

Autumn Term 2024

Blackrod Primary School Newsletter

13th September 2024

Start of a New School Year

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and you have enjoyed an enjoyable and restful summer. It has been wonderful to welcome all of our children back to school.

I'm excited to embark on another academic year at Blackrod Primary. I look forward to working closely with you to ensure that we maintain our high standards and continue to strive for excellence in all that we do.

Communication and collaboration between school and home are key to the success of our pupils. I believe that by working together, we can create the best possible educational experiences for your children. I am passionate about ensuring that every child at Blackrod Primary is given the opportunity to thrive both academically and personally and we are dedicated to continue to foster a positive and inclusive environment where every child feels cared for, valued, supported and challenged to be the best that they can be.

We are thrilled to welcome 45 new children to our EYFS Picasso class and are looking forward to getting to know you and your families. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or concerns. We can't wait to embark on this exciting journey together!

We are pleased to announce that the second phase of the heating/boiler works installation has been completed. While the technical work is finished, we continue to make aesthetic improvements in the original school building following the works, this will continue throughout the term. We apologise for any temporary inconveniences this has caused and appreciate your patience and understanding.

As we embark on a new school year, we kindly request that all members of our school community treat each other with respect and care. The health and wellbeing of all is paramount in our success in providing our children with exceptional education opportunities.

I am truly grateful for your continued support and trust in Blackrod Primary School. Our children are at the heart of everything we do and I am deeply committed to ensuring that Blackrod Primary remains a place where they can thrive. I am excited about the journey ahead and confident that, together, we can achieve great things.

Thank you for your continued support, Mrs Mead



Diary Dates

School led Extra-Curricular clubs - Monday 16th September to Friday 18th October

Leigh Leopards Visit – Tuesday 17th October

Tempest Individual/Sibling photographs – Thursday 19th September

Book Fair and Book Swap Shop – Monday 23rd September – Thursday 26th September

Youth Council Meeting – Monday 23rd September

Full Board Governors Meeting – Monday 23rd September

Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday 27th September

Autumn Calendar of events will be published next week

Key Stage Weekly Updates

Please see our Key Stage weekly updates from your class teachers and teaching assistants.

EYFS

We have had a wonderful first full-time week in Picasso! This week we have enjoyed learning about our identity, what makes us unique and celebrating our differences. We have learned about and celebrated our diversity - how everyone is different, but everyone is special! We have loved exploring this with the story, 'Elmer' by David McKee.

Next week, in maths we will be focusing on comparing objects, amounts and capacities. In literacy we will read 'This is my house' by Michael Rosen. In our PSHE project, we will learn all about families: who is in our family and how our families are different from others. If you would like to send in a picture of your family via Tapestry, we will share these in class and create a 'big book of our families'.

Reminders: All wellies, PE kits and waterproofs need to be in school next week

KS1

We have had a wonderful full week in KS1 this week! We have been learning about the value of numbers in Maths and in English, we have been writing using our taught sounds in phonics and using a range of conjunctions. In geography, we have started to learn about where we live and about other human and physical features in our locality. We are now settled into our new Phonics and Readings groups. Please encourage your child to practice their spellings this week, ahead of next week's spelling tests. Your child will also have a new reading book linked to their phonics group – please ensure that they are reading this frequently to develop fluency.

LKS2 have had an excellent first full week back! Our current topic in Maths is Place Value. This weeks objectives have been partitioning and representing numbers in various ways. Our author theme this term is Roald Dahl - each class will be reading one of his books and developing reading skills around this famous author. In Science, we have been learning about the functions of the organs in the digestive system. In PE, we are practicing our skills in football and athletics! Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school every day, as PE days can sometimes change.

UKS2: We have had a very busy week In UKS2. We've all been working on place value up to a million in maths and in English have continued working on our new books. In science we have been finding out about the life cycles of mammals, including some unusual monotreme and marsupial mammals. IN geography we have been researching the Eastern European landscape and comparing it to our own. **Reminder: the expectation for reading in UKS2 is that children should be reading 3xper week and recording this in their diaries.**

Celebrations

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Children who are celebrating their birthday can come to school in their non-uniform birthday clothes. If their birthday falls on a weekend, children can come in non-uniform on the Friday or following Monday.

