

Parent Carer Council Head Teacher Report



Wednesday, 15th January 2025

Current School Roll

A little bit of movement but Blackhall currently has a roll of 370 pupils.

Average class size is 24.7 pupils.

P1 and P2 remain the only stages that are full. (P3 - only 2 spaces in each class)



Staffing

TEAM WORK!



- P1N – Mrs Noonan had a wee girl, Isla, on Boxing Day.
- Nina Fairley is very happy to be with us in P1N.
- Mrs Paterson is not returning to work just yet. This absence is covered by NQT.
- Eric Jackson, PSA, has temporarily reduced his days to Wednesday, Thursday, Friday.
- Sarah McNaught-Davies is stepping in to cover on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Staffing

We have had some absence in both teaching and support staff.

We are keeping within the allowed budget for staffing – just.



Recently



- **Attainment Meetings (SLT and Teachers) with new Pupil Tracking System.**
- **Homework Evening, 21st November**
- **P7 Camp, 25th – 29th Nov**
- **Winter Art Day – Monday, 2nd Dec**

Recently

- P1 Nativity – 6th Dec
- Maths Week – w/beg 9th Dec
- Walking in a Winter Wonderland and Sharing Learning Morning – Hot drinks, home baking, Lagganlia Assembly, raffle...
- End of Term Church Service – P6 Parents and Carers joined us
- Whole School to the Pantomime! Small deficit (£352.89) but Blackhall PSA has met the shortfall.
- P7 Nativity Trail



Christmas Jumper Sustainable Swap Shop!



- Sarah Mitchell's 'Sparkle Swap Shop' to encourage sustainable use of Christmas Jumpers/Tops seemed to go very well.
- "Festive Fridays," hopefully reduced pressure on families to provide several jumpers/tops/accessories over the weeks leading up to Christmas Break.

Coming up – P7 Show!

Thursday, 6th February, Royal High School



- P7s are in full swing of rehearsals for our upcoming production of, “What’s the Crime, Mr Wolf?”
- P6s will be providing musical support as the choir.
- Tickets on sale now!

Coming up – World Book Day 2025

Thursday, 6th March

- World Book Day being organised and planned by Ms Gabmayer, Ms Benson and Mrs Donoghue.
- Ms Gabmayer has managed to get books (rather than tokens) into school for children to choose on the day.
- We will start with an assembly.



Coming up – ASN Coffee Morning

Friday, 7th March 9-10am



- Bringing back ASN Coffee Mornings.
- Focus for this one will be Numeracy/Maths Support and Dyscalculia.

Coming up – Parent/Carer Consultations (Time Change)

- We are trying a Thursday evening and Friday afternoon for Parent Carer Consultations.
- This may be easier for some families and means teachers have weekend to recover!
- Thursday, 27th March and Friday, 28th March



Coming up - Bikeability



- Anna Hazel Dunn, DHT, and Fiona McQuaid, have now completed training.
- There are another 2 members of staff who are trained
- We are hopeful that we can run the sessions in the Spring/Summer term.

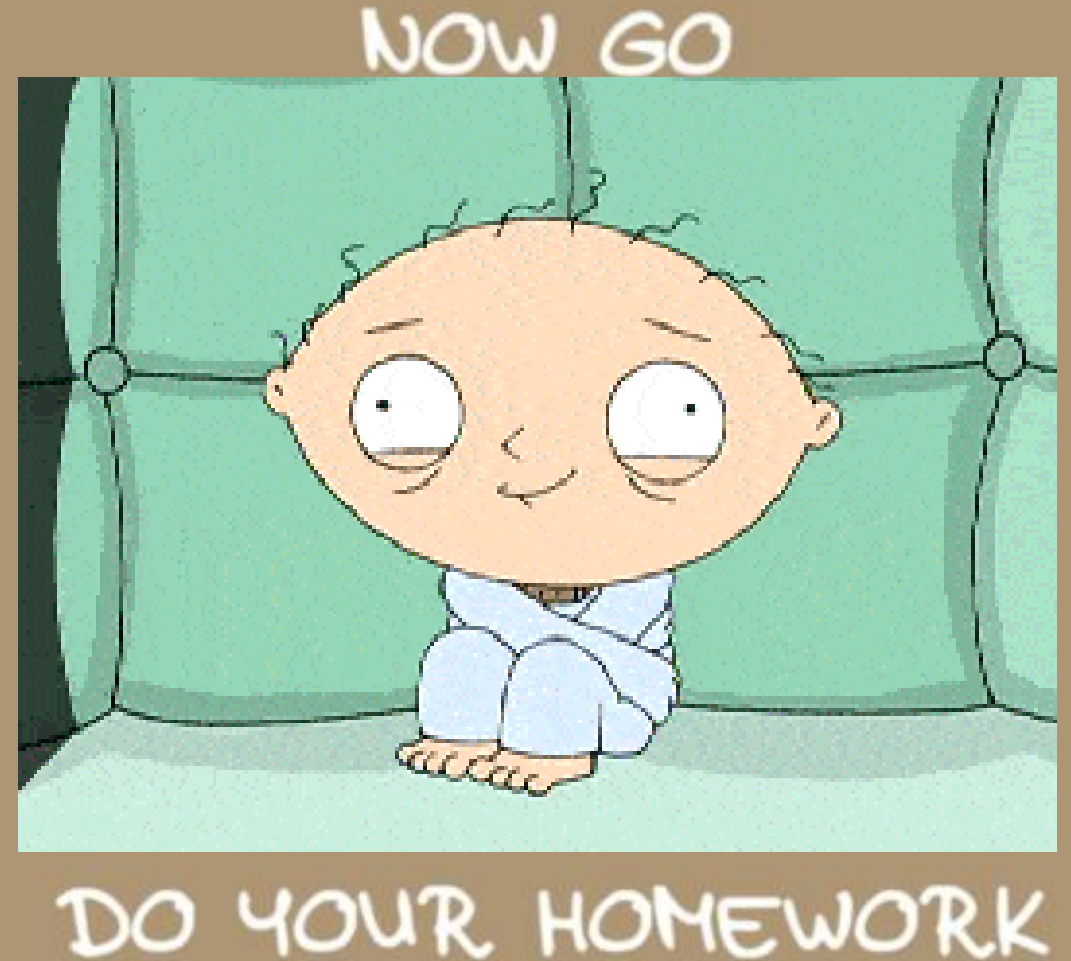
Coming up – Online Safety Information Session for Parents and Carers



