

Blakehill Primary School

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Autumn Term 2024

What an interesting time our Year 5 pupils had at the Yorkshire Coal Mining Museum last week, discovering what the life of a miner was like in years gone by. A 140-metre journey into the mine, travelling deep beneath ground level, gave us a real taste of the dangers of this occupation.

A day to remember for all. Thank you to staff and parents/carers for your help with the organisation and support on the day.



Opportunities for All

We are incredibly proud of our offer of a broad and rich range of opportunities, visits, extra-curricular activities and experiences at Blakehill Primary School.

This year we are organising and hosting a series of sporting events specifically for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Children from five schools across the district will participate in 'Inclusion Games' throughout the year.

At Blakehill Primary School we understand the importance that sport plays in all of our lives. Our aim for Inclusion Games is that ALL children are able to participate, have fun, foster a feeling of belonging and well-being and develop a range of skills, self-esteem and confidence.

We hope to be pioneers of this across the district. Watch this space!

Upcoming events/ diary dates this term

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

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

Inter school cross country event
Wednesday 16th October

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

U9 boys' football event
Thursday 17th October

Year 6 knife crime workshops
Tuesday 22nd 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 (Break the Rules Day)

School reopens:
Monday 4th November

Year 5 residential to Buckden House
Monday 4th November – Friday 8th November

Planetarium for Reception
Wednesday 6th November

Year 3 visit to the Industrial Museum
Friday 8th November

Early notification - Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings

Tuesday 19th November 3.45 p.m.-7.00 p.m.
Wednesday 20th November 3.45 p.m.-7.00 p.m.

It is that time of year again where parents are given the opportunity to meet and speak with their child’s class teacher at our Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings. Ten- minute slots are available for parents to discuss their child’s progress, attainment, effort and behaviour.

Parking

School is receiving information about inconsiderate and dangerous parking from parents and local residents. Images of cars parked illegally are forwarded to West Yorkshire Police. Spot checks are completed frequently and fines are issued. Please be mindful of where you park at drop off or collection times. The safety of the children is paramount.

Staff News

Today we say farewell and good luck to Mrs Johnston who is leaving to commence her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best for the coming weeks and months. We welcome Spencer Rawson, (playworker and previous pupil at Blakehill) who has joined our team at Early Birds and Night Owls.

School Lunches

Michelle and the team in our school kitchen provide a gorgeous selection of hot and cold food daily. I know that children and staff alike look forward to lunchtimes. **The cost of a child’s meal is increasing to £2.35 from 4th November – great value!**



Making The Difference

The most important aspect of our work is ensuring that the pupils at Blakehill are happy and safe and that they receive the best quality of education.

As a school team, we actively seek external validation to quality assure the work we do in school.

During 2024/25 we have commissioned a number of reviews and external audits that will seek to validate the school’s work and ensure that we continue to provide excellence for the children at Blakehill Primary School.

Focus of reviews 2024/25:

- A whole school audit of reading
- Early Reading and Phonics
- Pupil behaviours and attitudes
- Safeguarding
- Curriculum Review
- Special Educational Needs

This year, school will be working with the English Hub and the Local Authority Maths team and a number of external agencies to provide a continuous cycle of staff professional development.

Together We Can

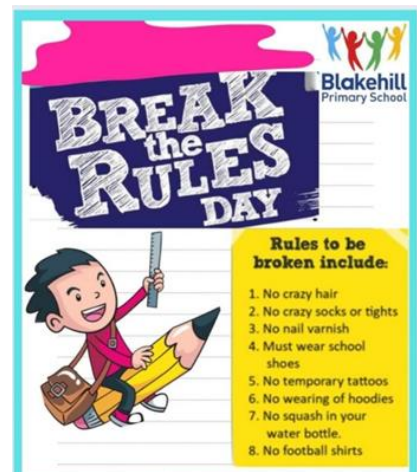
Blakehill Brew

A weekly parent meeting is held in the Night Owls building and is a great way of meeting staff and other parents over a coffee and cake. This is hosted by Pastoral Support Worker and Teaching Assistant Mrs. Shaw on Friday mornings 9:00am – 10:00am. The school nurse attends once a month and is available for advice and support.

Break the Rules Day

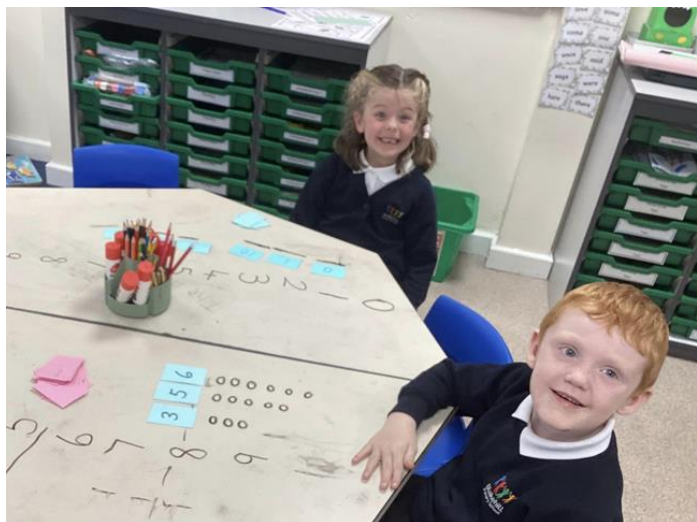
How much do we all LOVE to break the rules at Blakehill?!

School Council have decided that the non-uniform day planned for **Thursday 24th October** should be an opportunity to do just that! 50p for each rule broken. Please see our school FB page for more information.



Blakehill Enrichment Opportunities - making learning meaningful.

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



Year 1 love practical and collaborative learning. Sharing ideas and problem solving – we are always busy!



Reception class using bikes to practice balance and coordination. It takes lots and lots of concentration!



Autumn has arrived in Reception with children exploring outdoor provision for the signs of Autumn. Great fun for everyone.

A visit to Saltaire for Year 2 and a trip to the past and the future. We learned about Saltaire village and what life would have been like for residents in the past, Titus Salt and even had chance to visit David Hockney's art exhibition in Saltaire Mill. What a great day for children and the adults!



Home learning projects confidently shared with our friends in Year 5

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.

2H - top attending class 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 | 2SG: 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 | |
| 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.

Congratulations to our 100% attendance prize draw winners.



Celebration Award winners on **Monday 30th September and 7th October** Well done children we are very proud of you.

