

Blackwater Newsletter

Friday 27th November 2020

ISSUE 6

Dear Parents and children,

As we approach what is most definitely going to be a rather different festive season at Blackwater School, we are determined to make this the best Christmas for the children. We have lots of lovely things planned. Please see the next page for details (why not keep this information on the fridge as there is so much going on!).

What a busy week we had last week with our Parents Evenings. We were amazed to have 99% attendance from the parents, thank you for taking the time to speak to all the parents. Thank you also to those who took time to fill out the parent questionnaire, I have attached it onto this email so hopefully if you have not had time, you can over the weekend. I will share the feedback with you in two weeks, and what we will be doing as a result of your ideas for further developments.

Despite all that is happening, our attendance is getting better and better. I am delighted to say that the school's current attendance is at 97%, which is above the national expectation. This is the highest ever for this time of year. Obviously this is a difficult time and we appreciate all that you are doing and the trust you show in us as we continue to navigate our way through this together. Thank you also to those who continue to ensure their child's arrival at school is punctual, we open our gates at 8:45am so then the children are ready to learn at 9am.

This week I have had one of the board of trustees of TPAT (our multi academy trust) ring the school to thank all the staff for their hard work. I just want to reiterate that as we are all definitely busy supporting children's wellbeing, ensuring high quality teaching, supporting children with gaps in their learning and creating interesting and exciting activities for children to do remotely if not in school. We all think you are amazing!

The classes are still buzzing with the excitement of learning; exciting writing, amazing mathematics skills and of course the extensive knowledge learnt in our project work. Long may it continue!

We hope you have a wonderful weekend and manage to
some wonderful fresh air.

Best wishes

Mrs Evison

THANK YOU

Thank you to A&M Construction,
Lew's Dog Grooming and Homebase
for the donations for our Christmas
trees this year. All kindly donated
to the school.



there's no
such thing as
bad weather,
only inappropriate
clothing

www.welshmum.co.uk

Blackwater does Christmas

We don't let something like Covid get in the way of the children having the BEST Christmas with us at Blackwater. Here is what we have in store . . .

Monday 30th November . . . The children start to decorate the classroom and school.

Wednesday 9th December . . . Christmas Banquet day - please book your child on for a Christmas lunch. Children to come in school uniform and to bring a 'smart' outfit to wear for the banquet and the afternoon.

Friday 11th December . . . Christmas Jumper Day . Please donate £1 to Save the Children. Children to wear school uniform apart from a festive jumper.

Friday 11th December . . . Children are making art and decorations for local care homes - these will be delivered today.

Friday 11th December . . . Christmas Class Fayre Day. Children to bring in a maximum of £5.00 in coins to spend on a small selection of fayre games and to buy the decorations they have made.

Monday 14th December . . . Reindeer visiting our school (Thank you FOBS for funding this).

Thursday 17th December . . . Class Christmas tree competition - classes to decorate their trees with recycled decorations. Children can make these at home to bring in as well as in school.

Thursday 17th December . . . Silly Santa Day. Children to be given suits to wear for the day to raise money for Children's Hospice South West. Please bring fundraising money on this day to put in their green buckets!

Thursday 17th December . . . A short song / poem will be uploaded onto Seesaw / Tapestry for you to enjoy at home.

Friday 18th December . . . End of term at 1pm



Blackwater Tuck Shop

During the Summer term, we bought a tuck shop for the children to run themselves to promote independence and financial education.

Unfortunately due to the classes having to stay separate, we have not been able to use it however we are now providing small 'tuck shop crates' in each of the class. Each item is 50p, please could the children bring the correct change. Our new financial representatives are:

Wheal Harmony: Izzy T and Billy T-R

Wheal Busy: Piran W and Amelia V

Wheal Luna: Layla S and Tyler S

These new reps will monitor the sales and organise the ordering. Amelia has already shown initiative by wanting to create a loyalty card for customers. FANTASTIC WORK CHILDREN!



Whole Class Reading

After Christmas, we will be starting a new way of reading for pleasure called 'Whole Class Reading'. We would like to read a class novel each term with the children that links to their project. These are the books that we will be reading. If you have a copy at home or would like to buy a copy for the class, please bring them in as soon as you can. We are aiming for 30 books per class.

