



Newsletter
October
2020

Blakesley Hall Primary School

WEBSITE NEWS—You can follow us on twitter @BHPS_1

Tel: 0121 783 2148

Website: www.blakesley.bham.sch.uk

Return To School

October is celebrated as Black History Month. For us at Blakesley Hall and, in partnership with Bordesley Green, we are doing something brave and different - our October is **Tell Your Story** month. The focus for our curriculum is being re-shaped to acknowledge and celebrate our cultural diversity and ensuring the cultural legacy of the whole of the Blakesley family starting now in October and for the rest of the year and every year.

'Being different we belong together' - we have been able to celebrate our story and values twice on the Midlands Today TV bulletin last month - they showed an interest in our library displays and why we have decided not to focus on Black History Month anymore but to weave the truth of the history of Black and Asian people throughout the curriculum.

You will be receiving some family activities via Class DOJO to help us make sure **everyone's** story is part of our History curriculum, I hope you will join in and enjoy it.

Ms H M Phillips
Executive Headteacher

'After the long 6 months away, we have never been so eager and excited to return to the classroom and start our journey again. Through the hard times we came out the other end, stronger and ready to overcome any challenges. It has been amazing to see all our eager students returning and ready to learn. I am looking forward for all the new learning we are going to do throughout the year. Welcome back our Blakesley family. Sadly the Year 2 bubble has had to be closed but well done to everyone who is doing their work at home and I look forward to seeing you next week'



Mrs Zaman
(Year2)

We would like to introduce to you the Head Pupils for 2020 - 2021. Our Head Girl this year is **Aleena Yaser** and Our Head Boy is **Rizwan Ali**. They are both very enthusiastic, hardworking pupils and want the very best for Blakesley Hall Primary School. **Aleena** wants to ensure that all the pupils at Blakesley Hall Primary School are happy and is willing to support any child that requires support. **Rizwan** wants to ensure that Blakesley children have exciting lessons and is looking forward to working hard within his role to represent the school. They are both striving to be the best Head Pupils that Blakesley has had!

Head Boy & Girl

TELL YOUR STORY MONTH

In October, as part of the nationwide Black History Month celebrations, we will be encouraging parents, carers, children and staff to 'tell their story'. We will use these stories to help us to shape our long term curriculum and make it as relevant as possible for every child. More details will follow soon via Class Dojo.

BEING DIFFERENT, BELONGING TOGETHER

TELL US YOUR STORY



Attendance Update

Reception	83.8
Year 1	85.8
Year 2	82.7
Year 3	86.5
Year 4	86.4
Year 5	88.3
Year 6	89.0
Overall Attendance	86.2%
All data correct as 28.09.20	

A great start to the new academic year although attendance started off low every week it has improved.

Well done to 1H, 5K and 6M. All three classes have attendance over 90%, keep it up!

Don't forget out **SUPER SEPTEMBER & OUTSTANDING OCTOBER** challenge. There are 328 pupils who have 100% attendance since the start of the challenge-very impressive! Be in school every day to be in with a chance of winning a £10 Smyths voucher.

Parent - Teacher Meeting

This year we are not able to run Parent meetings in the way we would normally and so we will have to do things a little differently. Please look out for the Year Group presentation on School Ping and ClassDojo on Wednesday 7th October which will give you key information about expectations for your child for this school year. Please take time to read it carefully so you know how best to support your child, each year group has a different presentation. Please feel free to contact us via ClassDojo or the office if you have any further questions.

Parent Governor Vacancy



Parent governors play a key role within the overall effectiveness of the schools governing arrangements and we are looking for 2 parent governors to join our governing board here at Blakesley Hall Primary school. We are looking for someone who is passionate about making a difference in our children's lives and education.

You will be supported by an experienced governor who will provide you with informal guidance and support, whilst you will also benefit from specific training which will allow you to fulfil your role effectively.

As a parent governor, you will bring a unique viewpoint to the decisions that will be made about our school. If you would like to find out more about being a parent governor before submitting your application, then please feel free to contact me directly.

Happy to be contacted via email or arrange to speak with parents directly if you have any questions.

