Newsletter 2 - October 2025



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a great first half term, with children having settled in their new classes and showing real enthusiasm for learning. Behaviour has been excellent throughout the school, and we've celebrated many achievements with Gold Stars, Kindness Leaves, and trophies in assembly. We're excited to welcome our F2 children to assembly after the half -term break. Everyone is now ready for a well-earned break before another action packed few weeks leading up to Christmas.



Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Curriculum Meetings this year. If you were unable to attend then you can view the presentations on the school website. A key theme throughout was the importance of reading. As the foundation of all learning, reading supports children's understanding across every subject and helps them build confidence, vocabulary, and a lifelong love of learning.

We cannot stress enough how crucial it is for children to read regularly, both at school and at home. Parents play a vital role in supporting this by reading with their child as often as possible. Sharing a book together not only strengthens their reading skills but also encourages a positive attitude towards learning. Our school's reading motto is "Strive for 5", which means we encourage every child to read with an adult at least five times a week. This small commitment can make a big difference to your child's progress and confidence as a reader. Just a reminder that every time your child reads at home with a grown-up they can write their name on a raffle ticket in school. Each half term a winner will be chosen in Celebration Assembly to receive a lovely new book.

Staffing news - Mr Pritchard is retiring

This term, we are pleased to welcome a new caretaker, Mr Baines, who joins us from West Kirby Primary School. I am sure he will quickly feel at home as part of our school community. Mr Pritchard and Mr Baines have been working closely together to ensure a smooth handover.

We are, of course, very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mr Pritchard. He has been a wonderful member of our team and both staff and children will miss him greatly. On Thursday,

and both staff and children will miss him greatly. On Thursday, we will be holding a special assembly. I am sure you will join me in wishing him a long and very happy retirement. Time to put your feet up Mr Pritchard!



Black Horse Hill Infant School Open Day



We are excited to announce open days for new families interested in securing an Early Years Foundation Stage (F1 or F2) place for their child for September 2026. If you know anyone who is looking for a school place for their child then please signpost them to our open days. The deadline for applying for a Foundation 2 (Reception) place is 15th January 2026 and applications should be made online at https://www.wirral.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/step-by-step/apply-primary-school-place/applications



Friends of Black Horse Hill Schools (FOBHHS) Oh no they're not! Oh yes they are!

We are delighted to share that we have arranged a whole school trip (F2-Yr2) to the theatre to watch the pantomime Peter Pan. A massive thank you to FOBHHS who have agreed to fund the cost of this trip from the moneys they have raised from FOBHHS events. We will share more details nearer the time.

Year 2 Leadership Roles

This year our Year 2 children have taken on leadership roles. One of the roles that the children do is lead active play sessions at lunchtime for the younger children. They have been learning some playground games on a Friday with our PE Coach and they are now teaching the younger children how to play the games. We also have a group of young leaders called the Kindness Crew who help out in the playground if someone is upset or needs a friend. There are other responsibilities such as being part of our School Parliament, Planet Protectors (litter picking and switching off lights) and Celebration Assembly monitors. The children have certainly risen to the challenge and they are taking their roles very seriously.





Branch- Mental Health Support for families

Just a quick reminder that the Branch is an online mental wellbeing hub for children and young people in Wirral, from 0 all the way to 18. Parents/carers who have used the site have said that it is very useful.

Also to note is that Koala Northwest are offering parenting support around sleep for children who are on the 0-19 pathway or have a

diagnosis of Autism/ADHD. The flyer has been sent out by the school office.

Whatever their worries. Branch helps children and young people on the Wirral find mental wellbeing support. branch

Safeguarding and Online Safety

As part of our curriculum, including Computing and PSHE, we teach children how to stay safe online. Lessons are tailored to their age, helping them understand what they should and shouldn't do when using technology.

It's important to set clear boundaries around technology, especially when children are young, so they develop healthy online habits from the start. The NSPCC provides lots of helpful guidance for parents on online safety and other topics. Keeping an eye on what your child is doing online and ensuring they are only playing age-appropriate games helps them enjoy the digital world safely and responsibly.



Children in Need

Children in Need this year takes place on **Friday 14th November.** We ask that children come to school dressed in spotty/colourful clothes. The children will learn about the charity in school and take part in Pudsey related activities in their classes.

