



## Building Bright Futures

**Responsibility:**  
make good choices  
because your  
actions matter

**Respect:**  
value everyone  
and everything in  
how you listen,  
speak and in what  
you do

**Compassion:**  
show care and  
understanding for  
everyone

**Courage:**  
be brave; believe  
you can

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# Blackwell News

Issue 18

26th June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping well and have stayed safe during the recent heatwave. Thank you for your support in ensuring children came to school prepared for the warm weather. They have coped brilliantly and continued to work hard throughout the week.

This newsletter celebrates some of the wonderful learning taking place across our school, including impressive clay animal sculptures in Art Club, exciting virtual visits to Australia, practical maths lessons exploring capacity, fantastic examples of writing, and striking Medusa-inspired artwork. We also welcomed the Police, who visited Year 6 to share important advice about staying safe online as they prepare for their move to secondary school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. I hope you enjoy this week's newsletter.

Sarah Martin  
Headteacher

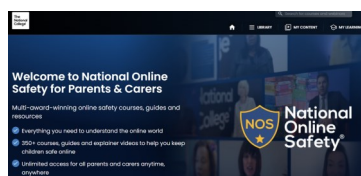
### New Hot Meals Provider September 2026

From September 2026, school meals at Blackwell Primary School will be provided by ISS Education, who are taking over from Chartwells as part of a new West Sussex County Council contract. ISS will be bringing exciting new menus and a brand new online ordering system to make managing school meals easier than ever for families. Great news on price too, meals will be just £2.95 per day, which is 25p less than the current charge. If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals then check the WSCC website and apply today [www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/). To find out more about what's coming, including menus and how the new ordering system will work, visit [www.feedwestsussex.co.uk](http://www.feedwestsussex.co.uk). If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact the school office.

### Keep me safe online'

We want to help you to keep your child safe online, so please find below a couple of resources to support you. The QR Codes below provide you with easy access. Do take the time to have a quick look as there are step-by-step instructions, as well as short videos.

[www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/#choose-parental-controls-guide](http://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/#choose-parental-controls-guide)



## Blackwell Keeping Cool

Lidl helping us keep cool!

During this week's extreme heat, Lidl kindly provided thousands of ice pops to help keep our children cool and comfortable.

A huge thank you to Lidl for this generous support – the children thoroughly enjoyed this refreshing treat!



### Blackwell Art

Over the last two weeks we have made clay animal sculptures in Art club. First, we moulded our creatures using air hardening clay. Miss Cantillon modelled using the visualiser and demonstrated how to scratch into the clay to attach another piece and smooth it over properly to help avoid parts breaking off once it had dried. Then we painted our creatures the following week - we hope you enjoy looking at our creations!

Miss Cantillon  
Art Champion



## Year R

A virtual visit to Australia

Squirrels Class have been reading *Emma Jane's Aeroplane* during our Drawing Club sessions this week. In the story, Emma Jane flies all around the world, visiting many different countries, including Australia.

On Wednesday morning, we had a very exciting video call with Mrs Turner's sister, Hannah, who lives in Melbourne, Australia. Hannah showed us that it was dark outside and explained that she had just finished her dinner and was getting ready for bed. She told us that she had her heater on because it was feeling quite chilly – the complete opposite to us, as we were enjoying our morning snack and feeling very warm!

Using a globe, we explored where Australia is in relation to the UK and could see that it is on the other side of the world. We learnt that when it is daytime for us, it is night time in Australia.



