

Blakehill Primary School

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Autumn Term 2024

Upcoming events/ diary dates this term.

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

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

Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings
Tuesday 19th November
Wednesday 20th November

Governor Visit to School
Monday 18th November

Non uniform day – bar of chocolate fine
Friday 29th November

PTFA Christmas Fair
Monday 2nd December 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Please also see the Christmas events schedule in this newsletter

Year 5 Buckden Residential

I was incredibly lucky to spend the full five days with our year 5 pupils on their residential to Buckden 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 wonderful 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: Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Hudson, Mr. Sudden, Mrs. Javed, 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.



Open Classrooms
Thank you to those parents who attended the open classroom event this week. This allowed parents to have a look through their child’s book and visit their classroom prior to parent’s evening next week.



A polite reminder to parents. Any child wishing to attend our daily Wake Up, Shake Up or Positive Start clubs (8:30am – 8:45am) **MUST** be accompanied by an adult. Thank you.

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.

Be an Athlete for a Day - Whole School Sponsored Event

On **Tuesday 19th November**, Antony Cotterill, World Paralympic tennis champion, who has represented Great Britain at two Paralympic Games, will visit school to encourage Blakehill children to participate in a whole school sporting sponsored event. Children have watched a short video of Antony and sponsor forms have been distributed to class teachers in advance. Look out for posters around school/information on our Facebook page.

Proud to Be Blakehill

On Wednesday this week, Mr. Lumb hosted our very first Inclusion Games event. We were unbelievably proud of all 30 children that were able to take part. Their smiling faces spoke volumes. Lovely to welcome Low Ash, Thackley, Thorpe & Westminster. A big thank you to our Year 6 play leaders for helping throughout the event. Sport is for everyone 🏀🏈🏏🎯

GB WHEELCHAIR TENNIS PLAYER
ANTONY COTTERILL
is visiting this school

Most important only motto? I'm inspired by anyone who has had to overcome loss of adversity in life.

What's your motto? Don't give up!

Greatest love? Loving in the wind roads of the Silver 2020 Paralympics.

Who would you like to meet? Mike Tyson.

Time or love? I used to be a bank mechanic for the American army.

Some of Antony's achievements include:
 ★ Represented Team GB at 2 Paralympic Games
 ★ 2x World Team Cup winner
 ★ Double Masters World Champion
 ★ 10x singles titles on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Circuit
 ★ 35x doubles titles on the ITF Wheelchair Tennis Circuit

on the 19th Nov

GreatAthletes™ Inspiring every child



Parking

Please park considerately when dropping off/collecting your child from school. We continue to receive concerns from local residents of parents parking across driveways and blocking and restricting access to the side streets, preventing residents from leaving/getting to their property. If you remember, last year, emergency services were unable to access the property of an elderly resident who required urgent medical assistance. This caused great distress to the family and friends of the elderly lady.

Lost Property

To enable us to return lost property, please remember to label all your child's clothing (including hats and gloves).

Holiday dates 2025/26

The holiday dates for the next academic year have been agreed by Governors and published on the school website. Holiday dates 2025/26:

Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September - Thursday 23rd October 2025

Monday 3rd November - Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term

Monday 5th January - Friday 13th February 2026

Monday 23rd February - Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term

Monday 13th April - Friday 22nd May 2026

Tuesday 2nd June - Friday 17th July 2026

PTFA Plea

The school's PTFA are asking for donations of teddies ahead of our annual Christmas Fair on **Monday 2nd December.**

Friday 29th 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 18th December.

Traditional Christmas Fayre available with a choice of puddings. Please note there will not be an alternative meal available on this day. If your child does not require the Christmas lunch, a packed lunch will need to be provided.



Shhhh.... It's a secret!

On Thursday 5th 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 2nd December (after school)
PTFA Christmas Gift stall	Wednesday 18th December in school
EYFS Nativity Productions	Wednesday 11th December 2:00pm Thursday 12th December 10:00am
Year 1 Craft and Carols	Friday 13th December (families welcome)
Year 2 Productions	Wednesday 11th December 10:00am Thursday 12th December 2:00pm
Year 3 and 4 Cinema	Monday 16th December (am)
Year 3 and 4 Christingle	Wednesday 11th December 2:00pm at Holy Trinity Church, Idle. Families welcome
Year 5 and 6 Christingle	Friday 13th December 2:00pm at Holy Trinity Church, Idle. Families welcome
Year 5 and 6 Cinema	Tuesday 17th December (am)
Reception class and KS1 Christmas Parties	Year 1 - Monday 16th December (pm) Year 2 - Tuesday 17th December (pm) Reception - Thursday 19th December (pm)
Christmas Dinner Day/Christmas jumpers	Wednesday 18th December
Carols around the Tree	Friday 20th December
School closes/reopens	Friday 20th December – Monday 6th 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 a fantastic afternoon at Keighley's cross-country event. A tough course but our children did amazing! Blakehill's 'never give up attitude' definitely showed.

Proud to be Blakehill



We are always busy in Year 1! Today we were using digital technology to create jungle images.



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 this week with a little help from our space visitors.



Learning about the properties of material through exploration is the order of the scientific day in Year 2.



What great fun it is in Reception making our very own sparklers.



1st place for our children who competed at the Panathlon Games at Hanson Academy this week! Congratulations!

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 **JAVELIN** who were our house winners this week.

1W and 3N -
top attending
classes of the
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.

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	25G: Friday 20 th June
5P: Friday 22 nd November	1M: Friday 7 th March	2H: Friday 27 th 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	
25G: Friday 7 th February	3R: Friday 23 rd May	
2H: Friday 14 th 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.

Celebration Award winners on
Monday 4th and 11th November

