

Blackhall Primary School



Head Teacher: Kirsty Martin
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83 Craigcrook Road
Edinburgh

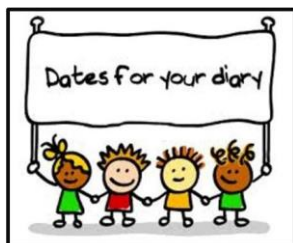
Friday, 28th August 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I refuse to accept that summer is over,
despite the rain and, luckily for us,
Blackhall's children keep that sun shining
day in and day out!



We are really settling into this new school year. The P7s are back with us after a wonderfully busy week in Lagganlia and the P1s are finding their feet (if not their indoor shoes!) beautifully.



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.

SEPTEMBER	
Wednesday, 2nd September	7pm – First Parent Staff Association Meeting of this session. All parents and Carers Welcome!
Thursday, 3rd September	4-5pm – Meet the Teacher
Friday, 4th	9-10am - Coffee and Chat in Staff Room for Parents and Carers - "Learning Through Play – What does that mean?" - JRSO Group attend City Chambers Event

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Wednesday, 9th	Parent Carer Council Meeting at 7pm in Blackhall Staff Room – all parents and carers welcome!
Friday, 11th September	• P7 Lagganlia Assembly for Parents and Carers 10:45am (time tbc) • "DrEAM About Nature" - All Parents and Carers invited to see the learning, 11:15am in the playground.
Monday, 14th	SEPTEMBER HOLIDAY – School Closed
Friday, 18th	Royal High School Open Afternoon for Parents/Carers
Monday, 21st	Flu Vaccinations in school
Wednesday, 30th Sept	P1MB - Parent/Carer Consultation 4-7pm
OCTOBER	
Thursday, 1st October	Parent/Carer Consultation 4-7pm
Friday, 2nd October	Parent/Carer Consultation 1-4pm (Not P1MP)
Wednesday, 7th	Autumn House Event in School – house colours encouraged
Monday, 13th - Friday, 17th	OCTOBER HOLIDAY
Monday, 19th	School closed to pupils. INSET Day for Staff.
Tuesday, 20th	All Pupils Return
Week Beg 26th	Termly Newsletter Home
Tuesday, 28th	SWIMMING SESSIONS BEGIN – P5S (9 Sessions)
NOVEMBER	
Wednesday, 4th (TBC)	2027-28 P1 Parents Open Day: 9:15am-10:15am and 1:15pm-2:15pm
Monday, 30th November	House Event – Winter Banners Parent/Carers welcome to come along to help!

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DECEMBER	
Friday, 4th December	9-10am – Coffee and Chat for Parents and Carers – “Coping With Celebrations”
Monday, 7th December	Winter Maths Week in School
Friday, 11th	9-10:30am Winter Wonderland Walkabout and Open Morning – all parents and carers welcome 9:30am – P1 Nativity
Monday, 14th	Whole School to Blackhall St Columba’s Parish Church for Assembly (P6 Parents/Carers welcome to join us)
Wednesday, 16th	WHOLE SCHOOL TO PANTO, ALHAMBRA THEATRE (Peter Pan)
Friday, 18th	P7 to Interactive Nativity Trail at St Columba’s END OF TERM – Normal Finishing Times
JANUARY	
Tuesday, 5th	School Closed to Pupils – Staff INSET Day
Wednesday, 6th	All pupils return for Spring Term
Week beg 11th	Termly Newsletter home
FEBRUARY	
Thursday, 11th	P7 School Show at RHS, 7pm.
Monday, 15th – Friday, 19th	FEBRUARY BREAK
MARCH	
Thursday, 18th	Parent Consultation, 4-7pm
Friday, 19th	Parent Consultation, 1-4pm
Friday, 26th March	Easter Holiday
Monday, 29th March	Easter Holiday

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APRIL	
Thursday, 1st April	Whole School to Blackhall St Columba's Parish Church for P7 Spring Assembly (TBC) P7 Parents and Carers Welcome!
Friday, 2nd April	End of Term
Tuesday, 20th April	All return to school
Week beg 26th	Termly Newsletters home
MAY	
Monday, 3rd	MAY DAY HOLIDAY
Tuesday, 4th	No Pupils – Staff INSET
Thursday, 6th (TBC)	Edinburgh Evening News to take P7 class photos
Monday, 17th	"Energise and Exercise" – Sponsored active week at BPS (TBC)
Wednesday, 19th	New P1 Parents and Carers Induction Evening
Friday, 21st	Sports Day
Monday, 24th	VICTORIA DAY HOLIDAY
Friday, 28th	- Sports Day – alternative day - P5, 6, 7 Reports home by this date
JUNE	
Friday, 4th	P2, P3, P4 Reports home by this date
Thursday, 10th	- Coffee and Chat for Parents and Carers - Transition: Coping with Change - Parent Carer Council and Parent Staff Association AGM 7-8:30pm (tbc)
Friday, 11th	"STeAM Ahead in Farming" 11am – 12pm, In-School Exhibition for Parents and Carers
Tuesday, 15th	P7s to transition day at RHS

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	• New P1 Meet the Teacher Event for new Parents/Carers and children
Wednesday, 16th	• P7s to transition day at RHS • New P1 Meet the Teacher Event for new Parents/Carers and children - tbc • New House Captains Hustings
Thursday, 17th	• P7s to transition day at RHS • P3-6 pupils to Royal Highland Show!
Friday, 18th	P1 Reports – Home by this date
Monday, 21st	'Blackhall's Got Talent'
Monday, 28th	END OF TERM OUTDOOR ASSEMBLY
Tuesday, 29th June	LAST DAY OF TERM

Here are some immediate points of info...