## Year 1

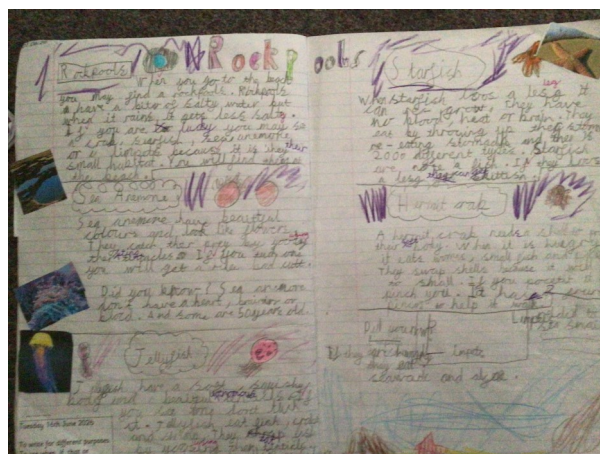
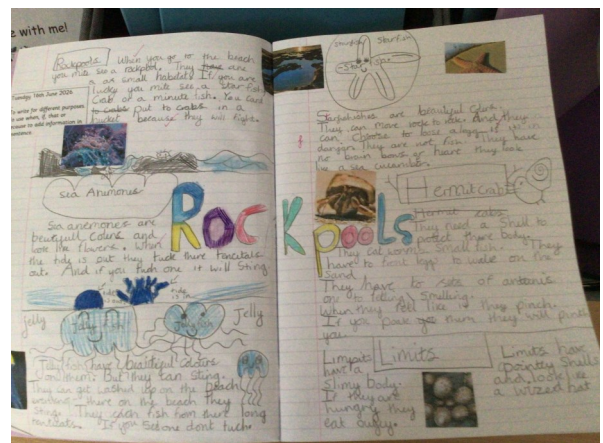
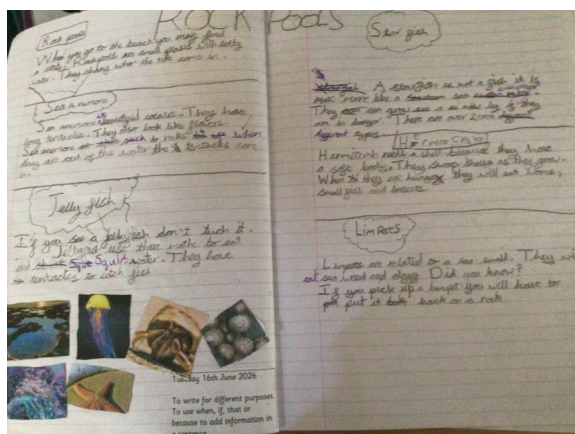
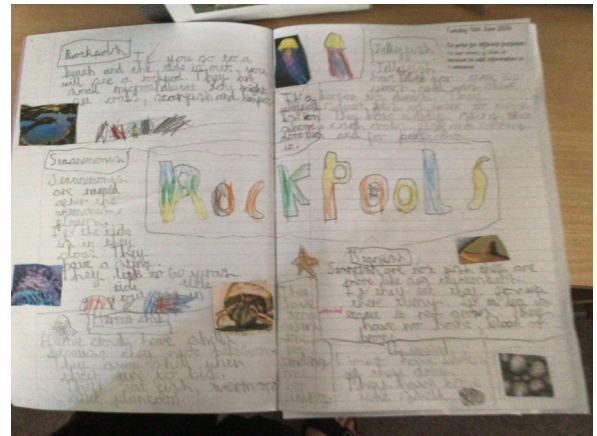
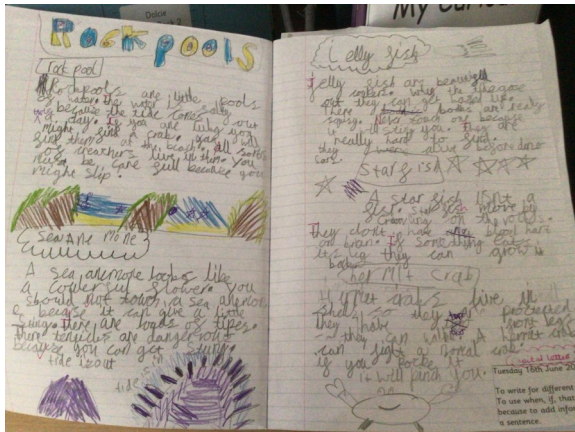
For Maths in Year 1 the children have been learning all about capacity. The children have been enjoying lovely sensory hands-on lessons using water in our outside area which has been very welcome with the hot weather! They have been learning to measure and compare if a container is full, nearly full, half full, nearly empty or empty. We have been asking questions to reinforce vocabulary such as:

'Which container holds the most or the least?' 'How many small cups of water do you think it will take to make this bottle half full?' and 'Does this wide bowl hold the same amount as this tall bottle, even though they look different?'



