



NEWSLETTER

9th February 2024

Headteacher Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

We end another busy half-term filled with learning, trips, enrichment, and fun. On Monday, our choir had a wonderful time participating in the world's biggest choir at the 'Young Voices' event in the Manchester Arena. I am told that the event made the National news again this year. Thank you to all the staff who supported us by attending the event and who had an extremely late night.

This week was Children's Mental Health Week. Today, each class had a series of activities on a carousel focused on positive mental health and learning how to stay fit and healthy. To support children's mental health, we have again teamed up with Activate, who are running a series of activities during the half term at Park View Academy. Already, 240 children from the local area have signed up to attend this free event.

Thank you to all those year six parents who attended the SATs information sessions this week. Mr Dunford and Mr Ogilvie have been working extremely hard to analyse performance data to target and design bespoke learning activities for the children. Please ensure this work is completed over the half-term break.

Finally, we are still looking for parents to step forward and support the PTA. We would love to hear from you if you can help organise and run events for the children. Please get in touch with Sharron at the school office.

Have a fantastic week off. See you bright and early on Monday, February 19th.

Mr D Kenny - Executive Headteacher



Mr D Kenny
Executive Headteacher

Stars of the week

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



Oliver M'son

Nursery: Chloe

Reception: The Whole Class

YEAR 1: Alfie

YEAR 2: Noah

YEAR 3: Michael

YEAR 4: Joseph

YEAR 5: Charlotte

YEAR 6: Harry

Afterschool: Maria



Terrific Timekeepers

We would like to remind Parents/Carers that doors open at 8.20am. Our winners this week were our pupils from Y4, well done! Sometimes pupils can get upset coming into school knowing they are late, so lets get those alarm clocks set and be in on time. Thank you



Attendance

Our attendance has not been great this week. New term, new start, lets all be in school!

Absences Add up!

#SCHOOL EVERY DAY
Missing just 2 days a month means a child misses 10% of the school year.

YEAR	ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK:
NURSERY	90%
RECEPTION	90.4%
Y1	93.1%
Y2	89.7%
Y3	99.1%
Y4	95.7%
Y5	92.1%
Y6	98.9%
TOTAL	93.6%
YEAR TO DATE	96.0%

National Pizza Day

Today is National Pizza Day. Yes, it's absolutely true! A whole day – 24 happy and delicious hours devoted especially to celebrating pizza. Pizza can be adapted to suit anyone, just put your cheese on and load it up with your favourite foods. Did you know that the most popular topping for a pizza is pepperoni, and that we spend more than £5 billion a year on pizza. What pizza will you celebrate with?



After many years of wear and tear, the Early Years staff would like to revamp the outside areas. If you have items you could donate please take a look at the wish list that was sent out today on the app. If you have any other items you feel may be useful please speak to one of the early years staff.



Enjoy your school holidays next week, and we will see you nice and refreshed on Monday 19th February.

What Do I Do Outside School?



Do you take part in any afterschool clubs, or have won any medals or trophies that you would like to tell us about? If so, send your pictures into school for our newsletter.

FOCUS OF THE WEEK

This week, we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week. The theme for the week was **'My Voice Matters!'** Here at Blacklow, we take great pride in involving the children in all that we plan and deliver and our children work closely with the Subject Leaders to make sure their voices are heard. On Friday, the children took part in a day of activities including; dance, drama, sing and sign, art and healthy living. It is important that our children feel empowered to use their voices to stand up for what is right and to ask for help.

TIP #1: Normalising it can be REALLY hard to listen!

Before we get stuck into the helpful tips, let's normalise that listening can be tricky for all of us, children and grown-ups!

Life is incredibly busy and listening takes time. Try not to be too hard on yourself. Choose 1 strategy and begin with implementing that to make it manageable and not too overwhelming!



SERVICES WE RECOMMEND:

YOUNG MINDS
Lighting for young people's mental health

You can call their Parent helpline for free on 0800 800 2544, Monday to Friday, from 9.30am to 5pm

NSPCC
Search NSPCC Support for Parents

Parent Talk offers free, down-to-earth advice for parents of children aged 0-19 online across the UK.

Excellent Teacher offers Mental Health and Wellbeing resources for children aged 4-11. Over 500+ hours globally by Parents, Carers, Teachers and Professionals.

The Exciting Teacher

SUPPORT YOUR CHILD TO FEEL HEARD

5 Top Tips for Parents & Carers to Encourage a Child's Voice!



TIP #2: Validate Feelings:

Can you use that you are feeling "heartache" "sadness" "worry" "frustration" "how can I help?"

TIP #3: Ways to use my body to show I am listening:

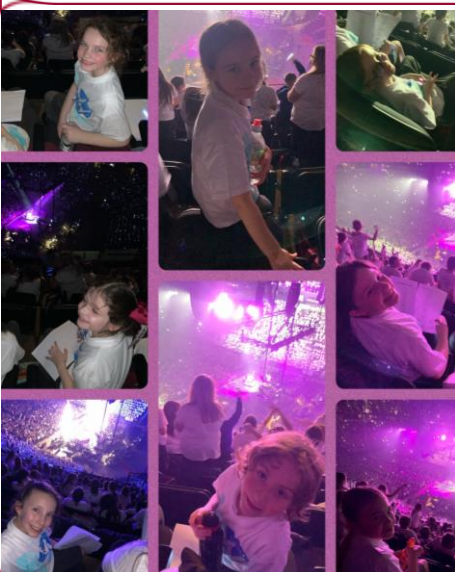
- nodding
- eye contact
- Facing my body towards them
- signal & encourage praise

TIP #4: Things I can do to show I am listening:

- repeat
- clarify
- open-ended questions
- summarise

TIP #5: Things I can say to show I am listening:

- "That makes no sense about..."
- "I see that..."
- "Could you tell me more about..."
- "I agree/disagree with you because..."
- "I understand that..."
- "I've reminded me of... (in your opinion)..."
- "What do you mean by..."
- "*summarise*, have I understood this correctly?"
- "I've understood, it must be really tricky!"
- "I've understood, it must be really tricky!"



Young Voices

The Young Voices choir took to the stage in Manchester AO Arena on Monday evening, and they shone like the stars they are. We joined over 9000 school children to form the world's largest school choir! Well done to you all.

EYFS Workshop

We were delighted to welcome so many adults to our EYFS Mastering Number workshop on Monday. The children and their adults learnt a variety of games and strategies for becoming confident with numbers. Support from home is one of the key indicators for future academic success so thank you to all who were able to attend and please see a member of the EYFS team if you want more details or where unable to come. Follow-up games and worksheets will be getting sent home and maths was the focus of this week's "stay and play" session in EYFS.



Safeguarding

If you have any concerns or worries about a child please contact the Designated Safeguarding Lead Mr Kenny and Deputy Safeguarding Lead Mrs Gibson-Burkert. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and all people in the school community have a statutory duty to act on any concern. You can always ring Mash on 0151 443 2600.



WORDS OF THE WEEK
ENGLISH
Punctuation
MATHS
Reflection



SEND

We have our SEND Parent Surgery available on Thursday's from 1:45 onwards, to book a 15 minute slot, please email Mrs Humphreys on Send@BlacklowBrowSchool.co.uk Or contact the school office



Dates for your diary

9th February: School closes 3pm for half term
19 February: School reopens
18th March: Y5 swimming Mon-Thurs
25th March: Y3 swimming Mon-Thurs
26-28th June: Y6 JCA Trip

If children are not collected at the normal pick up time of 3pm 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 1 hour up until 5.30pm = £12.50 per day
(Late after 5.30pm - £1 for every minute late)