

NEWSLETTER



**ARK Blacklands
Primary Academy**

TERM 1 WEEK 7

23RD OCTOBER 2015

Parent Information & Communication Contact

Next term, from the 2nd November, Mrs Debbie Bolton will be our new Parent Information & Communication Contact. She is available to meet with parents to discuss any help and advice needed in relation to their child at Blacklands. Mrs Bolton is an experienced member of staff who works closely with teachers and teaching assistants in the school to support our pupils. She also has developed good, positive links with external agencies, support workers and local charities.

Mrs Bolton will soon be advertising coffee mornings, which will be a great opportunity for you to meet and get to know her. She will also run open surgeries for any parent who would like to talk to her about any aspect of their child's health, well-being and education.

Morning Surgeries

8.15 - 8.45

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.

Afternoon Surgeries

3.15 - 3.45

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.

Things that make me smile...



Ava in Year 3 who spent time at home creating a list of common words for our new Romanian pupil. Not only did she create the word bank in English but also translated each word into Romanian. What a star!

Classroom Hero

James Havbro has been named as one of the top three teaching assistants in the country in a nationally televised awards ceremony. He was named as runner up for "Teaching Assistant of the Year" at the Pearson Teaching Awards – often thought of as "the Oscars of teaching".

The awards ceremony, which was hosted by historian Dan Snow and saw awards presented by David Cameron, Great British Bake Off winner Nadiya Begum and actress Sheila Hancock, was broadcast live from London's Royal Opera House on BBC 2.

James was shortlisted against thousands of other teaching assistants across the country for his outstanding contribution to children's engagement and learning, including his work with children who have challenging behaviour or at risk of exclusion.

James has also worked tirelessly to create and maintain our outdoor learning centre at the academy and has worked weekends and during the summer holidays to build a greenhouse at Ark Blacklands.



Year 1 Trip

As part of their learning on 'Seasons' the Year 1 children enjoyed a trip to Alexandra Park to look for signs of Autumn. They learned about different species of trees and matched the seeds such as sweet chestnuts, conkers and acorns. Back at school, they created beautiful prints using autumn leaves and used their experiences to write an Autumn poem with descriptive language. It was a lovely day!



Harvest Festival

Children celebrated their Harvest Festival on Monday. The main focus of the assembly was on thankfulness and reflecting on what others don't have across the world. During the assembly we welcomed two very special guests; Chris Beveridge from the Hastings Foodbank and Reverend Charlie Hill, Blacklands Church. Our pupils were treated to a talk by each of our guests, followed by showing off their own musical talents with their Harvest songs. We would like to thank everyone who donated the generous amount of food we had to go to the Hastings Foodbank.



Hastings Pier Art Exhibition

We celebrated our local heritage this week with an art exhibition. Our children's art work was on show to remind us all of how lucky we are to live and work in such a glorious seaside town! Thank you to all the parents who came to see the exhibition and celebrate our pupils' talents.



VACANCIES

Mid Day Supervisor

Monday to Friday £7.32 p/hr

11.50 am to 1.10 pm

We are looking to add to our team of mid-day supervisors. If you would like to support children with healthy eating and playtime activities and have some time to spare during the day, this could be a positive way to take part in school life.

For further information, please go to our website or contact Mrs G. Hulls