



# Blackboys Newsletter

Friday 14th January 2025

Christian Value for Term : Courage

Dear Parents/Carers,  
Welcome to the first whole school newsletter of term 3.

## Christian Value of the Term: Courage

This term, we are focusing on the Christian value of courage. At our school, we believe that courage is about more than bravery—it is about having the strength to do what is right, even when it feels difficult or uncomfortable.

In the Bible, there are many examples of courage, from David facing Goliath to Jesus showing compassion and love in the face of challenge. In assembly on Thursday, Father James reminded us that courage needs encouragement and that courage often comes from trusting in God and believing in ourselves. We encourage all our super children to reflect on how they can show courage in their words and actions. We look forward to celebrating acts of courage together in assemblies and through our work in the classroom!

## Goodbye Mrs Vance

It is with great sadness that we have to report that Class 4 Teaching Assistant Mrs Vance has left Blackboys School after being granted ill health retirement. Mrs Vance has been away from school for nearly a year and despite the best efforts of medical staff, is not in a position to return following wrist surgery in the Spring of 2024. Mrs Vance has been a much loved member of our team since September 2001 and joined us

for Gold Book Assembly today where the classes presented her with cards together with a gift from the staff. We will now be advertising for a permanent member of staff to join our team and I will keep parents/carers updated with this.

## Parent/Carer Volunteer lifts.

We are always grateful of offers of lifts from parents/carers to and from events such as Young at Heart and sporting fixtures. In fact in some cases our pupils would not be able to participate without them.

We have recently reviewed the policy which includes parents/carers who volunteer driving the pupils in their cars. In addition to holding a copy of your car insurance and driving licence, we shall also be adding the above QR code to correspondence which will enable the volunteer to complete a check which confirms they have no driving offences. Federation policy also states that anyone with over 6 points showing on their licence will be unable to assist with pupil lifts. We know you will agree that the introduction of this new process will keep our children as safe as possible.



## Cancelled After School Art Club

Due to staff training there will be NO after school Art Club taking place on Tuesdays 28th January and 04th February 2025. Art club will return for Tuesday 11th February.

## Spring Term Parent Consultations

As per the letter sent home earlier this week, this term will see our Spring Term Parent Consultations taking place. Each Parents/Carer will be offered the opportunity to meet with their child's class teacher. To secure your appointment please refer to the letter sent out.

**Due to the consultation evening, please remember there will be NO after school football club taking place on Monday 10th February. All other clubs as well as wrap around care continue to take place.**

## Wrap Around Care

We are thrilled that our wrap around care provision continues to be well used by Parents/Carers. Currently, most days we are at capacity for After School Club and this has been the case for most of this term. Breakfast Club is also becoming increasingly popular.

**We have to therefore be strict on the 24 hours notice we require when trying to book in to the club. It may be we will be unable to take same day bookings and there may be increasing occasions when there will be no available space.**

Please also remember should you not require a place at a wrap around care session to cancel your child's booking ASAP. This will allow us to offer the place to someone who needs it. We reserve the right to charge for bookings which aren't cancelled.

Our best advice is to book places as far in advance as possible. We would also like to remind parents that After School Club is primarily to support parents who need childcare for work or training. Wrap around care is not a lifestyle choice or a playdate provider.

## Wrap Around Care, Food Hygiene Rating

Following a routine visit from the Rother and Wealden Food Hygiene inspectors last week, we are very pleased to confirm our facilities received the highest score possible of 5.

## Class Led Acts of Worship, Spring Term 3.

Class 5 will lead the act of worship on Thursday 6th February at 9:05am in our school hall.

## Attendance

The nine schools in the Ringmer Alliance are working together to boost attendance and help every pupil build a bright future. At our school, we're passionate about giving every child the best possible start in life. A key part of that is ensuring they're here, ready to learn, every day. Attending school regularly helps your child develop not only academically but also socially and emotionally. It's where they form friendships, build confidence, and discover their love of learning. We understand that life can be unpredictable—illness, family events, or unexpected challenges can arise. However, missing even just a few days here and there can add up and create gaps in your child's learning. We want to work together to ensure your child doesn't miss out on these valuable experiences.

