

Blackhall Primary School



Head Teacher: Kirsty Martin

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83 Craigcrook Road
Edinburgh

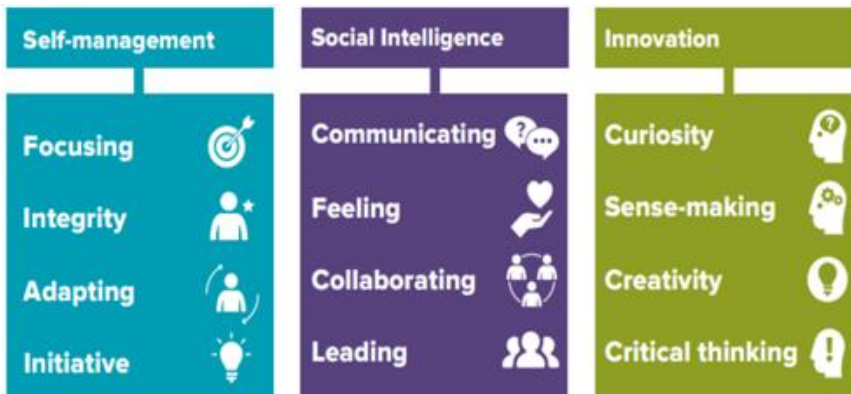
Friday, 10th October, 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a lovely, busy end to our half term with an Autumn House Event.

Thank you to all the parents and carers

who came along to help our P7s lead the way. This was the first time our House Captains and Events Coordinators were 'in charge' and they took on the task with the usual Blackhall Gusto! I have had lots of helpful feedback from staff and pupils with advice on the ways we can make it even better in future.



I had a great time with the singing and signing (always good to reestablish my limitations when it comes to coordinated movements...). The children enjoyed it

and the skills of collaborating, creativity, leading and focusing were all being developed! Our art work is coming together in the Tree display that will be completed after the holiday. Great work, everyone!

Coffee, Chat and Collaborate (formerly, "ASN Coffee Morning")

Our second gathering, earlier this week, was another success. Many thanks to Laura Paterson, our amazing Transition Teacher, who came along to lead the information session. We recognised that it could have been even more helpful to have some of our current S1 Parents and Carers in the meeting to share their children's experiences in real time and we plan to have another session in January to address that.



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Calendar

The table below has an outline for events happening throughout our school year. Please make a note of those relevant to you and your family. Any additions or changes will be made and shared with you as soon as possible.

OCTOBER	
Monday, 13th – Friday, 17th	OCTOBER HOLIDAY
Monday, 20th	School closed to pupils. INSET Day for Staff.
Tuesday, 21st October	All Pupils Return
Saturday, 25th October	Community Gardening Day! Come along and join the horticultural hi-jinks! 9am-1pm
Week Beg 27th	Termly Newsletter Home
Monday, 27th	Sports Hall Athletics Meadowbank Stadium P6 Event (30 pupils)
Tuesday, 28th	SWIMMING SESSIONS BEGIN for P5F (9 Sessions)
NOVEMBER	
Wednesday, 5th	New P1 Parents Open Day: 9:15am-10:15am and 1:15pm-2:15pm
Thursday, 6th and Friday, 7th	School Photos – Family and Individual
Friday, 7th November (TBC)	PSA Hallowe'en Discos: P1+2 – 3-4:30pm P3, 4, 5 – 5-6:30pm P6+7 – 7-8:30pm
Wednesday, 12th	P7s to the Risk Factory
Friday, 14th	9-10am - "Coffee, Chat and

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	Collaborate": Zones of Regulation, Explained and Explored! - Led by Rob Hammersley, Inclusion Support Team.
DECEMBER	
Monday, 1st	House Event – Winter Banners Parent/Carers welcome to come along to help!
Friday, 5th	9-10am - "Coffee, Chat and Collaborate": Coping with Christmas!
Monday, 8th December	P7 Girls' Netball Competition at Meadowbank
Friday, 12th	9-10:15am Winter Wonderland Walkabout and Open Morning – all parents and carers welcome 9:30am – P1 Nativity
Monday, 15th	Whole School to Blackhall St Columba's Parish Church for Assembly (P6 Parents/Carers welcome to join us) P7 Girls' Netball Competition at The Oriam (tbc)
Tuesday, 16th	WHOLE SCHOOL TO PANTO, ALHAMBRA THEATRE (Snow White)
Friday, 19th	P7 to Interactive Nativity Trail at St Columba's END OF TERM
JANUARY	
Monday, 5th January	INSET Day for Staff – School

