



## Blackbrook School

Aspiration Fairness Kindness Responsibility Teamwork

Headteacher: Mr Daniel Seviour BA (Hons) PGCE NPQH

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024

### End of Term

Dear Parents,

It astounds me that we have reached the end of the academic year already, marking the end of my first year as Headteacher. I wanted to take the opportunity to share some general reflections and words of thanks to all within our school community.

Firstly, I'd like to thank you all for welcoming me this year. Blackbrook School is truly special, and it is a privilege and honour to lead here. We began the year with the launch of our revised vision and values, and we are well on the way to achieving our vision:

**“Our school will be a happy community that encourages and celebrates individuality, where **everyone** feels **safe, valued and inspired to achieve.**”**

I have particularly enjoyed seeing all of the children thrive in performances throughout the year. This is such a strength at the school, as all children are supported to share their voice and perform to an audience. I even braved the infamous Christmas staff panto myself this year! Beyond this, there have been several residential visits, many school trips and sporting events. It has certainly been a busy year, and that's the 'stuff' outside of the classroom!

### Leavers

The Year Six Leavers' Service was highly emotional, and that is a testament to all of the staff who have supported and nurtured these children throughout their time at Blackbrook. You can read more about the service [here](#). Good luck, Class 6, in the next step in your journey! Thank you for all of the lovely words shared. It fills me with hope that all children will go through the school and leave with similarly fond memories.

We also say goodbye and good luck to two members of staff today:

Miss Edmunds, class teacher at West Monkton School, returned from her maternity leave early to cover Miss Matthews' maternity leave. In the short time that Miss Edmunds has been with us, she has ensured that the children in Class F have continued to have excellent teaching, and she had led on developments to the EYFS learning environment. I'd like to thank her for joining us, and wish her well for her return to her substantive post in September.

Mr Crawley also leaves us today, having worked at Blackbrook exclusively this year, following on from his apprenticeship with Mr Williams supporting the teaching of PE. He has worked as a teaching assistant this year and also supported our wraparound provision. He has also helped with some general maintenance and other tasks – an absolute team player who will be sorely missed. We wish him luck as he moves away to start his family. The staff are all behind me in recognising that he will be an incredible father.

Mrs Shaw's daughter Ruby has been with us on placement this year. She is also a member of the Trust Extended Services Team. We wish Ruby luck in the next phase of her college course at another school within the Trust.

We have welcomed many staff into our school community this year. Each and every one of them has contributed to the school's success:

- Miss Bishop, Apprentice TA
- Mr Hancock, Apprentice TA
- Miss Awon, Senior Office Administrator
- Miss Brooks "Kelly"
- Miss Sillett, although not new to the school, has been a wonderful HLTA, covering classes across the school
- Mrs Mace, Lunchtime Supervisor
- Mr Al Haj Hassan, Premises

## **Thank You!**

I'd like to thank all of the staff for their hard work and commitment this year. I'd also like to thank the children for being the exceptional young people they are. They are the reason we are here and want to stay! Thank you, too, to you, our parent community. As they say, it takes a village to raise a child, and we feel we have such strong relationships with our parents, that that is one of the reasons our children leave us with the values and dispositions they have.

A special thank you to all who have supported our fundraising events, by offering donations or attending events organised by the Friends of Blackbrook School. Here are *some* of the things that funds raised by the FOBS have been used for this year:

- Gardening gloves

- Atlases
- Sports shirts (we will stand-out at our next sporting event!)
- A contribution towards the development of the EYFS outdoor area
- A Christmas tree
- Resources to support Lego Therapy
- Outdoor play equipment

We will be using significant funds that have been raised by the Friends to pay for our school library. A small group of staff are going to be in school over the next few days clearing and decorating the space. The furniture is being ordered and will arrive during the Autumn Term. We cannot wait to show you when it's ready!

**Blackbrook School is one that is absolutely full of love and care and I feel privileged to lead and work in such an environment. Have a wonderful Summer break when we get there, and we look forward to seeing the children's safe return to school on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September.**

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Seviour', with a horizontal line extending to the left and a loop at the end.

Mr D. Seviour

*An incredibly proud Headteacher*