



Blackhorse Primary School Newsletter

T1 Wk4: 26th September 2025

Developing a love of reading



At Blackhorse we view reading as the key to unlock learning and we strive to develop a love of reading in every one of our pupils. This starts at the very beginning in EYFS and Y1 with the teaching of phonics to enable children to develop their early reading skills. We then build fluency skills and comprehension skills in daily reading lessons.

Alongside this, we work hard to foster a love of books and encourage children to become avid readers. As part of this, every class gets to visit Emersons Green Library three times a year. They get to listen to a book chosen by a librarian and bring a book back to school. This week Poplar and Yew took part in the first visits of the term.

We also invite authors into school to talk to the children about their journey to becoming a writer and the craft of being a writer. This week [P G Bell](#) visited Year 5 and 6 to talk about his latest book 'The Big Bad Wolf Murder.' The children's enthusiasm was fantastic and they soaked up what he had to say. There are many more authors booked to visit including two next week.

Each week every child is expected to read five times at home. In our Friday assembly, one child who has completed this is selected and they win a new book for their class collection.; this week it was Ivy in Willow.

Thank you to our amazing teaching assistants



We are very lucky at Blackhorse to have a team of dedicated and highly skilled teaching assistants to provide expert tuition alongside our teachers.

We would like to mark National Teaching Assistant Day by thanking them publicly for what they do to improve the experience of our children every day.

Leaf Trust Director of Education, Faye Kitchen, visited school on Wednesday and spent time in every classroom in the school witnessing first hand the work they do. She was full of praise for the individual care and attention they provide. Be that helping children to access the learning with carefully thought out adaptations or helping them feel safe and ready to learn or leading class, group or individual sessions their expertise was evident.

Blackhorse are very lucky to have them.

Inclusion Working Group

This year we will be launching an Inclusion Working Group which aims to improve how we explain and manage inclusion at Blackhorse, how this fits with our mission and national frameworks and how we can work better, in partnership with parents. If you'd be interested in attending this meeting, [please click here.](#)

Term 1 Diary Dates:

- Mon 29th Sept: Y6 PGL residential**
- Weds 1st Oct: Author Visit Y4 and Y5**
- Thurs 2nd Oct: EYFS Intake 2026 Open Morning**
- Thurs 2nd Oct: Author Visit Y3 & Y4**
- Mon 6th Oct: Police visiting Reception**
- Mon 6th Oct: PGL Meeting for Y5 Parents (3:45)**
- Mon 6th Oct: PTA AGM (6:00)**
- Mon 13th Oct: EYFS Intake 2026 Open Morning**
- Mon 13th Oct: Harvest Assembly Y2 parents invited**
- Tues 14th Oct: ESFA Girl's 7-a-side tournament**
- Tues 14th Oct: Flu Vaccinations**
- Weds 15th Oct: EYFS Intake 2026 stay and play**
- Thurs 16th Oct: PTA School Disco**
- Fri 17th Oct: Rec & KS1 Achievement Assembly (9:15)**
- Fri 17th Oct: PTA Rags 2 Riches clothes collection**
- Mon 20th Oct: Parents' Evening**
- Tues 21st Oct: Y2 visit to We the Curious**
- Weds 22nd Oct: Parents' Evening**
- Thurs 23rd Oct: KS2 Achievement Assembly (9:15)**
- Fri 24th Oct: INSET Day: school closed to pupils**
- Mon 3rd Nov: Start of Term 2**

Attendance Champions this week:

Year 2 top the attendance charts this week with fantastic attendance of 98.9% Year 5 and Year 4 are second and third respectively. When it comes to classes our Champions are Elder with 99.6%. Followed by Elm and Oak with 98.8% and 98.2% respectively. Two other classes exceeded our 97% target.

As we move on into the Autumn it is possible that coughs and colds may start to arrive. It can be tricky to decide whether or not to keep your child off school. The [NHS provide useful guidance](#). If your child is showing signs of worry regarding school please reach out to your child's class teacher who can help in the first instance.

This week's Champions!

Each week, the staff nominate one child per class who has been a model pupil, demonstrating the values which we look for in Champion Learners!

This week we have been focussing on the school value of Success. This week our nominees are:

Year	Nominees
Resource Base	Ivy & Lili
Reception	Lola & Zak
Year 1	Ashleigh & Malachy
Year 2	Eloise & Freddie
Year 3	Eben & Maya
Year 4	Atlas & Bella
Year 5	Sofia & Marnie-Rae
Year 6	Daisy-Mae & Wilf

This week's Champion...

Success is our focus this week and Eloise in Chestnut has been chosen as our Champion.

Miss Vigor writes; 'Since the start of term, Eloise has been championing all of the values that we encourage at Blackhorse. She is ALWAYS ready respectful and safe. ALWAYS tries her hardest in everything she does and is never put off by a challenge. She has a lot to be proud of and that is why we are celebrating her now.'



Good Luck Y6



We would like to wish all of our Year 6 children who are heading to PGL Liddington next week, many for their first trip away from home, the very best of luck. Have a relaxing weekend. As you will need lots of energy to tackle all the fun activities planned for you.