

Blackgates Primary Academy Weekly Newsletter

25 January 2019

Dear Parents/carers

**School Minibus**

The minibus has at last arrived. It’s definitely been worth waiting for. Once again thank you to the PTFA for helping fund this wonderful addition. The minibus will be used for many purposes including reward trips and educational experiences.

**The Deep**

**School Trips**

We believe it is extremely important for children to have a wide range of experiences. It widens both their knowledge and understanding of the world whilst enhancing their vocabulary. It’s also a lot of fun! Unfortunately, school budgets get smaller year upon year and it is impossible to ensure pupils go out on visits without asking parents to contribute. We always shop around to find the most inexpensive way to travel and the PTFA have paid for in house experiences – thank you again! We also try to fund raise alongside trips to further reduce costs. If you find it difficult to pay the full cost at any point please contact the school.

**Students**

Our two Teaching PGCE students in year 1, Miss Patel and Miss McConnell are settling in well and enjoying working with our lovely children. We will be welcoming an additional two students, one into year 3 and one to year 4 next week.

**Other schools**

Last term teachers and the headteacher from Greenhill Primary visited our year 1 provision to see the excellent practice and environment. This term we are looking forward to welcoming teachers from Strawberry Fields. Leeds school improvement consultants are keen to recommend teachers visit our school to see year 1 active learning in progress. We have found children learn best when actively learning through play and exciting challenges.

**Wear Red Day**

Next Friday (February 1st) we will be wearing red to raise money for the Leeds Children’s Heart Surgery Fund, part of the British Heart Foundation. There will be a visit from Katie Bear which will please some our pupils to spread awareness for this vital cause.

**School PE kit / indoor shoes**

A reminder that all pupils require a PE kit of white t-shirt and black shorts. During winter a track suit is also recommended or jogging bottoms and a sweat shirt. PE is a legal requirement, if you are finding this difficult to provide please speak to Mr White. Indoor shoes are also required for KS2 pupils to help stop the spread of mud throughout the school. Please provide pumps or some form of named indoor shoes.

Mrs J Coulson
Principal