Wheal Friendly:

What the Ladybird Heard - Julia Donaldson

Squash and a Squeeze - Julia Donaldson

Wheal Harmony:

Wild Robot - Peter Brown

Wheal Busy:

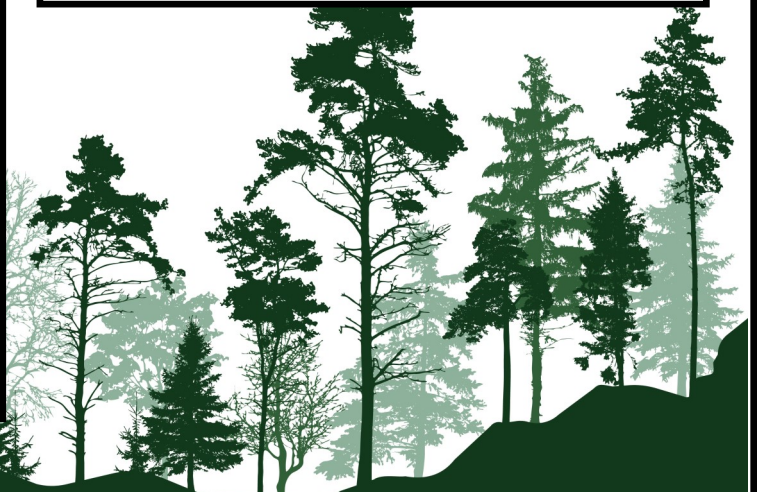
The Iron Man - Ted Hughes

Wheal Luna:

Sky Hawk - Gill Lewis

Blackbird Pie

Here is the Winter addition of Blackbird Pie for you to have a look at: <https://blackbirdreads.turtl.co/story/cornwallchristmas2020/>



Meet the Governors

Over this year, we would like you to get to know our Governors of Blackwater School a little bit more. Their role is to support the successful running of the school, challenging and supporting decisions and ensuring the school runs well.

During each term, each governor comes into school (or virtually) to look at different areas of our school and the curriculum. We have already had interviews with the school council, meetings regarding mathematics, SEN and our attendance. In due course, I will be updating you on their visits and thoughts on our school.

Our governors are:

Jo Bell	Jinny Clark
Mark Roberts	Ellie Watkins
Janine Bisson	Vicci Vaughan
Garrick Royle	Hayley Coombes

Governor Roles:

SEN	Mark Roberts, Hayley Coombes	Whistleblowing	Jo Bell
Safeguarding	Jo Bell	Pupil Premium	Hayley Coombes
Health and Safety	Mark Roberts, Garrick Royle	Attendance	Jinny Clark
School Council	Janine Bisson	Behaviour and attitudes	Garrick Royle, Vicci Vaughan
Quality of Education (W,R,M, S CORE)	Mark Roberts, Jinny Clark, Jo Bell, Janine Bisson	Admission appeals	Jinny Clark
Quality of Education (Wider)	Hayley Coombes, Garrick Royle, Ellie Watkins, Vicci Vaughan	Headteacher PM	Jo Bell, Garrick Royle
EYFS	Janine Bisson		

This week's Governor in focus: Ellie Watkins

As part of the Senior Leadership team at Blackwater school my role as school governor compliments and highlights my commitment to our children and community as a whole. I am very proud to teach the year 5 and 6 children and thoroughly enjoy delivering the highest of standards educationally, socially and emotionally for our children. I have a keen interest in Science and am part of a group leading Primary Science across TPAT schools to ensure excellent teaching and learning outcomes. As I grew up in the local area, I am acutely aware of how diverse industry, economies, communities and families are in Cornwall. I benefited from outstanding local teachers as a child and it is my ambition to ensure children and families continue to be helped and supported by incredible local schools - Blackwater being one!

I am passionate about where we live and how special our Cornish identities are and that these should be celebrated and encouraged for future generations. I have worked in primary school leadership for several years and enjoyed working in tiny rural schools on the Lizard Peninsula. I am excited about my role as staff governor as I relish the opportunity to help ensure our school is an outstanding, supportive and caring environment for all involved with our beautiful Cornish school.



Dear boys and girls,

Christmas is a very exciting but busy time for me: the elves are making toys, the reindeer are practicing their sleigh runs, and I'm busy preparing my list of who's been good this year. I will be getting my sleigh ready for the long journey on Christmas Eve and in between I will try to reply to as many of you as possible.

