



Blackgates Primary Academy

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER EDITION

Friday 18 September 2025

Principal's Message



Children are settling well into their new classrooms and have enjoyed their new topic which is 'Do we love where we live?' We are hoping some parents may be interested in becoming a reading volunteer or a parent governor. Please see Page 17 of this newsletter to find out how to express an interest. We always welcome working together collaboratively.

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 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 & 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
Trios

Year 2 Walk to Amblers Mill - 30
September

Year 4 Headingley Water treatment trip -
2 October

Year 1 Woodland walk - 16 October

Robinwood Y6 trip - 26 - 28 November

Deposit of £25 to confirm place due by
26 September



Ducklings

This week, the children loved when it rained, and we all got our puddle suits on and wellies and splashed in all the muddy puddles. The children also explored Oobleck this week and loved getting messy with this





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

s

a

t

p

This week have started learning the first of the phonemes. This week we have covered s,a,t,p. The children have thoroughly enjoyed all our phonic and writing activities. Any extra practice at home will be very beneficial. There will be information about supporting your child with phonics on Tapestry very soon.



Doves

This week, Doves have begun exploring their geography topic focused on the local area. They thoroughly enjoyed using Google Maps to investigate and were able to confidently identify the differences between a city, town, and village. It's been wonderful to see their curiosity and enthusiasm in action!

Gentle reminder: children's reading books will be sent home every Thursday and should be returned the following Thursday. Please continue to read with your child at home and sign their reading record each time. Children will receive stickers and Blackgates points as rewards for regular reading and signed records - a great way to celebrate their efforts!

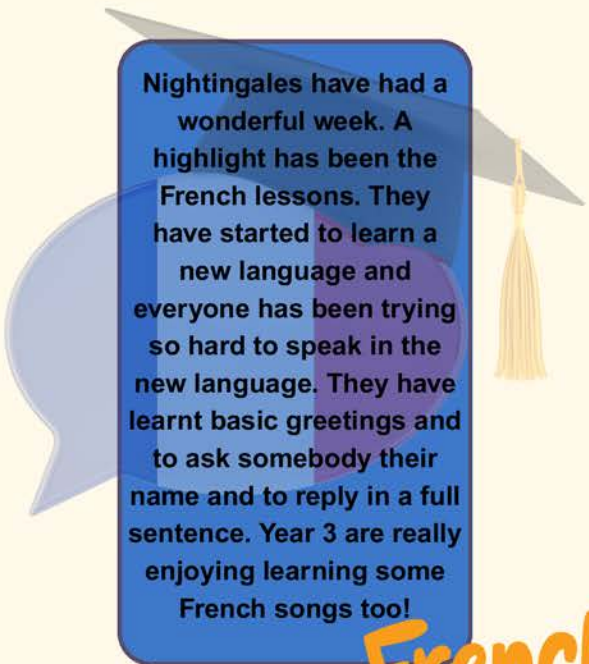


Penguins



Year 2 have had a fantastic week! They have been so resilient in maths - we've been looking at flexible partitioning of numbers. This is something they found tricky at first but with perseverance most children have understood it. Well done Penguins! We've also started our new science topic. The children have delved into classifying things into alive, once alive and never alive. The children did an amazing job.

Nightingales



Nightingales have had a wonderful week. A highlight has been the French lessons. They have started to learn a new language and everyone has been trying so hard to speak in the new language. They have learnt basic greetings and to ask somebody their name and to reply in a full sentence. Year 3 are really enjoying learning some French songs too!

French

Ravens

As part of our Modern Foreign Language curriculum, we are lucky enough to have a specialist French teacher visit the children weekly to help them with their speaking and listening. This week the children listened beautifully and learned about the French cuisine and foods that people would traditionally have in France. Thank you to those children who have also joined our French club in Year 4 too!

