

## Blakehill Primary School

Highfield Road, Idle, Bradford. BD10 8QN

Telephone: 01274 414355

Email: office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Keighley

### Happy New Year Blakehill.

I hope that you all enjoyed quality family time during the festive period, we are really glad to have everyone back in school. We are looking forward to a spring term full of exciting learning opportunities, to strengthening the partnerships we have with our stakeholders and welcome families that have recently joined us.

Here's to a bright, productive and Happy New Year for us all!



### Spring Term 2026

#### Oh No it Isn't!

It's panto season!! Our wonderful PTFA are funding a whole school pantomime on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January for all the children at Blakehill from the funds raised at our school Christmas Fair.

This year the panto is Cinderella.

It is just one of the great ways that the PTFA add those little extra bits of sparkle to the school term! Thank you PTFA!

#### Let us Play

Bradford Music and Arts service visited school this week to perform and introduce the children to a variety of instruments. If your child is interested in learning to play an instrument, please contact school.

Congratulations and thank you to Miss Stocks (music lead) who led a recent audit of music at Blakehill and helped the school achieve a Music Mark of Recognition for dedication and improvement in our school's provision.



#### Medication

We understand that from time to time contact details, medical information and dietary needs change. It is always a good idea to check with staff in the office to ensure your child's details are up to date. This is particularly important if your child is preparing to go on a visit, residential or is ill at school and we need to contact you.

Please also check expiry dates on medication. Thank you

#### Staff News

The start of the new term welcomes three new members of staff to our SEND Teaching Assistant team. Every class in school benefits from having a class-based Teaching Assistant in addition to their Class Teacher. To further support children with additional needs and/or children that may need extra support, we employ nine additional Teaching Assistants. At Blakehill we recognise that effective adult support (academic and pastoral) has a significant impact on the outcomes of children, particularly at primary school age. If we get it right here, we improve children's life chances as they move to secondary school and beyond. Welcome to Blakehill Miss McGrane, Miss Thomas and Miss Thompson.

#### Upcoming events/diary dates this term

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

Blakehill Brew Coffee Mornings  
Fridays 9:00am – 10:00am

Year 6 visit to Tropical World  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

Year 5 Visit to Magna  
Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January

Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop  
Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Dinosaurs visit Reception  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> January

Whole School Panto - Cinderella  
Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January

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

West Yorkshire Police visit Year 6  
Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Year 1 Visit to Idle Holy Trinity Church  
Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January

Cross Country Event at Woodhouse Grove  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January (am)

Year 6 Residential to Bewerley Park  
4<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> February

Year 4 Buckden Residential Parent Meeting  
Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February 4:30pm

PTFA Disco  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February  
Reception/KS1: 4:45pm-5:45pm  
KS2:6:00pm-7:00pm

School closes for half term  
Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February

School reopens  
Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

### You Said, We Did

Feedback from parent/carer questionnaires in November expressed frustrations using the new Juniper Communication App. We are pleased to announce that from January 2026, we will use ClassDojo as our online communication tool.

This will (fingers crossed) be easier for us all to manage and access so that we can once again share those positive messages about your child in school.

You wanted an annual overview and breakdown of costs for visits/visitors and residential to help you plan ahead. Our school admin team are currently working on this and will share with you once completed. **Your feedback matters!**



### Parent Engagement

Parents should receive a half term overview from their class teacher this week. This provides key information for parents/carers, an overview of your child's learning and shares school's expectations around learning behaviours, uniform etc. There is a copy of this in the 'classes' section of the school website for future reference.

This term there are a number of parent meetings scheduled:

Year 6 parents: End of key stage assessments (SATS) information evening: **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January at 3:30pm**

Year 4 parents: Year 5 Buckden Residential Meeting: **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February at 4:30pm**

Year 1 parents: Information on the Year 1 phonics screening check: **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 4:00pm**

### Reminder: School Uniform Expectations

What a child wears to school reflects his/her attitude to learning; it portrays the school's ethos and shared values. School staff are asked to regularly monitor for correct uniform. Thank you for supporting us with this

#### Reception and KS1

- White polo shirt
- Charcoal (dark grey) trousers / skirt / dress
- Charcoal (dark grey) shorts
- A blue and white checked dress may be worn in the summer months (optional)
- Navy blue jumper / cardigan with school logo (logo optional)
- **Black shoes**
- Black/white socks or tights
- *Trainers can be worn at break times. Shoes or pumps should be worn in school at all times*

#### KS2

- School tie
- White shirt/polo shirt
- Charcoal (dark grey) trousers / skirt / dress
- Charcoal (dark grey) shorts
- A blue and white checked dress may be worn in the summer months (optional)
- V-neck navy blue jumper / cardigan with school logo (logo optional)
- **Black shoes**
- Black/white socks or tights
- *Trainers can be worn at break times. Shoes or pumps should be worn in school at all times*

*Jewellery/nail varnish should not be worn to school*

**We have a large selection of preloved uniform items in school which we will gladly provide. Please ask at the school office.**

### Secret Santa Appeal

Thank you for your donations to school's Secret Santa Appeal 2025. We had some truly fabulous donations. Your gifts were distributed to disadvantaged children across the district during the festive season.



### PE Uniform

A navy-blue school jumper/hoodie (with or without school logo)

Black/navy blue jogging bottoms/leggings (plain)

Navy blue shorts (plain)

White T shirt (plain)

**Black pumps or black trainers**



### Extra- Curricular Opportunities

Personal development is a real strength of our school. Our offer of extra- curricular clubs and activities before, during and after school provides opportunities for all children to be engaged in something. There are 15 activities on offer this half term with the introduction of new clubs such as games console club, cooking club and K-pop Demon Hunters Dance group. I am eternally grateful to staff who deliver/help at these clubs to ensure our children get the very best out of school life.

## 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



Well done **JUPITER** who achieved the most house points last half term and celebrated with a non-uniform day on Friday.

### Celebrating Success

Thank you, parents and carers for helping your child attend school regularly. It really does make a difference to their academic, social, emotional, personal and mental wellbeing and success. You are fabulous! Take a look at our ranking compared to schools in the Bradford district for Autumn Term!

Attendance measure	Percentage	Ranking
Overall attendance	97.0%	You are ranked 5th out of 157 schools
Overall absence	3.0%	You are ranked 5th out of 157 schools
Authorised absence	1.9%	You are ranked 6th out of 157 schools
Unauthorised absence	1.1%	You are ranked 39th out of 157 schools
Persistently absent	5.2%	You are ranked 6th out of 157 schools
Severely absent	0.0%	You are ranked 1st out of 157 schools

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

### Attendance Matters



100% attendance  
prize draw winners



### Celebration Assembly Awards 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

