



**Blacklaw Primary**  
**Newsletter**  
**June 2017**  
[www.blacklaw-prim.s-lanark.sch.uk](http://www.blacklaw-prim.s-lanark.sch.uk)  
 tel 01355 232064



Dear Parents/Carers

We look forward to welcoming you to our PTA. Summer Fayre on Saturday 3 June. We are hoping for sunny weather but will be grateful if the rain stays away! Our Summer Fayre will open at 11.30 a.m. and end at 1.30 p.m. Entry to this event is free!



**Staff Changes**



We welcome Mrs Linda Rennie who will be working in various classes temporarily until June. We also welcome Mr Ashwood, our new janitor as we bid farewell to Mr Cardwell and wish him a long, happy retirement. Thanks for all your hard work Mr Cardwell!



**End of Term Celebrations**



Our end of term service will take place on **Monday 26 June at 10.00 am.** at Claremont Parish Church. Our summer service collection will go to one of our very good causes. All friends and families of Blacklaw are very welcome to attend. Our Primary 7 Awards Ceremony will take place at **1.30 pm.** that day in the school hall. Again all friends and families of our Primary 7 pupils are welcome. The day will end with our Primary 7 Leavers Dance **7.00 - 9.00 pm.** The event is a Ceilidh and the dress code is smart.



**Videoining/Photography**

Videoining and photography by parents at school events, concerts, assemblies etc is permitted on the understanding that any such recordings/photographs must be for sole home use and must not be used for sale or reward. If you have any objection to your child being included please telephone me at the school as soon as possible.



**Social Media**



In accordance with the law it is illegal to post comments on public electronic communication networks that cause needless anxiety to others. Be aware of the far reaching damaging effects to the school and our community of such postings. Even after being deleted posts remain available on archive files for all time. Any concerns regarding the school or its pupils should be brought to me directly.

**Updated Holiday List 2017/18**

For your information an updated holiday list is attached at the end of the newsletter.



**Crossing at school gate**



It has been noticed that some cars are not stopping at the crossing just inside the gates to allow children to cross safely. Please respect safety in our car park when the children are entering and leaving the school.

**Summer Weather**

Over the past few weeks the weather has been warm and sunny and pupils have been able to spend more time learning and playing outdoors. In light of this 'summer sunshine' please ensure that your child is protected from the sun by bringing sun-cream to apply, if/when necessary. Please note that sun-cream should be clearly labelled with your child's name/class and should be kept in their school bags. Sun-cream should not be 'shared' between pupils.

Our classrooms can also become hot and stuffy even with doors and windows open, so I would encourage pupils to bring a water bottle each day to school or a cup to top up in class.



**P7 Netball**



Well done to our netball team for their participation in the East Kilbride Primaries Netball tournament!

## Parent Council AGM.

Our Parent Council AGM will be on **Tuesday 13 June at 7.00 pm**. Members of the parent forum are invited to attend. Our PTA AGM will take place on the same evening starting at **8.00 pm**. If you wish to join our Parent Council or PTA next session, why not come along to one of the above meetings and find out more about these parent involvement roles.



## Self Evaluation at Blacklaw

Thank you to all parent/carers who have returned their parent questionnaires. Your views are important and will support the school to identify strengths as well as next steps for improvement. Pupil and staff views have also been sought and all views will be collated and an overview of this self-evaluation will be issued early next session. All questionnaires should have been returned to the school by today, however if you still wish to 'have your say' then please return your form by **Monday 5 June**. During April the school was involved in a Validated Self Evaluation (VSE). The focus of the visit was feedback to learners. During the visit the VSE team conducted learning visits to classes, met with groups of pupils and staff, sampled pupils' work and monitored planning and tracking information.

The following strengths were identified:

- Polite and friendly pupils who are very positive about their school.
- Almost all pupils are aware of their Learning Intentions and have some understanding of what this means.
- The pupils value the feedback given by their teachers and take pride in their work.
- Evidence of some good practice in giving feedback to learners was evident, particularly in writing jotters.
- Some pupils are motivated, keen to learn and engaged in their learning.
- Some pupils were able to talk about the use of self and peer assessment and how this helped them in their learning.
- Support staff were observed making a positive impact to pupil's learning.
- The school's commitment to improve and the accuracy of their own self evaluation evidence on feedback to learners.
- Distributive leadership opportunities for staff involved in the VSE process.

Areas for development were also noted:

- Revisit AifL strategies and model setting Learning Intentions and Success Criteria, giving feedback and setting next steps in learning with pupils.
- Ensure pupil feedback relates back to Success Criteria and include quality feedback in plenary session.
- Provide opportunities for ASP targets to be jointly set with support staff to help pupils receive appropriate feedback during lessons.

