



Dear Parents,

As you are aware our main priority as a school is the well-being and education of your children. We pride ourselves on our ability to build relationships that enable children to feel safe and secure when they are in school. However, at Blackhall we are a large community and this level of care really does extend to parents.

Over the past 2 years it has been soul destroying to see so many children miss out on education, trips, performances and parents coming in to school that we may have got a little excited towards the back end of this year when things have settled down. Whilst this was all done with the best of intentions, I completely accept that more notice should have been given and the planning of these events could have been better. We are doing lots of work behind the scenes in school to make the education your child receives to be the best it can be. However, I do accept that sometimes we get things wrong.

The cost of living has increased beyond anyone's expectations over the past few months. Lots of families are struggling financially and the last thing we want to do as a school is add more pressure to this.

Therefore, after a meeting with our fantastic parents' group, I would like to put forward the following in an attempt to support any parents who may need it.

### **Parents Group**

Now that things have settled down with COVID (fingers crossed!), our parents group will be back up and running this term. I would like to thank our Parents Group who are delighted to get started. If there are any other parents who would like to get involved, please contact the school office.

### **Uniform**

If you have any uniform that your child has grown out of, please can we ask that you send it into school as soon as possible. The parents' group are going to keep a record of what uniform we have so that any parents who require some for September can either speak to one of the parent group members or contact school.

### **Coffee Mornings**

From Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June (9am), every other week, there will a coffee morning in the lower hall for any parents who wish to stop for a short time and enjoy a brew with fellow parents. This will be hosted by the parents group and different members of staff will drop in each week to chat. Donated uniform will also be available at this time should any parents wish to have a look. It would be lovely to see lots of you there.

### **Summer Fayre**

Due to the number of events we have planned that require a financial outgoing for parents, we have decided to continue with the sponsored Colour Run but cancel the Summer Fayre that was due to take place a week later. Please rest assured that we will be having a Christmas Fayre this year which we will make an event to remember.

### **Trips**

Children have missed out on so many trips over the past 2 years which is why this year's summer trip is for a celebration of our first full school year since 2019 and a reward for the children's hard work. However, I completely understand how difficult this is for parents, particularly if you have more than one child. Therefore, I would like to give parents the option to pay for your child's summer trip in instalments. All we ask is that you pay small amounts each week or month and ensure that the full cost of the trip is paid by 1<sup>st</sup> September.

### **Trips and Events from September**

In September, you will receive details and costings of all trips and events that we have planned for the entire academic year. This will ensure you have plenty of notice and know what is coming up each term. We will also support parents with a payment plan to ensure you are not having to pay a large sum of money all at once.

Whilst the past 2 years have been difficult due to COVID, the present day is also difficult when you have to constantly think and worry about money. Please do not suffer in silence and speak to school or one of our fantastic parents' group leaders if you are worried or concerned about anything. We will do everything we can to help.

At Blackhall we are not just a school but a community of children and adults who care about one another. Let's support each other through this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs R. Leonard  
Head Teacher