

Blakehill Primary School

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Spring Term 2024

Happy New Year Blakehill.

I hope that you all enjoyed quality family time during the festive period. We are looking forward to a spring term full of exciting learning opportunities and to strengthening the partnerships we have with our stakeholders. It's been a busy couple of weeks already with traces of dinosaurs in Reception class and the Mayans making an appearance in Year 6. The forecast continues to be bright with lots of new and interesting learning and activities for our children to be involved.

Young Voices 2024

After months of practise, children in KS2 were given the opportunity to be part of the Young Voices event in Sheffield. On Monday this week, Blakehill joined 5000 children from across Yorkshire to perform songs from across the decade and from different cultures to parents and families. It is an amazing event and one that we are very proud to be part of. Thank you and well done to everyone that participated and supported us.



Oh No it's Not!

It's panto season!! Our wonderful PTFA are funding a whole school pantomime on Thursday 25th January. This is for all of the children at Blakehill, paid for from the funds raised at our school Christmas Fair.

This year the panto is Snow White.

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!



Upcoming events/ diary dates this term

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

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

Dinosaurs visit Reception
Tuesday 16th January

Year 6 Bushcraft Residential meeting for parents
Wednesday 17th January: 5:00pm

U11 Football Finals Day
Thursday 18th January

School Council visit to City Hall
Monday 22nd January

Whole School Pantomime- Snow White
Thursday 25th January

Year 1 Holy Trinity Visit
Thursday 25th January

NSPCC in school
Wk. commencing Monday 29th January

Year 3 Nell Bank Parent Information Meeting
Tuesday 30th January

Tag Rugby Competition
British Dodgeball Competition
Friday 2nd February

Year 3 Stone Age Workshop
Thursday 8th February

Break the Rules Day (no fine)
Friday 9th February

School closes
Friday 9th February

School reopens
Monday 19th February

World Number Day

Friday 2nd February is World Number Day. Come to school in clothing with shapes and or numbers on. The whole school will be involved in maths challenges throughout the day. There is no donation for this.



Parent and Child Group

Do you currently run a parent and child/mother and toddler group locally or have an interest in helping school establish one? Then we would like to speak with you. Please contact Mr. Lumb via the school office for more information.

Early Birds and Night Owls

Early Birds and Night Owls is Blakehill Primary School's wraparound childcare and is solely for children that attend Blakehill. The provision is on site and is managed by Sarah Jacobs who is a member of the school staff. All policies, procedures and systems are mirrored across school and our childcare provision.

Provision is highly regarded by the parents and children at Blakehill.

Please see our school website, contact the school office or Sarah Jacobs if you require further information of how to book a place/session at Early Birds and Night Owls.



Parent Meetings

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend our parent Esafety meeting in school today. Please see the school Facebook page in addition to emails about future opportunities to come together.



Bringing Assemblies to Life

It is always a pleasure to welcome John Froud and Natalie from the Zephaniah Trust to Blakehill. Their music, song and enthusiasm are infectious and a great way to start the day. We look forward to seeing you both again soon.



The Plumber Drummer was back at Blakehill again last week demonstrating that all you need is initiative and a love of music to be a successful musician. What a way to make a living!

Severe Weather

In the event of severe weather, e.g. snow, school will endeavour to keep everyone informed of potential delayed openings, early closures, full school closures and safety notifications via the eSchools App, email or text as soon as possible. Information will also be shared via the school Facebook page and Bradford Schools Online website.

Striving for Excellence

Well done to Mrs. Shaw who was appointed as Parental Involvement and Pastoral Worker last week. She joins Mrs. Bottomley, Learning Mentor and Mr. Lumb, Sports and Personal Development Officer, in further enhancing the pastoral team at Blakehill. This team focus on enrichment opportunities, parental engagement and supporting pupils' social and emotional learning. In addition to developing the school's character curriculum – Commando Joes, the team are also looking to broaden our involvement in the community with a particular focus on our children and their families. Watch this space!

Ladies Wrestling/Fitness Class

We are delighted to offer a ladies only Wrestling class every Wednesday evening in school from 6:00pm -7:00pm starting Wednesday 17th January, in an attempt to broaden the school’s offer as a community hub. It will be a great way of having fun, meeting new friends and improving physical and mental health.

Access to the school hall via the school car park. We look forward to seeing you.



Under 11s Football

Another fabulous win for our U11 boys football team this week. These boys continue to go from strength to strength; demonstrating great skill and a competitive spirit. They are the talk of the town!



Cross Country

This week Blakehill cross country enthusiasts joined hundreds of children from across the district in the Bradford Schools Cross Country event at Peel Park. Despite the unpleasant running conditions and plummeting temperatures, our children did us proud as always with many of those in the top 5%-10% of runners!

Fantastic effort children – we are proud of you. Thank you also to Blakehill staff for attending and supporting the children.



Dinosaur Days

Reception children have been busy preparing for the arrival of baby dinosaurs who will visit school next week.

Provision has been jam packed full of prehistoric activities for the children to explore.



Yorkshire Mining Museum

Year 5 pupils enjoyed a great day at the Yorkshire Mining Museum this week.

Taking a trip back in time, pupils found out about industry and life in Britain in years gone by.

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 **KESTREL** who were our house winners last half term and celebrate with a non-uniform day today!

Attendance - making every day count!

Whole school attendance for last week was 95.2%.

National expectation is: 96%

Supporting Families with Attendance

Mrs Bottomley and Mrs Gould are Blakehill's named personnel for attendance. For any support, queries or concerns relating to your child's attendance, please contact one of these members of staff who are happy to help you.

Class assemblies are on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Parents and carers are welcome to attend these. The dates of the 2023-24 class assemblies are:

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5GH: Friday 10 November | 1W: Friday 23 rd February | 2G: Friday 14 th June |
| 5J: Friday 17 th November | 1M: Friday 1 st March | 2H: Friday 21 st June |
| 4SJ: Friday 24 th November | RD: Friday 8 th March | 1W: Friday 28 th June |
| 4So: Friday 1 st December | RS: Friday 15 th March | 1M: Friday 5 th July |
| 6P: Friday 5 th January | 5GH: Friday 12 th April | Both Reception Classes: |
| 6N: Friday 12 th January | RW: Friday 19 th April | Friday 12 th July |
| 3S: Friday 19 th January | 4SJ: Friday 26 th April | |
| 3D: Friday 26 th January | 4So: Friday 3 rd May | |
| 2G: Friday 2 nd February | 3S: Friday 10 th May | |
| 2H: Friday 9 th February | 3D: Friday 7 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.

100% attendance winners!



4So and 2G were the top attending classes last week. A £5 voucher for you!

Celebration Award winners on Monday 8th January. Well done children we are very proud of you.

