

Blakehill Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs L Keighley



**Autumn Term 2023**

Our very youngest children have settled well and are adapting to the routines of school life. It is lovely to see so many siblings of older children in school and children of ex pupils at Blakehill. We wish all of our new children and their families a warm welcome and we look forward to working with you.

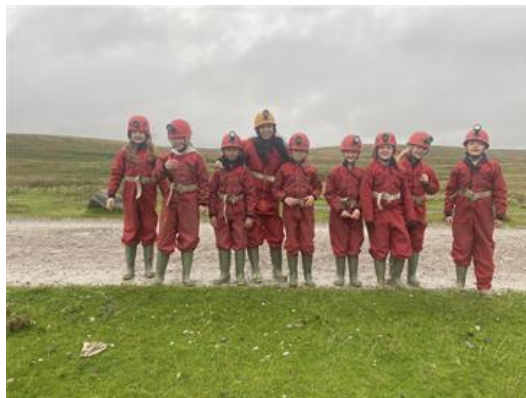


Welcome Back Year 5

What a fabulous week our year 5 pupils have had on their 5-day residential to Ingleborough in the Yorkshire Dales. The children enjoyed activities such as: caving, gorge scrambling, hiking, tree climbing, folk dancing and much more - some great memories made! It was a pleasure to be able to spend a couple of nights there with them and share in their experiences.

I would like to thank staff: Mrs Hall, Mrs Javed, Mrs Johnston, Mrs Hudson, Mr Poole, Mr Lumb, Mrs Ross, and Mrs Robinson for dedicating time away from their own families to ensure that our children are able to have this valuable experience and make lifelong memories. Their commitment and enthusiasm are very much appreciated.

The children enjoyed a fun filled week of activities. We expect them to be exhausted tonight! Please check our school Facebook page for more photographs of the children in action.



Upcoming events/ diary dates this term

Year 4 residential to Nell Bank:  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> - Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

Individual pupil photographs:  
**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> October**

Year 2 visit to Saltaire:  
**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October**

AWARE SEND Parent Workshop:  
**Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October**  
**9:15am - 10:45am**

Year 1 visit to Industrial Museum:  
(washday workshop)  
**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

Year 3 and 4 parent meeting -  
supporting your child's learning:  
**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October 4:45pm**

Year 5 and 6 parent meeting -  
supporting your child's learning:  
**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October 4:45pm**

Year 1 and 2 parent meeting -  
supporting your child's learning:  
**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 4:45pm**

Year 6 visit to Blackpool Pleasure  
Beach: **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

Break the Rules Day:  
**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

School Closes: **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October.**

School Reopens: **Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

ADVANCE NOTICE  
SEND Parent workshop - SEMH/  
Communication and Interaction  
**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November**

Bradford Food Bank

This year, as in previous years, Blakehill will be supporting the Bradford Metropolitan Food Bank, a local, volunteer organisation that works tirelessly to provide food supplies for impoverished families within our community. A special assembly next Friday will highlight the plight of some of these families/individuals.

A letter from Mrs Gould, who co-ordinates this appeal will follow shortly to advise you on how you can help to support the appeal if you wish to do so.



Mrs Gould with her Inspirational Professional award. She was nominated by Great Minds Together for her work with children and young people. Congratulations!!

The Changing Face of School Council

We are delighted to introduce our new school council. Members of each class from Year 1 - Year 6, nominated by their peers, meet every two weeks to discuss ideas to support further school improvement. They keep us very busy!

Thank you Mrs Gould for co-ordinating our school council and for supporting them with their ongoing campaigns.

Our school Council 2023/24 pictured here with school governor and local councillor, Mr Ian Parsons.



Hot Chocolate Friday

It was also great to see the return of Hot Chocolate Friday. This Friday afternoon treat is for children who ALWAYS demonstrate positive learning behaviours, attitudes and conduct.

It's Mrs Keighley's favourite way to end the school week.



Lunch menu

A copy of this can be found on our school website and is updated each half term. School council select the menu from a choice of options.

PTFA Events

We are always looking for new members who are enthusiastic about helping us raise funds for the 'sparkly' bits of school. For example, last year, the PTFA bought: Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies, 15 IPADs, A whole school pantomime – Aladdin, Playground benches and seating areas.

The Summer Fair event raised £3,476.32!

