



Blackfen School for Girls

Raising aspirations - releasing potential



@BlackfenSchool



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

2nd February 2024

Head Teacher's Message

Dear parents/carers,

A very belated happy new year to you! January seems to have whistled by and we are soon approaching half term. Year 11 students received their PPE results in early January and we welcomed year 11 parents and carers into school for parents' evening. Year 9 students are now embarking on their subject selection choices for KS4 and we look forward to welcoming parents and carers for the upcoming information events. Mental health ambassadors received training from Pascale Berthellet and it was good to see so many young people engaging with this and wanting to be part of this.

This week, students have been on a Citizenship residential trip in New York. We hope that they have a safe journey home. There is also a trip out next week as students visit Berlin and Krakow. Plans are fully in place for the ski trip which takes place after half term. I would like to thank all staff involved in these trips for providing such great opportunities for the young people at Blackfen school.

The Bexley Community Safety Partnership would like responses to two questionnaires. The first is a hate crime survey and the second is about violence towards women and girls. These will be sent out by email to all parents/carers/families but there are also links to these surveys here:

Hate crime survey link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SkwFRK9qzkO39F7cnZ_dGxdwEET1-NnRFtIs8wigJ8_9UNzRGQjhNWEdZRkdUQkc1M09DNDZPQVAzQS4u

VAWG survey link:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=SkwFRK9qzkO39F7cnZ_dGxdwEET1-NnRFtIs8wigJ8_9UQ0pHRUxaWk44VU5XTk4wOERWRUpJSTRZQy4u

Road safety

I have had several complaints and comments about young people being dropped off directly outside the school often on the zig zag markings. Please can all drivers be considerate to all road users especially pedestrians and cyclists. There have been several close calls where a car door has been opened whilst waiting at the traffic lights causing a cyclist to take drastic action to avoid running into a young person.

Staffing news

Congratulations to Ms Johnson on the birth of her son in January.

Future dates

This half term finishes on 9 February 2024 at the normal time. Next half term starts at 8.20 for an 8.30 start on Monday 19 February 2024.

Best wishes



Matthew Brown, Head Teacher

Governors Message

We are entering a time of great change at the School with the retirement of Mr Brown at Easter. His contribution to Blackfen School for Girls has been immense and incredibly difficult to follow. It is the Governing Body's task to recruit a candidate of great calibre to replace him. I thought, therefore, that I would update parents and carers on the process which is being followed. A recruitment panel has been selected by the Governing Body. Advertisements have been placed nationally and we have received a number of high quality applicants. The panel is now assembling a short-list for a full interview process which will be taking place in the next few weeks. If a suitable candidate is found the final decision will be ratified by the Governing Body and the final decision announced. I will keep you updated when I have further information to share.

In the interim the Governing Body is continuing its normal cycle of committee meetings, meetings with the Head Teacher and school visits. Full reports will be given in the next newsletter,

Stuart Fitz-Gerald
Chair of Governors

Careers Ambassadors

In November students were invited to apply for the role of Careers Ambassador. After an interview process we are delighted to announce that the following students were appointed to promote and develop careers education and learning here at Blackfen:

Appointed Careers Ambassadors:

Lolade Red 7, Year 10

Rivaa Red 5, Year 8

The students first event will be the Careers Forum on 5th March where they will greet our exhibitors and make them feel welcome at Blackfen School. The students will be in post until December 2024 and will be involved with many more Careers events including Year 10 Careers Challenge Day, external speaker events and Careers related learning.



Mrs Smith, Work Experience and Business/Community Links Coordinator

Elevate

Dear Parents,

We're excited to announce that Elevate Education will be hosting their next parent webinar on **technology and focus** on February 6th.

Elevate works with our students, delivering high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing, and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you'll learn **how you can help support your child at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.**

Sign up for the session below to learn how you can turn technology from a distraction into an incentive to study.

[How You Can Make Technology an Ally \(& Not the Enemy!\)](#)

[Tuesday 6th February 6:00-7:00pm \(GMT\)](#)

[Click here to register for free](#)

MAGIC SQUARE WORKSHEET

In a magic square, each row, column and diagonal add up to the same total.
Can you fill in the missing numbers in these magic squares?