Next Week...



Wednesday, 2nd Sept, 7pm – Parent Staff Association Meeting in school

Thursday, 3rd 4-5pm – Meet the Teacher: Come in and meet your child's teacher.

Friday, 4th September, 9-10am – Coffee and Chat: "Learning Through Play – What does that mean?"

The Week After...

Wednesday, 9th Sept, 7pm – Parent Carer Council Meeting in school.

Friday, 11th Sept, 11:15am – Come in for our outdoor assembly to see what we have been learning in DrEAM About Nature!

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Pre-Loved Uniforms

We are getting ready to open a little shop of sorts, not horrors, that will have pre-loved uniform available for all. Once we have all the logistics and timings worked out, the information will be coming your way!



Coffee and Chat

Next **Friday, 4th September 9-10am**, our Coffee Mornings begin for the session. Our first theme is, "Learning Through Play" and how we are developing this at

Blackhall. If your child is in P1 or P2, you can come along and hear how your child is learning but even if your child is older, you will find this approach interesting and informative.

...And if you just fancy a coffee and biscuit, come along and listen in! We will be in the staff room at 9am and you will be welcomed.

School Improvement Plan

Our main points of focus for this year are:

- Improving Writing Skills;
- "Capable Environments" (from relationships to organisation of learning and rooms);
- Updating school policies for Writing, Numeracy, Digital and Play.



You will find a summarised version of this Plan on our website:

<https://blackhallprimary.co.uk/school-policies-and-documents/>

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Meet the Teacher

We are looking forward to welcoming you into school on **Thursday, 4-5pm.**

Teachers will be hosting consultation evenings in a few weeks and this is when there will be more specific information shared about your child's learning. "Meet the Teacher" gives you the opportunity to put a face to the name of your child's teacher/s and to see the classroom in which your child is learning. Please drop in at any time between 4pm and 5pm for a few minutes and to share a friendly hello!

Blackhall PSA (Parent Staff Association)

Our first Blackhall PSA meeting of this session is taking place on **Wednesday, 2nd September at 7pm** in school. Please come along and lend your ideas to the discussion or talents to the tasks!



Blackhall Parent Carer Council Meeting

In the following week, this session's first PCC meeting takes place on **Wednesday, 9th September at 7pm** in school. Come along and hear what points and questions are being raised from each year group, as well as how things are progressing on our big playground development.

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Playground Development



We have recently been allocated £150,000 from City of Edinburgh Council to improve our playground. This week, there is a meeting to update school on how the plans are progressing and I look forward to sharing these updates at our PCC meeting on the 9th.

NYCOS

At Blackhall, we often work with the musicians from NYCOS (National Youth Choir of Scotland) at no cost to the school. They have asked us to share the following:

NYCOS is a great complement to school learning, with proven benefits in literacy and numeracy. Our musicianship programme develops aural skills, musical understanding and confidence — valuable skills that young people can take into everything else they do in school.

I've attached a flyer with more information, and we'd be very grateful if you could share it with any children, young people or families who might be interested.

We'd love to give as many young people as possible the chance to discover the enjoyment of singing together and being part of a choir. Young people can come along for a free trial, and we offer financial assistance of up to 100%, so we hope cost needn't be a barrier to taking part.

NYCOS

DOES YOUR CHILD LOVE SINGING?

In Primary 4 or above?
Looking for an activity to make friends, build confidence and learn skills for life?

OUR EDINBURGH REGIONAL CHOIR IS OPEN TO NEW MEMBERS

JOIN US ON WEDNESDAY AT ST GEORGE'S SCHOOL FOR GIRLS FOR P4-P5 CHILDREN - 5.30PM

Scan the QR Code or visit <https://www.nycos.co.uk/register-your-interest-rc/> for more information.

For more information, any questions or if your child requires any additional arrangements to attend, please contact regional-choirs@nycos.co.uk

FUNDED PLACES ARE AVAILABLE

Young people in P6-S6 can contact regional-choirs@nycos.co.uk to arrange a voice assessment

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Veggie Vendors!

What a lovely way to end our week when the fruits (or veggies!) of our gardeners' labours were available to share with our community. Many of you were lucky enough to get some carrots (before Daniel and Will had "Bugs-Bunnied" them!) or potatoes or runner beans or beetroots... It was an impressive haul, harvested by Mrs Mitchell and a series of classes this week. The children were happy to dig, clean, organise and display this produce. Amazing!



There was no charge but your generous donations mean we will be well-stocked for future growing seeds and materials. Thank you!



DrEAM About Nature

The singing, dancing and artistry going on around our school, make it a very colourful and creative place to be! We are looking forward to sharing this learning with you through our whole school Outdoor Assembly on **Friday,**

11th September at 11:15am.

If you are a P7 Parent/Carer, the P7 pupils will be sharing their Lagganlia Assembly with you in the big hall at **10:45am**, prior to the DrEAM Assembly.



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Have a lovely, last August weekend and let's stretch that summer spirit!

Kirsty

