

Blakehill Primary School

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Autumn Term 2025

Year 5 Buckden House Residential

I was incredibly lucky to spend the full five days with our Year 5 pupils on their residential to Buckden House this year – what a brilliant time we had! Set in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales, the children were immersed in outdoor adventure activities that left them both exhilarated and exhausted. Without exception, every child challenged their capabilities and mindset, participating in activities that many of them had never experienced before. It was a pleasure to be able to share this experience with them.

It is also a great opportunity for staff to learn more about children and their interests out of school, which in turn helps us to strengthen relationships.

I am sure that the children returned home retelling stories of their personal achievements.

Special thanks to staff: Mr. Sugden, Mrs. Hudson, Mrs. Wright and Mr. Lumb for dedicating time away from their own families to ensure that our children are able to have this valuable experience and make lifelong memories. Thank you also to the children and their parents for your enthusiasm and support.

Please check our school Facebook page for more photographs of the children.

Opportunities for All – A Priority at Blakehill Primary School

Blakehill is committed to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to take part in school residentials and educational visits, and we believe that financial circumstances should never be a barrier to participation.

We understand that all families may experience financial difficulties at some point. Our message to you is: if you are experiencing any difficulties with costs, please contact us. We are here to help.



Upcoming events/diary dates this term

Wake up Shake up daily
8:30am -8:45am

Governor Visit to School
Monday 17th November

Parent/Teacher Consultation
Evenings
3:45pm -7:00pm
Tuesday 18th November
Wednesday 19th November

U11s Girls Road to Wembley Cup
Thursday 20th November

Year 5 Bradford City of Culture event
Friday 21st November

Year 3 visit to the Industrial Museum
Tuesday 25th November

Non uniform day – Reception & Y1 &
Y2 - bar of chocolate donation.
Y3 – Y6 Bottle donation
Friday 28th November

PTFA Christmas Fair
**Monday 1st December 4:30pm –
6:00pm**

School Council visit to City Hall
Wednesday 3rd December

Santa's Grotto comes to Blakehill
Thursday 4th December

**Please also see the Christmas events
schedule in this newsletter**

Let us Sing!

Our school choir is looking for enthusiastic singers who would like to represent school at various events, bringing music and joy to the local community. Choir is on Wednesdays after school and available to all children in KS2 (Years 3-6). Please contact the school office if your child is interested in being involved.

Evacuation and Invacuation

As part of safeguarding procedures, schools are required to practise a process of evacuation; getting everyone out of the school building safely (e.g. in the event of fire) and invacuation; getting everyone back into the school building safely during lunch/break times (e.g. in the event of a threat outside). These well-rehearsed and effective procedures are practised at regular times during the school year. An invacuation will be held this half term. Children will be informed during assembly, before this takes place. An explanation of why we practice invacuation will be shared with an example of an aggressive dog on the school grounds provided. The purpose is not to alarm children but to embed an effective procedure that is understood by us all.

Proud to Be from Bradford

Last week children across school were involved in activities to celebrate Bradford being the City of Culture. We explored all of the wonderful things about our city and created work to reflect this. At the end of the week, pupil work was displayed in an exhibition in the school hall. This work will be displayed around school for parents and carers to view at Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings next week.

Well done children. Your work is fabulous.



Blakehill School Council- Making a Difference

Pupil voice is incredibly important to leaders at Blakehill. It helps us to shape what we do to meet the needs and interests of our children.

Our School Council represent the thoughts and views of children across school, and they are instrumental in influencing school improvement. This week School Council members met with Local Councillor, Jeanette Sunderland, gaining real life knowledge of what the role is and what it entails.



Holiday dates 2026/27

The holiday dates for the next academic year have been agreed by Governors and published on the school website. Holiday dates 2026/27:

Autumn Term

Wednesday 2nd September - Thursday 22nd October 2026

Monday 2nd November - Friday 18th December 2026

Spring Term

Monday 4th January - Friday 12th February 2027

Monday 22nd February - Friday 25th March 2027

Summer Term

Monday 12th April - Friday 28th May 2027

Tuesday 7th June – Friday 16th July 2027

Please note: Bank holiday Monday 3rd May (school closed)

Lost Property

As the colder and wetter months approach and children begin to bring in weather-appropriate clothing such as hats and wellies etc, the volume of items of clothing being misplaced, increases.

Staff try to reunite items of lost property with their owners if they can. To make this easier and less time consuming, please remember to label all of your child's clothing (including hats and gloves). Thank you.

Parent/Teacher Consultations take place next week. It will be an opportunity for parents and carers to meet with their child's class teacher and look at their child's work.

An end of Autumn Term report is sent to parents in December. This will provide additional information about your child's academic progress during the first term.

We value parent feedback. This helps us to ensure that our school continues to meet the needs of the children and our families. A questionnaire can be collected from reception on entry next week.

