



Blackgates Primary Academy

# NEWSLETTER

# SCHOOL

OCTOBER EDITION

Friday 3 October 2025

## Principal's Message

It has been a lovely week of visits and Harvest Festival songs and poems. Our children are looking forward to showing their singing - from Year 2 upwards the Harvest is 13 October at 2.15. Rev Sharon will be leading it. More details of the event will go out next week.

Thank you for your ongoing support  
Mrs Julie Coulson  
Principal

## Notices

### Polite request from our neighbours

Please be mindful of where  
you are parking when  
visiting school and do not  
block driveways



#### Scooters & Bicycles

Please ensure all scooters  
and bikes are NOT ridden on  
school grounds and are stored  
securely in the bike shed. We  
cannot be held responsible for  
any that go missing. NO  
electric scooters are allowed  
on site at any time.

## Important Dates:

Training days: 2025/2026

Monday 1 December  
Friday 22 May  
Monday 20 July  
Tuesday 21 July

#### Dates for your Diary

W/C 6 October Year 6 Bikeability week  
13 October - Harvest Festival 2.15pm  
14 October - Parents Eve 3.30 - 7.00pm  
15 October - Individual & Sibling photos  
3 November - Flu vaccines  
12 November - Year 6 & Reception  
Height, Weight & Vision checks

#### EY & Y1 Stay and Play

Thursday 16 October - Getting to know  
you

Tuesday 21 October - Pumpkin  
Decorating

Monday 10 November -  
Reading/Phonics

Friday 5 December - Christmas crafts

#### Tilips

Year 1 Woodland walk - 16 October

Robinwood Y6 trip - 26 - 28 November

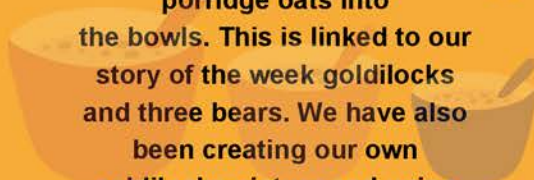
Remaining payment now due



# Ducklings



This week, the children have been using some great skills by pouring and scooping porridge oats into the bowls. This is linked to our story of the week goldilocks and three bears. We have also been creating our own goldilocks picture and using yellow string for her hair.





# Nursery

Our topic this half term is... 'Do we love where we live?'  
In our first topic the children will be thinking about who helps them at school and how we move around early years space.

## Health & Self Care

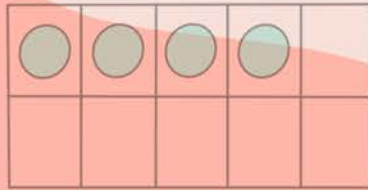
In nursery we support your child to become more independent by teaching them how to dress and undress, put on their shoes, and coat and help with their zip. We will also teach your child to put their own straws in their milk cartons, peel their own fruit and use a knife and fork.

Please can all parents ensure that their child has a bag of spare clothes in Nursery for any mishaps that may occur when exploring! Thank you in advance for your cooperation! We will encourage children to change themselves, by instructing them how to take off and put on clothes and supporting them when they need it.

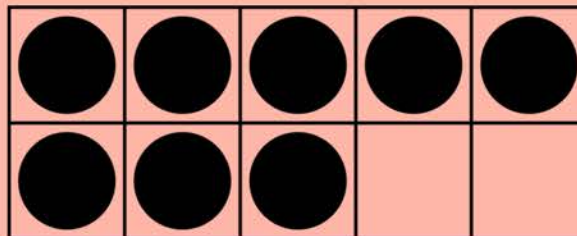
Our children can access our wonderful outdoor learning environment at all times. When the weather gets colder, children will need a warm coat, gloves, and hat. On wet days, children can wear wellies and even puddle suits.

Please ensure all clothes are clearly labelled.

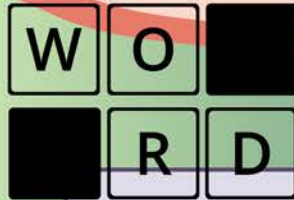
# Robins



This week we have been learning all about a very useful piece of maths equipment called a 'Tens Frame'. The children have been using this to show and compare amounts as well as adding one more. We have also been using learning special maths vocabulary such as 'subitizing'. Well done Robins!



