

Blakehill Primary School

Highfield Road, Idle, Bradford. BD10 8QN

Telephone: 01274 414355 Fax: 01274 414356

Email: office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr T Patterson

Head of School: Mrs L Keighley



Spring Term
2019

Happy New Year

We hope that all of our Blakehill families enjoyed the Christmas holidays. It is great to see the children back in school and ready for another term of learning. On behalf of staff and Governors, we would like to wish you all a very happy New Year.

What A Difference a Bag makes!

Below are the before and after photos of our Year 2, 3 and 4 cloakroom. Before the holidays, we appealed to parents to stop sending large rucksacks into school as these were adding to the congestion caused in an already small space. Our sincere thanks to all those who have acted on this. As you can see, using pump bags has helped to reduce this problem considerably and allow room for the children to hang their belongings on their pegs without them falling onto the floor.

This has saved us £7500! THANK YOU!

Before



After



Upcoming Diary Dates

Monday 14th January Year 1 Gurdwara Trip

Monday 11th February 3Ro to Bradford Cathedral

Tuesday 12th February Reception trip to the Rainbow Factory

Thursday 14th February 3R to Bradford Cathedral

Thursday 28th February Year 3 trip to Leeds City Museum

Tuesday 12th March Year 2 to Madni Mosque

Friday 22nd March class photographs

Wednesday 3rd April Year 3 pedestrian training

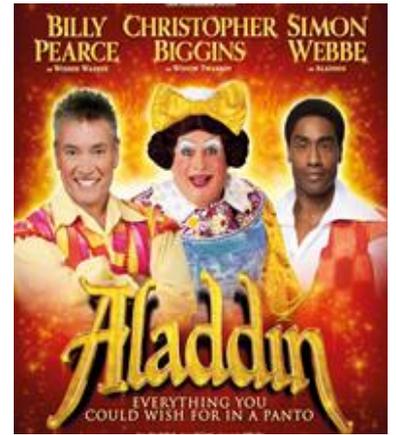
8th to 10th April Year 4 residential to Nell Bank

After School Clubs

We have 15 after school clubs for children to enjoy this term. Please check with the school office for available places. Further information can be found on our school website.

Oh Yes, They Did...!

Our Year 5 and 6 children had a fabulous time at the Alhambra, Bradford on Friday 4th January to watch this year's pantomime, Aladdin. Thank you to our wonderful PTFA who funded the visit, allowing all children in upper key stage 2 the opportunity to share the experience together.



Please take extra care when crossing Highfield Road to school. There are roadworks causing some additional congestion and we still have no crossing patrol.

Half Term Overviews

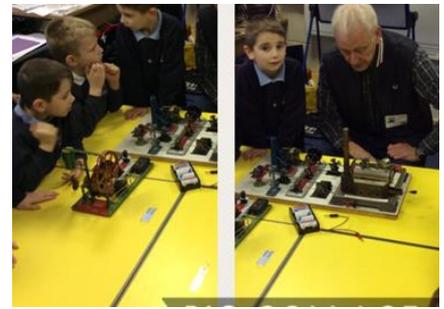
Parents should have received letters from their child's class teacher to inform them of the Curriculum this term. Copies of these are on our school website for your convenience.

Sleeps to Santa

Apologies to Bonnie 3R whose name was mistakenly omitted in our last newsletter. Bonnie was also one of the children who recorded 'Sleeps to Santa' for Heart Radio, which was aired on Wednesday 12th December.

Bringing Learning to Life

Many thanks to Olivia's grandad for visiting school last Friday to share his latest invention with the children in 3Ro. As you can see, the children were intrigued to explore how his model worked using a range of technologies including pulleys, gears and steam. Olivia's grandad explained how he had to keep trying different ways of making his model until it worked - perseverance wins!



Curriculum Carousel

From January, all children in KS2 will take part in a series of foundation subject projects on Friday afternoons. These will focus on the development of skills in areas such as Design Technology, Computing, Art, Science and Technology and will provide further opportunities for the children to participate in practical learning activities across the Curriculum. Watch this space for updates in future newsletters.

Online Gaming and Social Media

At the beginning of this new term, can we remind parents to check the content of their child's online activity regularly. Online interaction between children through PlayStation, Xbox, WhatsApp, Instagram etc. can be inappropriate and cruel and this can have a huge impact on the wellbeing of individual pupils and the relationships of children in school.

On occasion, school are being asked by parents to intervene and address concerns that they have about incidents that are happening on social media. Some of these incidents are impacting on school life for these children. Parents reserve the right to allow their children to access online communication and should monitor this regularly.

School will be running a series of ESafety learning activities this term to help children to understand the implications of playing, working and communicating online and what they should do if they see/hear anything that is inappropriate.

Further details of this will be provided via class half term overviews and letters. Thank you

Young Voices

What a fabulous time our Young Voices Choir had at Sheffield Arena on **Wednesday 9 January**.

Blakehill were part of the 5,000+ strong primary school choir that sang their hearts out to a packed arena. What an experience!

Special thanks to Mrs Bedell and Mrs Marsden who run the choir and organize the event and to Mrs Hancock who ensures that the organization of the event runs as smoothly as possible. Thank you also to Mrs Russell, Mrs Sheerin and all of the parents who were able to attend, accompany and support the children.



Over £200 was raised for Candlelighters from our Christmas card sale in memory of Isabelle Ellis. Our sincere thanks to everyone who bought a pack.



Parking

School have received a complaint from residents on Brander Close about parking. Motorists, believed to be parents of pupils at Blakehill, have been reported parking across the entrance to residential driveways. We appreciate that there is limited parking available to provide quick and easy access to school and ask that all parking is considerate towards people living in the local area.

Super Hero Writers

Well done to our wonderful budding writers who managed to get their short stories published in our Summer term Young Writers Competition 2018. They will receive a copy of the book containing their story during Monday's Celebration assembly - what an achievement!

Watch out for our next writing competition, which will be launched some time this half term. Special thanks to Mrs Rashid who organises this on behalf of the children at Blakehill.



Well done to the following children who received celebration certificates in assembly on Monday 7 January

RP: Lucas Anderson

RD: Jonah Simpson

1G: Tilly North

1W: Jude Rushton

2S: Lola Normington

2P: Lillie-Mae McHugh

3R: Lilly Alsop

3Ro: Ivy Thornton

4H: Callum Normington

4P: Liam Elwood

5J: The whole class

5R: Maksims Smirnovs

6R: Elijah Holmes

6G: Jack Peacock

Class Assemblies

Spring Term 2019

Class assemblies are on a Friday afternoon at 2:45pm. Parents are welcome to attend their child's class assembly. The dates of all class assemblies for Spring term are:

11 January: 1G

15 March: 3R

18 January: 1W

22 March: 3Ro

1 February: RD

29 March: 5R

8 February: RP

5 April: 5J

1 March: 6R

8 March: 6G

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

As always, please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any concerns or queries. A member of the Senior Leadership Team and the School Learning Mentor is always available in the playground at the beginning and end of the school day.