



# BLACKTHORNS COMMUNITY PRIMARY ACADEMY

## *NEWSLETTER – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018*

### **Maz Evans visit**

We had an inspirational day with best-selling author, Maz Evans, on Monday this week, which was part of a day of book-related activities across the academy. Despite a puncture on the M27 and a lot of traffic, Maz arrived full of enthusiasm and energy and delivered some wonderful workshops across the academy, finishing with a whole school assembly, when Mrs Dodd and Mr Tugwell competed in a game of Mallet's mallet! Maz told the story of when she wrote her first book, "Who Let The God's Out?" and the fact that this was turned down by every publisher that she sent it to. She eventually self-published the book and it became very popular very quickly, leading to her being contacted by Barry Cunningham (the publisher that discovered Harry Potter), who offered her a publishing contract. She also revealed the title and cover colour of her new book, "Against All Gods" 24 hours before she announced this on Twitter. Maz then signed copies of her book at the end of the school day and posed for selfies with the children. A huge thank you to Mrs Dodd for arranging this day.

### **Sports Day**

A big thank you to parents and family members for supporting our recent sports day. The events both went off very well and the children really enjoyed it. For the first time in my 6 years at Blackthorns, the Air house (white) celebrated overall victory. Well done to all of the children. Thank you to Mr Tugwell for organising the events so expertly, as always.

### **Year 6 Production**

We were treated to a really wonderful performance spectacular by our very talented Year 6 children earlier this week. On a very hot evening, they performed their hearts out and displayed their many talents. Thank you Year 6, it was awesome. Thanks also to the parents for reorganising their diaries to accommodate a slightly earlier start to enable everyone to see England in the World Cup semi-final.

### **Leavers' Assembly**

All parents, friends and relatives are invited to our final assembly on **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 9.15am** (although space is limited as you can imagine). Following the assembly Year 6 parents are invited to stay for coffee which will be served in the Year 6 classroom/garden. This is followed by a personal farewell to Year 6 when they will be presented with their leaving gift to which parents are also invited.

### **End of Term – Lindfield Common**

As you will all know, there is an unofficial celebration of the end of the school year on Lindfield Common each year. Last year, despite this not being an official school event for either Blackthorns or Lindfield Academy, both Mr Still at Lindfield and myself have received complaints from local residents regarding the amount of litter left on the common. This was largely due to the bins not being sufficient to deal with the amount of litter produced. As a result, I have organised for extra bins to be delivered to the car park at Backwoods Lane and would encourage you to make use of these.

### **Annual Reports**

You will receive your child's annual school report today after school. We hope that you will find this information helpful in understanding your child's attainment and engagement better. The back page is a comments page for you and your child to complete and return to school. In cases that we are aware of parents that live separately, we have prepared two copies of the report. If you need an extra copy of the report and do not receive it, please let us know and we will be happy to provide this.

For children in Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6, there will be an additional piece of paper containing phonics screening, Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 results. We are absolutely thrilled with how brilliantly our children have performed in these assessments again this year and will announce our overall results early in the autumn term.

### **Key Dates**

Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Year 6 visit to Hove Lagoon
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	-	'Wear Something Green for MacMillan' Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Final Assembly
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Last Day of Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	-	Inset Day
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	-	First Day of Autumn Term for Children

Kind regards

*Marianne Brand*