# Doves



We are excited to let you know that we have started practising our Spelling Bricks in Doves! These are tricky words that cannot be sounded out using phonics, so they need to be learned by sight.

How you can help at home:

- Please spend some time practising the spelling bricks words that are not highlighted in pink in your child's list.
- Teachers at school will highlight each word in pink once your child can spell it correctly.
- Make sure your child's spelling bricks list is kept in their book bag every day, so we can update it together in class.

Thank you for your support in helping your child become a confident speller!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Miss Ruse



# Penguins

**TRIP  
DAY**



Year 2 really enjoyed their walk up to Ambler's Mill (Country Baskets) this week. The children tracked their journey on a map and followed the route. When we arrived, we discussed the history of the building as well as looking at the similarities and differences between the building now compared to Victorian times.



# Nightingales



**Year 3 have been really enjoying our science investigations. This week we have been looking at the transportation of water in plants and looking at what happens when leaving flowers and celery in food dye mixed with water over night!**

# Ravens

Year 4 have been to visit the Headingley Water Treatment Works this week. The children took part in an interactive workshop about the water cycle, learned about where our drinking water comes from and how they get it clean. They geared up in their helmets, gloves and goggles and had a tour around the treatment works too! The children represented Blackgates beautifully. Well done Year 4.





# Falcons

On Wednesday, we had a fantastic trip to the Hepworth Gallery. The children really enjoyed getting up close with some of Barbara's work and sketching her sculptures as well as exploring the work of other artists on display. The children used what they had seen to inspire their own designs which we will begin sculpting next week.





# Hawks

WELL  
DONE!

A huge well done to our Star of the Week —  
Brooke!

Brooke has truly shone this week by always doing the right thing and showing fantastic growth in confidence across all areas. We're especially proud of her progress with Roman numerals - keep it up, Brooke! Our 'Good Friend' star this week is Nibha. Nibha has shown such kindness and care, always making sure everyone has someone to play with and helping to keep our classroom a happy place. Well done, Nibha - your thoughtfulness makes a big difference!

Reminders:

- If you haven't yet returned your Robinwood letters, please do so as soon as possible.
- Parents' Evening letters also need to be handed back, time slots are filling up quickly.
- We've got an exciting week coming up with Bikeability! Get ready for fun, learning, and lots of cycling adventures.



# Headteacher Star of the week

Week ending 03.10.25



# Stars of the week

Week ending 03.10.25



# Stars of the week

Week ending 03.10.25



# Stars of the week

Week ending 03.10.25



Congratulations to all of our Stars





Our new website is now live please take a look at

[www.blackgates.org.uk](http://www.blackgates.org.uk)

We are also on Social media please search for us and give us a follow and like.



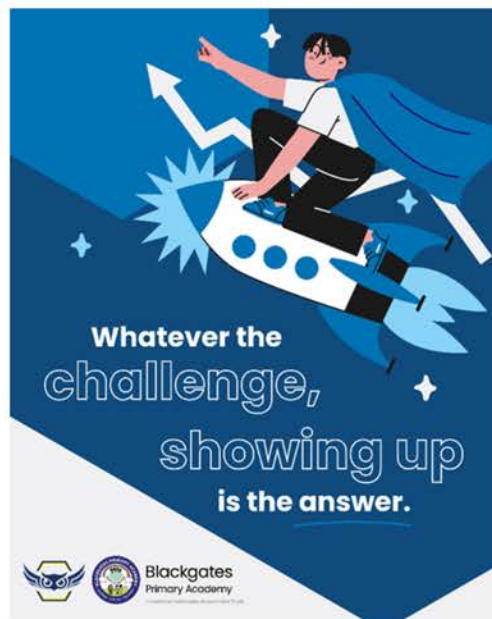


Today marks the launch of our Attendance Campaign across our schools in the Leodis Academies Trust.

We all know how important it is for children to be in school each day.

We want to work together to ensure our children come to school ready to learn and thrive.

Let's help our children make their presence their super power!



Every day your child shows up, they're building something powerful -

resilience, confidence, and a future full of possibilities.

