

Blakehill Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mrs L Keighley



Tuesday 14th September 2023

Dear Parent / Carer / Guardians,

Welcome back and welcome to Year 4!

We hope you have all had an enjoyable and restful Summer and you are ready for the exciting year ahead! Our aim is to develop a supportive partnerships where we all work together to ensure that your child continues to thrive and develop. We value positive relationships and focus on developing these foundations within our community from the outset.

Attendance and punctuality

We would like to emphasise the importance of excellent attendance and hope that you and your child will make every effort to make sure that you are on time and ready for the school day. The school doors open at 08:45am to allow the children to settle down to their independent morning work. Children will be registered by 9am.

Homework

Homework will normally be given out on a every Friday to be returned by the following Friday morning and tests will take place vey Friday morning. This will consist of:

- Spellings (Word mountains) practise for 15 minutes 3 times a week at home and tested the following Friday
- Times tables and KIRFs for 15 minutes 3 times a week.
- Reading at least 3 times a week.
- An optional termly homework project linked to topics.
- TTrockstars practice on Garage and Soundcheck.

Home Reading

Each child has a home reading book and record. We have assessed and chosen the level of this book for your child in order to ensure this meets their reading needs. We will read this book with your child in class but it is also important that they are read with daily at home. This is part of their weekly homework and we expect children to read at home at **least 3 times a week**. Your child will benefit from reading 4-5 pages and then talking about what they have read. They could discuss the characters, what they think will happen next or answer questions you ask them. Children are given daily opportunities to change their reading books and we expect them to be independent enough to do so. Please also ensure that your child brings their home reading book in a book bag into school **everyday** rather than a rucksack as we have limited space in the classrooms/cloakrooms for storage.

PE

Indoor PE: this will take place on a Thursday morning in the form of swimming. Please ensure girls have a full swimsuit and boys' need sensible trunks or swim shorts, **which must be above the knee**. Once lessons start, swimwear will need to be brought in a bag with a towel (no shampoo/spray deodorant or shower gel). Roll-on deodorant is allowed. Children can bring a healthy snack for after swimming.



Outdoor PE: this takes place on a Tuesday afternoon for both classes. It is important that children have the correct, named kit for this: a white or blue plain t-shirt; black or blue tracksuit bottoms; a plain black or blue sweatshirt and a pair of trainers. PE kits should be brought into school either in your child's daily school bag or in a named pump bag that can be left in their cloakroom.

Water Bottles & health snack

We would encourage a named water bottle to be brought into school for your child to use regularly. Bottles should be taken home daily to be cleaned. We ask that your child only has water in their bottle. At morning break time, your child has the opportunity to eat a snack. We ask that this is in line with our healthy schools policy and so is a piece of fruit, cereal bar, crackers, cheese etc. Snacks should not include chocolate, sweets, crisps or cakes.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child has the correct uniform (named so that it can be easily returned if lost), including black school shoes. Children can wear trainers at playtimes and lunchtimes but these must be changed back to school shoes ready for returning to lessons. They are also required to wear a school tie with a white shirt or polo shirt and should have a school cardigan or V-necked school jumper. Smart watches, nail varnishes and other jewellery should not be worn.

Curriculum

Please find below an overview of what we will be covering

Subject	Unit
Mathematics	Place value and moving on to addition and subtraction
English	Writing genres will include: letters, narratives, diary entries, recounts and explanation texts. The grammar focus will be expanded noun phrases, conjunctions, adverbs and paragraphs.
Science	Human digestion
Geography	Journey to the sea- focus rivers
History	Black History Month
Music	How does music bring us together? Music instrument: recorder
Computing	E-safety - privacy and security Computer systems and the internet
Art	Drawing a picture using correct proportion and scale
PSHE	Me and my relationships
MFL	About my key places
RE	How are important events remembered in ceremonies?
PE	Swimming and Athletics

Dates for your diary

There are a number of key dates already in place for Year 4, please ensure to keep a record of these.

Nell Bank	11 th October to 13 th October (2nights)
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If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to any of us at the end of the school day.

Yours sincerely,

The Year 4 Team,

Mr Sugden, Miss Solomons, Mrs Wright & Mrs Pringle.

