



BLACKTHORNS COMMUNITY PRIMARY ACADEMY

NEWSLETTER – 11th May 2018

What's Great at Blackthorns?

- Class 3C are really enjoying their new English unit using animation.
- The English learning in Class 5T is currently using 'The Nowhere Emporium' as the focus and the children are really enjoying this.
- Mrs Neller is 'chuffed to bits' with Class 2N! They continue to work incredibly hard.
- Class 6J's attitude to revision for SATs and their levels of independence are really impressing Mrs Jago. They also had a visit from Ian at Crawley Open House and have been thinking about homelessness.
- Class 1C have been writing stories based on The Secret Garden and have been using some very impressive language.
- Class RT are enjoying seeing their tadpoles and caterpillars grow and develop. They have been making posters and drawings linked to this.
- Class 4H have been working on decimals and fractions and have been very successfully applying their learning from elsewhere in maths.
- Class 5D have been enjoying making Canopic jars, linked to their topic.

Year 6 SATs Tests

Next week, our Year 6 children will be taking their end of Key Stage 2 tests in school. As a result, some arrangements for the week will be different to normal, including musical instrument lessons. Our Year 6 children have been working very hard all year towards these tests and we would like to wish them all the very best of luck. We know that they will shine!

Safeguarding Request

Please can we ask that parents/carers do not enter the school via the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 doors during the school day? This includes the time before the children are dismissed in the afternoon. Recently there have been several occasions when parents have walked in to the school building via the Key Stage 1 door to go to the office. This is a safeguarding concern and we ask that all adults entering the building during the school day do so via the front entrance, ensuring that they have signed in and been seen by a member of office staff.

In addition, there have been a number of reports of parents in the Key Stage 2 area after the start of the school day. Key Stage 2 pupils (Years 3-6) are allowed to arrive in school from 8.40am, but are required to be in school by 8.50am, and this is when their learning begins. Recently, some parents have been coming in and arriving in the classroom at 9am wishing to speak to the teacher and, therefore, disrupting the learning of the entire class. Please can all parents (Key Stage 1 and 2) please say goodbye on the Key Stage 1 playground each morning and not come into the school building.

This request does not change our open door policy for parents to speak to teachers if they have any concerns or queries. As I have said many times before, mornings are very busy in school as teachers are preparing for the day and so this time of day should be avoided unless there is an urgent message for a teacher. After 3.15pm, parents are very welcome to come into school to speak to teachers. For parents that do not collect their children, please feel free to telephone the school and teachers will always be happy to call you back at a convenient time.

Village Day Parade

For homework this week we would like the children to plan their costume for the 'Ugly Bug Ball', in preparation for the village day parade on Saturday 2nd June. Class teachers have lots of costume ideas which the children can look at if they're a bit stuck. Next Friday, 18th May, Paul Render will be coming to help us create our parade centrepiece. All children will take part in a workshop. Please remember we are asking for £2 contribution for this. **Wednesday 23rd May** will be a dress up day and an opportunity for the children to show off their costume creation.

PE Kit

Below is an extract from our Uniform Policy (which can be found on the academy website):

P.E.

All children are required to have a change of clothes for P.E:

- *Blackthorns Sports Top available from Broadbridges (or plain navy t-shirt)*
- *Blackthorns Sports Shorts or Skort available from Broadbridges (or plain navy shorts)*
- ***The previous PE kit of navy shorts and blue t-shirt is acceptable for all children in Years 3-6 in 2017/18, Years 4-6 in 2018/19 and Years 5-6 in 2019/20***

Therefore, only children in Key Stage 2 should be wearing the old PE kit of blue t-shirt and navy blue shorts. Please ensure that your child has the correct PE kit.

'Great Plastic Pick Up'

As you may be aware this weekend is the 'Great Plastic Pick Up'. Quote from the Daily Mail 'The idea is for communities to collect rubbish with the specific mission to remove plastic that poisons public places'. To support this venture the Eco Committee plus some children from Year 4H would like to organise a litter pick next Friday 18th May between 11.00am and 12.15pm at Scrase Valley. For this to happen Mrs Thomas would be grateful if four parents would be willing to help. All volunteers must have a DBS check and completed the safeguarding training. If you are able to help please let Mrs Day know as soon as possible – thank you.

Key Dates

Week beginning 14 th May	-	Year 6 SATs week
Wednesday 16 th May	-	Year 4 Roman Evening
Friday 18 th May	-	Village Day Workshop
Wednesday 23 rd May	-	Year 5 'The Greatest Show'
Thursday 24 th May	-	Year 1 River Walk
Friday 25 th May	-	School Closed for INSET
Week beginning 28 th May	-	Half Term
Monday 4 th June	-	2 nd Half Term begins

Kind regards

Marianne Brand