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	Closed to Pupils
Tuesday, 6th	New Term Starts
Week beg 12th	Termly Newsletter home
Friday, 16th	9-10am - "Coffee, Chat and Collaborate": Sharing experiences of accessing supports and services for children with Additional Support Needs - led by parents and carers
Monday, 26th	P6 Girls' Netball Competition at Meadowbank
FEBRUARY	
Monday, 2nd	P6/P7 Wardie Cross Country Race
Monday, 9th	P6/P7 Saughton Cross Country Race
Thursday, 12th	P7 School Show at RHS, 7pm.
Monday, 16th – Friday, 20th	FEBRUARY BREAK
MARCH	
Monday, 16th	P6/P7 Mixed Netball Tournament New Meadowbank
Thursday, 26th	Swimming Gala at the Commonwealth Pool Parent Consultation, 4-7pm
Friday, 27th	Parent Consultation, 1-4pm
APRIL	
Thursday, 2nd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole School to Blackhall St Columba's Parish Church for Spring Assembly (TBC) End of Term
Tuesday, 21st	All return to school
Thursday, 23rd April	Open Afternoon for Parents and Carers – Come in and see the

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	learning!
Week beg 27th	Termly Newsletters home
Monday, 27th	Inverleith Cross Country Race
MAY	
Monday, 4th	MAY DAY HOLIDAY
Tuesday, 5th	No Pupils – Staff INSET
Thursday, 7th (TBC)	Edinburgh Evening News to take P7 class photos
Monday, 18th	VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY
Tuesday, 19th	Walk to School Week – Sponsored active week at BPS (TBC)
Wednesday, 20th	New P1 Parents and Carers Induction Evening
Friday, 22nd	Sports Day
Friday, 29th	Sports Day – alternative day
Friday, 29th	P5, 6, 7 Reports home by this date
JUNE	
Monday, 1st	P7 Girls' Netball Competition
Friday, 5th	P2, P3, P4 Reports home by this date
Thursday, 11th - tbc	Parent Carer Council and Parent Staff Association AGM 7-8:30pm
Friday, 12th	"STeAM Ahead in Sports" Event for Parents and Carers
Monday, 15th	P6 Girls' Netball Competition
Tuesday, 16th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P7s to transition day at RHS • New P1 Meet the Teacher Event for new Parents/Carers and children
Wednesday, 17th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P7s to transition day at RHS • New P1 Meet the Teacher Event for new Parents/Carers

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	and children - tbc <ul style="list-style-type: none">New House Captains Hustings
Thursday, 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none">P7s to transition day at RHS
Friday, 19th	P1 Reports – Home by this date
Monday, 22nd	'Blackhall's Got Talent'
Wednesday, 25th	END OF TERM OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY
Friday, 26th June	LAST DAY OF TERM

We have started to post some of the sporting events planned for 2025-26 and Mr Gardner will keep you updated throughout the year.

Please note these upcoming key dates:

- Saturday, 25th October, 9am-1pm – Community Gardening Day! All Welcome to drop in at any time that suits you. No need to come for the full time – if you have a spare half hour and can come along to help, that would be amazing!**
- Monday, 27th October – P6 Athletics at Meadowbank. More info to come.**



Ticks!

We are so fortunate to have very lush and green spaces around our school and playground but this means we are subject to curious wildlife who like to pay us a visit every now and then. In turn, they bring hitchhikers in the form of ticks. We are not permitted to remove ticks from your children but will let you know if we spot them so that you can remove safely and completely. Please follow this link if you find your child has come home with a tick and are unsure what how to remove safely:

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/injuries/skin-injuries/tick-bites/>

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AUTUMN FAIR 2025 – Saturday, 4th October

As per communication already sent out by our Parent Carer Council and Parent Staff Association, the Autumn Fair raised over £2000 for our school!

Thank you all for the efforts in the preparation, organisation, serving and supporting of this event. OK, so Storm Amy meant we didn't have Soak the Teacher but there is always next year!! 😊

The Other Autumn Fair

Robin, with the help of a few of his friends from P4, hosted his own Autumn Fair recently. This took place on Sunday, 21st September in his back garden and raised a

very
impressive
£572.44 for
UNICEF!



What a fabulous effort from Robin and how wonderful that he and his friends are so socially engaged and philanthropic.

I am reminded, almost daily, that our world is in good hands with these amazing young people in charge of the future! Well done Robin and Pippa and Amity and Grace and Olivia. You make us all proud!

Thank You

This has been a busy, fun start to another school year. I can't quite believe we are in October already. We have had lots of new faces join us at

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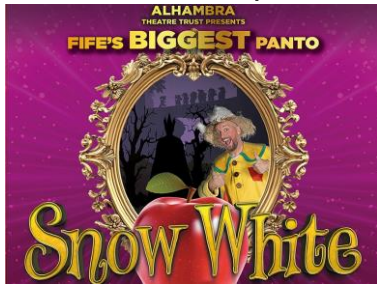
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Blackhall and it is always a great way to show how genuinely welcoming and friendly we are as a community.



Thank you all – staff, pupils and families – for everything you do to make our school so special and thriving.



If I had to choose a favourite term, it would perhaps be the one we have coming up. We have more opportunities to have our doors opened to our community, lots of fun and sparkles, maths week, P1 Nativity and – of course – our Panto Trip!!



Have a lovely mid-term break, Blackhall, and we look forward to seeing you back with us on Tuesday, 21st October!

Kirsty