## East Sussex Health Team

Our East Sussex Schools Health Team now offers a wider range of support for families. Attached are some posters advertising aspects of support.

The website - <https://www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk/about/school-health/> - includes a video showing how to access the resources. It also includes a helpline number for immediate support which may mean a referral is not required. There is also the option to text a school nurse for a more immediate response.

For ease we have included this information as follows:  
School Health One Point  
0300 123 4062  
kenchft.esschoolhealthservice@nhs.net

Make an online School Health Referral:  
School Health One Point (SHOP) is our contact point for parents, carers and professionals. Your call will be answered by an experienced administrator who will be able to take your details; if necessary a nurse can call you back.

Text your school nurse:  
If you need to speak to someone now, contact us by text using our confidential text messaging service for parents and carers of children of aged five to 19 years and also young people aged between 11 and 19 years.  
Text 07507 332473

Using services like this will help parents make better choices about their child's health needs.

## Gold Book Awards for week beginning 20th January

### Class 1

Dixie C - for having a really positive attitude to her learning and for working hard.  
Hazel MC - for her fantastic writing about hedgehogs; great sounding out of cvc words.  
Rafe S - for his great work in RE talking about the different groups he belongs to.

### Class 2

Edie D - for making a big effort in all her lessons, especially her new Phonics group.  
Alfie S - for making good progress with his writing.  
Jonah C - for working independently and trying hard.

### Class 3

Ginny L & Oscar M - for using the laptop to play a fantastic version of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star in Music.  
Ariana C - for her excellent letter writing in English.

### Class 4

Jessica RH - for using her piano skills in Music yesterday when exploring notation.  
Benjy C - for persevering with fractions and using bar models accurately to help him.  
Astrid G - for a great job with note-taking when researching, putting her in a really good position to start her explanation text.

### Class 5

Tilly C - for her excellent work in Science this week.  
Hope W - for persevering throughout the week with a bad back.  
Freya C - for working hard on editing her writing.

## ACADEMIC YEAR 24/25

### JANUARY

MONDAY 27TH CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM  
TUESDAY 28TH NO ART CLUB THIS WEEK  
WEDNESDAY 29TH 10 X SELECTED YEAR 5 & 6 PUPILS SWIMMING GALA, UCKFIELD ARRIVE 1PM, START 1.30PM, PRESENTATIONS 3PM, FINISH 3.20PM  
THURSDAY 30TH HEAD LED ACT OF WORSHIP 9-9.30AM ALL WELCOME  
CLASS 4 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM  
FRIDAY 31ST CLASS 2 TRIP TO HOVE TOY MUSEUM 9AM-3.15PM  
BLACKBOYS BABIES GROUP, SCHOOL HALL 2-3PM

