



Blackgates Primary Academy

# SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER EDITION

Friday 12 September 2025

### Principal's Message



It was been a busy second week back after the summer, the weather has definitely shown it is the end of summer! Please ensure all children bring coats as we do play out all year round. Early years children in Little Ducklings, Nursery and Robins love to play on the grass all year round. In order to experience the outdoors fully they will need to bring a pair of named wellies.

Well done to all  
Thank you for your ongoing support  
Mrs Julie Coulson  
Principal

### Important Dates:

Training days: 2025/2026

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

#### Dates for your Diary.

WC 6 September Year 6 Bikeability week

14 October - Parents Eve 3.30 - 7.00pm

15 October - Individual & Sibling photos

Flu vaccines Monday 3 November

Year 6 & Reception Height, Weight & Vision checks Wednesday 12 November

#### EY 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

Year 4 Headingly Water treatment trip - Robinwood Y6 trip - 26 - 28 November

Deposit of £25 to confirm place due by 26 September

### 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.



# Ducklings



This week in little Ducklings we have been doing more exploring and getting to know our school. We played in the sand and water, and have been singing counting songs up to 5. The children have been making beautiful painting pictures using lots of different colours too.





# 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

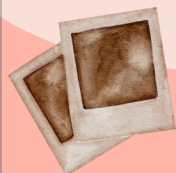
In nursery we support your child to become more independent by teaching them how to dress and undress, put on their shoes, and coat and help with their zip. We will also teach your child to put their own straws in their milk cartons, peel their own fruit and use a knife and fork.

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



We are very proud of how well all the children have settled into Reception. We are thoroughly enjoying our time together. Thankyou to everyone who have sent family photos-don't worry if you have not sent yours yet, there is still time! Just upload this to Tapestry.

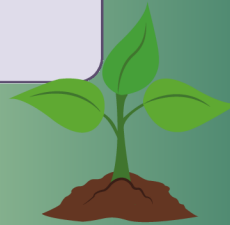
The children are loving school dinners, if your child has a packed lunch we encourage you to try this as they are FREE for reception age children. We are very flexible so please let us know if you would your child to try a dinner alongside their packed lunch.



# Doves

This week, Doves have kicked off their new science topic with an exciting Wild Plant Hunt around the school grounds.

The children were fantastic nature detectives, spotting and identifying plants such as dandelions, ivy, clovers, and nettles. They recorded their findings using tally charts and discussed which plants were most common and why they might thrive in our local environment. It's been a brilliant start to our exploration of living things and their habitats!



# Penguins



In Year 2, reading books get sent home on a Thursday. Please ensure you read with your child at least 3 times a week to help develop their speed and vocabulary. Reading books must be returned by the next Thursday at the latest. The children seem to have really enjoyed their books this week and have tried very hard.

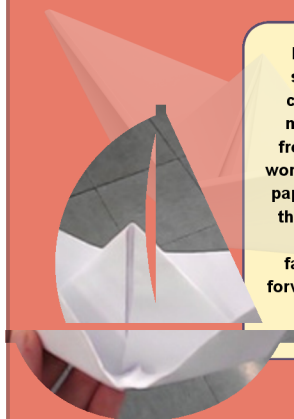


# Nightingales

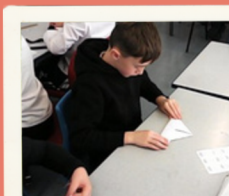
## HISTORY

Year 3 have had a super week. They have enjoyed sentence stacking lessons, where they are writing a historical legend. I have been impressed by some children's creative vocabulary! The class have also had a fun PE lesson, where they were creating sequences using contrasting actions and shapes. Some excellent PE performances!

# Ravens



In Ravens this week, we have started to read a picture book called *Float*. The children have made predictions based on the front cover of the book and have worked carefully to create their own paper boats. This challenge tested their resilience and patience, but we managed to create some fantastic boats! We are looking forward to writing the story of *Float* in our English lessons now.



# Falcons

This week year 5 started their art topic about Barbara Hepworth. The children enjoy learning all about her and how she was inspired by the Yorkshire landscape. We also enjoyed experimenting with different materials in science and testing out their properties.



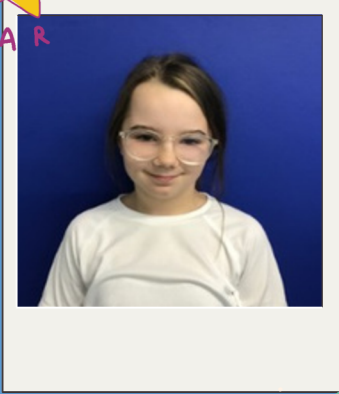
Bonjour

## Hawks

Year 6 have had a fantastic second week back! We've restarted our French lessons with Madame Boome, and the children are already showing great enthusiasm. A quick reminder to please return the Bikeability and Robinwood letters as soon as possible. If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch with me directly. And a big well done to Reuben, who is our Star of the Week - great job!

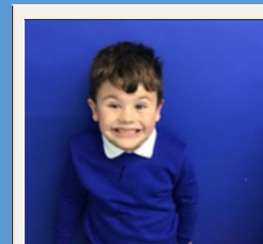
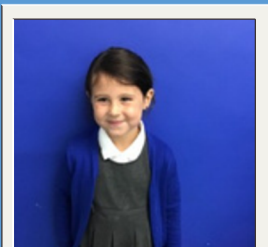
# Headteacher Star of the week

Week ending 12.09.25



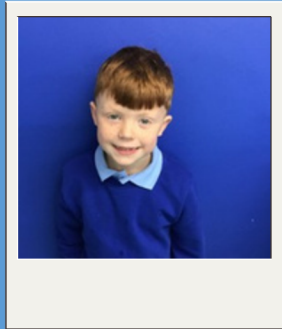
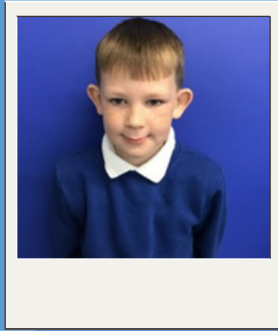
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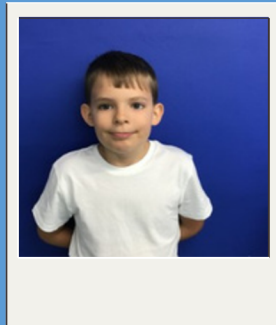
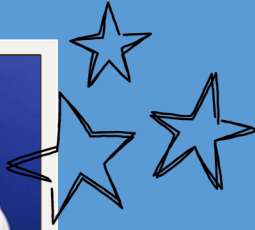
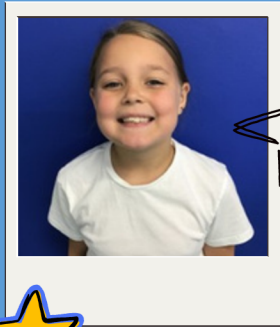
# Stars of the week

Week ending 12.09.25



# Stars of the week

Week ending 12.09.25



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.





**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](https://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](https://www.coolmilk.com/parents).

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at [www.coolmilk.com/contact](https://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](https://www.coolmilk.com)



SCAN TO REGISTER

\*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DfSC 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](https://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'
  - 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

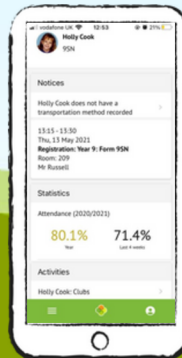
Forgotten password?

#### 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 added 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\*