Next steps were also suggested:

The school will work together to:

- Write a position statement/policy on the use of AifL across the school to ensure consistency.
- Build in more opportunities for sharing of good practice and build on the commitment of staff and learners to improve pupil feedback.

Feedback from the VSE will also inform our school improvement planning for session 2017-2018. Details of our evaluation of this year's School Improvement Plan and our priorities for session 2017-2018 will be available during term (1).

## End of Year Reports



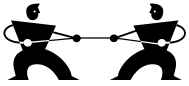
Staff at Blacklaw have been working on end of year full reports. The reports format reflects your child's progress within Curriculum for Excellence. The reports will be with you on **14 June**. Many thanks to teachers and office staff for their hard work in the preparation of these reports. If you have any questions regarding your child's report or on any aspect of school life please feel free to contact me at any time.

## Improving our Playtimes

Thank you to all parents/carers and members of our school community who have donated Active Kids Vouchers. These vouchers have allowed us to purchase equipment which has been used to improve 'play' during break/lunch. Our pupils have enjoyed having a variety of equipment to use and are learning to work together collaboratively as well as increase their 'activity' levels. Thank you to our P7 pupil council who have been responsible for ensuring that the equipment is taken out and brought back in each day.



## Sports Day



Our annual sports day will be held on **Wednesday 14 June**. Our sports day will again have a Commonwealth theme. A letter regarding details of our sports day will be issued soon. We hope to see you all there.

## Rising Fives Welcome Assembly

On Friday 9 June we will be welcoming our new primary 1 pupils at a special assembly. Pupils from Rooms 1 and 2 will be performing songs and poems. P1 will also tell about all they have learned during their first year at Blacklaw.



## Uniform



We greatly value the wearing of uniform at Blacklaw. It provides our pupils with a sense of identity and belonging. Please continue to support the school by ensuring your child wears school uniform. School uniform consists of white shirt, tie, black skirt or trousers. This is encouraged for all school events. Our uniform supplier will be in school on **Wednesday 31 May from 3.00 - 7.00 pm, Thursday 1 June from 9.30 - 11.30 am, Friday 9 June 10.00 - 11.30 am, Tuesday 13 June from 6.00 - 8.00 pm, Friday 23 June from 10.00 - 11.30 am and Wednesday 16 August from 10.00 - 12.00 noon** for parents to have an opportunity to view, order or purchase items of uniform. **Although another uniform company have opened in East Kilbride town centre they are not our official supplier and any commission the school receives will come through purchases made from our official supplier only.**

## Moving On



Staffing for next session will not be finalised till later in the month as we are still receiving notification of our Primary 1 numbers. I intend to notify you of your child's next class as soon as possible. Our 'moving on' hour, at present it is planned for **Friday 23 June**. Classes will therefore be with you prior to that day. Our P7 pupils will attend Calderglen High School on **Thursday 15 and Friday 16 June**.

## After School Clubs

**PLEASE NOTE BADMINTON AND FOOTBALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS ARE NOW FINISHED.** Our last Scripture Union is on Monday 5 June which is a party! **All other clubs will run until week ending 23 June.**



## Mrs Speirs



We would like to take this opportunity to wish Mrs Speirs good luck on the birth of her second baby, and look forward to having her back at Blacklaw soon.

## Au Revoir/Adios

At the end of our first week back we will bid farewell to Mrs Jamieson who has been teaching at Blacklaw since 1997. Mrs Jamieson has not only taught classes at various stages but has also been our school ambassador for 1 + 2 languages, providing her expertise with regards to the teaching of French and Spanish.

We would like to thank Mrs Jamieson for all of her commitment, hard work and dedication to learning and teaching at Blacklaw Primary School. We wish her a happy and relaxing 'retirement' and hope that she is looking forward to this new stage in her life.



Successful Learners

Be Responsible



I follow the teacher's directions.

