

Blakesley Hall School

Newsletter

Spring Term 11/12

Date: Wednesday 14th March 2012

Tel: 0121 783 2148 Website: www.blakesley.bham.sch.uk

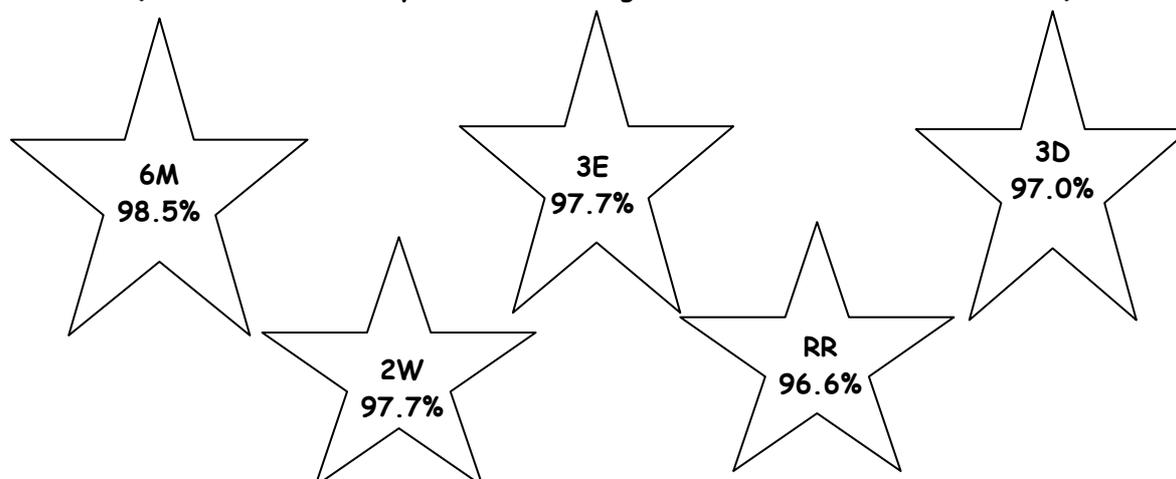
This month's value word is **Responsibility**



DATES	YEAR/CLASS	EVENT
Week Beginning 12th March	Rec-Year 6	Aspirations Week
Tuesday 20th March	Rec	Family Food Facts Course (9.00-10.30am)
Week Beginning 26th March	All	Open Week
Wednesday 21st March	Year 4	1 Class to visit ECO Park
Thursday 22nd March	Year 4	1 Class to visit ECO Park
Friday 23rd March	Year 4	1 Class to visit ECO Park
Week Beginning 26th March	All	Open Week in school including parents evening
Tuesday 27th March	Rec	Family Food Facts Course (9.00-10.30am)
Wednesday 28th March	Year 5	ThinkTank on site
Thursday 29th March	All	School closes for Easter Holidays for children (3.15pm)
Friday 30th March		STAFF Training Day (closed to children)
Monday 2nd April-Friday 13th April (2 weeks)		Easter Holidays
Monday 16th April		STAFF Training Day (closed to children)
Tuesday 17th April		School re-opens for children (8.55am)
Tuesday 24th April	Year 4	90 children visiting Mary Arden House
Thursday 26th April	Year 4	90 children visiting Mary Arden House

ATTENDANCE

Best attending Classes for week ending 9th March 2012
(overall school weekly attendance target was reached last week 94.7%)



14 children have improved their attendance since the last round of Attendance Surgeries took place in January. We have chosen prizes for any class who can achieve 100% attendance this week and next. All children have been told what their attendance levels are from September to last week—everyone is aiming to be above 85% for the rest of the year, which will help us reach our overall school target of 94.7%. With so many exciting things happening in every class school is too good to miss!

