



# NEWSLETTER

10th September 2021

## Headteacher Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a fabulous start to the term and it has been a delight to see so many happy smiling faces returning to school. With restrictions lifting we have been able to reintroduce face to face assemblies each Monday and Friday with children having the opportunity to mix with their peers in the canteen and on the yard. Our mixed year group enrichment clubs will start from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> September due to two late nights next week for mandatory staff training. Letters for these clubs will be sent early next week.

For over sixteen months we have been providing children with free toast at break time. Both staff and children report that this initiative has had a positive impact on children's learning and wellbeing. Therefore, we have decided that we are going to continue this for all children for the foreseeable future. In addition, the tuck shop will be open from Monday with initially, a small stock of cereal bars and drinks. This will be run by our year 6 children and cash will be accepted.

With foreign holidays becoming more accessible I need to remind parents that children should not be taken out of school for this reason. Non-attendance creates gaps in children's learning and hinders later learning. Overall attendance is one of the big factors that agencies will focus on when inspecting our school. Please support us with this.

Finally, the feedback from children, parents and staff has been overwhelming positive regarding the extended school day. The children have loved having additional time to relax while eating their lunch as well as additional time to play with their friends. Thank you all for your support with this positive change.

Mr D Kenny – Executive Headteacher



Mr D Kenny  
Executive Headteacher

## Star of the week

Congratulations to this week's Stars. We are very proud of you.

- NURSERY: All children
- RECEPTION: All children
- YEAR 1: Pixie Billington
- YEAR 2: Zack Barker
- YEAR 3: Holly Magee-Higgins
- YEAR 4: Scarlet Hatton
- YEAR 5: Mason McIver
- YEAR 6: Zach Snell
- PPA: Alex Banim
- Charlie Forster
- Afterschool: Thomas Furlong

## Terrific Timekeepers



Can we remind Parents/Carers that doors open at 8.20am. Our terrific timekeepers for this week are our pupils from Y2, Y5 and Y6. Well done to everyone who arrived on time.

## Scooters



Can we ask children to not ride their scooters/bikes in the playground. Recently there have been a few or near misses.

## Lunchtime Request



Can we ask all parents that if your child has grapes in their packed lunch box that you cut them into half to avoid choking.

## Parent Communication

There are still **a lot of parents** that have yet to sign up for School Comms. Can we please remind parents to sign up for the school comms app, **as all urgent messages will only be sent through the app.** Please click on the link to register. [School Gateway Login.](#)



YEAR	ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK:
NURSERY	100%
RECEPTION	100%
Y1	99.4%
Y2	94.6%
Y3	95.2%
Y4	97.2%
Y5	98.9%
Y6	93.9%
TOTAL	97.4%
YEAR TO DATE	<b>97.4%</b>

## What Do I Do Outside School

Well done to Elijah from Y6 who travelled to Nottingham for the Karate Union of Great Britain National Championships. Elijah came away with Gold in the boys 10-11 Kumite (fighting) Category. Well done Elijah, that is amazing!



## National Make Your Bed Day

Tomorrow is National Make Your Bed Day. This may come as a shock — but did you know that we spend a third of our lives in bed? So, treat your bed with the respect it deserves and show off that beautiful bed. In a survey conducted by the National Sleep Foundation, people who make their bed daily more often have a better night's sleep.



# FOCUS OF THE WEEK

At Blacklow Brow we value excellent attendance and punctuality as it is extremely important for the learning and well being of a child. Children who attend school regularly and arrive on time are more secure and better able to learn. Not attending regularly or arriving late has a negative impact on their learning, self esteem, confidence and also their friendships. As parents/carers, you have a responsibility to ensure that your child attends school and we want to support you in this.

## Important Notice

If your child is absent for 5 or more days , you must provide medical evidence, such as a dated appointment card, prescription or doctors note. Without medical evidence your child's absence will not be authorised. Unauthorised absence can lead to a Penalty Notice being issued by the Local Authority which is £120 per child per parent. Parents sometimes think that fines are only for taking your child out of school for holidays, but you can also be fined for persistent absence.

## REMINDER REQUESTS FOR HOLIDAYS DURING TERM TIME

Changes to the Education Attendance Regulations 2013 have meant that there is no legal entitlement for parents to take their children on holiday during term time. The regulations also make it clear that Headteachers may not authorise leave during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances, which does not include holidays. Absences are monitored by Knowsley Council who ensure parents adhere to the legislation and fines have recently been increased to £120 per child per parent.

## UNDERSTANDING ATTENDANCE

As you can see from the table (right), if your child were to be absent for 1 week per term, this would equate to 4 weeks of lost learning per year. This would have a significant impact on their education.

PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE	WHAT THAT MEANS IN WEEKS OFF PER TERM	WHAT THAT MEANS IN WEEKS OFF PER YEAR
95%	4 days	2 weeks
90%	1 week	4 weeks
80%	2 weeks and 4 days	8 weeks
70%	4 weeks and 1 day	12 weeks
60%	5 weeks and 3 days	16 weeks
50%	7 weeks	20 weeks
40%	8 weeks and 2 days	24 weeks
30%	9 weeks and 1 day	28 weeks

## REMINDER

Doors open:  
8.20am Lessons  
start: 8.30am



# Attendance Matters

Every student. Every day.



## ENRICHMENT

Enrichment clubs will begin W/C 20<sup>th</sup> September, letters will follow shortly.

## WORDS OF THE WEEK

MATHS – Angle

ENGLISH – Ambition

## Dates for your diary

13<sup>th</sup> September: Roald Dahl Day  
19<sup>th</sup> October: School Photograph Day  
22<sup>nd</sup> October: Finish School  
1<sup>st</sup> November: School opens  
8<sup>th</sup> June: Y6 JCA Trip

## After School

Please email the school office to book your afterschool requirements. Our numbers are capped, so please remember to book, as we may not have availability on the day. **If you have booked an afterschool session and no longer require it, please email the school office ASAP.** Thank you

## LATE PICK UP FROM SCHOOL

If children are not collected at the normal pick up time of 2.50pm OR are late being collected from an afterschool activity, they will go into afterschool which is chargeable as follows:  
½ hour from school close time= £3 per day  
1 hour from school close time= £5 per day  
anything after a 1 hour stay up until 5.30pm = £10 per day  
(Late after 5.30pm - £1 for every minute late)