## Year 2

The children worked really hard in Curious Quest to write information poster about rockpools. It was fun to find out some interesting facts about different marine animals. We also worked hard on our presentation making sure we included a title, headings and factual information. We found it equally fascinating and revolting to learn about how starfish eat their food. If you are wondering how they do this, please read the posters below to find out.



## Year 3 &amp; 4

We have been busy exploring Ancient Greek myths through our English as well as our Art. In English, we have been writing descriptive senses about Medusa using expanded noun phrases, high level tier 2 words and peer support to revise to improve the quality of our word choices. Here are some examples:

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026 Eric wrote



Medusa's hair is ~~terrifying~~ <sup>in her hair</sup> terrifying because she has a ~~small~~ hissing snake <sup>in it</sup>. But ~~if~~ if you get bitten the venom would make you very sick. They ~~if~~ swirl around her head and get tangled into dark bands of knots.

Her eyes are cold in a steel tread. If you ~~see~~ look in her eyes they will turn you into a stone. Medusa's eyes are very bold and if you turn ~~into~~ the lights of you can see them. They are ~~terrifying~~ neon turbines so they stand out.

Medusa's nails were as sharp as a tazer. and <sup>sharp</sup> dark green as dark as the ~~night~~ <sup>night</sup> sky. If they touched you they would ~~immediately~~ <sup>as a table</sup> ~~turn~~ liquid.

Her skin is smooth & pale green because she is a snake ~~and~~ and very scaly.

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2026

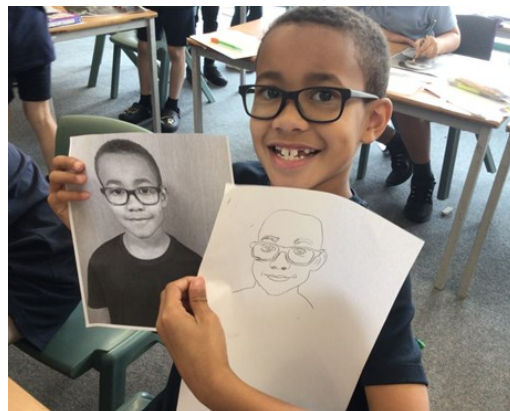


Medusa was a nasty gorgon with the <sup>shocking</sup> staking power to turn unsuspecting people into stone just by looking at them with her emerald green, peircing eyes. And with her ~~pete~~ <sup>menacing</sup> army of evil nipers for hair, you would hardly notice her outstandingly long nails. They're as sharp as a <sup>desert</sup> cactus. Her skin changes beetwen soft and scaly depending on wether she is angry or <sup>not</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>calm</sup>.

She was in a green swamp  
 where all that lined and grew  
 there was algi, fungi and snakes. She  
 was the only person there of her  
 kind the rest of the gorgons had  
 been turn to stone by an  
 accident by Medusa. It was a  
 heart-breaking situation, Medusa was  
 the last one on the planet.  
 She was devastated to see all  
 of her loved-ones turn to stone  
 ... forever... stuck... in... stone...

## Year 3 & 4

We have also been continuing our Medusa art work. We have used carbon paper to create a tracing of our faces which we have then stick onto our 'snake wigs'. From this, we used shading to create areas of light and dark on our faces which we also coloured green to be more 'snake-like'. Our next step was to use colour mixing to paint the base colour of our snakes. We have started our 'Zentangle' inspired patterns for the snakes' scales. Here are some photographs of our progress so far:

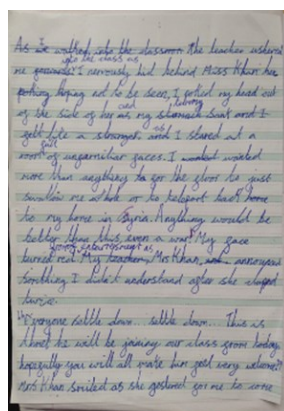
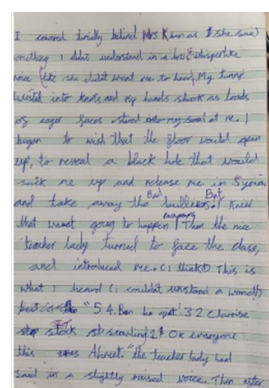


## Year 5

In Woodland Activities, Oak Class have been carefully observing a picture to create their own clay birds. They have worked hard to make their designs as lifelike as possible, paying close attention to detail, shape and texture. It has been wonderful to see their individuality shine through in each unique creation. During these sessions, the children have been developing their practical skills. They have focused on improving their tool work, including whittling, demonstrating increasing confidence and control. The class has shown great perseverance and a real sense of achievement as they refine these important skills. The children have also thoroughly enjoyed their cooking experience, where they made individual yoghurt flatbreads. This hands-on activity was a big success, with pupils taking pride in preparing and tasting their own delicious creations. Overall, Oak Class have had a busy and rewarding time, combining creativity, practical skills and enjoyment across their learning.



Cedar class has been planning a first-person narrative written from Ahmet's point of view. It uses internal thoughts, feelings, and reflections to show his emotions as a new student and refugee. The narrative helps the reader empathise with Ahmet by revealing his hopes and fears about starting at a new school. We will be sending our work to the author to show the impact her work has had on us and our understanding of refugees.



## Year 6

Year 6 have been braving the heat this week (in between trips to the ICT suite and ice lollies to cool down) and have been working hard on rehearsals for our production of, 'Ye Ha!' on **8<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm**.

Please remember that tickets are **on sale now** and are selling out fast! So get yours quickly from **Chequer Mead Box Office** to avoid disappointment!



Year 6 also welcomed PC Gates, our local Police Education Liaison Officer to our school. The year group listened and contributed really well to her talk, reminding learners how to stay safe on line and channels of support available to them in and out of school.

Well done year 6, you remembered your '5 Trusted Adults' and 'Child Line' help line if you needed some support or help.



## June 2026

|      |                                                                      |
|------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 29th | Sports Day                                                           |
| 30th | Area Sports, Sackville School in the afternoon for selected children |

## July 2026

|         |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st     | New Reception Children Stay and Play session 2.15pm—2.45pm                                                                                                                                 |
| 1st—3rd | Year 6—Sackville Induction days                                                                                                                                                            |
| 7th     | Squirrels class assembly — parents invited                                                                                                                                                 |
| 8th     | Year 6 rehearsals at Chequer Mead—9.00am -3.00pm<br>Year 6 Production at Chequer Mead—5.00pm—9.00pm<br>New Reception Children Stay and Play session 1.50—2.50pm<br>Year 2—Mapping workshop |
| 13th    | New Reception Children Stay and Play session 9.30—10.30am                                                                                                                                  |
| 14th    | Year 1—Walk around town a.m.                                                                                                                                                               |
| 17th    | PTA Colour Run                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 22nd    | Year 6 Leaver's Assembly 2.00pm—3.00pm—parents invited<br>Last day of term                                                                                                                 |
| 23rd -  | <b>Summer Holidays—School closed to children</b>                                                                                                                                           |

## September 2026

|         |                                                                        |
|---------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st     | <b>INSET Day School closed to children</b>                             |
| 2nd     | <b>Children back to school for Years 1-6</b>                           |
| 2nd—7th | Home visits for New Reception children                                 |
| 8th     | New Reception children first day—going home for lunch                  |
| 9th     | New Reception children lunch at school and then home for the afternoon |
| 10th    | New Reception children start full time                                 |

| October2026 |                                     |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2nd         | Whole school Flu vaccine            |
| 5th         | Individual and family photos        |
| 11th Sunday | Primary Schools Cross Country       |
| 26th—30th   | Half term—School closed to children |