If children are celebrating a religious festival at home, they can come to school in their celebration clothes on that day

Achievements from home

If your child has taken part in an event or has been presented with a certificate, medal or trophy. Please send them into School on Wednesday so we can celebrate their achievement. If they don't have an item or photograph to show, please write a short note detailing what they have done.

I visit each class and children can share their awards/achievements their teachers, their classmates and me and will receive a special sticker for their achievement.

Celebration Assembly

Well done to all of our certificate winners!

6th September 2024

Certificates

KS1: Phoenix, Ellie, Margaret, Thomas, Alfie and Phoebe

LKS2: Max, Georgia, James, Teddy, Alfie and Jack

UKS2: Quinn, Josh, Oliver, Robyn, Kourtney and Henry

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Head Teacher's Awards

EYFS: Joshua and Lottie

KS1: Sophie, Reece and Abigail

LKS2: Mia, Joseph and Max

UKS2: Matthew, Logan and Erin

Blackrod Values Awards – Bravery

EYFS: Rosie & Winter

KS1: Harley, Oakley & Minerva

LKS2: Orla, Lucas & William

UKS2: Indie-Jae, Hannah & Silver

Classes and Teachers at Blackrod Primary School

EYFS – Picasso 1&2 – Reception - Miss Coogan and Miss Millington

KS1 – Milhazes, Van Gogh and Gauguin - Mrs Burt, Mrs Wilson/Mrs Holland, Miss Wiles/Mrs Foster

LKS2 – Kahlo, DaVinci and Lowry - Miss Hutchison, Miss Littlefair and Miss Bostock

UKS2 – Mahlangu, Ringgold and Mackintosh – Mrs McCrory, Miss Green, Miss Sewart/Mrs Littlefair

General Information and Updates

Flu Vaccination – Nasal spray

Please find below the Intra Health link for our school's E-consent form for flu vaccinations, the link will close on 14th October 2024

<https://nhslmms.azurewebsites.net/session/6ba2fb40>



BBC 500 Words Competition

Blackrod Primary School would like to invite you to enter an exciting '500-word short story' competition led by BBC.

There will be two age categories: 5-7 and 8-11 year-olds.

All children need to do is write a story they would love to read in 500 Words or less.

The closing date for entries is Friday 8 November at 9pm.

To find out more about the competition including how to enter, please visit: [Information page: 500 Words 2024 - BBC Teach](#)

Lost Reading Books

Can we kindly request that families look at home for any school books. If you find any school books at home, please send them to school with your child or hand them in at the school office or to a member of staff.

Lost Property

We have had a number of parents/carers asking us to locate missing items of clothing across school.

Please can you ensure all items of clothing are clearly named so we are able return them to the child quickly. We have a small amount of unclaimed items in lost property, all are un-named.

Communication

Class teachers and SLT are available on the playground/at the main entrance at the start of the day for brief conversations and messages.

If you are unable to speak to staff at the start and end of the day and need to contact a member of staff please email the school office at office@blackrod.bolton.sch.uk with FAO 'staff name' in the subject line. This will be forwarded to the relevant staff member.

We endeavour to maintain open communication between home and school however, the teaching staff team are unable to take or return telephone calls within the teaching day due to their class commitments. Where possible, they will telephone between 3.30-4.15pm, usually within two working days. The office team will take messages and pass them onto the teaching staff team. Please support the communication systems by giving a brief outline/message to the office staff team when contacting school.

Please ensure you contact details are all up to date with school and that you have updated you parent app and parent pay.

Parent app if the main form of communication from school and messages and letters are all uploaded onto the platform. Most information is included on the weekly newsletter which is normally sent at the end of the week. Please ensure you check the newsletter each week. It is also uploaded onto the school website in the parents section.