# Responsible Citizens



Effective Contributors

**Room 4 visit Glasgow Resource Centre**  
 Room 4 enjoyed their class trip to the Glasgow Resource Centre. They took part in a fantastic workshop called 'What did the Romans do for us?' The children got the opportunity to build Roman walls and see Roman artefacts. "I really enjoyed seeing the arrow launcher. It was cool because it was a great weapon."  
 By Lucas Primary 3 Room 4



**Room 7 visit Museum on the Mound**  
 We visited the Museum on the Mound in Edinburgh and we were all very excited on the bus. After introductions the first workshop we went to was 'What is Money?', they used very weird things as money years ago! Next workshop was 'How to tell if Money is Fake', we all made our own fake £20 notes and used the pens that tell if the money is fake. We had lunch then visited our last workshop which was about 'Safes', it was really cool. We saw a million pounds!  
 By Koral and Poppy Primary 5 Room 7



**P5 Ice Skating**  
 For the past two weeks at ice skating we have been learning how to do the wee man, tall man, bubble and how to stop. We are split into groups for teaching and practice. Primary 5 know how to ice skate and really enjoy ice skating!  
 By Ajooni, Calum and Kirstyn Primary 5 Room 7



**Athletics Track & Field event - John Wright's**  
 In the Primary 6 boys and girls 600m there were three heats. We only got one first place but we all did absolutely fantastic! Primary 7 also did the javelin. The best schools were St. Kenneth's and St. Leonards, so a big congratulations to them!  
 By Freya and Reno Primary 6 Room 9



# Confident Individuals



Thanks  
for the  
memories.

# Blacklaw Memories 2016/17

Good times come and go,  
but the memories  
will last forever.....

## Room 1

**Cora;** Lunchtime, playtime and playing with friends.  
**Mirren;** Going to Mount Cameron to play games.  
**Thomas;** Getting points on my chart.  
**Ethan;** Golden time/playtime.  
**Lucas;** Drama - playing games.  
**Arran;** Going to the pantomime.  
**Taylor;** Going to gym.  
**Kayla;** I like doing R.E.  
**Anna;** Going to drama  
**Aimee;** Going to drama  
**Megan;** Making cards for Mother's Day.  
**James;** Doing art at Golden Time  
**Tyler;** Learning about Katie Morag.  
**Libby;** Making tissue paper mitten art.  
**Ross;** Cooking soup and baking bread.  
**Leo;** When we made porridges for the Katie Morag topic.  
**Ariella;** Going to the pantomime.  
**Jamie;** Visiting St. Leonards Library  
**Lucy;** Met everyone in my class and my teacher.  
**Esme;** Meeting everyone in my class.  
**Isla;** When we have Golden Time.

## Room 2

It has been very exciting to meet our class teacher and doing new work. We enjoyed learning the Nessie poem for the Scottish Assembly and cooking bread!  
**By Lucy and Alastair Primary 1 Room 2**

## Room 3

I enjoyed learning about the Sukkot with Mrs. Reid.  
**By Amy**  
My favourite part was learning all about Katie Morag. I enjoyed tasting Scottish food and making porridge.  
**By Andrew**  
We made lovely craft gifts for Mother's Day.  
**By Scarlett & Silver**  
I have learned lots of new games and skills in P.E.  
**By Maddy**

## Room 4

**Glasgow Resource Centre**  
"I really enjoyed holding the Roman swords and the shields."  
**By Jenna Primary 3 Room 4**  
"I had fun making the Roman Bridge. I enjoyed stacking the bricks up."  
**By Ross Primary 3 Room 4**

## Room 5

My favourite memory was when we had to make up a funny story as a group. I learned how working as a team is important and how to write funny stories!

**By Aaron Primary 3 Room 5**  
My favourite memory was when Mrs. Watson dressed up as a Victorian teacher and we learned what school life would have been like during the Victorian times.  
**By Sally Primary 4 Room 5**

## Room 8

We visited Queensferry Crossing Bridge. There were 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century bridges. There was a railway bridge a suspension bridge and a cable stayed bridge.  
**By Sofia and Grace Primary 6**

## Room 7

My favourite memory was visiting the Museum on the Mound. It taught us about money and what was used years ago. We saw the first bank notes which looked like a very old letter! We put our hands on thousands of shredded pounds which smelled like a ton of old cheese!

**By Keerat Primary 5 Room 7**  
We walked in to the marvellous museum, the walls were beautiful cobblestone and there was a gigantic oak tree. We watched a Powerpoint about money and made our own bank notes. We saw old iron kists and saw one million pounds!  
**By Tia Primary 5 Room 7**

## Room 10

Primary 7 has been the best! Our favourite memory is of Ardentenny - we made lots of new friends and it was a great way to experience the outdoors. We made sushi and lovely pictures of geisha, samurai, temples and the Japanese bullet train as part of our Japan topic. At skiing, the 'magic carpet' was good fun as it took you to the top. Looking down from the highest slope was very scary but we all made it back alive! Winning the netball finals was an amazing feeling! Football festivals were very competitive, challenging, but most of all fun. Thanks to Claire, Mrs. Dougans, Andrew and Mr. McLean. Everyone enjoyed getting muddy at cross country and performed well. Helping out at Claremont Church 'Café Clare' and the food bank unit allowed us to give back to our community. We were pleased to lead the Learning Showcase for parents and grandparents. Origami was a blast! We have enjoyed Primary 7 and are looking ahead, excited about moving to S1.  
**By all the girls and boys in Room 10 Primary 7**

