



Our Value
Word this
month is
Patience -
ability to wait
calmly.

Dates For Your Diary

DATES	YEAR/CLASS	EVENT
15th Dec	Year 3	Stay and make with Parents
15th Dec	Year 5 & 6	Christmas Party (Children only)
16th Dec	All	Children Break up for Christmas
19th Dec - 2nd Jan	All	Christmas Holidays
3rd Jan	All	Inset Day (Teacher Training)
4th Jan	All	Children back to school
19th Jan	Year 4, 5 & 6	Guitar Performance



It has been a difficult few weeks with all the different illnesses and the situation with Hepatitis A and the immunisation programme. I am very grateful to the staff for their swift actions in working well with the NHS and PHE (Public Health England). It is an upsetting time for the whole school community, I appreciate you following the correct guidance and helping to further reduce risk. If you still have concerns don't forget about the health line. I wish you all a very happy and healthy Christmas holiday.

Mrs. Phillips

Read All About It!

There have been lots of happy faces in school recently, as new books have started to appear in classrooms and the library. Here are just a few of them. Has your child read one of the new books? What was it about? Did they enjoy it?



Door opening times

All doors are now open at 8.45am. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents are invited to join their children read in class. All other classes will read independently until 9.05am.

We are very excited that three of our pupils have been short-listed for The Voice Black History Month Writing Competition. We have our fingers crossed that Fizah Hussain, Lilly Begum and Maria Mahmood will win.



Mrs Salt is sadly leaving. She has been at BHPS for 26 years. We wish her a long and happy retirement and all the best for a new journey in life.

Happy Retirement!



We now have some staff who are trained to use a defibrillator in school.

Following interviews in October – the Governors have appointed two new Deputy Head Teachers to work alongside Mrs Phillips.

Mr Protherough



I am one of the new Deputy Head Teacher at Blakesley Hall Primary School. I have been working in education for more than a decade and I have worked with many different schools. Since moving to Birmingham I have been a Specialist Leader in Education and phase leader at Bournville Junior School and as well as a Deputy Head Teacher at the Orchards Primary Academy. I have lots of different interests, particularly sport, literature, the theatre and technology.

I support Nottingham Forest F.C. and Gloucester Rugby. I also play football, golf and tennis. Reading is an important pastime; I have been known to read five books simultaneously. Computers and gadgets are also a hobby of mine; I enjoy coding, creating computer programs, playing games and experimenting with gadgets.

Mrs Da-Costa



I have worked at Blakesley Hall Primary since 2009 and have really enjoyed working with all the pupils, their families and staff so I am really excited to begin my new role in January as one of the new Deputy Head Teachers. I have been teaching for over fifteen years and still wake up every morning excited to support children in being the best that they can possibly be.

In my spare time I enjoy reading and attend a book club once a month, I also enjoy holidays in the sun with my friends and family. I look forward to continue working as part of the Blakesley Team.



On Thursday 8th December we had our Christmas fayre of 2016. All children and staff had a fantastic day. So far we have raised over £1100. Money raised will be used to buy much needed resources for school - we will let you know what we buy. Thank you all for your support in making our Christmas fayre a success.





Team: Sarinah Ahmed (5S), Ruweyda Imaan (5S), Aminah Malik (5S), Sara Iqbal (5S), Jemmima Mahmoud (5O), Ayesha Mobeen (4R), Cindy Connors (4R), Thamina Abbas (4R), Lavanya Anpalakana (4R) and Sahara Shire (4R).

We have had a very eventful and successful half-term in sport and P.E. at Blakesley.

Basketball:

On Friday 25th November, the Girls' Basketball Team played their first friendly against Regents Park Primary School. It was a very exciting (and freezing cold!!) afternoon. We got a shock when we arrived to discover that we had to play in netball nets, but we faced the challenge with determination and vigour. We won 14 - 4! Ruweyda Imaan in 5S was the Star Player - she was always in the right place at the right time and never ran out of energy. The whole team showed great support for each other throughout the 40 minute match, and it was a great opportunity to put into practice many of the new skills they have learnt in training. Well done, girls!