PTFA Plea

The school's PTFA are asking for donations of 'good as new' gifts for our tombola ahead of our annual Christmas Fair on **Monday 1st December**.

Friday 28th November is a non-uniform day. We are asking for donations of a chocolate bar/ bottle for our chocolate and bottle tombola as a 'fine' for this. Thank you all in advance.



Christmas Dinner Day is on Wednesday 17th December.

Traditional Christmas Fayre available with a choice of puddings. Please check your ParentPay account to select, book and pay! (No charge for Reception, Y1 & Y2).



Shhhh.... It's a secret!

On Thursday 4th December, our very own Secret Santa will be in school, visiting the children at Blakehill and giving every child an early Christmas present. Thank you PTFA for your contribution to an inflatable grotto and helping us to bring the magic of Christmas that little bit closer.

Event	When
PTFA Christmas Fair	Monday 1st December 4:30pm
PTFA Christmas Gift stall	Wednesday 17th December in school
EYFS Nativity Productions	Wednesday 10th December 2:00pm Thursday 11th December 10:00am
Year 1 Craft and Carols	Friday 12th December (families welcome)
Year 2 Productions	Wednesday 10th December 10:00am Thursday 11th December 2:00pm
Year 3 and 4 Christingle	Friday 12th December 10:00am at St Cuthbert's Church, Wrose. Families welcome
Year 3 and 4 Cinema Visit	Tuesday 16th December (am)
Year 5 and 6 Christingle	Tuesday 16th December 10:00am at St Cuthbert's Church, Wrose. Families welcome
Year 5 and 6 Cinema	Monday 15th December (am)
Reception class and KS1 Christmas Parties	Year 1 - Monday 15th December (pm) Year 2 - Tuesday 16th December (pm) Reception - Thursday 18th December (pm)
Christmas Dinner Day/Christmas jumpers	Wednesday 17th December
Carols around the Tree	Friday 19th December
School closes/reopens	Friday 19th December – Monday 5th January

JINGLE ALL THE WAY!

Our Christmas Event's Calendar

Blakehill Enrichment Opportunities - making learning meaningful.

Please also see your child's class pages on the school website.



What better way to enjoy the autumn days than toasting marshmallows, building campfires and making nature twirlers. Forest School days are happy days.



A snapshot of our whole school Bradford City of Culture exhibition.



Is it a giant Haribo? Is it a UFO?
No! It's a planetarium.
Our Reception children found out what life is like in outer space last week with a little help from our space visitors.



Our U11 girls team demonstrating teamwork, sportsmanship, resilience and enthusiasm during their win over Low Ash girls' team.



A huge thank you to everyone – we raised a whopping £411.50 from Break the Rules Day. This money will go towards additional playground resources for us all to enjoy.

Blakehill Values and Ethos

House Points

Pupils at Blakehill receive house points for demonstrating a positive attitude to their learning, trying their best, never giving up, even when faced with challenges, high quality work and supporting others in their learning. This system encourages pride, achievement and teamwork. House points recognise individual and collaborative achievements. All children belong to a house team. The names of these teams have strong links with Bradford and are named after Jowett cars.

KINGFISHER

KESTREL

JAVELIN

JUPITER

During our Monday morning celebration assembly, the house with the greatest number of house points achieved the previous week is announced.

Well done to KINGFISHER who were our house winners this week.

Attendance - making every day count!

Making every day count!

100% attendance at school is extremely important in helping all pupils achieve their full academic potential. We recognise that good attendance and punctuality are crucial to raising standards and pupil attainment. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. During our weekly celebration assembly the highest attending class of the week receives a £5 voucher to spend or save. All children that have 100% attendance that week are entered for a weekly prize draw.

100% Attendance Winners



1W and 3N -
top attending
classes of the
week!

Celebration Award winners on **Monday 3rd and 10th November**

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend these. The dates of the 2025/6 class assemblies are:

5J: Friday 14 th November	<u>1W: Thursday 26th February</u>	3S: Friday 23 rd May
5S: Friday 21 st November	1M: Friday 6 th March	2G: Friday 5 th June
4R: Friday 28 th November	RD: Friday 13 th March	2H: Friday 19 th June
4N: Friday 5 th December	RS: Friday 20 th March	<u>1W: Thursday 25th June</u>
6H: Friday 9 th January	5S: Friday 27 th March	1M: Friday 3 rd July
6N: Friday 16 th January	5J: Friday 17 th April	Both Reception
3R: Friday 23 rd January	4N: Friday 24 th April	Classes:
3S: Friday 30 th January	4R: Friday 1 st May	Friday 10 th July
2G: Friday 6 th February	3R: Friday 8 th May	
2H: Friday 13 th February	3N: Friday 12 th June	

Please note:

For child protection and safeguarding purposes, we request that photos and videos are for personal use only and not shared on social media etc. unless express permission from the parent concerned is given.