School isn't just a place to learn; it's where they grow stronger, face challenges,

and shape their future path.



Blackgates  
Primary Academy  
a member of United Academies Trust



**We love having  
you here!**

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## SEND PARENT CARER INFORMATION DROP IN

| Date             | Time             | Venue                                           |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Wed 15th October | 10.30 till 12.30 | Olley Social Club, Hollin Gate, Olley, LS21 2DP |

### Services in attendance:

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Carers Leeds
- Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- SEND Coordinators, Family Hubs

### Workshop details

- Theme: SENSAP - what to expect from your casework officer
- Time: 11am till 12pm

Let us know if you will be attending the drop in

<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/InfoDropIn/>



If you would like more information about the drop in sessions email  
LLO@leeds.gov.uk





**Blackgates**  
Primary Academy  
a member of Lincoln Academies Trust

Principal: Mrs J Coulson

Dear parent/guardian,

As you may be aware your child's school has a milk scheme, administered by Cool Milk. Mid-morning milk provides a much-needed nutritional boost and keeps children hydrated between breakfast and lunch. Children receive free milk until the age of 5. After that, they can continue to reap the benefits of fresh mid-morning milk at a subsidised\* cost.

If you'd like to opt in and have not already done so, simply register your child at [www.coolmilk.com/register](http://www.coolmilk.com/register). Your child(ren) will continue to receive free milk whilst under the age of 5 and Cool Milk will get in touch with further information by email shortly before their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday.

For children who are already over 5, it's not too late - our scheme is flexible! As well as being able to register and make payment straight away, you can join and cancel the scheme at any time. We offer yearly, termly and half termly payment periods and a recurring payment option to give you one less thing to remember.

If you already have an online Cool Milk account for a sibling, you can manage your account, make payment and add extra children by logging in at [www.coolmilk.com/parents](http://www.coolmilk.com/parents).

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](mailto:www.coolmilk.com/contact) or give us a call on the number listed below - we're here to help!

Kind regards,

**Cool Milk**

☎: 0800 321 3248  
🌐: [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



SCAN TO REGISTER

\*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DHSC via the Nursery Milk Scheme. Milk for over-5s is subsidised by Delta via the School Milk Scheme.

Cool Milk at School Ltd | Cool Milk House | Kingsley Park | Kingsley Road | Lincoln | LN6 3TA | ☎ 0800 321 3248 | 🌐 [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)



We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our

#### school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

#### How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic  
W10 5BN, London, GB

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

#### Need help using Arbor?

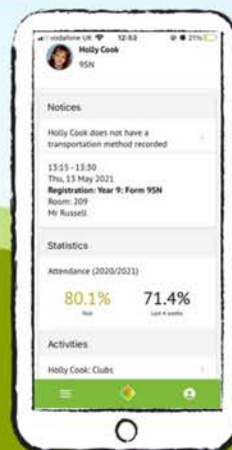
Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or

Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

#### Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired - Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



## Absences



If you do need to take your child out of school for any reason please can you either show proof of a medical appointment to reception or for a longer absence please fill out a leave of absence form so that we know where they are. It is our legal responsibility to follow up on absences and if we know in advance it saves us from having to contact you.







## BLACKGATES PRIMARY ACADEMY

### ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-26

| Holiday          | The Academy Closes      | The Academy Opens        |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Summer           |                         | Monday 1 September 2025* |
| Autumn mid term  | Friday 24 October 2025  | Monday 3 November 2025   |
| Christmas        | Friday 19 December 2025 | Monday 5 January 2026    |
| Spring mid term  | Friday 13 February 2026 | Monday 23 February 2026  |
| Easter break     | Thursday 2 April 2026   | Monday 20 April 2026     |
| May Bank Holiday | Friday 1 May 2026       | Tuesday 5 May 2026       |
| Summer mid term  | Thursday 21 May 2026*   | Monday 1 June 2026       |
| Summer break     | Wednesday 22 July 2026* |                          |

#### Training Days

- 1 Monday 1 September
- 2 Monday 1 December
- 3 Friday 22 May
- 4 Monday 20 July\*
- 5 Tuesday 21 July\*