- School has contacted CEC to request a date to deliver another session before the end of the school year.
- Will keep you informed.

Blackhall Homework

- Homework has started again this week.
- Literacy, Numeracy, Oracy.
- No new learning.
- Consolidation and Practice
- Policy and Slides on Website:
<https://blackhallprimary.co.uk/school-policies-and-documents/>



Money and stuff...



- New Smartboards are now in place in P1 rooms.
- We want to order more PE Equipment
- Acquired more books from another CEC School
- Additional Bike Rack and Scooter Rack installed – no charge to school!
- New carpets in P5MG and P3B – not from our budget. 😊

Money and stuff...

- Have a tender out to CEC to restructure and redesign the Wonder Woods.
- Wanted to use money from former teacher's family for a, "Linda Cross Memorial".
- May have to divert to developing the pond and Sensory Garden.
- (Watch this space for Community Gardening Day.)



Money and stuff...



- Finance Committee Meeting this Friday.
- Amazing, generous gift to school - £10k.
- Area outside P1 needs renovated (£4,740) – matter of safety. Have asked PSA for support with this.

Parking

- Mrs Hazel-Dunn and Mrs Martin trying to be outside at beginning and end of school day.
- Parking Buddies are on Zig Zags as deterrent.
- CEC being chased to move forward on traffic calming measures for Craigcrook Park.
- Police presence at times.
- JRSOs are on it!



Attendance Focus

- Attendance continues to be a focus for CEC.
- Learning Community has agreed that letters will be given at Parent Carer Consultations and Data included with Written Report.
- Blackhall attendance remains good overall – holidays account for most absence.
- Lateness (of more than 20-30 minutes, regularly) could be a target...



Meta Moments at Blackhall



- Most classes are now up and running with this beginning to our learning day.
- Some resources still being sought.

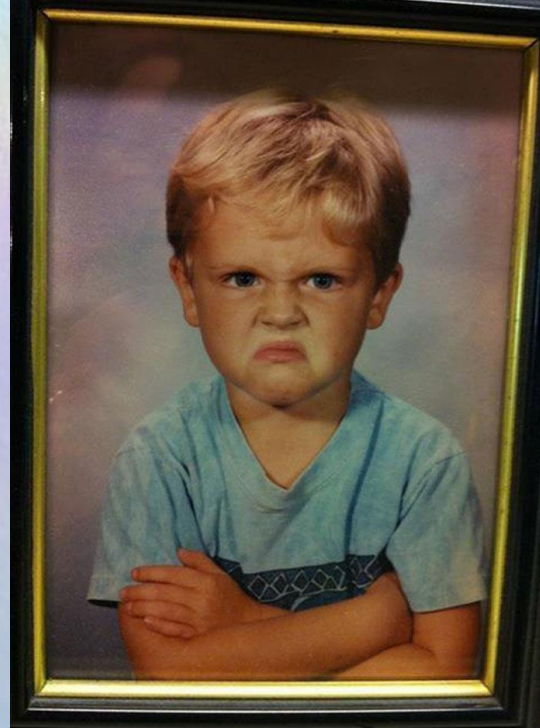
Sports and Activities

- Lots of sporting events lined up for this term and next.
- Clubs are tricky because they have to be free.
- Starting Netball; continuing with Running; Swimming; Athletics.
- Any expertise and spare time? Please contact school!



Photographers - Change

- We are changing from Tempest to Clear Photography.
- Photographs are booked for May.



Thank you for listening!