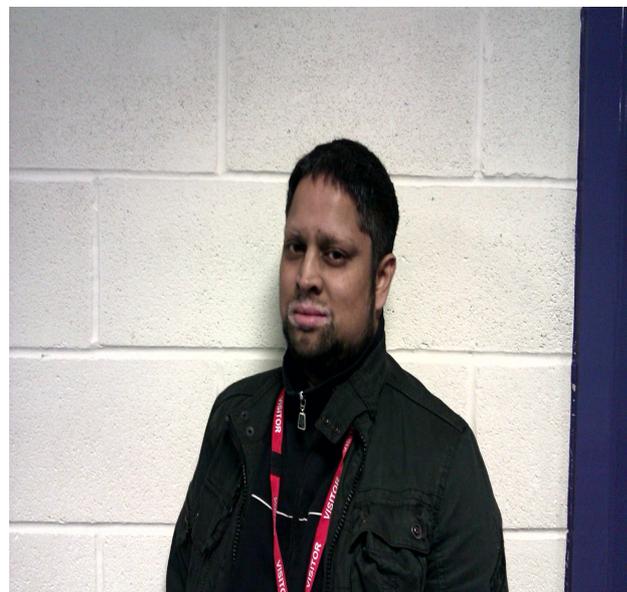
Parent Governor—Abdul Aziz

I have been a Parent Governor at Blakesley Hall Primary School since May 2011. I felt I needed to get more involved with the school as I have two children attending (year 1 and 2) and this was a good way to support them.

Also, I am currently providing reading support for some year 2 pupils and have attended every Monday afternoon since November 2011. I thoroughly enjoy supporting the 10 children, who I have seen made excellent progress in their reading over the months.

At the moment I am self employed on a part-time basis, as a Retail Intelligence Consultant, which involves going to retail premises and evaluating their customer services etc. However, my previous work has been mainly in administration and finance positions in local authorities and other organisations in the private sector.

I hope with my above experience, I can contribute positively and participate in the success of the school. Being a part of the School Governing Body is a new experience for me, but I am finding the role an exciting opportunity to learn more in the education environment. So far I have enjoyed my role as a Governor and I have come across a very strong, supportive and committed team.



OPEN WEEK—PARENT/TEACHER CONSULTATIONS

Monday 26th March—Thursday 29th March
(Late evening Tuesday 27th March).



The school kitchen will be having a taster session between 4-5.30pm on the evening of Tuesday 27th March so you can taste our school meals and pick up a menu.

Parent/Teacher consultation forms will go out next week.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Monday	Art Club	After School
	Drum Club	After School
	Year 6 Maths	After School
Tuesday	Sign Language	After School
Wednesday	Gymnastics	After School
	Year 6 Reading	Before School
	Year 1 Reading/Story	After School
	Basketball Year 3	After School
Thursday	Year 2 Art	After School
	Library Readers	After School
Lunchtime Clubs	Wii-Keep Fit, ICT Club and Art	

MOTHERING SUNDAY—18th March



Mothering Sunday
Moms go free with paying children
10am-4pm

School Bank

The school bank will next be open on 22nd March.

So start saving now for your holidays.

Thank you from Habibo, Jessica and Amaani Class 5S



PARENT GOVERNOR VACANCY



There is a vacancy for a parent governor representative on the Governing Body. Papers for election will be distributed next week.

Are you good at spelling?



We need a team of parents to go head-to-head with our Year 6 winning spelling team in Blakesley Hall Spelling Bee on **Thursday 29th March at 2pm.**

The competition will be held in the school hall and there will be three teams; Year 6 pupils, Teachers Team and a Parents Team. If you are interested in being part of the parents' team please contact the school office or tell your child to let us know.



The KS1 disco last Friday was a great success. The school managed to raise £91.45 for Birmingham Children's Hospital.



JOB VACANCIES

From April 2012 there exist three staff vacancies for our **NEW** Breakfast and Evening Club. We are looking to appoint a **Manager** and two **Playworkers**. Application forms and job specifications are available from the **School Office**. Closing date - **29th March 2012.**



RANGO—Class 6H Pet

It all began when Mrs Phillips came in to do our class assembly about unity and we were inspired by her puppy Poppy. We asked if we could have a class pet and Mrs Phillips agreed that this would be a good opportunity for us to demonstrate our school values and asked us to research what type of pet, how much it would cost and how we would raise the money. We discussed what types of pet we would like and found out that one of us had an allergy to fur so we had to think carefully about this. We took a vote and had to choose between a gecko and a bearded dragon. Nico found out that geckos are nocturnal and so sleep all day, not a good choice for a class pet.



