

Dates For Your Diary

WEBSITE NEWS—You can follow us on twitter @BHPS_1

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



Reminder:

DATES	YEAR/CLASS	EVENT
Monday 1st April	RB	Maths Workshop - 9am Large Hall
Tuesday 2nd April	Whole school	Book Fair - from 8am in Library
Tuesday 2nd April	RV	Maths Workshop - 9am Large Hall
Wednesday 3rd April	Year 2	Year 2 Exhibition - 9am Large Hall
Thursday 4th April	RM	Maths Workshop - 9am Large Hall
Thursday 4th April	Year 5	Parent to School - 1.30 - 3pm
Wednesday 10th April	Selected Pupils	Proud Point Trip with Headteacher
Thursday 11th April	Whole school	End of Spring term - School closes end of day for all children
Friday 12th April	Whole school	INSET DAY - NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
Monday 29th April	Whole school	SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR ALL CHILDREN
Monday 6th May	Whole school	May day Bank Holiday - NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
Tuesday 7th May	Year 1	Trip to Eco Park
Wednesday 8th May	Year 1	Trip to Eco park
Wednesday 8th May	Year 4	Trip to Steelhouse Lane Police Station
Thursday 9th May	Year 1	Trip to Eco Park
Mon 13th - Fri 17th May	Year 6	NCA Tests
Friday 24th May	Whole school	School closes for half term
Monday 3rd June	Whole school	INSET DAY - NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL
Tuesday 4th June	Whole school	SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR ALL CHILDREN

I am proud to say that we have lots to celebrate this month—I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter. The children have been working extremely hard doing tests which will help plan their learning for next term.

You may have noticed the improvements to the site that are taking place and will continue into next term. Our new site manager Ozzy has been going the 'extra mile' to make areas around school cleaner and tidier.

We have been raising money all year to pay for the repairs needed to play equipment on the lower playground—we have enough for the work to start soon so the children will be able to enjoy the playtimes as the weather improves.

Ms H Phillips
 Headteacher



Miss O'Connell will be leaving us at the end of this term. She will be greatly missed by us all as she has been a great contribution to our school.

We would like to wish her all the best for the adventures ahead.

New teacher Ms Watson will be joining us in Class 40 after the Easter break.



Reception Easter Hat Parade

All Reception children are invited to take part in a Easter hat parade. To enter just decorate a Easter hat at home and bring into school by **Monday 8th April**.



All entries will be judged by School Council on **Wednesday 10th April**, every entry

YEAR 3 VISIT

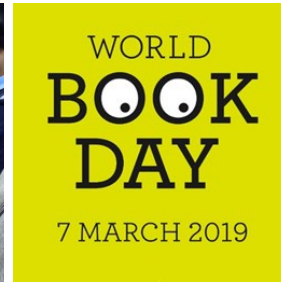
Year 3 classes have attended Lunt Roman Fort to learn more about the Romans. We learnt how to speak some words in Latin, role played a story about Boudicca and learnt to fight like a Roman. Everyone had a fantastic time (even the teachers) when we got to do Romans (children) verses Celts (teachers) and dress up in Roman armour. What a great day it was for all!



SCHOOL COUNCIL

School Council have been very busy this half term...

School Council wish to thank everyone that donated and brought books from the book sale they held before and after school on world book day! They raised an impressive £78.75 that will go towards fixing the school playground!



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Recycling Poster Competition



On Friday 22nd March School Council went into KS1 & KS2 assemblies to talk to children about the importance of recycling! They spoke to children about why recycling is so important, what we can recycle, how we can recycle and the damage not recycling can cause to our wildlife and environment.

To promote how important recycling is we are asking child to design a poster that shows why we should recycle. Posters need to include facts, figures and pictures! The winner's will be displayed around school and on our website. Remember to put your name and class on the back and all entries need to be in by Monday 1st April, winners will be announced in assembly on Friday 5th April.



