

NEWS FROM BLACKTHORNS



BLACKTHORNS
COMMUNITY
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Number 4: 2nd November 2018

OFSTED

On behalf of the whole academy community, I would like to thank you all for the many messages of congratulations that we have received since the publication of our recent Ofsted report. It is really lovely to receive the recognition for the hard work of the whole community over the last few years to achieve this wonderful accolade.

Thank you also for so readily giving your consent for photographs to be taken for our press release. We all had a lot of fun having these photos taken this week and they will hopefully be in the local press within the next few weeks. Unfortunately, the weather did not allow for the drone to take flight, but we are really pleased with the photos nonetheless.



STAFFING NEWS

Just before half term we said goodbye to Mrs Cook, who left Blackthorns after working here for many years. We will miss Mrs Cook and thank her so much for her commitment and dedication to our academy and our children over the years. We wish her all the best for the future.

We are pleased to have appointed Mr Jacob Neller as a Teaching Assistant, who will be working in Year 5. Thank you to Mrs Dickenson who is now working in Year 3.

We are also pleased to welcome Ms Eun Joo Lee as a new Midday Meals Supervisor.

Mr Dean Geale has returned to Blackthorns and is teaching Year 3 during Mrs Carr's absence. Welcome back Mr Geale!

ODD SOCKS DAY

We are inviting children to wear odd socks on **Monday 12th November 2018** to raise awareness for anti-bullying week. This is a national initiative and the children will be learning a song called 'Choose Respect' in school to sing on this day.



We hope you enjoy Bonfire Night celebrations, but please stay



Please ensure that children arrive in school promptly, ready to learn. Also, please ensure that all children have a warm, waterproof coat now that the weather is beginning to turn colder.

Class 5I are off to Sayers Croft for their residential trip next week. We hope you all have a wonderful time!!

What's Great?

- Class RN have been enjoying their 'Marvellous Me' topic.
- Class 1S have been discovering autumn (see photo below) and they have made up their own songs about the season.
- Class 2C completed some incredible half term Take-Away tasks, which have aided their writing.
- Class 3C have been completing some plasticine modelling to inspire their writing, using our 'Write Inspired' approach.
- Class 4H have been enjoying their tag rugby unit, lots of laughter and smiles.
- Class 5T have demonstrated sensitivity and maturity when learning about dementia as part of their 'Who Let The Gods Out?' work.
- Class 6J are taking part in some very high-tempo dance routines with Pop Steps Becky.
- In preparation for WW1 Week, Class 6D have completed some wonderful collage artwork with Mrs Thomas. This contrasts the darkness of the trenches with the vivid red of the poppies.



WELL DONE TO THE SCHOOL COUNCIL AND MRS FOWLER FOR RAISING OVER £120 IN THEIR RECENT MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT.



WORLD WAR ONE WEEK

Next week is our World War One Week at Blackthorns. The children's learning this week will be focused on the war to commemorate 100 years since the end of the war. Parents/carers are invited to come in at the end of the day on Friday 9th November 2018 3.15-4pm to see what the children have been learning.

While the children enjoyed an extra day off, the staff spent the recent Inset Day working with teachers from the other academies in the trust, sharing good practice. It was a very productive day.

KEY DATES

- 5th-9th Nov: World War 1 Week
- 5th/ 27th Nov—Year 6 to Churchill War Rooms
- 7th-9th Nov: 5T to Sayers Croft
- 12th Nov—Odd Socks Day
- 15th Nov—AIRC Southern Water Programme in school (details to follow)
- 22nd Nov—a very special visitor will be at Blackthorns (details to follow!!)

- 3rd-7th Dec: Year 6 Bikeability
- 11th Dec: EYFS/ Key Stage 1 nativity
- 12th Dec: EYFS/ Key Stage 1 nativity
- 14th Dec: Christmas Jumper Day
- 18th Dec: Panto day. Years 5 and 6 to 'Sleeping Beauty' in Horsham, EYFS-Year 4 'Peter Pan' in school
- 19th Dec: Last day of Autumn Term