

## 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



**Autumn Term  
2018**



Our Christmas celebrations are well under way and children in Reception and KS1 classes are busy preparing for their 'productions' next week. Class teachers are still smiling which is always a good indicator of success!

Below is a reminder of the key dates and times of events leading up to the Christmas holidays.

**Reception Nativity 2018:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – 2:00pm and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December -10:00am

**Reception and KS1 Christmas Party:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December

**KS1 Christmas Production:** Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December – 10:00am and Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December – 2:00pm

**Year3/4 Christingle at St Cuthbert's:** Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm

**Year 3/4 Cinema Trip:** Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December

**Year5/6 Christingle at St Cuthbert's:** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2:30pm

**Year 5/6 Pantomime at the Alhambra:** Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January

**PTFA Christmas Fayre:** Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 3:30pm – 5:00pm

**Whole School Christmas Dinner/ Christmas Jumper Day:** Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Our specially designed Christmas cards, in memory of Isabelle Ellis, were delivered to school today. These will be sold in packs of 5 for £3.00 per pack from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. Please contact the school office if you would like to buy some. We will also be selling them at the PTFA Christmas Fayre on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

## Secret Santa

Blakehill has again decided to participate in The Secret Santa Appeal this year, a scheme that helps to support disadvantaged children and families at Christmas time. Our Chair of Governors, Mr Phil Cavalier-Lumley who champions the charity and co-ordinates the fund-raising, presented an assembly to the whole school on Tuesday this week.

Labels will be available from the school office from today and will have the name, gender and age of a disadvantaged child.

The idea of the scheme is that if a label is collected, a gift is bought for that child and will be forwarded to them in time for Christmas.

Any gift will be gratefully received and should not be wrapped. If you would like to be involved, please contact the school office or ask your child to pick up a label from Reception.

### Sleeps to Santa

Tune in to Heart Radio on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 7:30am and 8:30am for our Year 3 Christmas countdown.



## Your Comments Count!

### Parent Evening Feedback

School Governors and leaders recognise the importance of parent views and are keen to make sure that we provide many opportunities for parent voices to be heard.

Of the 351 parents who responded to the statement:

*'Parents Evening was well organised and useful,'* 96% of parents agreed with 4% either agreeing or disagreeing. Great work!

Some parents requested a comment box.

#### Action:

There is a comment box inside the main entrance

### Clubs

We are aware that school needs to provide confirmation for places at afterschool clubs earlier for parents to make the necessary childcare arrangements. Staff try to make sure ALL pupils have equal access to clubs and wait until all club applications are received before allocating places. We are working on refining this process. Thank you for your feedback!

### Contacting Teachers

One parent wanted to know the process for contacting teachers.

#### Answer

All correspondence (unless in exceptional circumstances) should be via email: [office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk](mailto:office@blakehill.bradford.sch.uk)  
Emails are forwarded to class teachers daily.

## Cloakroom Chaos

We recently received a quote for £7500 + VAT for the installation of open door lockers to alleviate the problem of our congested Year 2, 3 and 4 cloakroom. This is a massive outlay in an already constrained school budget.

As you can see, due to the size of bags and winter coats the children are bringing to school, items of expensive clothing are falling onto the floor and generally causing a hazard at break and lunchtimes.

During an assembly this week, children from year 1 -4 were advised that from January 2019, we want them to use either a pump bag / carrier bag for PE clothes and a book bag for all letters, books etc. If we all try to do this, our problem in the cloakroom SHOULD improve. **PLEASE NOTE: Rucksacks will not be allowed in Year 1 - 4 from January.**

The school office has supplies of both of these items although children are not required to use a Blakehill bag.

*Pump Bag £4.50*

*Book Bag £5.50*

*Please see a member of staff if you have any concerns.*



### Staff News

On behalf of school Governors and staff, we would like to congratulate Mrs Javed (5J) who is expecting her first baby in the Spring term and Miss Gardner (1G) who is also expecting her first baby in the Summer.

### Winter Snow Advice

With winter fast approaching, the prospect of snow raises the question will school be closed?

The decision to close or open during challenging weather conditions is never taken lightly and it depends on the severity of the snowfall, the recommendations from the Local Authority and the immediate forecast.

Every effort to stay open is made and we will close school only on health and safety grounds if we do not have enough staff able to get into work. It remains at parents' discretion if they deem it safe to bring their children and we are sympathetic to parents if they bring them to school after registration.

***If we do decide to close school we will inform parents as soon as possible through the school website, Eschools, Bradford schools online website and local radio.***

**Well done to the following children who received celebration certificates in assembly on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November**

RD: Teigan Crossley and Thea Gill

RP: Tommy Lee Benn and Alice Fletcher

1W: Hannah Chellam and Coben Cooper

1G Lindiwe Vera and Isabella Kinch

2PL Lyla Waterhouse and Frank Cooper

2S: James Chellam and Leo Graham

3R: Alfie Dobson and Miller Palmer

3Ro: Ethan Dickinson and Patrick Williams

4H: Liam Simpson and Owais Rehman

4P: Jayden Walters and the Whole class

5J: Jessica Moreland and Elise Stratton

5R: Bobby Lister and Jessica Cowell

6G Shannon Williams and Phoebe Hildreth

6R: Jensen Sellyei and Joseph Chellam



**Class Assemblies**

Autumn Term 2018

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 Autumn term are:

30 November: 4H

Spring Term

11 January: 1G

18 January: 1W

1 February: RD

8 February: RP

*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.*

**Attendance**



Well done to Maaya and Jessica who won our 100% attendance award on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November



Well done to 3Ro (100%) and 1W (98.7%) who are our top attending classes.

**EVERY DAY COUNTS!**  
It is a parent's responsibility to make sure their child attends school as regularly as possible.

Whole school attendance to date is 96.6%

39 holiday requests submitted since September 2018.  
A total of 170 days of education lost!