Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Dear Parent / Carer / Guardians,

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

We hope that you have had a lovely Christmas break and you feel ready for 2023.

In this letter you will find all of the information you will need to support your child at home. This information can also be found on our school website. On the class page you will find photographs and information about current learning.

**Curriculum**

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| ***Subject*** | ***Unit*** |
| Mathematics | Number: Place Value ( within 50 )  ( Multiples of 2, 5 and 10 )  Number: Addition and Subtraction ( within 20 )  Measurement: Length and Height  Measurement: Weight and Volume |
| English | Traditional tales- Rapunzel  Castles- Non- Fiction  Katie in London  Katie in Scotland |
| Science | Changing Seasons- Winter  Observe changes across the four seasons, including weather |
| History | Significant People and Places in our own locality  Lives of significant individuals in the past who have contributed to national and international achievements.  ( Skipton Castle and St George) |
| Geography | Geographical Skills and Fieldwork  Who are we and where are we? |
| Music | Charanga music scheme |
| Computing | Media  E-Safeguarding |
| Art | Painting (Colour Mixing)  Castles  Animal Painting/ Printing |
| DT | Design/Make/Evaluate  (Structures)  Technical Knowledge  Castles  Build structures, exploring how they can be made stronger, stiffer and more stable.  ( Castles ) |
| PSHE | Identity, Health, Citizenship  Same or different?  Unkind, tease or bully?  Harolds School Rules  Who are our special people?  It’s not fair… |
| RE | Religion and World views –Celebrations? |
| PE | Games and gymnastics |

**Coming to school in the morning**

School starts at 8.45am every morning. We make the most of every moment in school and learning starts straight away so being at school on time is really important.

The children have been working really hard to be independent with their morning routine. They are coming in, hanging up their coats and emptying their own book bags. Water bottles, PE kits and Lunch boxes are stored in the cloakroom and their pigeon hole. They then come straight through into the classroom to complete a morning activity before register and morning exercises.

**Leaving School at the end of the day**

We finish school at 3.15pm each day. Children will begin to get ready for home around 3pm and at this time children will collect their own book bag, water bottle and coat. We will then finish our day with a story. We want to make sure that all children get safely to the correct adults. Thank you for being as patient with us as we are getting to know you all.

**PE**

PE lessons are every Tuesday and every Thursday. Children no longer need to come to school dressed for PE. Please can you ensure that they have their PE kit in school for these days. Their kit should be hung on their peg whilst they are in school and needs to be clearly named to avoid it getting muddled when the children are changing. As the weather is getting colder children need to have an outdoor and indoor PE kit in school. Some PE lessons will still be outside unless the weather is unsafe. It can be quite cold out there so a warm outdoor PE kit is really important.

**Homework Projects**

Every Half term we will be asking you to work together at home with your child to complete your own project linked with the learning that we are doing in class. In Geography we will be looking at the UK and so we would like to find out where you have visited in the UK. You can display your learning in any way you like, the more creative the better. You can include, writing, pictures, photos or models. You might want to extend your learning to include physical or human features of the places you have visited.

**Word Mountains**

In Year One children complete weekly word mountain challenges. Each word mountain shows a set of spellings for your child to learn. Please can you help your child by practising their word mountain spellings at home each week so that they are confident to have a go on Friday? Every Friday children in Year One are tested on their word mountain. If they spell each word correctly they will move on to the next word mountain.

**High Frequency Words**

Children will be given a set of high frequency words, these are words they need to be able to read on sight. They should not need to sound these words out. If they accurately read the full set when tested at school they will then move up to the next set. If your child completes all the given high frequency words then they will be given an alternative weekly home challenge to complete. Children will be given a weekly test day for high frequency words. These will be tested by Mrs Lister and Miss Hart.

**KIRFs**

KIRFs stands for Key Instant Recall Facts. We usually practise them at the beginning of a maths lesson. Each half term children will be given a KIRF to focus on. We will send home sheets to support you to practise this KIRF at home. At the end of the half term we will test each child to assess their understanding and confidence.

**Uniform**

At Blakehill we ask that all children come to school wearing the correct uniform. In colder weather remember that children will still play outside. This means that they will need a warm, waterproof coat to protect them against the elements. If it is snowy or icy it would be sensible to send children with a pair of wellies to change into for when they are outside. In very cold weather please send your child with a warm hat and gloves too.

When the weather is hot we ask that all children have sun cream applied before school and bring a suitable sun hat for play time.

**Reading Café**

Reading Café is every Thursday Morning at 8:30am until 8:45am. This is an opportunity for you to come into school with your child and spend some time reading with them in the classroom.

If you have any questions or concerns please come and speak to one of the team. We are looking forwards to getting to know you all this year.

Kind regards

**The Year 1 Team**

Miss Dickinson, Mrs Watts, Mrs Lister and Miss Hart.