Good Luck!



ParentPay - our new online payment service

We are pleased to announce that we will shortly be accepting payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and uniform. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit or debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

What are the benefits to parents and pupils?

ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7

The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind

Payments can be made by credit/debit card or cash payments at one of 33,000 PayPoint stores
full payment histories and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

Your children will not have to worry about losing money at school

Parents can choose to be alerted when their balances are low via email and/or SMS text

What are the benefits to our school?

The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.

You can help us reduce workloads for all staff, creating more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school.

How to get started with ParentPay

We will shortly be sending you your account activation details, just follow the instructions in the letter we give you to get started with ParentPay.

If you want to find out more about ParentPay go to:

<https://www.parentpay.com/parents/>



SPORTS



Finally, we have an exciting update from **Feron Sayers** (Team GB long jump). Since visiting us in December, Feron has gone on to win a gold medal at the British Championships and was selected to represent Britain at the European Indoor Championships. This mean that all of our children have trained with a gold medallist this year!

We've had a very active Spring term at Blakesley with lots of brilliant sports activities taking place right across school. Here are a few highlights...

Before and after school sports clubs continue to be extremely popular with **boys football, girls' football, dodgeball, basketball** and **netball** all full this term.

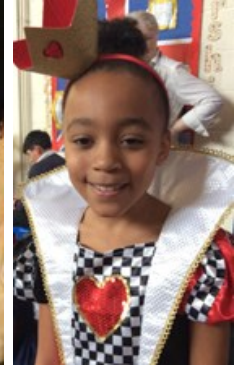
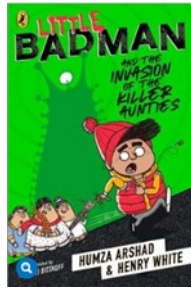
There have been events and competitions on an almost weekly basis. January events included 36 children competing in **athletics** and 4 children competing in **tennis**. In February the whole of Year 3 put on a fantastic **dance** performance which was attended by over 30 parents. This month 8 children took part in the **YONEX badminton championship trophy tour** plus the whole of Year 1, Year 2 and Jigsaw had a fantastic time at the **multi-skills festivals**. That means over 200 children have represented Blakesley at sports events so far this year. A huge well done to everyone involved!



BOOK

The 2019 BHPS Book Festival is coming to an end. It has been another exciting month with lots happening. Each class in Years 3-5 have visited South Yardley Library to explore their collection and borrow books. Year 6 were lucky enough to visit Stechford Primary for an author workshop with Humza Arshad. He was very entertaining and Year 6 enjoyed listening to him read from his new book and tell funny anecdotes from his childhood.

Lots of children and staff dressed up on World Book Day as their favourite character – and it was lovely to see lots of home-made costumes. As part of this day, each class held its own quiz and the winning teams will be included in a grand final at the end of the month. I wonder how well they know their Walliams from their Lauren Child?



A huge thank you to those of you who were able to join us for the 'Dads and Lads' and 'Books and Bakes' reading breakfasts. We were very pleased with the high turn-out of dads, uncles and older brothers – and were amazed that over 150 mums, aunties and older sisters attended. It is so important that adults read with their children (even after they are able to read by themselves) – please keep reading with them.



Competition entries in previous years have been very creative and we are looking forward to seeing what this year's entries of story stones will look like. Remember to get your entries into school by Thursday 28th.



The month-long festival has also included some fundraising too. At the start of the month the school council organised a successful second-hand book fair in the playground. To end the festival, there will be a book fair where parents and pupils can order lots of lovely new books – look out for details about the fair on 2nd April.



Our Blakesley Hall Choir attended the Young Voices 2019 concert on the 23rd January along with 6,366 other primary school children from across Birmingham. They had a fantastic time singing all the songs they'd been learning since October 2018 with all the dance moves. The atmosphere was great and the children represented the school brilliantly. Well done to them for all their hard work and enthusiasm!

