



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential



@BlackfenSchool



<http://www.facebook.com/BlackfenSchoolForGirls>
www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk

30th June 2023

Head Teacher's Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

There are so many exciting things happening in the school over the coming weeks. We have sports day, celebration events, challenge day and Discover days, while year 10 students start on their work experience.

On top of this, during this week we have held our first Cultural Day led by staff and students with support from home. Students and staff have worked hard under the leadership of Ms Dunsdon leading to a great day of activities and celebration. Thank you to everyone involved.

On Tuesday, the performance space was full to the rafters as staff and students put on the summer showcase. There were over 90 students involved in 40 different acts. It was a packed evening of entertainment led by the expressive arts faculty, under Ms Magrowski's leadership. We were also treated to a musical performance from Mr McGee. Well done to all staff and students involved.

Last Friday we said farewell to year 13 students with their Prom. My thanks to Ms Brewer, Ms Purbrick and Ms Eiffert for organising this.

Staffing

On Tuesday we said goodbye, for the moment, to Ms Padbury who is expecting her first child next week. This follows Ms Fant's start of maternity leave last week. Last week we said goodbye to Mr Pallen. I would like to thank him for his work in the school as a member of the site team and as student support officer for the Green community. We wish him all the best in the future.

Dates

The term finishes for students on Wednesday 19 July at **12.15pm** (Please note time change). Details of the start of next term will be sent to parents/carers during the summer. Students return to school on Tuesday 5 September 2023.

As notified in a letter this week, the school is closed on Wednesday 5 and Friday 7 July 2023 due to industrial action by the NEU. The school is only open to vulnerable young people and children of critical workers.

Matthew Brown, Head Teacher

Reminders

As you will be aware, the hot and sunny weather is bringing out the kids in us all and the want to play with water. Unfortunately, water pistols and the like are NOT allowed in school and will be confiscated.

Please do not contact your child during school hours as students are not always resilient enough to resist the need to look at their phone in their bag, as it has alerted them to a message. Please remember that phones should be switched off in school. If you have an urgent message to get to your child then please contact their SSO who will relay the message to them. Similarly if your child needs to call home then they should go to their SSO to ask for permission to call home.

Whilst writing I would remind you that if mobile devices are seen, then they will be confiscated. If your child refuses to hand this over then there will be an automatic S4 sanction.

Finally - Shoes. Black shoes are the uniform footwear and should be worn unless there is a medical note stating the reason why. Trainers, boots, vans, sandals etc are not uniform footwear.

Ms Hayford
Assistant Headteacher

Elevate Webinar

Dear Parents,

RE: [Upcoming webinar for parents – *Setting Up for Success*](#)

We're excited to announce that Elevate Education's **final free webinar of the year** will be taking place on **Tuesday 11th July**.

Elevate Education works with our students, delivering high impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series you will learn how you can help better support your children at home through reinforcing the skills they learn at school:

Tuesday 11th July @ 6:00pm

Setting Up for Success

[Click here to register for free](#)

In this webinar, Elevate will guide you through the foundational study skills required to hit the ground running next academic year – skills such as:

- Effective Note Taking
- Deliberate Practice and Implementing a System of Review
- Extra Reading, and How to Read Around a Topic

HELP FOR HERO'S JUST GIVING - Travels with Okey (Public Group)

Some of you may or may not remember Dr Valetta? Fred was our Deputy Head Teacher for many years and made a wonderful contribution to life here at Blackfen before retirement.

However in mid April he set off on a walk from Lands End to John O Groats with his companion dog 'Okey'. Fred spent over a year organising this trip which is raising money for '**Help for Hero's**'.

You can follow Fred via '**Travels with Okey**' on Facebook. [This is a Public Group](#). If you start to follow them now you must start from the beginning to get a good update and read about their journey so far, where they are, where they've been and the wonderful people they've met on the way. You will be amazed at what they have to carry and the planning involved, especially around Okey!

If you would like to make a donation here are the details:

https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/travels-with-okey?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=travels-with-okey&utm_campaign=pfp-whatsapp&utm_term=8d18bae63f7643da8ae50abad8728e48

School Lockers

Please can we ask parents and carers to remind their children to empty their lockers before we break up in July.

The lockers are maintained and cleaned in the school holiday by the locker company and any contents found inside could be lost.

This applies to the lockers outside technology and those inside school in the maths block.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

| Date | Event |
|--|---|
| Tuesday 4 th July 2023 | Year 6 Induction Day/Evening |
| Wednesday 5 th July 2023 | School Closed |
| Thursday 6 th July 2023 | Year 7 Parents Evening |
| Friday 7 th July 2023 | School Closed |
| Monday 17 th & Tuesday 18 th July 2023 | Discover Days |
| 6 th – 14 th July 2023 | Celebration Presentations |
| 10 th – 21 st July 2023 | Year 10 Work Experience |
| Thursday 13 th July 2023 | Sports Day |
| Wednesday 19 th July 2023 | Summer Term Finishes students leave at 12.15 |
| Thursday 20th & Friday 21st July 2023 | INSET Days |