1232 profit, which is the most we have ever raised for a quiz night. A huge thank you to Matthew and Zahrah Gurr, Sarah Cole, Cate Jago, Mark Tugwell, Mr Jordan and everyone else involved in making the evening so successful.

Comic Relief Fundraising

Last Friday also saw the return of the GBBO (Great Blackthorns Bake Off) after a two-year absence. The support for this event was enormous and the tables in the school reception area groaned under the weight of the many, many wonderful cupcakes, biscuits and showstoppers. The smell of chocolate from my desk made for a wonderful day! The cake sale at the end of the day was also very well-supported and we are very pleased to have raised over £239 for a great cause.

You may also have heard that Class 4T successfully carried out a sponsored silence, much to the amusement of the staff and other children who certainly did not believe that Mr Tugwell would manage to be silent, let alone the 30 children! The sponsorship money from this event totalled in excess of £800!!!!!! This astonishing effort to the whole academy's fundraising to over £1000. Very well done to everybody involved in the different events.

Easter Service – Friday 7th April at All Saints Church, Lindfield

Our Easter service will be taking place **at All Saints Church on Friday 7th April 2017 at 9.20am** to which you are warmly invited. Please could all children be dropped off at the Tiger Room **by 8.55am, but not before 8.45am.**

Please ensure that children **are not dropped off in the All Saints car park** and expected to walk to the Tiger Room alone. The doors to the church will not be opened until 8.50am, so please do not try to drop your children off before the times stated above as there will not be adequate numbers of staff to supervise them.

As you may know, the next phase in the building project at All Saints Church has begun and the traditional pews have been removed from the church and been replaced with chairs. This has implications for our service, so Mrs Neller and I have visited the church and have decided that we can still go ahead with our Easter service. Seating arrangements will be different to previous services and some children will be sitting right at the front of the church. As such, we must again ask that only two adults attend the service for each family. This is to ensure that the event is safe and comfortable for everybody. You may recall that we made the same request at Christmas and at the recent Year 4 production and largely our families stuck to this request. However, there were more than two adults for some families, so I again ask that you comply with this request, as we do not want to have to issue tickets for future events to ensure that the quantity of people at the event is safe.

Healthy Eating

At Blackthorns we encourage healthy eating. Children in KS1 are offered fruit at morning break and KS2 children may bring a healthy snack from home (ie. cereal bar, piece of fruit etc. not crisps or chocolate bars). We would appreciate your co-operation by sending in an appropriate snack with your child if they would like something during the morning.

Bloodwise Charity Event

You should have received information regarding six of our parents who will be attempting to walk 33km to raise money for Bloodwise, in support of a mum in the school who is being supported by this charity. If you would like to make a donation, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/companyteams/solefulstrutters>

Key Dates:

Tuesday 4 th April 2017	Year 3 and 4 football match (players have received a letter)
Wednesday 5 th April 2017	Year 5 and 6 tag rugby tournament Singing Club Spring Concert (5 – 5.30pm)
Friday 7 th April 2017	Easter Service at All Saints Academy closes for the Easter Holidays
Monday 24 th April 2017	Academy re-opens at 8.50am for the Summer Term
Wednesday 26 th April 2017	Class photographs

Kind regards

Marianne Brand