Joshua Cronin - Chair of Governors

Parent Governors NEEDED

Drop-Off & Collection of Children

The drop-off and collection of children during this global pandemic is working well and we are very grateful for your continued support in helping the children get to school safely.

However, some consideration still needs to be made by a small minority of parents and carers. Please read the following reminders:

- Keep a social distance between yourselves and other families.
- Wear a face covering.
- Park away from the roads leading to the school entrances and walk to the school gates.
- Queue responsibly, don't push in.
- Lessons start at 8:55am, so arriving after 8:50am will mean your child will miss learning time.

The gates open at 3:10pm Monday to Thursday and 12:10pm on Friday. Collection at the end of the day should be made by 3:20pm Monday to Thursday and 12:20pm on Fridays at the latest.

We want every school day to be safe, secure and successful, so your help and support in doing this is essential.



Birthday Book Club

Birthday Books - Celebrate your child's special day with a gift that keeps on giving

Please **do not send sweets** etc into school to celebrate your child's birthday as we are unable to hand them out to the class. Instead, if you would like to, please donate a **new** book for your child to add to their class library.

Your child will be able to bring the book into their classroom on their birthday, and if they want to, share it with the class and explain why they have chosen it. If time allows their class teacher will also read it to the class. The book will then be quarantined for 72 hours before being placed in the class library collection for the whole class to read. A dedication will be placed inside the front cover of the book, so everyone for years to come will see who donated the book to school.

Online Safety Top Tip



MONITOR VIEWING HABITS

Whilst most apps have moderation tools, inappropriate content can still slip through the net.

As a school, we are excited to announce that a group of Year 6 children, supported by Miss Watson, are in the process of designing and creating a school news Blog. The blog will report the amazing things our school is doing for writing and reading. It will feature our amazing work in lessons, guest authors and poets, new books and our book recommendations. Look out for further announcements about the launch.

News Blog...

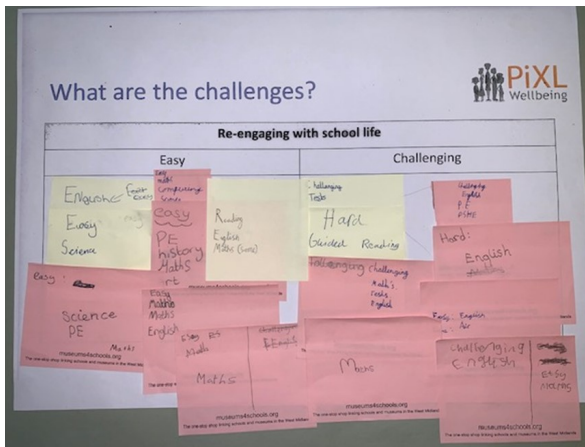
Miss Rebecca (Becky) Watson
Year 6 Class Teacher
Blakesley Hall Primary School

Autumn Term 2020		
Tuesday 1 September	INSET Day (NO children) – staff training	(1)
Wednesday 2 September	INSET Day (NO children) – staff training	(2)
Thursday 3 September	School opens for children	
26 October – 30 October	Half Term	
Monday 2 November	School opens for children	
Friday 18 December	End of Term - School closes for Christmas	
Spring Term 2021		
Monday 4 January	INSET Day (NO children) – staff training	(3)
Tuesday 5 January	School opens for children	
15 – 19 February	Half Term	
Monday 22 February	School opens for children	
Thursday 1 April	End of Term – school closes for children for Easter	
Summer Term 2021		
Monday 19 April	INSET Day (NO children) – staff training	(4)
Tuesday 20 April	School opens for children	
Monday 3 May	May Day Bank Holiday	
31 May – 4 June	Half Term	
Monday 7 June	School opens for children	
Friday 11 June	INSET Day (NO children) – staff training	(5)
Wednesday 21 July	End of Term - School closes for the Summer	

