

Blakehill Primary School

Highfield Road, Idle, Bradford. BD10 8QN

Telephone: 01274 414355

Email: office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Keighley



Spring Term 2026

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!

Oh No it Isn't!

It's panto season!! Our wonderful PTFA are funding a whole school pantomime on Thursday 22nd 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 13th January

Year 5 Visit to Magna
Tuesday 13th January

Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop
Thursday 15th January

Dinosaurs visit Reception
Tuesday 20th January

Whole School Panto - Cinderella
Thursday 22nd January

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

West Yorkshire Police visit Year 6
Tuesday 27th January

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

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

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

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

PTFA Disco
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

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 residentials 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 22nd January at 3:30pm**

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

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

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.

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.



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.

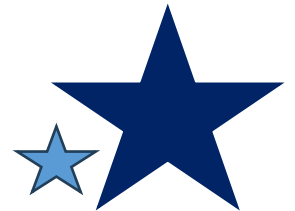
Celebrating Success

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	Ranking①
Overall attendance	97.0%	You are ranked 5 th out of 157 schools
Overall absence	3.0%	You are ranked 5 th out of 157 schools
Authorised absence	1.9%	You are ranked 6 th out of 157 schools
Unauthorised absence	1.1%	You are ranked 39 th out of 157 schools
Persistently absent	5.2%	You are ranked 6 th out of 157 schools
Severely absent	0.0%	You are ranked 1 st out of 157 schools

Attendance Matters

100% attendance
prize draw winners



Celebration Assembly Awards 5th January 2026



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	
6N: Friday 16 th January	5S: Friday 27 th March	1M: Friday 3 rd July
3R: Friday 23 rd January	5J: Friday 17 th April	Both Reception 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	
	3G: 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.