

Blakehill Primary School

Highfield Road
Idle
Bradford
BD10 8QN

Telephone: 01274 414355
Fax: 01274 414356
Email: office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk
www.blakehillprimary.co.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mr T Patterson
Head of School: Mrs L Keighley



8 September 2017

Newsletter 1

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back!

Hello and welcome back, particularly to those of you that are new to Blakehill. We hope you all had an enjoyable and well deserved break and are eagerly looking forward to starting another new and exciting academic year.

Our school newsletters are sent out 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 alternate Friday and are also available on our school website.

Staff news

We welcome Miss Javed (4J) and Mr Hodges (3H) to Blakehill and we wish them every success in their first year at our school.

Members of the Senior Leadership Team, our school Learning mentor and other members of staff are always visible at the beginning and the end of the school day should you need to speak to someone.

Reception

We are extremely pleased at how well our new children have settled into school in the Reception classes. They are adapting quickly to the routines and are already demonstrating really positive attitudes to learning. Photos of the children's first week will be posted on our school blog on Friday. Thank you to the parents of these children for helping us to make sure that transition has been as smooth and enjoyable as possible.

Holiday Building Work

You may have noticed that the steps leading from the top playground to the Year 1 and 2 playground have been widened to allow easier access for parents and pupils. This came as a result of feedback from parents who had concerns regarding congestion caused by the main gate being closed in the mornings. This appears to have eased the congestion.

Parents should have received an email earlier this week to inform you that the main gate, opposite the school office will be open from 3pm daily to allow access to school via Reception class playground.

There has been an additional security gate installed for families that use the service provided by Extra Club.

For your child's safety, the school gates are locked at 9:00am and reopen at 3:00pm. Entrance to school can be accessed via the main entrance on Highfield Road.

Contact Telephone Numbers

It is important that the school office have current and correct contact details of parents / carers, in particular mobile and telephone numbers which are especially vital when children are ill and contact needs to be made. Could you please ensure that our office staff are notified if you have changed address or telephone numbers.

Picking Up Your Child at the End of the School Day

If you change arrangements for picking up your child at the end of the school day, please ensure you inform school to avoid any confusion at home times.



Polite Reminders

Our school handbook states that jewellery, make up and nail varnish should not be worn in school by our children and those pupils with pierced ears are allowed to wear studs only. Watches can be worn and consideration is given to jewellery pertaining to religious and cultural beliefs.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are not encouraged to be brought to school by pupils. In exceptional circumstances there may be no alternative, but they **must be switched off** on entering the school grounds and then handed to the class support staff for safe keeping during the day. Pupils must not use them inside the school grounds.

School Attendance 2017-2018

Last year, pupil attendance was **95.3%** which is slightly below the **96%** national average. Thank you to parents for ensuring that their child's/ren's attendance is consistently good throughout the year. In an attempt to work together to ensure pupils attend school as regularly as possible, we are sending your child home with an **Attendance Home/School Agreement** which outlines Blakehill's commitment to attendance. We are asking staff, pupils and parents to sign the agreement to demonstrate their commitment and return it to school by **Friday 15th September**. Thank you.

We are well aware that holidays are cheaper during term time however we do urge that children are not taken on holiday during these times as attendance can affect a child's attainment and progress. All requests for holidays will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Attendance will be continued to be monitored throughout the school.

Parking

There has been a massive improvement in the consideration taken when dropping/collecting children in relation to parking. Thank you to all parents who make a concerted effort to consider the safety of our children and respect the impact that parking has on the local residents with regards to parking across driveways.

Year 6 Assessment Week: Monday 14th – Friday 18th May 2018.

It is vital that children in Year 6 are not absent for this week.

School Uniform

The children have made a great start to the year and looked very smart in their new school uniforms. Thank you to everyone who continues to support us by adhering to our school uniform policy, this includes PE kit. What a child wears to school reflects his/her attitude to learning; it portrays our school's ethos and shared values. We have a very simple uniform that pupils are expected to wear.

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Boys

White/sky blue polo shirt, black / grey trousers, navy blue sweatshirt with school logo
Black shoes –**not trainers**
Trainers can be worn only for break times and PE but black shoes/pumps worn in school
Dark socks

Girls

White/sky blue polo shirt, black skirt/trousers/shalwar kameez
Blue and white checked school dress
Navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo
Black shoes – **not trainers or high heels**
Boots can be worn for outside but shoes/pumps worn in school
Black/white socks or black tights

PE Kit

Boys and Girls

Navy blue shorts or black leotard & White T Shirt
Trainers (outdoors)
Black PE pumps (indoors)
Plain Navy blue or black track suit for outdoor games
Pump bag



Please note outdoor PE starts in Year 1

Year 4 Swimming

Swimming trunks/one-piece costume/footless leggings

Swimming cap if appropriate

Towel

Waterproof bag

Mr Lowe / Mrs Javed will provide you with any further information should you require it.

Governors

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our school Governors for working tirelessly with staff to ensure that the school provides the best possible provision for all of our pupils. We look forward to working with Governors again this year.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

After the success of last year's Macmillan Coffee Morning which supports the Macmillan Cancer Trust, we are pleased to announce that school will be hosting a coffee morning at school on **Friday 29th September 8:45am – 10:30am**. With your help, last year we raised over £816.00- a fantastic effort! Please make a note in your diaries!

Again, this year Niki Williams, a dear parent, ex member of staff and friend of Blakehill, who was herself diagnosed with a brain tumour, will be organising the event with help from Mrs Pedley, Mrs Wardell, Mrs Corbridge and other members of staff. The event is an ideal opportunity for parents to come together and raise money and awareness of a charity close to many of our lives. We are sure it will be a huge success and will be well supported. Any cakes, buns, donations or offers of help would be appreciated. Anyone interested in being part of the event, please contact the school office or a member of staff.

Celebration Assemblies

On a Monday morning we have a special celebration assembly where the achievements of our children are celebrated. Pupils receive certificates for good work, home reading, behaviour and attitude. We also celebrate achievements that children have made out of school and many pupils bring in certificates, trophies, badges etc that they have been awarded for activities that they do out of school.

The names of these children are shared on school newsletters and on their photos will be on the school website. Our first Celebration assembly will be on **Monday 11 September**.

Class Assemblies

Class assemblies are held on a Friday afternoon between 2:45pm and 3:15pm. Parents are welcome to attend.

The dates for Autumn term are as follows:

6 October: 5R

13 October: 5L

3 November: 2S

10 November: 2P

24 November: 4L

1 December: 4J

Yours sincerely

T Patterson
Headteacher

L Keighley
Head of School

