

Blakehill Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs L Keighley



Autumn Term
2021

On behalf of staff and governors, we would like to wish you all a warm welcome back, especially to our newest children in Reception class and their families. It is lovely to have you all back in school.

Our school newsletters are sent to parents every two weeks to provide information of forthcoming events and keep you up to date with Blakehill 'news'. They are sent via letter / email every second Friday and are also available on our website.

Contact Telephone Numbers

Could you please ensure that our office staff are notified if you have changed address, email or telephone number. Having the correct contact details of parents / carers, (e.g. current mobile and telephone numbers) are vital when children are ill and immediate contact needs to be made.

Dear parents and carers,

I am delighted to welcome you all back to school - it is wonderful to see how well the children of Blakehill have settled back into the routines of school life. I thoroughly enjoyed showing the parents of children new to our Reception class around school last week - I am sure that they were as impressed as I was to see great attitudes and behaviours for learning displayed by all children.

I am also pleased that as restrictions have lifted nationally, we have been able to regain some normality with the return of shared activities such as assemblies and lunchtimes. I cannot tell you how much we have all enjoyed socialising with one another again - positive social interaction has a massive impact on all of our well-being, particularly the well-being of children.

I would like to express my thanks to you for bearing with us whilst the new drop off and collection times were refined. Hopefully, parents with more than one child at Blakehill are able complete the school run in one simple journey without any of their children missing valuable learning time.

Finally, I would like to wish you a happy and peaceful start to the new academic year. I look forward to working together again this year, to help your child thrive.

Best wishes, Mrs Keighley

Medication

All medication, including inhalers were returned home wherever possible at the end of term in July. If your child requires medication in school could you please make sure that this is handed in to staff in the school office. Parents need also check expiry dates on prescribed medication. Thank you!

Before and After School Childcare

A reminder that Blakehill Early Birds and Night Owls provides wraparound childcare daily during term time. This on site provision, managed by school staff delivers high quality before and after school care. Single or multiple sessions can be booked by logging in to your ParentPay account. Staff in the school office can help you with this.

For more information, please see our school website.

Autumn Term Residentials

We are delighted to announce that educational visits and residentials resume from September this year. Teachers are busily organising visits and visitors to school and a list of events/dates for your diary will be provided in my next newsletter, once details are finalised.

Pupils in Year 5 will be visiting Ingleborough for their 5-day residential week commencing **Monday 27th September, returning to school on Friday 1st October.**

Pupils in year 4 will visit Nell Bank from **Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th October.**

Parents with pupils in these year groups will receive additional information shortly.

Year 6 Secondary School Applications

It is that time of year again when our Year 6 parents receive information about applying for a place at secondary school for their child. If parents have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the Year 6 teaching team who will be able to help you.

Safeguarding

Could parents please notify school if the usual arrangements for collecting your child at the end of the school day changes. In the interest of your child's safety, staff particularly in KS1 will not allow a child to go with an unknown adult unless notification has been received.

School Uniform

The children look really smart in their school uniforms, particularly those pupils in KS2 who are now wearing a school tie. So far, (touch wood) these seem to have caused very little distraction! We have received so many complimentary comments from staff and parents about the appearance of our pupils in school. We have many items of preloved uniform in school. These have been donated by parents and are free of charge should you require any. Please contact the school office if you require any items of uniform

Each class has PE twice a week: one indoor session and one outdoor session. PE kits should be in school on the days that your child has PE. Information about when your child has PE is on our school website - just look for your child's class page! If you have any problems sourcing clothes for PE, please let Mrs Bottomley, the school Learning Mentor or a member of school staff know.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name. This makes it easier when trying to locate lost property.

Parking

Could we remind parents to park with consideration when dropping off/collecting children at the beginning and end of the school day.

At the beginning of each new year, we try to support local residents who often raise concerns about parents parking across driveways.

We hope that the staggered start and end times to the school day help parents with this as we realise that parking availability is not ideal around the school premises.

Our children's safety comes first. We are aware that this section of Highfield Road can be a potential hazard.

Watch this space as Year 5 begin a campaign of road safety to safeguard Blakehill pupils and the local community from irresponsible drivers.

Media and Photography Consent Form

Parents should have received a copy of school's Media and Photography Consent Form today for you to read, sign and return to school. Unless we have your written consent, we are unable to use images/ photos of your child on our school newsletters, website, Twitter etc. Parents wanting their child to be exempt must also indicate their wishes.

Thank you in advance

Staff News

Welcome back Mrs Rashid (Year 3 / 4 phase leader and 4R teacher) who returned to school in July after her maternity leave last year. It is lovely to have her back!

Welcome also to Miss Preston (2P) who started her teaching career at Blakehill at the beginning of September. Parents of children in KS1 may recognise Miss Preston as she successfully completed her last two years of her teacher training at Blakehill.

We welcome Jordan Baldwinson (sports coach and play mentor) and Joel Bearder (play mentor), both from Bradford City Community Foundation to Blakehill this year. They have been appointed to provide additional play and learning behaviour support in school.

We wish all of our staff a happy and successful year!

Communication

Our school website provides most of the general information parents need including: holiday dates, weekly lunch menus, uniform requirements etc. Your child's class pages will provide key information about your child's learning and timetable e.g. PE days, homework requirements, half term learning overview etc. We use email, social media, newsletters and Marvellous Me to communicate with you too. However should you need to speak with a member of staff directly, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be able to help you with this.

Well done to the following children who achieved an award in our Celebration Assembly on Monday 13th September.

All of these children have settled in well to their new year class / year group and are fabulous role models. Well done and thank you children.

1D - Albie Waterhouse
 1G - Isaac Grange
 2P - Hania Sydor
 2S - Emma Hyde
 3S - Thea Gill
 3R - Humaira Thalim
 4R - Mia-Rose O'Hara
 4J - Oscar Hudson
 5J - Tilly Robinson
 5G - Josephine Dewhirst
 6R - Daniel Drinkwater
 6H - Lewis Carey

After school clubs After school clubs will resume from **Monday 4th October 2021**. Parents will receive letters shortly informing them of the clubs available and the days and times these will take place.

Assemblies

A full overview of all our school assembly timetable is on our school website.

Class Assemblies 2021-22

Class assemblies are on a Friday afternoon at 2:30pm. It is a pleasure to once again be able to invite our parents into school to watch their child's assembly. The dates of all class assemblies are:

PLEASE NOTE: 2P assembly in July is on a Thursday.

8 th October: 5G	11 th March: 5J
15 th October: 5J	18 th March: 5G
22 nd October: 4R	25 th March: 6H
5 th November: 4J	1 st April: 6R
12 th November: 1D	29 th April: 1G
19 th November: 1G	6 th May: 1D
26 th November: 3S	20 th May: 3R
3 rd December: 3R	10 th June: 3S
14 th January: 6R	17 th June: 4J
21 st January: 6H	24 th June: 4R
28 th January: 2S	1 st July: RP
4 th February: 2P	8 th July: RW
11 th February: RW	14 th July: 2P
4 th March: RP	15 th July: 2S

Please note: For child protection and safeguarding reasons, we request that all photos and videos should be for personal use only and not shared on social media without the consent of other parents