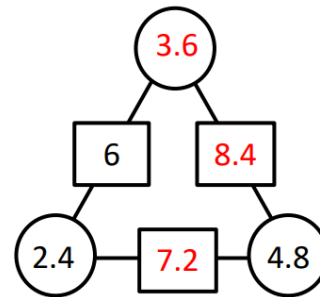
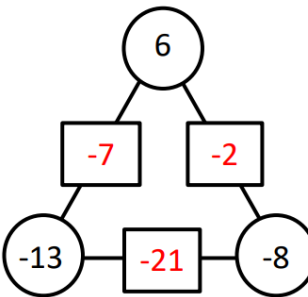
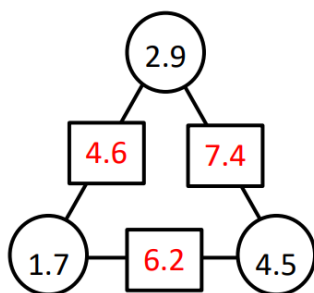
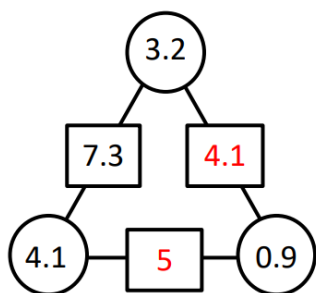
1) The sum is 34.

7			14
2	13	8	
			5
9	6		

2) The sum is 42.

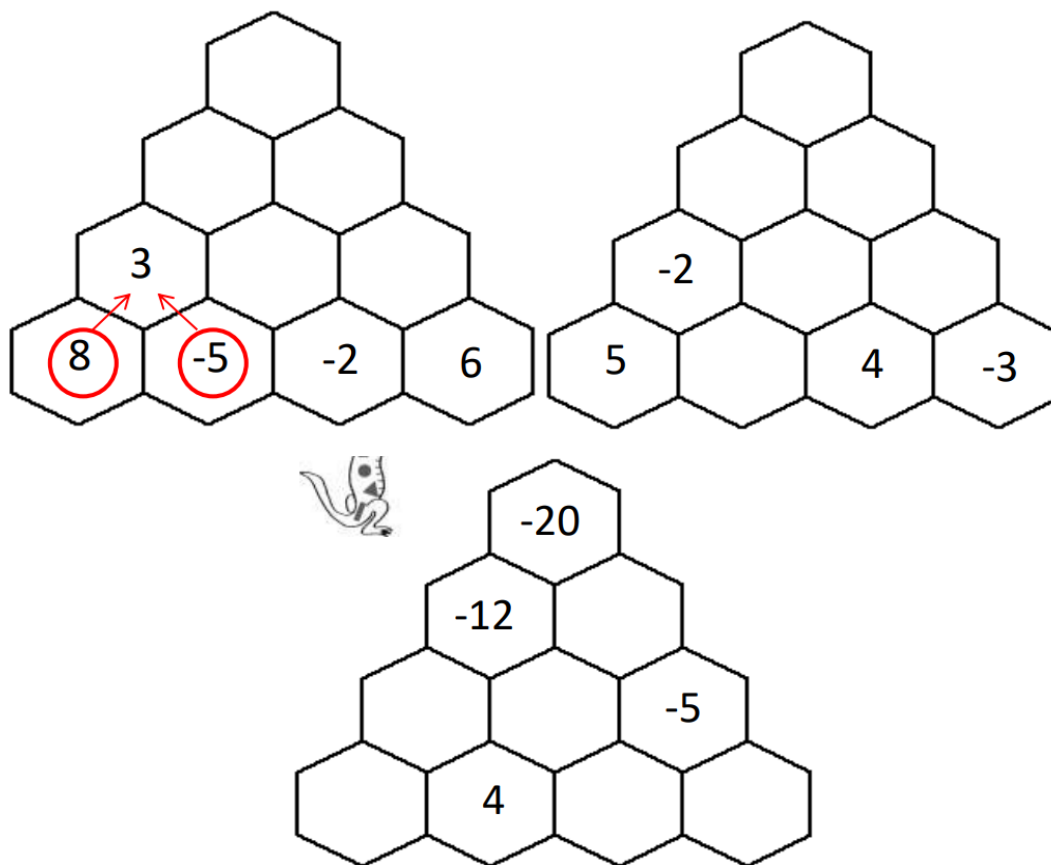
	18		9
8		15	14
		10	
6		13	

Last puzzle answers:



SALLY'S HEXAGON NUMBER PUZZLE

Each hexagon is made by adding up the numbers in the two hexagons below it. Fill in the missing numbers in these puzzles.