PTFA members met last week to discuss fundraising events for this year. Here are a few dates for your diary:

School neon themed disco: **Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

Christmas Fair: **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November from 4:30pm-6:00pm**

Secret Santa Stall: **Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

School disco: **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February**

**Next meeting: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 6:00pm**

PLEASE HELP: All enquiries should be directed to:

[coleen.kellyblakehillptfa@gmail.com](mailto:coleen.kellyblakehillptfa@gmail.com)

Parking

Please park considerately when dropping off/collecting your child from school. We have received a concern from a resident of Highfield Road who was almost reversed into this week. Thank you

Early notification - Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 3.45pm -7.00pm**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 3.45pm -7.00pm**

It is that time of year again where parents are given the opportunity to meet and speak with their child's class teacher at our Parent/Teacher Consultation Evenings.

Ten-minute slots are available for parents to discuss their child's progress, attainment, effort and behaviour.

**You will be able to book an appointment for this from Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October via eSchools. Please contact the school office should you require help with accessing this.**

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all of the children, parents, grandparents and friends of Blakehill who donated cakes/buns or who attended our Coffee Morning in support of Macmillan Cancer Trust this morning.

We even had enough buns/cakes left to ensure ALL pupils were able to have something...much to their delight!



Thank you!

Lost Property

We are noticing an increasing number of items being left behind at the end of the day; after PE, in the playgrounds and even in the lunch hall. In school we teach children to take responsibility for their own belongings, e.g., putting lunchboxes on trollies, hanging coats on pegs and putting uniforms on their chair when changing for PE, to increase their independence, particularly pupils in KS2.

We advise against bringing unnecessary or valuable items into school as these only add to the burden of things children have to remember to take home/find.



Positive playtimes - improving social and emotional wellbeing

It is great to see the children having so much fun and enjoying lunch and break times. The addition of new play equipment, the range and organisation of activities provided and an increase in adult participation including; lunchtime supervisors, teaching assistants, Mr Lumb, Mr Brigg, Mrs Bottomley and the occasional energetic teacher means that we are all involved in promoting positive interaction during these less structured times of the school day - and it is paying off.



Year 4 Residential

Children in Year 4 will visit Nell Bank Outdoor Learning Centre in Ilkley between **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October and Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October** as part of their science learning. Parents should have received kit lists and other relevant information. Please see your child's class teacher/contact the school office should you require further details.

Be an Athlete for a Day - Whole School Sponsored Event

On **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October**, Sean Gaffney, gold medallist at the Invictus Games and owner of 13 national titles as a Para power lifter and indoor rower, will visit school to encourage Blakehill children to participate in a whole school sporting sponsored event.

Details will be provided after an assembly hosted by Mr Lumb on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October**.

Look out for posters around school/ information on our Facebook page.

**GB INVICTUS COMPETITOR**  
**SEAN GAFFNEY**  
is visiting this school

**Meet someone who's made it!** Father: World Championship New Zealander

**What's your medal?** He paid trials, he better remember.

**Be the first!** It's never his late.

**Greater height!** You more likely to cheer from.

**What are you most grateful for?** Having a chance to prove myself.

**Who would you like to meet?** My team, brother of the NHS.

**Some of Sean's achievements include:**

- 2 Gold Medals, a Silver and a Bronze at the Invictus Games
- 2 World Championship Gold Medals, a Silver and a Bronze
- Held 13 national titles as a Para powerlifter and indoor rower
- 30 World records in indoor rowing and skiing
- Para powerlifter in the Commonwealth Games

**on the 18<sup>th</sup> October**

2.5 million kids inspired  
**SPORTS FOR SCHOOLS**  
AN OFFICIAL ROYAL MAIL PARTNER

We are delighted with the gorgeous new artwork decorating our KS2 corridor. Clara Hall, A level student from Immanuel (and daughter of Mrs Hall) visited school in the summer to work with some of our pupils. Together, they created this gallery inspired by famous Bradford landscapes. They certainly demonstrate how talented our pupils are.



School Meals Price Increase

From Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October, the price of a school lunch increases from £2.10 to the new price of £2.20. Our supplier, FM Catering have informed schools that a further increase is likely in April 2024 in order to keep up with the rate of inflation.



# 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

## Attendance - making every day count!

RS and 2G top attending class of the week!

### Making every day count!

100% attendance at school is extremely important in helping all pupils achieve their full academic potential. We recognise that good attendance and punctuality are crucial to raising standards and pupil attainment. Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning.

During our weekly celebration assembly, the highest attending class of the week receives a £5 voucher to spend or save. All children that have 100% attendance that week are entered for a weekly prize draw.

### Class Assemblies

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:

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

### 100% attendance prize draw winners.



### Celebration Assembly award winners Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September and Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

