

Blackgates Primary Academy Weekly Newsletter

14 June 2019

Dear Parents/carers

**School Review by the Trust**

On Wednesday, we had a review of the school. All the other headteachers (Principals) of the schools which are part of the Multi Academy Trust Leodis came to see the progress we have made at Blackgates. I am pleased to say they were all very pleased and loved our school. They found the children are friendly, polite and ready to learn in lessons. Behaviour for learning was very good. They also found the teaching to be extremely good. Teachers have an excellent knowledge of how to teach pupils effectively whilst engaging them and ensuring learning is fun. All the review members including the CEO of the trust Mrs Barton headteacher of Woodkirk said they can see a huge difference in all aspects of the school and they are all positive differences. They could all see a rapid improvement. We are pleased with this summary as staff have worked hard to ensure our children get the best education and experience here, it was lovely to have four experienced local headteachers agree that the leadership of the school has enabled this vast improvement since Ofsted inspected.

**Art UK Project Sculpture Day**

As you will know this year we won a bid to be part of the Art UK project which has resulted in many visits by artists, visits to Art galleries, staff training and on Tuesday a famous sculpture worth £60,000 was exhibited at Blackgates so we could ensure all children from our 2 year olds to 11 year olds enjoyed and learned from it. The sculpture Barry Flanagan’s Cricketer was admired by all the children and they in turn asked questions about it, drew and made their own sculptures from it. Our co-chair of governors Mr Tony Grayson and Councillor Lisa Mulherin visited and were impressed with how much our children enjoyed their time with the artists and sculpture and how well behaved they all were. Those children who had permission to be photographed and videoed may be in the newspapers or news. I will let you know if this happens.

**Year 3 visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park**

Year 3 visited the Wildlife Park this week and had a fabulous time despite the rain. They had a talk from the Zoo Keeper all about the meerkats. They enjoyed walking around the park and seeing the Polar bears perform a show involving a blue bucket! Then they saw lions, giraffes, some pupils were lucky enough to see a cheetah and some heard the lions roar. The children were exceptionally well behaved both around the park, at lunch and during the classroom lesson. We are very proud.

**New classes**

Meet the new parents evening is to be held **Monday 24 June 3.30 – 6.00.** If this is not convenient there will be the option to request an alternative time and date, letters with more information are to follow. Please bear with us as there has been a small hitch getting the new classes out. We will do our utmost to ensure you and the children know next week.

**Sports Day**

Sports Day is to be held on **Wednesday 26 June**. Nursery, Reception and Key stage 1 pupils will take place in the morning from around 9.15 am, it will last around an hour. Key stage 2 will be in the afternoon – years 3 & 4 at 1.30, 5 & 6 at 2.30. Nursery afternoons and end of the week children will have their Sports Day Wednesday 3 July in the afternoon. If it is wet we will provide an alternative date, fingers crossed it’s a fine day.

**School Uniform**

We are continuing to consult stakeholders about our school uniform. Please do not buy new uniform yet, although if uniform colour does change there will be a period of change over.

Many thanks

Mrs J Coulson
Principal