

Blakehill Primary School

Highfield Road, Idle, Bradford. BD10 8QN

Telephone: 01274 414355

Email: office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs L Keighley



Autumn Term 2025

Parent/Teacher Consultation Meetings

It was lovely to see so many parents at the Parent/Teacher Consultation meetings this week. Thank you also for your feedback from the parent survey. I have shared the outcome of these in this newsletter. As a school that strives for the best possible provision for the children at Blakehill Primary, we are always looking for ways to improve. Your feedback helps us to do this.

PTFA Christmas Fair

We are really looking forward to seeing you all at this year's Christmas Fair on **Monday 1st December 4:30pm - 6:00pm**. There really is something for everyone! Thank you for all of your donations and support once again. Huge thanks to our PTFA and staff who go above and beyond to make events like this happen to benefit our school community.

Secret Santa Appeal

Governor, Phil Cavalier-Lumley, launched this year's Secret Santa Appeal during an assembly this week. The Appeal aims to provide gifts for disadvantaged children across the district.

Gift tags are available from the school office with the age and gender of children should you be in a position to help.

Any gift is gratefully received and does not need to be wrapped.

Children in Need A grand total of £287.50 was raised during our Children in Need Day last week. Well done and thank you Blakehill!

Upcoming events/
diary dates this
term

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

PTFA Christmas Fair
**Monday 1st December
4:30pm – 6:00pm**

Santa's Grotto in the
Hall (present for every
child)
Thursday 4th December

**School Closes Friday
19th December 2025**
School re-opens
**Monday 5th January
2026**

Please find below the calendar of Christmas events.

Event	When
PTFA Christmas Fair	Monday 1st December 4:30pm
EYFS Nativity Productions	Wednesday 10th December 2:00pm Thursday 11th December 10:00am
Year 2 Productions	Wednesday 10th December 10:00am Thursday 11th December 2:00pm
Year 1 Craft and Carols	Friday 12th December (families welcome)
Year 3 and 4 Christingle	Friday 12th December 10:00am at St Cuthbert's Church, Wrose. Families welcome
Year 5 and 6 Cinema	Monday 15th December (am)
Year 1 Christmas Party	Year 1 - Monday 15th December (pm)
Year 2 Christmas Party	Year 2 - Tuesday 16th December (pm)
Year 3 and 4 Cinema Visit	Tuesday 16th December (am)
Year 5 and 6 Christingle	Tuesday 16th December 10:00am at St Cuthbert's Church, Wrose. Families welcome
PTFA Christmas Gift stall	Wednesday 17th December in school
Christmas Dinner Day/Christmas jumpers	Wednesday 17th December
Reception Class Christmas Party	Reception - Thursday 18th December (pm)
Carols around the Tree	Friday 19th December
School closes/reopens	Friday 19th December – Monday 5th January 2026

Our School Governors do an amazing job in making sure that Blakehill continues to strive for excellence. They play a pivotal part in school development and are truly valued by staff and leaders. It was great to welcome Governors into school for the day on Monday 17th November. Governors visited classes and discussed some of the school's key priorities for 2025/26.

A special mention to Phil Cavalier-Lumley who after being our Chair of Governors for the last 13 years, decided to step down as Chair in October. Phil will continue to be a member of the Governing Board at Blakehill, continuing his 17 years of service; providing expertise and experience to Governors and school leaders.

Mrs Hayley Dyson was elected at our new Chair of Governors; ably supported by all existing Blakehill Governors and school leaders.

Pictured below Blakehill Primary School Governors including Hayley Dyson, Phil Cavalier-Lumley, Ian Parsons, Emmeline Chellam, Ed Pepper, Esther Hutton, Lynroy Powell, Kendal Power and Summaya Desai.



Staff News

After 39 years in education and 15 years at Blakehill Primary School, Mrs Scott will be retiring at the end of this term. During her time at Blakehill, Mrs Scott's commitment, dedication, and warmth have been unwavering. She has touched and influenced the lives of countless children and their families, and in her role as Assistant Headteacher, she has played a pivotal part in the ongoing development of our school. She has been a tremendous support to her colleagues—myself included—and a true champion of Blakehill and everyone in it. We will all be incredibly sad to see her go.

On behalf of the staff, governors, pupils, and our whole school community, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to Mrs Scott and to wish her every happiness as she begins the next chapter of her life. Good luck Mrs Scott!

Congratulations to Mrs Grattan who will be the new class teacher for 3S from January 2026.



