

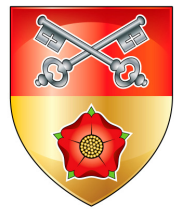


ST. NICHOLAS C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2012

SCHOOL WEBSITE: WWW.ST-NICHOLAS.BLACKPOOL.SCH.UK

Diocese
of Blackburn



Happy New Year!

Welcome back to school for the Spring Term and welcome to 2012. I hope that you had a great Christmas. This is a big year for the country and for our school with lots of challenges and opportunities between now and December.

Class Worship

Class Worship this term will be led as follows:

Class 4AD on Friday 13th January

Class 3JR on Friday 27th January

Class 3MC on Friday 2nd March

Class 2JS on Friday 16th March

All parents from the classes concerned are invited to attend and worship starts at 9:15am.



Tree Planting

A big thank you to Mr Scott (Cameron's dad and Toby Barnett our landscaper) who helped us plant 150 trees in the freezing cold before Christmas!

Children's University

Mr Robinson would like to remind everyone that if you'd like to take part in this year's scheme you need to see him for a passbook and you then have until May to collect 30hrs of out of school learning.

Walking Bus—Now also on a Friday morning!

The Walking Bus is a really good way to avoid the congestion around school and get a little exercise on a Wednesday and Friday morning. Come and join us, we have a good chat and catch up and we promise we won't make adults wear the flashy luminous vests!

It happens every Wednesday and Friday morning at 8:30 in the Car Park at the junction of School Road and Common Edge Road. We are looking to run it every day before and after school but

need parents to run it as staff have morning duties in school. If you are interested in being on a rota, please email me. We so far have three parents who are happy to be on the rota but need more in case of illness etc.

Andrew.mellor@st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk

Diary Dates

Wednesday 18th January - PTFA meeting in school 6pm

Tuesday 7th February - Safer Internet Day in school

Friday 10th February - School Closes for half term 3:30pm

If any parents would like me to run a safe internet usage course to help them monitor their child's safe internet use at home please email me on the above address and I'll organise an event.



School Postal Address:

St Nicholas
C of E Primary School,
School Road, Blackpool,
FY4 5DS



Other contact details:

Tel: 01253 608900

Fax: 01253 608901

Email:

admin@st-nicholas.blackpool.sch.uk

Twitter: @stnicholas14

Attendance

The school is committed to reducing absence from school as required by OFSTED. Therefore we will continue to focus on improving attendance and punctuality especially for those children who are either regularly late or absent. This has already involved home visits this year and those will continue with those children who give us and the Pupil Welfare Service most cause for concern. It is a legal requirement for children to be in school every day.

Blogs!

The new school blogs are now up and running and every class has one. Using these blogs has proved to raise standards as children see a reason for writing. What is even more important is if parents can comment on the work on the blogs and the more comments the better. There is a facility for leaving comments which are later moderated by staff and the children get a real buzz from seeing people other than teachers commenting on their work!



We are looking for sponsors for each class blog. If you are interested in finding out more please contact me at school.

Security

We close and lock the back doors to school at 8:55am to ensure the children are safe and no-one can gain unauthorised access to the building. However one or two parents have been knocking on the back doors after 8:55am and have tried to get children to unlock doors for them. This compromises the security of the school and therefore any access to school after 8:55am needs to be via the main front door. For the sake of clarity, 8:55am is judged by the clocks in school which are linked to a satellite and are accurate to within a second.

Attendance League Table so far!



1st **4JH** **97.2%**

| | | |
|------|-----------|-------|
| 2nd | Reception | 96.8% |
| 3rd | 1NS | 96.7% |
| 4th | 1KS | 96.6% |
| 5th | 2JS | 95.8% |
| 6th | 3MC | 95.7% |
| 7th | 6RG | 95.6% |
| 8th | 2CB | 95.3% |
| 9th | 3JR | 94.4% |
| 10th | 5DT | 93.2% |
| 11th | 4AD | 92.6% |

Well done 4JH but the overall school attendance figure has fallen slightly to 95.5%. Let's see if we can get it back above 96%!!

OFSTED describe attendance in the following ways:

Above 96% = Outstanding

95.1% to 96% = Good

94% to 95% = Satisfactory

Below 94% = Inadequate

School will not authorise holidays in term time and therefore any holidays taken in term time are unauthorised. If your child has an attendance rate of above 96% it is unlikely that this absence will be challenged by the Pupil Welfare Service. However if attendance is below this then it is likely that action will be taken at some stage by the PWS.