

Inside Our Classrooms

I greatly value the opportunities I get to leave my desk and tour the school capturing learning in action. The atmosphere in school is really positive and I'm incredibly proud of the work taking place here.

Trailblazers have been getting out and about, exploring the history of Lindfield during wartime, including visiting the war memorial in the village, and have been to Newhaven Fort to deepen their understanding of war and peace.

Innovators have immersed themselves in parliamentary debate, writing their own manifestos for their parties and developing their mathematical experiences through a range of workshops during this week's "Maths Week England"

Ground-breakers have been publishing stories based on "The King Who Stole The Dark" and researching the life of Queen Victoria, enjoying a Victorian Now>Press>Play immersive experience.

Warriors have been developing their knowledge and understanding of time by using a roll of toilet paper to represent history, where one sheet equals 30 years. This practical activity took their learning right through the middle of the school and really enabled them to talk with greater understanding as to what happened when. Watch this space as we look to share this with you via our website!

Explorers are learning a wonderful "under the sea" themed dance and have been learning about Jacques Cousteau; they have created a timeline of his life and are becoming super knowledgeable on facts about his achievements.

Inventors have been busy incorporating their new topic 'toys' into lots of different subjects! In PE, they have been imagining that the classroom toys have come to life! They thought about what movements that they could make and started to create a dance routine as a toy soldier! In English, they answered tricky questions about their favourite toys and wrote detailed answers as to why our favourite toy is so special to us and why!

Thinkers have been super helpful this week, rescuing poor old Supertato from Evil Pea who has wickedly trapped other vegetables in ice and jelly. They wrote "Wanted!" posters to put around

Learning Look

Blackthorns opened its doors to our parent community during the afternoon of Friday 5th November. The school was fizzing with excitement as parents or grandparents crossed the threshold for the first time since lockdown measures had curtailed on-site events with multiple visitors. It was joyous to see members of our school community spread around the building. This was a change to the traditional learning look that takes place on a parent consultation evening and was a great success, with children talking through their learning with their parents. This seems to have added an extra dimension that has proved a hit and we can't wait to repeat the experience at a later date.

Wild Pledges

As COP26 descended upon the nation, talk in assembly turned to climate change and the small steps that we can take towards saving our planet. Mrs. Neller led a whole school assembly and asked the classes to think about their environment and the small steps they could take to promote a wilder school. Reception are making bird feeders; year 1 aim to attract more wildlife to their outdoor area; year 2 will be improving their garden area; years 3 and 6 are building bug hotels to support wildlife; year 4 have launched Operation Plant Life to bring more greenery inside and outside their class room and year 5 will be making their garden wild friendly. Hopefully, our school will become a little wilder and a little greener to support the climate in our own little way!

Head Teacher's Award

Well done to the following children, who have received a Head Teacher's Award and have their work featured on the "Wonderwall" in my office: ALL children in **Innovators** for their amazing Parliament week, showing core values throughout the week; **Jack** in Trailblazers for reciting superb Firework Poem; **Imogen** in Trailblazers for her beautiful recital of Flanders Field at Newhaven Fort.

Dates for your diary:

15th November: Flu Vaccination [all years]

27th November: Christmas Fair

7th December: EYFS/KS1 Nativity 9:30am

8th December: EYFS/KS1 Nativity 9:30am [details to follow]

9th December: Non School Uniform Day: FoBs Christmas Hamper Donations

14th December: Pantomime [details to follow]

15th December: Chartwells Christmas lunch

17th Dec: Last Day of Term—break up for Christmas

17th December:

09:20 Christmas Service at All Saints Church, Lindfield

Christmas Jumper Day

14:00pm Mulled Wine and Raffle

20th—31st December: Christmas Holiday

3rd January: Bank Holiday Monday [Academy Closed]

4th January INSET [Academy closed]

5th –7th January 50th Birthday celebrations [details to follow]

NB

20th July Last Day Of Term

21st July INSET Day:

22nd July— Summer holiday: academy closed

Volunteers In School

We are seeking to get our volunteer programme operating once again. We have missed our parent/grand parent helpers and readers! If you think you might be interested in helping in school, either on a regular basis or on trips or one off occasions, then I invite you to contact the school office and sign up to a Safeguarding training session, via Teams, with myself and arrange to bring in your ID for DBS check to enable you to work voluntarily in school.

Training dates and times:

Wed 17th November 13:30pm

Monday 22nd November 10:00am

Wednesday 1st December 13:30pm

As there have been many updates in Safeguarding information since we last held a parents course I am asking all volunteers to refresh their training.

Open Events

For prospective parents with children starting school in September 2022

We are holding a range of open events this term:

23rd November 13:30 Virtual via Teams

24th November 15:30 –18:00 Open evening tours led by Trail-Blazers (pupils in year 6)

Please book a place via the school website



Remembrance Assembly

Thank you to Major Perriton who visited KS2 this morning to share his wealth of knowledge and historical artefacts to help us gain greater knowledge and understanding of past wars, and life in the army in modern times. 'The best assembly ever!' is the general feedback from staff and children.

PROJECT
ENRICHMENT

CALLING ALL **PARENTS & CARERS!**

Your opinion is important to us, and we value hearing your thoughts about what makes our academies so great, as well as what we could do differently. There is still an opportunity to use your voice.

There is no time like the present...
so have your say now!



PROJECT **ENRICHMENT**

This exciting project aims to celebrate what makes Blackthorns Community Primary Academy and Lindfield Primary Academy great and to identify best practices that can be shared across both academies. We also want to explore other potential benefits, including a new nursery provision and ways to continue developing our Special educational needs and disability (SEND) offer to support our growing community. Please visit our project hub: www.brightonacademiestrust.org.uk/enrichment or scan the QRCode above to take part and to have your say. Thank you.



BLACKTHORNS
COMMUNITY
PRIMARY ACADEMY



OPEN EVENTS

2021/2022

YOU'RE INVITED TO SEE US IN ACTION

Is your child starting school in September 2022? We welcome you to visit us at our upcoming open events and discover the fantastic opportunities we offer at our Academy. Come along and meet our teachers, students and Principal and take a tour of our learning spaces.

Open Events

Dates in November 2021



Find out more and register
for an open event

blackthornsprimaryacademy.org.uk/visit

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*Open events are subject to
change due to COVID-19



University of Brighton

Academies Trust