We will be having a Pudsey colouring competition to raise money for the charity and there will be a £1 entry fee. The children can be as creative as they like. We will send the colouring sheet home with the children after half term.

Christmas Events

See below for Christmas Events. Please note Yr1 and Yr2 will be joining together to perform a Christmas Concert. Each child will be allocated 2 tickets and parents/carers can choose whether to attend the event on Tuesday 9th December or Wednesday 10th December. This will be sorted nearer the time.

Staff Development Day - Childcare

We will be offering childcare provision in our annexe on the staff development Day on Monday 5th January 2026. The day will run from 8am-4pm and there will be a charge of £30. Children will need to bring a packed lunch on the day. If you are interested please contact Emma - clubmanager@blackhorsehill-infant.wirral.sch.uk

PE days for the next half term

All year groups will continue to have PE on a Friday and children should wear their school PE kit.

Play Equipment

For health and safety reasons, the play equipment in the main school playground should only be used during school hours. Please do not let your children or younger siblings use the equipment before and after school.

Bikes and Scooters

We encourage our children to walk, cycle and scoot to school. However, once in the school grounds, we ask that children refrain from cycling or scooting in the playground as there are too many people to manoeuvre around safely. Bikes and scooters may be stored in the cycle rack at the top of the playground but I would advise you to lock them up.

Trophies

Please check at home to see if you have a school trophy and return it. Our trophy stock is well and truly depleted and it is upsetting if children have been nominated for a trophy and never get to take it home. Thank you to everyone who has returned their trophy.

Diary Dates

October

- Thursday 23rd October Children finish school for half term (Non-Uniform Day £1 donation on Parent Pay)
- Friday 24th October Staff Development Day

November

- Monday 3rd November Children return to school
- Tuesday 4th November Flu Vaccinations (nasal) F1-Yr2
- Friday 7th FOBHHS Non-Uniform Day sweets/chocolate donations for Christmas Fair
- Wednesday 12th November Yr2 trip to Port Sunlight
- Wednesday 12th November Open Event for new parents 4.30pm-6pm
- Thursday 13th November F1 and F2 Nursery Rhyme day and dress up (See information on Tapestry from Mrs McLeod and Mrs Lucan). F1 parents invited into school for a Sing-a-long.
- Thursday 13th November Yr1 and Yr2 Michael Rosen Poetry event
- Friday 14th November Children in Need event (Non-Uniform wear spotty/colourful clothes)
- Saturday 15th November Open Event for new parents 10am-12pm
- Friday 21st November Please bring in teddy donations For Christmas Fair
- Monday 24th November Open Classroom Yr1 and Yr2 parents invited to see children's work
 2.40pm
- Tuesday 25th November F2 Book Breakfast at 9am. Parents/carers invited to come and read with their child and have a breakfast treat.
- Wednesday 26th November Full Governing Body Meeting
- Friday 28th November Non-uniform day bottle donations for Christmas Fair
- Saturday 29th November FOBHHS Christmas Fair at the Infant School

December

- Tuesday 9th December @ 2.15pm Yr1 and Yr2 Christmas concert (parents/carers invited)
- Wednesday 10th December @ 9.15am F1 Christmas Crafts and Sing-along (parents/carers invited)
- Wednesday 10th December @ 2.15pm Yr1 and Yr2 Christmas concert (parents/carers invited)
- Thursday 11th December @ 2.15pm F2 Nativity Play
- Tuesday 16th December Christmas Dinner and Party Day (children wear party clothes)
- Wednesday 17th December Pyjama and Christmas Story Day (children to come into school in their pyjamas Christmas ones if you have them)
- Wednesday 17th December Rock Steady Concert @2.15pm (invited guests only). Children in the concert can choose to bring a change of clothing if they wish.
- Thursday 18th December Peter Pan pantomime
- Friday 19th December School closes for Christmas Holidays (Non-Uniform day/Christmas Jumpers)

<u>January</u>

- Monday 5th January Staff Development day (Teachers only)
- Tuesday 6th January Children return to school (after the holiday)

February

- Friday 13th February Children finish for half term
- Monday 23rd February Children return to school

Yours sincerely,

Julie Morris Headteacher