

Blakehill Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs L Keighley



Autumn Term 2024

On behalf of staff and governors, we would like to wish you all a warm welcome back, especially to our newest children in Reception class and their families. The children have settled really well and we are looking forward to another busy and rewarding term.

Our school newsletters are sent to parents every two weeks to provide information of forthcoming events and to keep you up to date with Blakehill 'news'. They are sent via email every second Friday and are also available on our website/school Facebook page. I apologise in advance for the overload of information in this newsletter.

Your child's class teacher or teaching assistant are best placed to help with any day-to-day queries or concerns you may have. They spend the majority of the school day with your child.

Meet Blakehill Primary School's senior management and leadership team.

They each have specific responsibilities in school in addition to their class teacher role and are also available to support the pupils, staff and parents in school.



Rachel Gould
Deputy Headteacher and SENDCo



Helen Hall
Assistant Headteacher



Catherine Scott
Assistant Headteacher
Designated Safeguarding Lead and KS1 Leader



Jamie Nicklin
KS2 Leader



Lisa Keighley
Headteacher



Sarah Dickinson
Early Years Leader and SENDCo

Upcoming events/diary dates this term

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

Positive Start daily
8:30am-8:45am

Jeans for Genes day
Friday 20th September

Reception Baseline Assessment Wk. commencing **Monday 23rd September**

Year 6 residential parent meeting
Thursday 26th September 5:00pm

Year 5 National Mining Museum Visit
Thursday 3rd October

Individual school photo's
Friday 4th October

Year 2 Saltaire Visit
Wednesday 9th October

U11s Girl's football event
Thursday 10th October

Year 6 knife crime workshops for year 6
Friday 11th October

Year 1 visit to Industrial Museum (washday workshop)
Thursday 17th October

U9 boys' football event
Thursday 17th October

Year 4 residential to Nell Bank
Monday 21st October – Wednesday 23rd October

Year 6 visit to Blackpool Pleasure Beach
Wednesday 23rd October

School Closes:
Thursday 24th October. This will be a non-uniform day

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

It is that time of year again when our Year 6 parents receive information about applying for a place at secondary school for their child. If parents have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the Year 6 teaching team who will be able to help you.

School Uniform

How smart do our pupils look in their school uniforms? particularly those pupils new to KS2 who are now wearing a school tie? So far, (touch wood) these seem to have caused very little distraction! We have received so many compliments from staff and parents about the appearance of our pupils in school.

Please note: There is no requirement for any of item to have the school logo displayed as we understand the cost implication to families that are linked to branded clothing.

We still have many items of preloved uniform in school. These have been donated by parents and are free of charge should you require anything. Please contact the school office if you require any items of uniform.

Every class in school has PE twice a week: one indoor session and one outdoor session. PE kits should be worn on the days that your child has PE. A full list of uniform requirements is on the school website. PLEASE ENSURE ALL ITEMS OF CLOTHING etc. ARE NAMED. This helps us to return items quickly and easily if misplaced.

For health and safety reasons we ask that children do not wear jewellery. This includes hooped earrings. Nail varnish is not part of school's uniform policy. Thank you for your support with this.

Snacks

Children in Reception classes, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with free fruit daily. Children in Year 3 - Year 6 can bring fruit, vegetables or cereal bars to eat. Crisps, sweets and chocolate bars are not permitted. The school tuck shop, available to children in Years 3-6 sell healthy snacks at break time. The cost of each item is 25p.

We recognise the important role that schools play in encouraging pupils to make healthy life choices which include healthy food choices. Educating children at an early stage in their lives helps them to make considered choices and benefits them in the future. Thank you.

Medication

All medication, including inhalers were returned home wherever possible at the end of term in July. If your child requires medication in school, could you please make sure that this is handed in to staff in the school office. Parents also need to check expiry dates on prescribed medication. Thank you!

Media and Photography Consent Form

Unless we have parent/carer written consent, we are unable to use images/ photos of your child on our school newsletters, website, etc. If you have not already done so, please complete and sign the school's Media and Photography Consent Form which can be obtained from the school office. Parents wanting their child to be exempt must also indicate their wishes.

Safeguarding

Could parents please notify school if the usual arrangements for collecting your child at the end of the school day changes. In the interest of your child's safety, staff particularly in KS1 will not allow a child to go with an unknown adult unless notification has been received.