We agreed on the bearded dragon. Now how to raise the money? Georgia-Mae had lots of fantastic ideas and in the end we decided upon a sponsored spell. Mrs Phillips also said that she would give us a contribution if our class had good attendance. Eventually we raised the money and then we had to decide what to call it. Mrs Smith went to the pet shop and took photos of the bearded dragon and told us it was a boy. After that we had a vote and had to decide between Rango and Abraham Lincoln...we chose **RANGO!!!** Not long after the Vivarium (a beardies home) arrived as a flat pack we worked together as a class to construct the new home showing excellent cooperation skills. On Monday 5th March 2012 Rango arrived. We were all very excited although a little scared (Mrs Da Costa was extremely frightened). Myron (from the pet shop) talked to us about how to look after our new pet. Since then we have developed good routines making sure that we feed him daily (live crickets, worms and vegetables), remove his waste and handle him. We are looking forward to bathing him on Monday 19th March. Some of us have shown real bravery and confidence, Haroon is an expert beardie handler, Hannah can touch wiggly worms with bare hands. Lara can touch live crickets, Abdul Karim can hold Rango on his shoulders. We are enjoying having the responsibility and are confident that in the coming months you will hear less squeals from our classroom as we become experts.

Aspirations week this week

Visitors have included...restaurant owners, staffing agency consultants, a farmer, the Manager of Build a Bear in Birmingham, an Olympic athlete hopeful and professional actors.

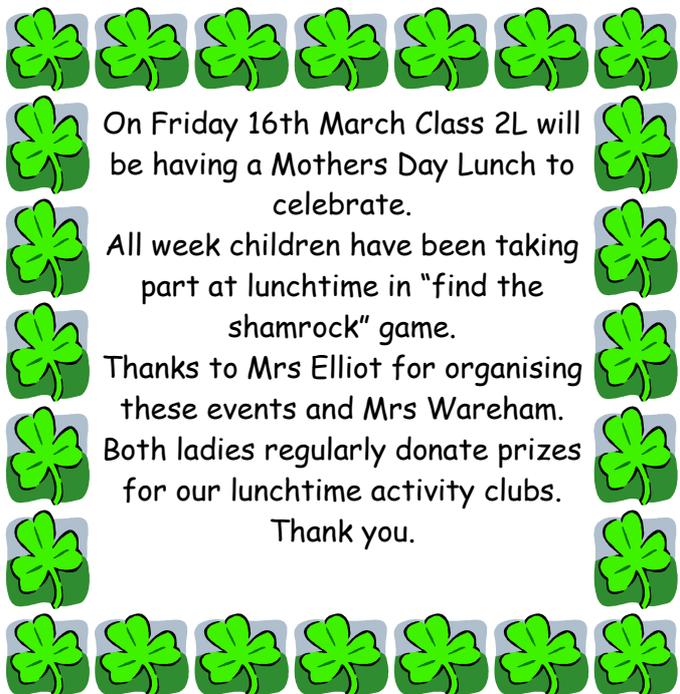
All the children from Reception to year 6 are having hands-on experience about the world of work and hearing stories about how to make sure they can achieve their own dream for their future.

Why not ask your children about the visitors to their class?



Year 2 Fire Safety Exhibition

From the excellent feedback from Year 2 parents I know that Year 2 were absolute stars last week when they planned and put on their own exhibition about *The Great Fire of London*.



On Friday 16th March Class 2L will be having a Mothers Day Lunch to celebrate.

All week children have been taking part at lunchtime in "find the shamrock" game.

Thanks to Mrs Elliot for organising these events and Mrs Wareham.

Both ladies regularly donate prizes for our lunchtime activity clubs.

Thank you.



TICKETS FOR SCHOOLS

SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

[Click here for more information »](#)

The school have become part of a scheme called tickets for schools. This is being promoted by Aston villa F.C. They have given the school tickets for the children to go to an Aston villa game for **FREE**. The children can get a ticket by showing good attitude and skills in their P.E lessons.

Teachers will decide which children have accomplished this. The children then choose a Home game from the remainder of the season to attend.

Mr Day - PE Co-ordinator - more details to follow

VOICE OF THE PARENTS.....

You may recall that I told you just before half term that the school had received an anonymous letter containing some criticisms of the school and that I would be asking the governors to consider it at their next meeting. This has now taken place and the Governing Body authorised the Chair to write an open letter to parents to be posted publicly in school. The Chair's letter will be available for anyone to read in the school entrance and on the school notice boards in the playground for fourteen days from the date of this newsletter.

Mrs H M Phillips
Headteacher