Hockey:

It was the Girls' Hockey Team's turn next, when we played against Regents Park on Wednesday 30th November. The team got off to a slow start and we were down by 8-6 towards the end. But with perseverance and teamwork we pulled through, and scored 4 goals in the last 5 minutes! There was some fantastic defensive tackles from Aliyah, Mackenzie and Chloe, and amazing power and energy from Yemima - our woman of the day! The final score was 10-8 to Blakesley!



Team: Aliyah Scott (5S), Habibah Munir (5O), Mackenzie Williams (5O), Yemima Sylla (6W), Safa Munir (6W), Amenah Khursheed (6W), Chloe Robinson (6SP), Alizbah Shahzad (6P), Sharnet Neale Merchant (6P) and Ayesha Ibrar (6P)



Change4Life Trampoline Peer-Coaching

A group of Year 6 girls have been participating in a 3 week peer-coaching course, on Tuesday mornings with Year 10 pupils at Cockshut Hill Secondary College. The focus activity has been trampolining and while they have undoubtedly had so much fun, the girls have also shown great maturity while working with the Year 10s. It has been a new and special experience for both groups. As well as developing new social relationships, the girls have learnt many trampolining skills, such as the tuck, straddle and seat drop. Every Tuesday, they come back smiling and this experience has really helped to develop the girls' confidence in, and enjoyment of, sport and physical activity. Amazing work, girls!



Group: Suraiya Shohid (6SP), Naimah Khan (6SP), Nabiha Choudhury (6SP), Ayesha Bibi (6SP), Neo Ncazana (6SP), Sharnet Neale Merchant (6P), Keely Thomas (6W), Reesa Ali (6W), Fiza Qadir (6W) and Amenah Khursheed (6W).

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Football

Last Friday 9th December, the Boys' Year 6 Football Team ventured to Regents Park again. The major challenge was the size of the pitch. Although it was a lovely astro-turf, it was much smaller than the muga, so the boys had to adapt to having less space to play and show their passing skills. Regents Park were a tough and skilful team, but the boys didn't give up with Mr. Summers cheering and advising from the sideline! Narcis Dimitru was the Man of the Match - Narcis never stops moving and puts 100% of himself into the game. Narcis' motto is "I can't lose!". We won 9 - 6 and we all went home feeling delighted. Well done to the football team, and a special congrats to Rio Dunkley in Year 4, who played up on the Year 6 team.

As you can see, all pupils at Blakesley, both **girls and boys**, are enjoying and getting involved in sport this year - thanks to The Girl Effect initiative and everyone's support for it. Girls, keep **saluting** each other and keep doing amazing things **like a girl**.

SALUTE – CHORUS – BLAKESLEY 2016

Ladies all across the world

Listen up, we're looking for recruits

If you with me, lemme see your hands

Stand up and salute

Get your killer heels, sneakers, pumps or lace up your boots

Representing all the women, salute, salute!



Sports News

Continued

Team: Rio Dunkley (4R), Harley McNally (6P), Kaiden M-Islam (6P), Kieon Catwell (6W), Adil Khattak (6SP), Narcis Dimitru (6SP) and Abdurrahman Summers (6SP).



Para Indoor Athletics Competition

On Tuesday 6th December, we participated in the Para Indoor Athletics School Games Competition for the first time ever!

It was such an exciting day, taking place in the very professional Billesley Indoor Tennis Centre. We competed in so many different events against teams from our local area - Speed Bounce, Long Jump, Target Throw, Javelin, Relay Race and Obstacle Course! The team's determination, teamwork and energy was so impressive - they put all their strength and concentration into every event, and constantly supported each other. We finished the day with a total of 98 points - just behind the winning teams'. It was a fun-filled, fantastic and very memorable day, and I was so proud to be with these children at the competition. Great job, team!

Team: Kyle France (4H), Ellis Cunnington (4H), Soleman Sahaq (4O), Keira Forde (5O), Mohammed Zeb (5A), Qasim Din (6W) and Ahyaan Asim (6SP).

Ms. A. O'Driscoll (P.E. Lead and Year 4 Class Teacher)