

18 December 2015

Newsletter 8

Dear Parents/Carers,

This is the final newsletter before the holidays in what has proved to be a busy and eventful half term for us all.

Christmas Productions

Many thanks to our wonderful children for their excellent Christmas productions. Reception sang and danced their way through their 'Away in a Manger' extravaganza and KS1's production of 'Prickly Hay' proved to be a hugely entertaining nativity. All performances were very well attended by parents and relatives. Many thanks to our teachers and support staff for all their hard work too!

KS2 Christingle Services

A very well done to our pupils in years 3 – 6 who visited St Cuthbert's Church in Wrose this week to perform a superb collection of Christmas Carols and Nativity Readings. The school has developed some strong links with the church more recently and we would like to thank Reverend Colin Blake and Natalie for their help and support in making the services such a success. Thank you also to all of the parents who attended.

Christmas Parties

Reception class, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas parties this week with a special visit from Santa Claus, party games, food and presents for each class. Year 5 and 6 visited the Bradford Odeon to watch The Good Dinosaur last week as part of their Christmas festivities.

Secret Santa Appeal

Thank you to everyone who has supported our appeal to support children in our locality less fortunate than ourselves with an excellent response to our Secret Santa Appeal. Our Chair of Governors Phil Cavalier – Lumley who organised it as part of the Junior Chamber International would like us to pass on his thanks also.

PTFA Bauble Competition

Congratulations to: Macey Vento (y6), Max Sharp (y5), Joseph Greenalgh (y4), Lois Watson (y3), Pasha Armitage (y2), Eleanor Williams (y1) and Annabelle Matthews in Reception class who were the winners from each year group for their depiction of a winter scene in the recent PTFA competition. The winning entries will be on displayed on the school blog from today.

May we also extend our thanks to the PTFA for holding the Secret Santa Shop where the children were able to buy gifts for parents/grandparents. Their help in raising funds for school is always very much appreciated.

100% Attendance

Well done to the **125** pupils who so far have achieved 100% attendance at school since September. Each will receive a certificate in January.

Farewell Miss Wilkinson

A special assembly was held today to mark the departure of Miss Wilkinson after 10 years at Blakehill. Staff and pupils sang and 'rapped' their goodbyes in a truly 'Blakehill' fashion. Miss Wilkinson will be missed by us all and we would like to wish her all the very best of luck as she embarks on a new (less stressful) chapter of her career.

Winter Snow Advice

With winter fast approaching, the prospect of snow raises the question will school be closed?

The decision to close or open during challenging weather conditions is never taken lightly and it depends on the severity of the snowfall and the immediate forecast. Every effort to stay open is made and we will close school only on health and safety grounds if we do not have enough staff able to get into work. It remains at parents' discretion if they deem it safe to bring their children and we are sympathetic to parents if they bring them to school after registration. If we do decide to close school we will inform parents as soon as possible through the school website, ParentMail, Bradford Schools Online website and local radio.

School Blog

Many thanks to Mr. Lowe, Miss Lea and our school bloggers who continue to keep our website up to date with the numerous events that happen in school. The bloggers meet every Friday after school to update our blog and work hard to make sure information is shared.

Congratulations to our school's Golf Champions - George Grattan, Jaya Bhandal, Emily Williams, Amelia Shaw, Macey Nash, Subhan Rehman, Joe McCrory and Ben Noble who managed to scoop the winning trophy against schools in Bradford East 1 Partnership, many thanks to Mrs. Russell for taking the children to the tournament.

Key Stage 1 Science and Technology club

We are pleased to announce that after the Christmas holidays, Mrs. Rashid, will be running a Science and Technology club after school on a Wednesday with the help of other members of staff. The club is initially available to pupils in Years 1 and 2 and parents should have received a letter with further details. It will be a fantastic opportunity for some of our younger children to be involved in additional craft and Science activities.

Class Assemblies for Spring Term 2016

Parents are welcome to attend our class assemblies held on Fridays at 2.45pm

8 January: 4L 15 January: 4G 22 January: 6W 29 January: 6R 5 February: 1P
26 February: 1R 4 March: RD 11 March: RW

Special Mention in Achievement Assemblies

Class	7 and 14 December 2014
6W	Josh Midgley and Ethan Jones
6R	Adel Rahman and Rachel Greenwood
5S	Charlie Smith and Laaibah Khan
5H	Max Freeman and Sam Ledgard
4G	Daniel Thompson, Holly Higgins and Joe McCrory
4L	Anthony Flaherty and Hania Chowdhury
3L	Jack Radfelder, Kelsey Lancaster-Baxter and Neve Padgett
3G	Taylor Blackmore-Ryan and Adam Greenwood
2S	Ellie Sherriff and Jessica Moreland
2R	Holly Mae Cordingley and the whole class
1R	Mollie Vant and Alex Szabo
1P	Flo Hepton and Whole class
RW	Eeshar Kaur and Ava Juryta and whole class
RD	Harley Moreland, Sachleen Kaur and whole class

Class Attendance trophy winners 8 December: 3L and 5S with 99.3 %

Class Attendance trophy winners 15 December: RD with 98.7%

...and finally for 2015

Thank you to all our staff and many volunteers for all their hard work, dedication, and commitment to Blakehill. I would also like to mention how we all appreciate the support parents and carers have given us in all areas of school life. I would especially like to thank all the children for their hard work, excellent attitudes to learning and their friendly and caring nature throughout the year. We hope they all too enjoy a Happy Christmas!

Term ends on Friday 18 December at 3.15 p.m. and re-opens at 8.45 a.m. on Tuesday 5 January 2015

Merry Christmas!

T. Patterson
Headteacher

L. Keighley
Head of School