

Blakehill Primary School

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Spring Term 2024

World Book Day

What a fabulous effort everyone made yesterday, dressing up for World Book Day. The corridors and classrooms were filled with characters from our favourite books and we were amazed at the creative costumes representing adjectives. Well done children and thank you parents/carers. Another memorable school day!



Teams Build Dreams

During the Easter break, Pentagon Play will be on site renovating the KS2 playground. This exciting and extensive schedule of works will include:

- An outdoor classroom
- Gazebo and garden area
- Kielder forest circuit
- A sports' pitch
- Seating and performance area
- Artificial grassed zones

We are hoping that these new areas will increase pupil physical activity, promote pupil engagement and interaction and most importantly, make break and lunchtimes enjoyable for everyone.

Works to the canopy area will take place later this year.

Together We Can and Will Blakehill!

Upcoming events/diary dates this term

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

Positive Start daily
8:30am - 8:45am

Nell Bank Meeting for Year 3 parents
Monday 11th March at 4:45pm

Flat Stan Whole School First Aid
Monday 11th March

Year 2 Harlow Carr visit
Tuesday 12th March

Under U11s Football Tournament in Accrington
Thursday 14th March

Mid-term report to parents
Friday 15th March

Blakehill Brew Coffee mornings
Every Friday 9:00am - 10:00am

Year 6 visit Tropical World
Monday 18th March

Year 5 Rewind to Easter
Tuesday 19th March

Spring term parent/teacher consultation meetings
Tuesday 19th March 3:45pm – 7:00pm
Wednesday 20th March 3:45pm – 7:00pm

Reception class vision tests
Wednesday 20th March

Rock Steady Concert
Thursday 14th March

Break for Easter
Friday 22nd March

School reopens
Monday 8th April

Parent SEND Forum Focus on Sleep
Friday 19th April



Year 6 SATs

Our Year 6 pupils are studying hard in preparation for their end of KS2 SATs which take place week commencing **Monday 13th May**. All pupils deserve the very best start to their secondary school education and this final phase of hard work and revision will ensure that they all achieve and succeed. Next week is mock assessment week and parents will receive information in preparation for this. Additional homework and end of term home learning tasks are available via your child's class teacher. Keep going Year 6 – we are all very proud of you!

Preparing for our Future

Mission focused, staff received training on implementing the Commando Joe Character Curriculum this week. This whole school initiative supports the school's ambition to enhance pupils' social and emotional learning, providing children with the skills and knowledge that underpin personal and academic development. Mrs. Shaw and Mr. Lumb have been working with groups of children during the last few weeks, using Commando Joe missions to help pupils develop self-regulation, self-awareness and relationship skills.

Practice makes Perfect.

30 new iPads have been purchased to further support the learning of pupils across school. Children in year 4 will have access to these daily to help them practice the rapid recall of their multiplication tables. Of the twenty-one pupils that have been tested each Friday by Mrs. Keighley, all twenty-one achieved top marks and earned their times tables champion badge. Great effort!



Celebrating 25 Years

Mrs. Marsden and Mrs. Bedell, attended a special ceremony at City Hall last week to celebrate their 25 years' service to education. Mrs. Marsden and Mrs. Bedell have been teaching assistants at Blakehill since 2000 and have worked in various roles and year groups during this time. We are so proud of them both.

The Blakehill Brew

Thank you to parents that were able to join us today for our first ever Blakehill Brew. Parents/carers participated in discussions about our school vision and why we do what we do at Blakehill Primary School. We even had time to visit classes. Our next meeting is **Friday 15th March**. Come and meet our prefects and playtime buddies!

Reaching for the Stars

We are incredibly proud of the extensive range of extra-curricular provision offered at Blakehill Primary School. After the Easter holidays, pupils in Years 5 and 6 have the opportunity to join a Science Explorers Club. There are only 12 places available so if your child is interested, please contact the school office.

Our young 'Sing' group meet every Thursday after school and are enjoying performing together. We are hoping to perform at local venues in the near future. We still have places available so if your child has a flair, an interest or a desire for music, please get involved!

See Mr. Lumb or ask at the school office for more details.

Easter Egg Appeal

We are incredibly grateful for the donations of Easter eggs to our annual JCI Easter Egg Appeal. Collection will be Friday 15th March. Thank you.



Telegraph and Argus Education Awards

We are really excited to announce that two members of Blakehill staff and a pupil in Year 6 have been selected as finalists in this year's T & A Education Awards. Blakehill won **School of the Year** at the awards back in 2022 so we are delighted to be once again representing our school in 2024. Well done to Manraj Bagri (6P) and Miss Dickinson in Reception for getting to the final. Our second adult finalist has to be kept top secret at the moment! We have everything crossed for you all!

The Best Days of our Lives

We look at enriching learning experiences every day, providing our children with a curriculum that is broad, rich, engaging and meaningful. Take a peek at some of our learning so far...



More World Book Day Fun!



Year 3D mission ready and in action during a Commando Joe activity this week.

The Royal Navy working with Year 5 pupils



It's all about exploration in Reception class. We welcomed some stick insects and an incubator this week. Now it's just a waiting game...

Congratulations to our 100% attendance draw winners



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

During our Monday morning celebration assembly, the house with the greatest number of house points achieved the previous week is announced.

Well done to **KINGFISHER** who were our house winners this week.

2G and 3D are the top attending classes this week

Attendance - making every day count!

Class assemblies are held every Friday at 2:45pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend. Please ensure that you are on time to avoid disruption to the assembly. The dates and time of these are:

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1W: Friday 23 rd February | 2G: Friday 14 th June |
| 1M: Friday 1 st March | 2H: Friday 21 st June |
| RD: Friday 8 th March | 1W: Friday 28 th June |
| RS: Friday 15 th March | 1M: Friday 5 th July |
| 5GH: Friday 12 th April | Both Reception |
| RW: Friday 19 th April | Classes: |
| 4SJ: Friday 26 th April | Friday 12 th July |
| 4So: Friday 3 rd May | |
| 3S: Friday 10 th May | |
| 3D: Friday 7 th June | |

Please Note: For safeguarding purposes, we request that photos and videos are used for personal use only and not shared on social media unless permission from the parents concerned has been given. Thank you.

Celebration Award winners on Monday 26th February and 4th March.

