



# Blackhorse Primary School Newsletter

## T4 Wk5: 28th March 2025

### More from our parent survey...

This week we are continuing with feedback on our annual Parents' Survey. Don't forget, full results can be found [here](#).

#### Qu 4: My child is well taught.

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| ● Strongly agree    | 89 |
| ● Agree             | 68 |
| ● Disagree          | 8  |
| ● Strongly disagree | 3  |

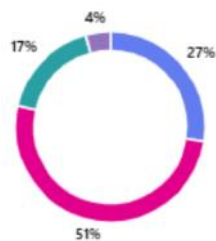


**93% of parents agreed with this statement, 7% disagreeing. 44 comments were left,** 23 praising the school, 5 suggesting the work wasn't challenging enough, 4 expressing concern about SEND provision (2 of which suggested there was too much emphasis) and 4 leaving positive comments about SEND.

**What we're doing about it:** We will be thinking about how we can provide more opportunities for parents to watch teaching and learn about our techniques - including for children with additional needs and those who are working at a higher standard than most. We often have schools visit (including a contingent on Monday) to learn how our children achieve so well in Maths. Last year the school was in the top 2% of children achieving the highest standard. With regard to SEND, we externally commissioned a review from the Local Authority which took place last week, led by an OFSTED inspector. We will share the outcomes of this in due course, but the inspector commented that 'Blackhorse has some of the best provision I have seen'.

#### Qu5: My child receives appropriate homework.

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| ● Strongly Agree    | 46 |
| ● Agree             | 86 |
| ● Disagree          | 29 |
| ● Strongly Disagree | 7  |



**78% if parents agreed with this statement, 22% disagreed. As always, this was the 'marmite question' for many families...**

### Homework (continued)...

**There were 57 comments about homework,** 9 saying they thought there was too much, 2 saying there was too little, and 4 saying it was about right.

**What we're doing about this?** Like most schools locally, our homework is mainly only reading five times and 10-20 minutes on Numbots or TTRS per week. We do this as only 'little and often purposeful practice' can develop fluency in these key areas. We understand that homework can be a battle (Mr Botten had a weekly Sunday morning 'debate' with his son when he was younger) but it does make a difference. Mrs Taylor does run a weekly homework club after school on a Tuesday (with biscuits and squash) for children and parents to make it more of a fun task, and After School Club will complete TTRS whilst at the club if needed.

#### Qu 6: The School ensures that pupils behave well

|                     |    |
|---------------------|----|
| ● Strongly Agree    | 68 |
| ● Agree             | 86 |
| ● Disagree          | 8  |
| ● Strongly disagree | 5  |



**92% of parents agreed with this statement, whilst 8% disagreed. 39 comments were left:** 17 agreeing with the school's approach, 5 suggesting the school was too behaviourist, 7 were neutral or expressed suggestions, 3 would like the school to be stricter and 3 suggested the policies didn't work for SEND pupils.

**What we're doing about it:** We have reflected that we need to give out more champion cards and positive phone calls home as we want to champion children for their positive behaviours and those who are trying hard to do the right thing. With regard to the school's approach being too behaviourist (focused on reward and sanction) we combine this with relational approaches (understanding our feelings in the moment) and the whole team works hard to maintain nurturing relationships with all children. However, we also believe that children thrive when they understand boundaries as this allows them to feel safe.

## Diary Dates:

**Tues 1st Apr: Fun Run for the MS Trust**

**Tues 1st April Into the Woods 2pm & 6pm**

**Weds 2nd Apr: Y2 visit to SS Great Britain**

**Weds 2nd Apr: Into the Woods 4pm**

**Thurs 3rd Apr: Y3 visit to Roman Baths**

**Thurs 3rd Apr: CSET Cross-Country Series Race 1/3**

**Thurs 3rd Apr: PTA KS1 Craft Event**

**Fri 4th April: KS2 Achievement Assembly**

**Fri 4th Apr: Last day of Term 4**

**Tues 22nd Apr: First day of Term 5**

**Tues 22nd Apr: Y5 visit to SS Great Britain**

**Thurs 24th Apr: CSET Cross-Country Series Race 2/3**

## Attendance this week

We are very pleased to report that Year 3 are our attendance Champions this week with very impressive attendance of 99.3%. Year 1 also exceeded our target of 97% with attendance of 98%.

## Into the Woods Jr

**Ivy and Ella in Y6 have written this short piece to encourage you to attend the Musical Theatre production of Into The Woods Jr.**

Join us on a magical journey into the woods with the baker and his wife, Cinderella, Little Red, Jack and his beloved cow, Milky White.

They chase their dreams into the woods where witches, ghosts and wolves appear but, for some, it takes two.

Will the baker and his wife be able to retrieve the cow as white as milk, the cape as red as blood, the hair as yellow corn and the slipper as pure as gold?

Will the baker and his wife make it out before the third chime of midnight ???

Join us now and buy tickets now!

## Lost property

We have a large amount of lost property building up. We will put it in the playground on Monday and Tuesday after school. Any unclaimed items will be sent to charity. Please remember to name all items clearly so they can be returned if misplaced.

# This week's Champions!

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

| Year          | Nominees        |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Resource Base | Maria & Gus     |
| Reception     | Natalia & Poppy |
| Year 1        | Theo & Miller   |
| Year 2        | Eben & Evie W   |
| Year 3        | Ada & Bailey    |
| Year 4        | Mia & Inka      |
| Year 5        | Harry W & Mimi  |
| Year 6        | Shannon & Cole  |

## This week's Champion...

**Success is our focus this week and Cole in Yew has been chosen as our Champion.**

Mr Denton-Collins writes "Cole has worked incredibly hard this year and has come such a long way. Yew class are really proud of how much he has grown since September and he should be really proud of his time in Year 6. His hard work has resulted in great progress being made. He is also making a real success of his role as a Mission master. Well done Cole.



## MS Trust Fun Run

**On Tuesday morning, parent Beverley Schurring and her friend John will be completing their longest training run before the London Marathon and you are all invited to join them.**



Anyone is welcome to join them for any part of the run (or all!) Between 8:15am and 8:35am, for the last 20 minutes of the run the children and you are encouraged to join them in an attempt to run laps of our running track. Please see the email for more information.