

Blakehill Primary School

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Spring Term 2026

What a busy couple of weeks it has been since my last newsletter!

The dinosaurs visited Reception, Year 2 took a trip down Pudding Lane to learn about the Great Fire of London, Year 5 visited Magna and Year 6 braved the tropics at Tropical World as an extension to their learning about Amazon Rainforests!

There are still lots of exciting learning opportunities scheduled for the coming weeks!



Striving for Excellence

A visit from the local Authority school improvement team this week recognised the continued strong work of the school. Advisors were particularly impressed how we ensure that all pupils' needs are met as a result of high expectations, consistent routines and our commitment to quality first teaching, pupil enjoyment and safety. We have the best children and staff at Blakehill!

Keeping Us Safe

Staff continue to monitor parking outside of the school premises in the interest of our children's safety. When dropping off or collecting your child, please be mindful of the road markings that clearly indicate where you can wait/park. Our local PCSO has been informed of vehicles that continue to park on the zig-zags, double yellow lines, bus stops and the area immediately outside of the top gate which cause considerable obstruction and put pedestrians and other motorists at risk.

Thank you to those parents who are considerate when parking, enabling the children of Blakehill the safe access to school that they deserve. Long may it last!

PTFA Disco

Spring Term School Discos will be on Tuesday 10th February.

Reception and KS1: 4:45pm-5:45pm
KS2 6:00pm-7:00pm.

Admission per child £2.50. Maximum of £5.00 per family.

All children collected from the Year 1 and 2 playground after the disco.



Upcoming events/ diary dates this term

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

West Yorkshire Police visit Year 6
Tuesday 27th January

Year 1 Visit to Idle Holy Trinity Church
Thursday 29th January

Year 6 Parent Information meeting (SATs)
Thursday 22nd January at 3:30pm

Cross Country Event at Woodhouse Grove
Friday 30th January (am)

Year 6 Residential to Bewerley Park
4th - 6th February

Nell Bank parent Information evening
Thursday 5th February at 3:30pm

Year 4 Buckden Residential Parent Meeting
Monday 9th February 4:30pm

Bradford Schools Cross Country Final
Tuesday 10th February

PTFA Discos
Tuesday 10th February
Reception/KS1: 4:45pm – 5:45pm
KS2: 6:00pm -7:00pm

School closes for half term
Friday 13th February

School reopens
Monday 23rd February

Appointment booking for our Spring Term Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings will be available from Monday 23rd February via eSchools. Parent Consultations are:
Tuesday 24th March 3:45pm-7:00pm
Wednesday 25th March 3:45pm-7:00pm

Parent Conferences – Working Together

Parents/carers of children with additional needs, SEND and social, emotional and mental health needs often feel isolated and frustrated when seeking support for their child. Blakehill SENDCos and the Pastoral Team are relentless in their mission to provide Blakehill parents with onsite support, information and guidance from local and national professionals.

Our next parent session is on **Thursday 19th March 2026** at 9:00am and focuses on Supporting Children with Demand Avoidance. This session is designed for any parent who feels their child struggles with daily demands or expectations. Please note that no formal diagnosis is required for you to attend; the strategies and language discussed can be beneficial for a wide range of children who experience anxiety-driven avoidance.

We are privileged to host guest speaker Nicola Weston, a specialist teacher from the Bradford SCIL (Social Communication, Interaction, and Learning) team, who will lead the session. To ensure a comfortable morning, tea, coffee, and light refreshments will be provided for all attendees.

Everyone welcome! Thank you Mrs Gould and Miss Dickinson (SENDCos) for organising.

Supporting Pupil Mental Health and Wellbeing

A growing number of concerns are being raised by parents relating to their child's mental and emotional health and well-being. This concern is shared by colleagues across Bradford and beyond and is quickly becoming a national concern. We understand that this can be very worrying for parents. We all want to protect our children from the stresses and anxieties of life and often feel helpless and unsure of what to do when our children are feeling this way. Growing up is not easy and it's up to us as adults to help our children navigate life so that they have the skills and knowledge to do this independently in later life.

Blakehill works with a range of agencies who visit school to provide individual, group and whole school support. Our PHSE and safeguarding curriculum aims to develop children's emotional wellbeing and health and helps children develop essential life skills, from emotional well-being and social skills to health education. Our Pastoral Team provide additional in-house support and expertise.

We will continue to provide parent conferences, delivered by external partners which are really useful in supporting us as parents and teachers. Please look out for these on our Facebook page or via email.

Links to some of the expert support agencies that schoolwork with can be found on our school website (link below)
https://www.blakehillprimary.co.uk/web/mental_health_support_/609600

Please do not hesitate to contact school should you require support/direction with this.

Together We Can

ClassDojo

Between 75%-95% of parents have downloaded the ClassDojo app and have connected to their class teacher.

This app enables us to share with you your child's achievements, provide updates about current learning and remind you of upcoming events. If you are struggling to access this or need more information, please speak to your child's Class Teacher.
Thank you.

Kindness in our Community

We have coloured our school with extra splashes of kindness this week; focusing on the importance of being kind to ourselves and others. It has been lovely to receive messages of kindness from parents and children, and to participate in activities that help us to celebrate and value this quality.

Donations for Bradford Foodbank continue to arrive daily. The deadline for donations is Friday 30th January.



Oh Yes they Did!

Thank you to our PTFA who funded a whole school Pantomime this week for the children. We loved it!

Blakehill Enrichment Opportunities - making learning meaningful.

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



Blakehill School Council influencing leaders' decision-making around updating our school footwear requirements



Sir William Petty taking Year 2 on a journey back in time to 1666 and the Great Fire of London



Outdoor learning=happy children



More Year 6 intrepid botanists exploring the tropical rainforests of Leeds!



Bringing learning to life for children in Year 5 at Magna.



Inclusion games children making it look easier than it is!



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 **KINGFISHER** house team 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.

How is your class doing?

Attendance percentage	
1M	95.9%
1W	97.5%
2G	97.5%
2H	97.8%
3R	96.8%
3S	97.4%
4N	97.9%
4R	98.3%
5J	96.9%
5S	96.3%
6H	96.7%
6N	97.8%
RD	98.0%
RS	96.8%
National	94.8%
Local Authority	94.0%

Whole school attendance is: 97.2%
National: 94.8%
Bradford: 94%

Celebration Assembly Winners Monday 12th and 19th January



Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend these. The dates of the 2025/6 class assemblies are:

5J: Friday 14 th November	<u>1W: Thursday 26th February</u>	3S: Friday 23 rd May
5S: Friday 21 st November		2G: Friday 5 th June
4R: Friday 28 th November	1M: Friday 6 th March	2H: Friday 19 st June
4N: Friday 5 th December	RD: Friday 13 th March	<u>1W: Thursday 25th June</u>
6H: Friday 9 th January	RS: Friday 20 th March	1M: Friday 3 rd July
6N: Friday 16 th January	5S: Friday 27 th March	Both Reception
3R: Friday 23 rd January	5J: Friday 17 th April	Classes:
3S: Friday 30 th January	4N: Friday 24 th April	Friday 10 th July
2G: Friday 6 th February	4R: Friday 1 st May	
2H: Friday 13 th February	3R: Friday 8 th May	
	3N: Friday 12 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.