## Room 6

We decided as a class that our Stone Age investigation was our best memory. At Kelvingrove Art Gallery we held lots of patterned rocks and statues of Stone Age animals that cavemen and women made. We tried Stone Age food i.e. different berries. We made Stone Age homes e.g. Tee Pees, Wattle & Daub, Middens and we tried to make caves. We enjoyed the Stone Age and learning about history.  
**By Eve Primary 4 Room 6**

## Room 9

We drew pictures of stags and designed and painted the background to make it look like the Monarch of the Glen.  
**By Nathan**  
The rocks and minerals topic was the most fun because it was like science.  
**By Luke**  
My memory was coding using scratch modules. My favourite one was the Ghostbusters module!  
**By Eve**  
I enjoyed ice skating. I won the star skater award for improving the most!  
**By Millie**

## Diary

Thur 1 June	Rising 5s 9.30 - 11.30 am & BARU Netball Club - 3.00 pm	Wed 14 Jun	Blacklaw Sports Day Reports to Parents Gardening Club - 3.00 pm
Fri 2 June	RO Assembly - 9.15 am P6 Bikeability	Thu 15 June	P1 & 2 to Glasgow Science Centre P7 visit Calderglen High School PTA Summer Disco Netball Club - 3.00 pm
Sat 3 June	PTA Summer Fayre 11.30 - 1.30 pm	Fri 16 June	P7 visit Calderglen High School P6 Bikeability
Mon 5 June	Lunchtime Choir Scripture Union Party - 3.00 pm Funfit - 3.00 pm	Mon 19 Jun	P7 to Hollywood Bowl
Tues 6 June	Knitting Club - 3.00 pm Homework Club - 3.00 pm	Tue 20 Jun	Knitting Club - 3.00 pm Homework Club - 3.00 pm
Wed 7 June	Rising 5s & Try a School Lunch Gardening Club - 3.00 pm	Wed 21 Jun	Rag Bag collection
Thur 8 June	<b>School closed to pupils</b>	Thu 22 Jun	Stars in the Box reward
Fri 9 June	Welcome Assembly - 9.30 am & BARU P5 Games event - KPark P6 Bikeability	Fri 23 June	Awards Assembly - 9.30 am and BARU Moving on 'hour'
Mon 12 Jun	Pupil Award Ceremony - Hamilton Town Hse Lunchtime Choir Funfit - 3.00 pm	Mon 26 Jun	End of Year Church service - 10.00 am P7 Leavers' Awards - 1.30 pm P7 Ceilidh - 7.00 pm
Tue 13 June	BARU in school 6.00 - 8.00 pm Parent Council AGM - 7.00 pm P.T.A. AGM - 8.00 pm Knitting Club - 3.00 pm Homework Club - 3.00 pm	Tue 27 Jun	Blacklaw's Got Talent - 9.30 am <b>School closes 1.00 pm</b>

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their hard work and support throughout this session and wish you all a lovely summer and well deserved holiday.



Yours sincerely



**Noreen Black**  
**Head Teacher**

# Blacklaw Primary School

## Holiday Dates 2017 - 2018

Teachers return	In service	Tuesday 15 August 2017
	In service	Wednesday 16 August 2017
Pupils return		Thursday 17 August 2017 9.00 am
Local Holiday	School closes	Thursday 21 September 2017 3.00 pm
	Re-open	Tuesday 26 September 2017 9.00 am
October Break	School closes	Friday 13 October 2017 3.00 pm
	Re-open	Monday 23 October 2017 9.00 am
	In Service	Monday 20 November 2017
Christmas/New Year	School closes	Friday 22 December 2017 2.30 pm
	Re-open	Monday 8 January 2018 9.00 am
Local Holiday	School closes	Friday 9 February 2018 3.00 pm
	In Service	Wednesday 14 February 2018
	Re-open	Thursday 15 February 2018 9.00 a.m.
Easter/Spring Holiday	School closes	Thursday 29 March 2018 2.30 pm
	Re-open	Monday 16 April 2018 9.00 am
Local Holiday	School closes	Friday 4 May 2018 3.00 pm
	In Service	Tuesday 8 May 2018
	Re-open	Wednesday 9 May 2018
	School closes	Thursday 24 May 2018 3.00 pm
	Re-open	Tuesday 29 May 2018 9.00 am
Summer Break	School closes	Thursday 28 June 2018 1.00 pm