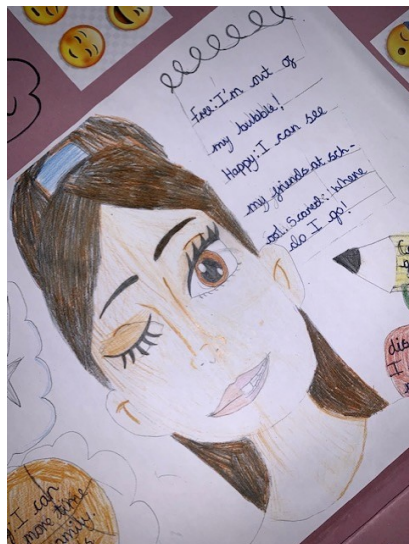
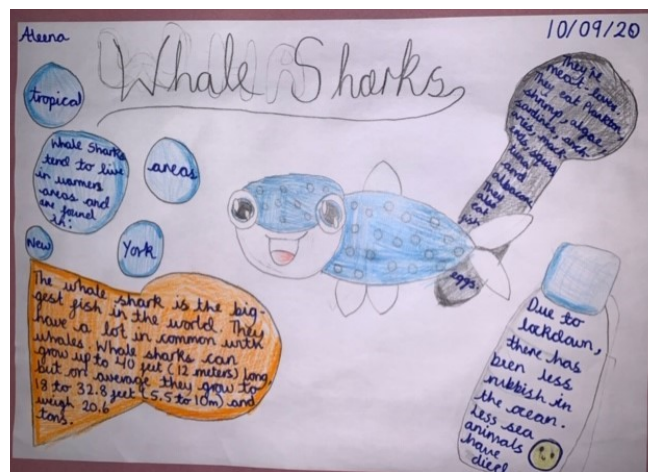
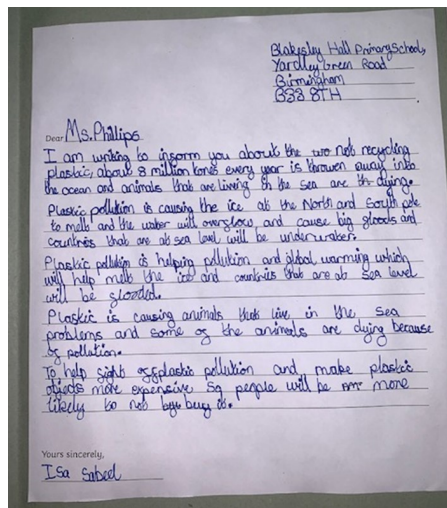
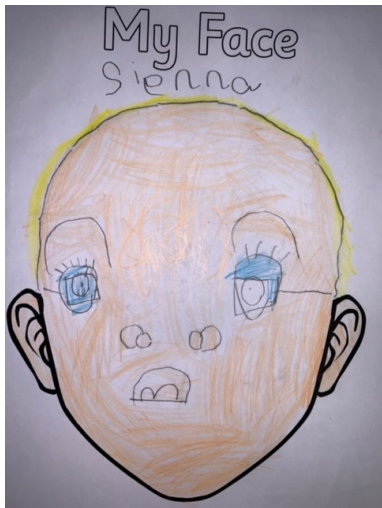
School Term Dates

**DUE TO COVID-19
INSET DAYS MAY BE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE**





At the start of September, the whole school read Oliver Jeffers book 'Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth' and spent a couple of weeks discussing, writing and completing art, PSHE and well-being activities linked to the book. We thought about the significant events of recent months and considered our place in the world and how we can move forward together in a positive way. Staff and pupils really enjoyed sharing this common experience. If you would like to hear Oliver Jeffers reading the book follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkcjKbbF9JA&safe=true>



Year 5 are
hungry to learn!
- Year 5

The children are very
settled and happy,
and are enjoying their
transition into Year 1.
- Year 1

It's been really
good to see the
children excited
and ready for
their learning.
- Year 2

We've had a very
positive start to
the year - the
children really
want to learn.
- Year 6

The children are
really happy and are
enjoying school -
you can tell they're
pleased to be back.
- Year 3

The children
have all
settled back
into school
really well.
- Jigsaws

The children are happy to
be back. They have not
been phased by anything
and they have come back
keen to learn.
- Year 4

Views from Year Group Leaders