



# BLACKTHORNS COMMUNITY PRIMARY ACADEMY

## *NEWSLETTER – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2018*

A very Happy New Year to you all! I hope you were able to enjoy some family time during the festive period. On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to thank you for the very generous gifts, cards and messages that were received at the end of last term. These are always greatly appreciated.

### **What's Great at Blackthorns?**

- Year 5 enjoyed a fantastic session with Sustainability Consultant, Dr Dianne Bowles, this week
- Class 3C have been learning all about tea during STEM Week
- In addition, Class 6J have based their STEM Week learning around biscuits!
- Class 2N have enjoyed their new animal dance sessions, as well as the visit of the Fire and Rescue Service earlier this week
- Class 4H have worked very hard on improving their scientific questioning and vocabulary during STEM Week
- Class 1C have been enjoying learning all about space during STEM Week and a particular highlight was making alien gloop!
- Class RT enjoyed the visit of the Fire and Rescue Service and all of the children are really keen to write since they returned from the Christmas holidays

### **Parking and Driving around the academy**

I have met with the local residents association, as well as representatives from West Sussex since the start of the new term and we are now exploring different ways to ensure the safety of the children and families in the roads around the academy. As ever, please can I remind you to drive and park safely and considerately, not blocking residents' driveways or parking on the corners of roads?

### **STEM Week**

We have all really enjoyed a very good STEM Week and we are looking forward to welcoming you to come into school and look at your child's learning from STEM Week and their other books on **Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018** between **3.15 and 4pm**. After school clubs will still be running on this day, so please be considerate of the children and adults taking part in these. Particularly, we ask that you do not walk through the hall during Popsteps club, but access the different parts of the school from the outside doors. You are welcome to share your child's learning with them, or while they are at a club, but the session will end promptly at 4pm.

### **Climbing Equipment**

Please can parents and carers remain on the Key Stage 1 playground at the beginning and end of the school day? We are regularly seeing children, both pupils at Blackthorns and not, using the climbing equipment before and after school. For insurance reasons, this is not permitted and we ask parents to ensure that their children do not use this equipment.

### **Save the Children Collection**

Thank you for your generous donations to Save the Children at the end of last term. We are delighted to have raised a fantastic £527.00.

**Can you help?**

If you have any of the following items we would be grateful to receive them: boys/girls socks (all sizes), brown tights (all sizes), school pinafore dresses/summer dresses (up to 8 years). Please hand any items in to the academy office – thank you.

**Term Dates**

Please see attached list of updated term dates – this list replaces any lists previously issued.

**Key dates for the next two weeks:**

Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	-	Parents invited to look at STEM Week work 3.15pm to 4.00pm
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> January	-	FOBs Meeting at 7.30pm at the Academy

Kind regards

*Marianne Brand*