Please send your letters to:

Santa
Santa's Grotto
Reindeerland
XM4 5HQ

It's really important you write Santa's address carefully on the envelope, and that you put a stamp on the envelope so that it gets to me. Please be sure that you include your full name and address in your letter. Please send your letters by Friday 11th December, drop them into **The Old Mill Village Shop**. Look forward to delivering your presents on Christmas Eve. Make sure you remember my mince pie and Rudolph's carrot.



Merry Christmas to you all!
Father Christmas



SAT 5TH DEC,
12PM:

Meet
Santa!

and his festive friends...

Fish Mish Santa
Zoom



This is a family friendly charity Zoom event on the 5th December. Here's the link - <https://fishmishmarket.org.uk/shop/fishmish-meet-santa/>

During this event, taking place from 12pm for 1 hour, children will be able to meet Santa, as well as real reindeer and watch a Christmas craft by blogger Georgia Coote. Tickets cost £2 per household so a family can all sit at one laptop for that cost. This small donation will go towards helping us as a charity to provide vital pastoral, financial and emotional care to fishermen all around the UK who may be struggling with bereavement among other difficulties.

**citizens
advice**

0344 411 1444

**ON YOUR SIDE
NO MATTER WHAT**

0800 58 58 58 THECALMZONE.NET/WEBCHAT

5PM-MIDNIGHT | FREE | CONFIDENTIAL | ANONYMOUS

CAMPAIGN
AGAINST
LIVING
MISERABLY
CALM



If you have any concerns or worries, you can always speak / email us at Blackwater. We are here for all the families in Blackwater.



COVID-19 isolation may cause tensions to rise and domestic abuse to increase. Help is available.



NHS

Cornwall Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

The Trust has its own Out of Hours telephone support provided by Support Matters Cornwall. This service operates from 5pm to 9am on weekdays and 24 hours a day at weekends and bank holidays. The service is open to all patients (aged 16+) under the care of the Trust's mental health services. Support can be delivered over the telephone, via text, email or web chat. Call free on **0800 001 4330**.

This is an unusual time and we are conscious that some people and families will be finding it difficult. We have included some helpline numbers on this page in case anyone finds them useful.

0300 123 3393

mind
for better mental health

"It's alright to ask for help"

SAMARITANS

116 123

ChildLine
0800 1111

family
action | Family
Line
0808 802 6666

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HELPLINE

0808 2000 247

24/7 CONFIDENTIAL FREEPHONE

HM Government

**AT HOME
SHOULDN'T
MEAN
AT RISK**

#YOUARENOTALONE

FIND SUPPORT AT:
gov.uk/domestic-abuse

The children are taking part in the 'Silly Santa Fun Run' this year in aid of Cornwall Hospice on the 17th December.

We have handed out the fundraising forms and costumes this week. Please let me know if there are any problems with the costumes or you need different sizes.



W.B.
20th Nov

Learners of the Week

Wheal Friendly: Immy T
Wheal Harmony: Amelia G
Wheal Busy: Lettie C
Wheal Luna: Riley C

Citizens of the Week

Wheal Friendly: Toby C
Wheal Harmony: Charlie L
Wheal Busy: Holly L
Wheal Luna: Amelie B

Above and Beyond

Ben K

W.B.
27th Nov

Learners of the Week

Wheal Friendly: Indy R
Wheal Harmony: Milo G
Wheal Busy: Sophie S
Wheal Luna: Amelie B

Citizens of the Week

Wheal Friendly: Elwyn M
Wheal Harmony: Freddie B
Wheal Busy: Tommy J
Wheal Luna: Aaron B

Above and Beyond

Bodhi M

Well done to these children for showing excellent behaviour and learning attitudes. We are proud of you! We hope you enjoy your: certificate, lanyard to wear for the week and a hot chocolate on Monday with Mrs. Evison in the bell tent!

Letters home

Non-uniform day
Christmas Lunch
Parent Survey 2020
Car Parking at Blackwater
Silly Santa Day
Wheal Busy Residential
Blackwater Christmas Lights

School Council News

The children have been very good at telling us what they wanted for the classes and children for Christmas. We have worked all of our Christmas plans around the children's ideas.

Next on their agenda is to decide what happens when children reach milestones for the number of dojos they get as a reward. They were discussing possible certificates, badges similar to the 99 Club badges and possible treats e.g. extra play time, teaching the class, own clothes at school.

We will keep you posted on what they decide.

"If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a day, go fishing. If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else." Chinese Proverb