### FEBRUARY

MONDAY 3RD DEADLINE - SCHOOL COUNCIL PLANET COMPETITION ENTRIES TO BE HANDED INTO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY TODAY  
CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM  
TUESDAY 4TH NO ART CLUB THIS WEEK  
GIRLS COUNTY CUP FOOTBALL MATCH AT FOREST ROW LEAVING AT 2.45PM FOR A 3.25PM ARRIVAL - 4.15PM  
SELECTED PUPILS YEAR 3/4 TAG RUGBY FESTIVAL UCKFIELD COLLEGE, BOTTOM FIELD 3.45-4.45PM  
THURSDAY 6TH CLASS 5 LED ACT OF WORSHIP 9-9.30AM ALL WELCOME  
CLASS 4 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM  
YR 3/4 SKIPPERS HILL VS BLACKBOYS NETBALL AT SKIPPERS HILL.  
MINIBUS TRANSPORTING PUPILS. 2-4.30PM  
BOYS COUNTY CUP FOOTBALL MATCH AT HOME 3 - 4.15PM  
FRIDAY 7TH WHOLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTED  
MONDAY 10TH YEAR 6 RETURN OF CONSENT SLIPS TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT TRIP TAKING PLACE 28 02 25  
CLASS 1 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM  
NO AFTER SCHOOL FOOTBALL CLUB (DUE TO PARENT CONSULTATIONS)  
PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING 3.30-6PM  
TUESDAY 11TH SELECTED PUPILS YR5/6 TAG RUGBY FESTIVAL UCKFIELD COLLEGE, BOTTOM FIELD 3.45-4.45PM  
WEDNESDAY 12TH PARENT CONSULTATION EVENING 5-7.30PM  
THURSDAY 13TH FATHER JAMES LED ACT OF WORSHIP 9-9.30AM ALL WELCOME  
CLASS 4 FOREST SCHOOL - BY ROTA 1-3.15PM  
YR 3/4 SKIPPERS HILL VS BLACKBOYS FOOTBALL AT SKIPPERS HILL. MINIBUS TRANSPORTING PUPILS. 2-4.30PM  
FRIDAY 14TH LAST DAY OF TERM 3  
YEAR 4/5 PUPILS FIRST PGL PAYMENT DUE TO SCHOOL OFFICE BY TODAY  
MON 17TH - FRI 21ST **FEBRUARY HALF TERM**  
MONDAY 17TH MISS ZARA'S HALF TERM DANCE WORKSHOP 10AM-3PM  
MONDAY 24TH **INSET DAY (NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL)**  
TUESDAY 25TH FIRST DAY OF TERM 4  
SELECTED PUPILS YR5/6 NETBALL UCKFIELD COLLEGE MUGA 3.45-5.15PM

### 24/25 Dates for your diary

If you take a look at the homepage of our Blackboys website, you will find that School 'main' events like Spring Term Parents Evenings, Tempest Photos (for 2025!) and even Sports Day are already confirmed for 24/25.  
You can click through week by week to see what is planned.