Parking

After a year-long campaign by our school council, Bradford Council introduced speed calming measures on Highfield Road during the summer. There are plans in the pipeline to introduce additional road markings to promote safe parking in and around school. With the return to a whole school start and end time to the school day comes the frustration caused by limited parking availability.

Inconsiderate and unsafe parking is an ongoing cause for concern among residents and parents/carers and school are often asked to intervene, particularly when conversations become heated. This, unfortunately is a problem that we all have to manage in the best way we can. Our main priority is the safety of our children and their families.

The stretch of Highfield Road outside of the school gates is particularly hazardous, and the absence of a crossing patrol person increases the risk potential.

Please park with care and consideration. A few minutes late is better than an early morning altercation in the presence of children. Thank you for your support. Please stay safe.



Safeguarding

School is responsible for the safe handover of every child to a responsible adult at the end of the school day. We are also responsible for ensuring that older children, walking home unsupervised, are safe and that there is a responsible adult at home when they arrive.

To help us to keep your child safe, please notify your child's class teacher in writing if your child walks home alone.

If there are factors that may impact on the safety of any child, school will ask to speak with parents/carers.

Mobile phones and SMART watches

Devices that can take photos or record, including SMART watches, are not allowed in school. Pupil mobile phones should be switched off once on the school premises and handed over to the class teacher for safe keeping.

Extra- curricular Clubs

We are incredibly proud of the range of extra-curricular activities offered at Blakehill. We are always looking for ways to extend opportunities for the children in school to participate in a rich and diverse offer of enrichment activities.

After school clubs start from Monday 16th September. Look out for letters home about clubs in school and speak to Mr Lumb, the school's Sports and Personal Development Officer for further information or if you have new ideas.

Please see the school website for a list of clubs this half term.

Parental Involvement

Parental involvement is one of the key factors to a child's success in primary school. Being involved in your child's learning helps to build strong foundations that benefit early education; leading to future success.

There will be a series of opportunities to be part of your child's learning journey throughout the year with our class 'Come and Learn' sessions.

Prior to Parent/Teacher Consultation evenings, you will be invited into school to view your child's work, classroom and school. This is our 'Open Classrooms' event which happen twice a year. Watch out for key dates next half term.

Job Opportunity

We have a vacancy for a Play Worker/Assistant to work at our Early Birds and Night Owls wraparound childcare provision. Please contact the school office for more information.

Contact Telephone Numbers

Could you please ensure that our office staff are notified if you have changed address, email or telephone number. Having the correct contact details of parents/carers, (e.g. current mobile and telephone numbers) are vital when children are ill and immediate contact needs to be made.



Congratulations to Mrs. Gould and Mrs. Hall for completing and passing their National Professional Qualification for Headship during the summer.

Blakehill Residentials

It is almost time for pupils and staff in Year 4 and 5 to dig out their wellies and waterproofs as they prepare for their annual residential visits as part of their geography fieldwork and science topics. Residential visits are a great opportunity for outdoor learning and encourages children to build relationships, stamina, resilience and self-esteem.

Year 4 visit Nell Bank Outdoor Activity Centre from **Monday 21st October – Wednesday 23rd October**

Year 5 visit Buckden Outdoor Centre from **Monday 4th November - Friday 8th November**
Have a wonderful time children!



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.

With our first whole week done, I wonder who will be the house team winners?

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.

Fixed Penalty Notices

Holidays taken during term time are subject to a fixed penalty notice as part of the Local Authority campaign to improve attendance across the district. Schools do not benefit from any fines - this is paid directly to the council however Local Authority schools like ours are obliged to follow the guidance and procedures.

Celebration Assembly award winners **Monday 9th September**. Well done children.



Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend these. The dates of the 2024-25 class assemblies are:

5J: Friday 15 th November	1W: Friday 28 th February	2SG: Friday 20 th June
5P: Friday 22 nd November	1M: Friday 7 th March	2H: Friday 27 st June
4SJ: Friday 29 th November	RD: Friday 14 th March	1W: Friday 4 th July
4R: Friday 6 th December	RS: Friday 21 st March	1M: Friday 11 th July
6GH: Friday 10 th January	5P: Friday 28 th March	Both Reception Classes: Friday 18 th July
6N: Friday 17 th January	5J: Friday 25 th April	
3R: Friday 24 th January	4SJ: Friday 2 nd May	
3N: Friday 31 st January	4R: Friday 9 th May	
2SG: Friday 7 th February	3R: Friday 23 rd May	
2H: Friday 14 ^h February	3N: Friday 13 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.