French

Falcons

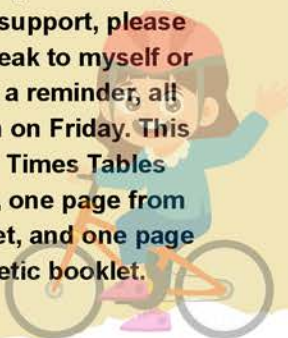
This week year 5 started their art topic about Barbara Hepworth. The children enjoy learning all about her and how she was inspired by the Yorkshire landscape. We also enjoyed experimenting with different materials in science and testing out their properties.

ART

Hawks



We've had a fantastic third week in Year 6! The children have shown great enthusiasm and determination, especially in maths where we've been tackling the tricky topic of rounding. A huge well done to Mia J, who is our Star of the Week for showing amazing resilience and perseverance - your hard work really stood out! Just a quick reminder that Bikeability is coming up soon. If you have any questions or need support, please don't hesitate to speak to myself or Mr White. Also, as a reminder, all homework is due in on Friday. This includes reading, Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS), one page from the spellings booklet, and one page from the arithmetic booklet.



Headteacher Star of the week

Week ending 19.09.25



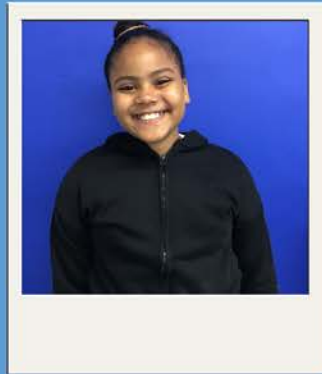
Stars of the week

Week ending 19.09.25



Stars of the week

Week ending 19.09.25



Stars of the week

Week ending 19.09.25



Most respect points this week

Congratulations to all of our Stars



Our new website is now live please take a look at

www.blackgates.org.uk

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



Parent Workshops – 2025/2026 Academic Year

As part of our ongoing package of support for parents, we have arranged a series of coffee afternoon sessions with the MindMate Support Team. This is a specialist mental health service aimed at supporting children and young people to manage anxiety and a range of mental health needs. The service is very family focused and wants to provide useful strategies for families to support children.

The dates for the workshops are below. The workshops are designed to support parents with helpful strategies to support your children and help them with a wide range of emotions and presenting behaviours.

Workshop 1: Mental Health Awareness	Wednesday 22nd October 2.30-3.30
Workshop 2: Emotional Literacy	Wednesday 17th December 2.30-3.30
Workshop 3: Understanding and Managing Emotions	Wednesday 11th February 2.30-3.30
Workshop 4: Promoting Healthy Sleep	Wednesday 1st April 2.30-3.30
Workshop 5: To be confirmed	Wednesday 20th May 2.30-3.30
Workshop 6: To be confirmed	Wednesday 15th July 2.30-3.30

Both SENDCos (Mrs Hartigan and Mrs Elston) will be in attendance and will be available to speak with after the sessions.

We hope to see you there.



Notices

Expression of Interest to become a Parent Governor



We have an opening for a parent Governor at our school if you are interested please contact the office either for a paper copy of our Expression of interests form or for a link to be sent to you via your email. Once this has been filled out please return to the office or send back to info@blackgates.leodis.org.uk



Can you spare a few hours a week to become a reading helper at our school?

We are working with a charity called Coram Beanstalk to recruit and train volunteer reading helpers who can commit to an afternoon a week to come in to school. As a reading helper you will support at least 3 children on a one to one basis outside of the classroom environment. You will be sharing and talking about books, helping them to grow in confidence and develop a lifelong love of reading.

For more information or if you wish to apply, visit the website at www.corambeanstalk.org.uk or call 0207 729 4087



**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. 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 5th 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.

Should you have any questions or need any help, send us a message at 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



SCAN TO REGISTER

*Milk for under-5s is fully funded by DfES 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



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?

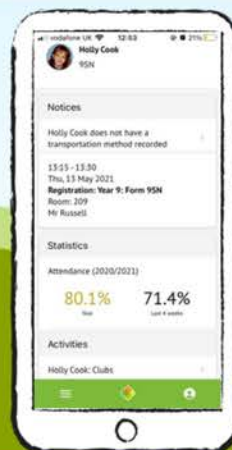
Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or

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***