Proud to be Blakehill

An independent review of the provision at Blakehill was completed last month by two HMI (Her Majesty's Inspectorate) Inspectors under the new OFSTED framework. This was commissioned by school leaders and provides additional validation of the work that we do to promote excellence and enjoyment for all of our children. We are very proud of the outcome which demonstrates that leaders have an accurate view of school's strengths and the driving force which underpins ongoing developments.

"There is much clear evidence that pupils' personal development and wellbeing are strong features of the school's work. The school provides an extensive range of extra-curricular activities and clubs. The school's commitment to ensure equality, is demonstrated through the additional funding provided so that all pupils, regardless of need, have access to these activities. Take up is high and carefully monitored by senior leaders."

"Early years provision has been transformed and is a strong aspect of the school's work. There is a sharp focus on helping children develop a strong foundation in early reading, early writing, and early maths skills."

"Blakehill Primary School promotes inclusion well and effectively provides for the wide range of pupils' needs and interests."

"Pupils achieve well at Blakehill. The school is getting it right in establishing strong foundations."

"Leaders are ambitious that each pupil achieves their full potential. They have a clear vision for excellence and ensure that staff are well trained to provide a good quality of education."

Thank you to all pupils, staff and parents who contributed to this great outcome for Blakehill!

Thank you for your feedback during the recent parent survey. The outcomes below indicate the responses of the 238 questionnaires returned. We received some wonderful comments and suggestions of how you think we could improve even further. I will update you with plans for further development based on feedback in a future newsletter, particularly in response to multiple concerns raised about the school's new Juniper Communication App. Thank you.

Prompt	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
I believe that my child is happy at school	99%	1%	
I believe my child is safe at school	99%	1%	
I believe my child makes good progress at Blakehill	98%	2%	
I receive valuable information about my child's progress at Blakehill	93%	5%	2%
My child is well looked after at Blakehill	99%	1%	
My child is well taught at Blakehill	100%	%	
Blakehill is well led and managed	99%	1%	
Blakehill makes sure that its pupils are well behaved	92%	5%	3%
Blakehill responds well to any concerns I have raised	95%	1%	4%
I would recommend Blakehill to another parent	99%	1%	
My child receives homework	Too much 3%	Just right 91%	None/too little 6%

"I am impressed with how well my child has settled at Blakehill. I am very happy with the level of support my child has received from his teacher and Early Birds/ Night Owls."

"Blakehill is a great school. My child has come on leaps and bounds here!"

"Very happy with the school although the communication app is not working."

"We appreciate all the extra effort you all make to make Blakehill such an amazing school for the children and their parents."

"We are happy with our son's progress at Blakehill and how caring the teachers, leader and staff are."

"Thank you for Blakehill's hard work, every day staff go above and beyond."

"I could not ask for a better school"

"Blakehill is a brilliant school. I always recommend it to others."

"More information on the app please. This would give me an insight into my child's learning."

"We're pleased with how the difficult situation with another child from nursery is being dealt with. Thank you for managing this so carefully."

"My child loves this school. We feel that he is well looked after. He has great teachers who care and have lots of fun. A great school!"

"Would appreciate a heads-up regarding costs of trips – an annual forecast for the year ahead."

"Thank you for all the hard work you put in to give my children the best possible start. You are doing a great job."

"Super happy with all aspects of Blakehill. SLT accessible. Great extra-curricular opportunities."

"Absolutely fantastic school!"



Together We Can



Blakehill Enrichment Opportunities - making learning meaningful.

Please also see your child's class pages on the school website and our school Facebook page.



It is always great to welcome old friends and new friends of Blakehill. Last week Rev. Colin Blake and Natalie popped by to deliver a whole school assembly.



"Taking a trip down memory lane. Year 3 visit the Industrial Museum to enhance their learning about the Industrial Revolution and the Wool Manufacture in Bradford."

After School Life Skills Club helps our children develop skills beyond the classroom with a shopping visit to Morrisons with a follow up master baking class.



Oh, life is such a breeze for the children that are part of school's Forest Schools. Outdoor learning at its best!



What must life have been like for an evacuee during WW2? Children in Year 4 recreated this period of time this week. Bringing learning to life!



Our U11 girls' football team on their recent road to Wembley journey.



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 **JUPITER** who were our house winners this week.

Attendance - making every day count!

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.

100% Attendance Draw Winners



3S- top
attending
class of the
week!

Celebration Award winners on **Monday 17th and 24th November**. Well done children we are very proud of you.

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

