

# NEWSLETTER



**ARK Blacklands  
Primary Academy**

TERM 1 WEEK 4

2ND OCTOBER 2015



## International Walk to School Month.

**October 2015**

Our Pupil Council has voted to promote International Walk to School Month. They are asking for children to bring in photos of themselves walking to school with family and friends.

For more information, please go to the website:

<http://www.livingstreets.org.uk/walk-with-us/walk-to-school/international-walk-to-school-month>

## Proposal to Expand Ark Blacklands Primary Academy



On Monday, we held a meeting for parents, local residents, councillors and other interested parties to discuss the proposal to expand Blacklands to a 3 form entry school. As well as myself, members of our governing body were present along with the project team from East Sussex County Council. This team included the architect, designer, project manager and travel consultant.

The travel consultant is working with us at Blacklands to develop a green travel plan for the school. Part of this is to seek funding for a designated bike and scooter storage area which is secure. We continue to work with the local police and highways authority to find further solutions to ease traffic congestion on the approach to school. We are also trying to identify whether an additional entrance/exit gate is viable.

Miss Clarke met with the Pupil Council to seek their views and ideas on the expansion project and these have been gathered and discussed with the project team. One of the things discussed was which year group should benefit from the new classrooms if and when complete. The majority vote was for Years 5 or 6.

The next stage is to wait for the planning committee to meet and discuss the application to see whether permission to extend is granted. The deadline for comments to be included in the formal report is 5th October, although verbal comments can be submitted right up to the date of the meeting which is being scheduled for mid-November. *Please note comments must be submitted direct to the East Sussex planning office, not via the school.*

Thank you to those who have already submitted your views on the proposal for a staggered end to the school day. Once the deadline has passed next month, we will review these to see what the majority of parents would like.



## Pupil Play Leaders

Pupil Play Leaders began their training this week with Teresa Bennett. They learned about leadership and how they can implement lots of exciting play ideas in their work with KSI at lunch times.

After 11 years, Mrs Puttick has made the decision to leave Ark Blacklands and start a new career. We would like to thank her for being such a loyal, caring and committed member of staff and wish her good luck in her new career.

## Things that make me smile...



When asked what pupil council thought of our new design for the front of the academy, Betty replied, "It will make your day nicer."

## Parent Workshops

It was lovely to see those of you who came to our Phonics and Maths workshops this week. We hope that you enjoyed the sessions whilst learning more about how we teach at Blacklands. After requests for a further session during the afternoon, please see below for more information:



Maths with your child



Monday 16th November

3.15 pm - 4.00 pm

An opportunity to come and see Maths in the classroom

## Have your say.

**We are currently consulting with parents and staff about a proposal to make some changes to the end of the school day. Letters have been sent to all parents. Please tell us your views to help us make the best decision for our whole community.**

## Read with your child

We would like to invite you to come into school to read with your child at the end of the school day. In order to accommodate everybody who would like to participate we have split the dates for year groups:

EYFS

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3 & 4

Year 5 & 6

Donaldson & Butterworth classes

Blake, King-Smith & Dahl classes

Monday 5th October 3 - 3.15pm

Tuesday 6th October 3 - 3.15pm

Thursday 8th October 3 - 3.15pm

Monday 12th October 3 - 3.15pm

Wednesday 7th October 3 - 3.15pm