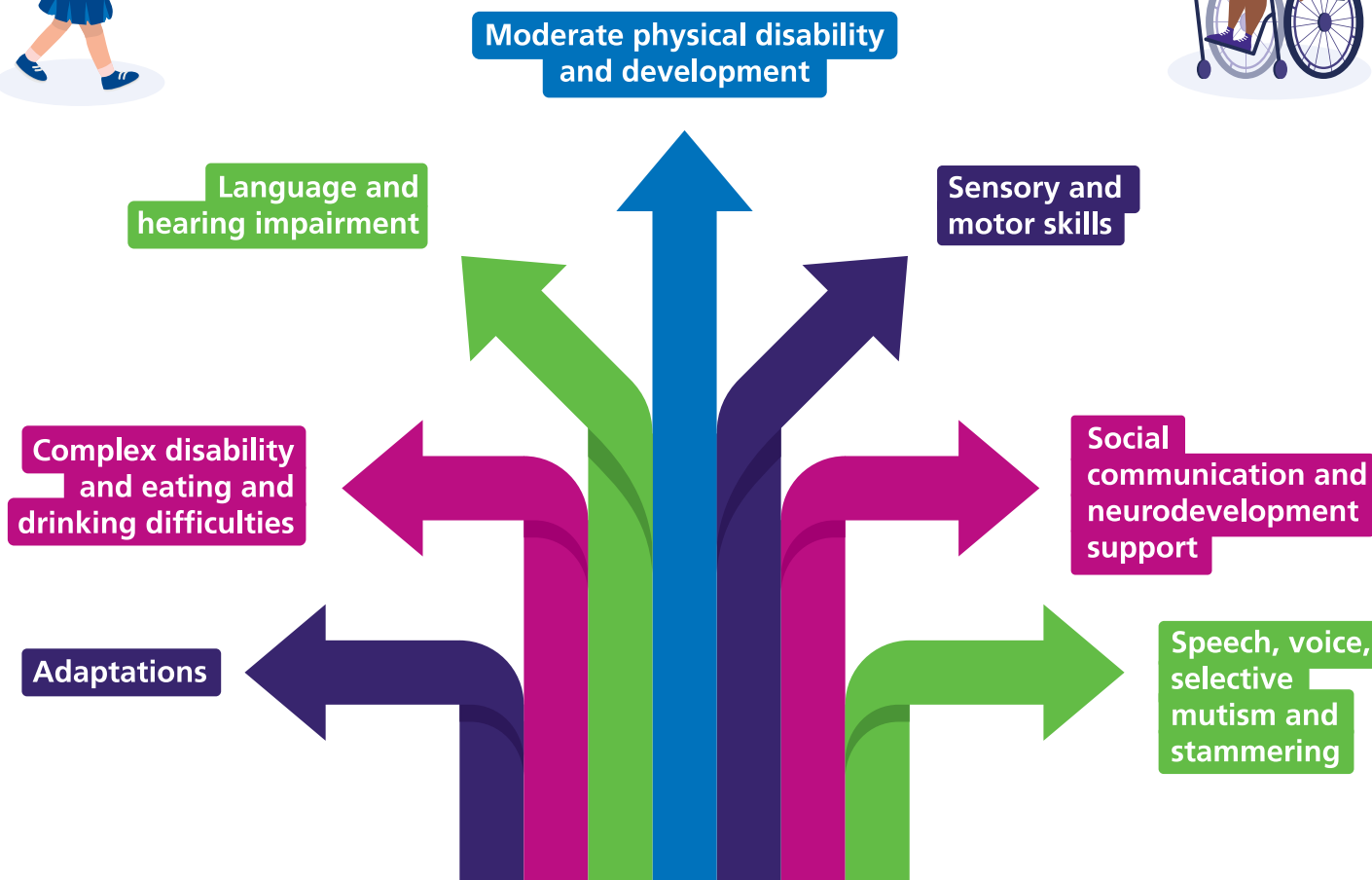
### Inset Days 24 25:

\*Monday 24th February 2025\*  
\*Monday 21st July 2025\* \*Tuesday 22nd July 2025\*

# Our pathways

Visit our website for films, resources and further information about the support available through our pathways.

[www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk/childrens-integrated-therapy](http://www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk/childrens-integrated-therapy)



Phone: 0300 123 2650

Email: [kentchft.citesonepoint@nhs.net](mailto:kentchft.citesonepoint@nhs.net)

Visit: [www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk/childrens-integrated-therapy](http://www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk/childrens-integrated-therapy)



## The School Health Service takes over from the Health Visiting Service when a child is of school age.

Our nurse-led friendly team can help with:

- sleeping problems
- emotional health and wellbeing
- wetting the bed and day wetting
- healthy eating and healthy weight
- worries and troubles – including changing schools
- self care and hygiene
- referrals to other services for more complex health needs.



Please contact 0300 123 4062 or visit  
[www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk](http://www.eastsussexchildren.nhs.uk)

# Healthy Families: Growing Up



Join our  
parent  
group

## Healthy, thriving children and families



HENRY's free **Healthy Families: Growing Up** programme is for parents and carers of primary-school age children - it will help you develop a healthier, happier lifestyle that the whole family can enjoy.

The programme covers these 5 themes across 8 sessions and provides everything you need to help your children flourish.

- Feeling more confident as a parent
- Physical activity for the whole family
- What children and the whole family eats
- Family lifestyle habits
- Enjoying life as a family

Get  
in touch  
to sign up  
now!

*"This was the best thing I could possibly have done to help me be a better mum"*



### Programme details

### Contact Us