

**Blakehill Primary School**

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Executive Headteacher: Mr T Patterson

Head of School: Mrs L Keighley



16 September 2016

**Newsletter 1**

Dear Parents/Carers

**Welcome back!**

Hello and welcome back, particularly to those of you that are new to Blakehill. We hope you all had an enjoyable and well deserved break and are eagerly looking forward to starting another new and exciting academic year.

Our school newsletters are sent out to parents every two weeks to provide information of forthcoming events and keep you up to date with Blakehill 'news'. They are sent via letter / email every Friday and are also available on our school website.

**Staff news**

We welcome Miss Palframan (3P) and Miss Philip (2P) to Blakehill and we wish them every success in their first year at our school. We would also like to congratulate Miss Lea (4L) who is expecting her first baby in December.

**Reception**

Work in our Reception area was completed during the Summer to enhance the provision of outdoor play for our Reception Class children. In addition to an extended astro turfed and garden section, the children have a wonderfully landscaped forest area. Thank you to Mr. Hepton, Flo Hepton's dad (2P) for creating our forest garden and for giving our school planters a new lease of life.

**Alice in Wonderland**

On Thursday 15 September, pupils throughout school watched a production of Lewis Carroll's 'Alice in Wonderland.' The production was paid for by our PTFA and was a thoroughly enjoyable event. Thank you PTFA!

**Contact Telephone Numbers**

It is important that the school office have current and correct contact details of parents / carers, in particular mobile and telephone numbers which are especially vital when children are ill and contact needs to be made. Could you please ensure that our office staff are notified if you have changed address or telephone numbers.

**Picking Up Your Child at the End of the School Day**

If you change arrangements for picking up your child at the end of the school day, please ensure you inform school to avoid any confusion at home times.

**Polite Reminders**

Our school handbook states that jewellery, make up and nail varnish should not be worn in school by our children and those pupils with pierced ears are allowed to wear studs only. Watches can be worn and consideration is given to jewellery pertaining to religious and cultural beliefs.

For your child's safety, the school gates are locked at 9:00am and reopen at 3:00pm. Entrance to school can be accessed via the main entrance on Highfield Road.

**Mobile Phones**

Mobile phones are not encouraged to be brought to school by pupils. In exceptional circumstances there may be no alternative, but they **must be switched off** on entering the school grounds and then handed to the class support staff for safe keeping during the day. Pupils must not use them inside the school grounds.

**School Attendance 2015-2016**

Last year, pupil attendance was **95.4%** which is slightly below the **96%** national average. Thank you to parents for ensuring that their child's/ren's attendance is consistently good throughout the year. School is well aware that holidays are cheaper during term time however we do urge that children are not taken on holiday during these times as



attendance can affect a child's attainment and progress. All requests for holidays will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Attendance will be continued to be monitored throughout the school. Well done – keep up the hard work everyone!

### **Parking**

Can we politely remind parents about considerate parking during dropping off and collection times. Complaints from local residents with regards to parking across driveways and parents not adhering to road markings have been received by school. Parking is monitored regularly by the local PCSO Mr Turner Blood. Thank you

### **Year 6 Assessment Week: Monday 8th – Friday 12th May 2017.**

It is vital that children in Year 6 are not absent for this week. Please ensure that holidays are not taken during this time as they will not be permitted by school.

### **School Uniform**

The children have made a great start to the year and looked very smart in their new school uniforms. Thank you to everyone who continues to support us by adhering to our school uniform policy, this includes PE kit. What a child wears to school reflects his/her attitude to learning; it portrays our school's ethos and shared values. We have a very simple uniform that pupils are expected to wear.

**Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.**

### **Boys**

White/sky blue polo shirt, black trousers, navy blue sweatshirt with school logo

Black shoes –**not trainers**

Trainers can be worn only for break times and PE but black shoes/pumps must be worn in school

Dark socks

### **Girls**

White/sky blue polo shirt, black skirt/trousers/salwar kameez

Blue and white checked school dress

Navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo

Black shoes – **not trainers or high heels**

Boots can be worn for outside but shoes/pumps must be worn in school

Black/white socks or black tights

### **PE Kit**

#### **Boys and Girls**

Navy blue/black shorts or black leotard & White T Shirt

Trainers (outdoors)

Black PE pumps (indoors)

Plain Navy blue or black track suit for outdoor games

Pump bag

Please note outdoor PE starts in Year 1

### **Year 4 Swimming**

Swimming trunks/one-piece costume/footless leggings

Swimming cap if appropriate

Towel

Waterproof bag

Mr Lowe / Miss Lea will provide you with any further information should you require it.

### **Governors**

We have a Parent Governor vacancy available. If you are interested in working with a dedicated team who strive to help the school move forward, please express your interest to the school office by Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September. Thank you.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Chair of Governors, Mr Phil Cavalier-Lumley for working tirelessly during the Summer break to update and personalise our school website. The 'new look' is bespoke to Blakehill and the design features will allow staff easier access when updating curriculum zones with videos and pictures of the teaching and learning in school.

Staff will be adding additional information over the coming weeks so please ensure that you watch this space!



### Macmillan Coffee Morning

After the success of last year's Macmillan Coffee Morning which supports the Macmillan Cancer Trust, we are pleased to announce that school will be hosting a coffee morning at school on **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 9:00am – 10:30am**. With your help, last year we raised over £610.00. Please make a note in your diaries!

This year Nikki Williams, a dear parent, ex member of staff and friend of Blakehill, who was herself diagnosed with a brain tumour last year, will be organising the event with help from Mrs Pedley and other members of staff. The event is an ideal opportunity for parents to come together and raise money and awareness of a charity close to many of our lives. We are sure it will be a huge success and will be well supported. Any cakes, buns, donations for raffle and tombola or offers of help would be appreciated. Further details will be provided nearer the time.

### Upcoming events

PTFA Meeting on **Tuesday 20 September at 6:15pm** in the school staff room. All new members welcome.

Year 4 Nell Bank Meeting on **Tuesday 20 September at 6:00pm** in the school hall.

Year 5 Ingleborough Week **Monday 26 September – Friday 30 September**.

### Special Mention in Achievement Assemblies

Well done to the following children who achieved a certificate in Monday morning's assembly this week for their achievements during the first week back.

Class	12 September 2016
6S	Emily Dewhirst
6R	Patrick Rhodes
5R	Eva Brown
5H	Abbie Lennon
4Lo	Miley Skillicorn
4L	Hollie Williams
3R	Ellis Moore
3P	Finley Janney
2S	Harriet Hildreth
2P	Simone Spence-Ullah
1W	Jessica Firth
1P	Reece Everard

Class Attendance trophy winners 12 September: **1P** and **3R** with **99.6%**

Yours sincerely

T Patterson  
Headteacher

L Keighley  
Head of School



INVESTORS IN PUPILS