Last puzzle answers:

- 1) The sum is 34. 2) The sum is 42.

7	12	1	14
2	13	8	11
16	3	10	5
9	6	15	4

11	18	4	9
8	5	15	14
17	12	10	3
6	7	13	16

Numeracy Support

A new document has been added to the school website to support students when completing homework and when preparing for exams.

This booklet has examples of many of the different techniques that are taught to students to solve problems involving Numeracy in all subjects across the curriculum.

It can be found on the school website using this link:

<https://www.blackfenschoolforgirls.co.uk/page/?title=Numeracy&pid=834>

or by clicking on the **Home** drop down menu, selecting **Home Study** and then scrolling down the red section on the right of the screen to select **Numeracy**.

Ms Tregenna, Teacher of Maths and Numeracy Coordinator

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Events scheduled so far

DATE	EVENT
29 th January to 3 rd February 2024	New York Trip (year 11 Citizenship / year 12/13 Politics)
5 th February to 9 th February 2024	Year 13 Trip to Berlin & Krakow
Thursday 8 th February 2024	Year 9 Information Evening (KS4 Course Selection)
Monday 12th to Friday 15th February 2024	Half Term
Tuesday 20 th February 2024	Challenge Day 2 Year 7 Tower of London Trip
Thursday 22 nd February 2024	Year 9 Parents Evening 1 - Green/Red/Blue 1-4
Friday 23 rd February 2024	Year 9 DTP Immunisations
Saturday 24 th February 2024	Year 10 D of E Practice Day
Tuesday 27 th & Wednesday 28 th February 2024	Year 11 Hastings Trips
Thursday 29 th February 2024	Year 9 Parents Evening 2 (4.00-6.30) - Yellow/Purple/Blue 5-9
Tuesday 5 th March 2024	Careers Forum
Thursday 7 th March 2024	Year 11 PFS Year 12 'Next Steps' Parents Information Evening
Thursday 14 th March 2024	Year 10 Parents Evening
Friday 15 th March 2024	Year 10 Dance Workshop
16 th to 23 rd March 2024	Year 9/10 Ski Trip
18 th – 21 st March 2024	Achievement Assemblies
Tuesday 19 th March 2024	Year 13 Trip to Westfield Shopping Centre
Tuesday 26 th March 2024	Year 10 Resilience Event Year 9 DTP Immunisation catch ups
Thursday 28 th March 2024	End of Term – early finish
Friday 29th March 2024	Bank Holiday
Monday 1st April – Friday 12th April 2024	Easter Holidays
Monday 15 th April 2024	Summer Term starts
Thursday 25 th April 2024	Year 7 Parents Evening
Monday 29 th April 2024	Year 8 HPV Immunisations Year 10/11 Citizen Trip to Royal Courts of Justice
Wednesday 1 st May 2024	Year 10 Drama Theatre Trip
Monday 6th May 2024	Bank Holiday
Thursday 9 th May 2024	Year 8 Parents Evening
Thursday 9 th & Friday 10 th May	D of E Bronze Final Expedition
Thursday 16 th & Friday 17 th May 2024	D of E Bronze Final Expedition
Thursday 16 th May 2024	Year 12 Parents Evening
Monday 27th to Friday 31st May 2024	Half Term
Wednesday 26 th June 2024	Year 8 HPV immunisation catchups
Thursday 27 th June 2024	Challenge Day 3
Friday 28 th June 2024	Year 12 Induction Day

Tuesday 2 nd July 2024	Year 6 Induction Day Year 6 Parents Induction Evening
Monday 8 th July 2024	Year 8/9 immunisation catchups
Monday 8 th – Friday 12 th July 2024	Celebration Presentations
8 th – 19 th July 2024	Year 10 Work Experience
Tuesday 16 th July 2024	Sports Day
Wednesday 17 th & Thursday 18 th July 2024	Discover Days
Friday 19 th July 2024	Last Day of Term – early finish