



Blakesley



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SchoolPing



Edition 4 - Autumn 1 2021

THE BLAKESLEY

— BULLETIN —

SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



Don't forget to check ClassDojo for regular updates.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 25th October –

Friday 29th October 2021

School closed – Autumn Half Term

Monday 1st November

Pupils return to school

Weeks Commencing

Monday 8th November

Monday 15th November

Monday 22nd November

Monday 29th November

Monday 6th December

Monday 13th December

Whole School

Parents meeting phone calls

Monday 17th November

Open day for Reception 2022

Monday 20th December –

Monday 3rd January 2022

School Closed – Christmas Holiday

Tuesday 4th January

School Closed – Staff training

Wednesday 5th January

Pupils return to school

WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

We are fast approaching half term. We have celebrated harvest and given thanks for the food and shelter we have. We have learnt about all the diverse cultures in our school by sharing our stories with one another and we have celebrated our rich curriculum's cultural legacy throughout this month as Black History is highlighted nationally. Although we are not yet at the stage where we can open our doors fully to visitors we hope to do so soon. The children have enjoyed a full busy 7 weeks with lots to be proud of. I am proud of the hunger our children have for new knowledge and the



Ms Phillips

joy they take in being in school. I thank parents for supporting their children and we look forward to sharing how much progress they are making through 'parents meeting phone calls' after the holiday.

Enjoy the half term break!

Blakesley Hall Primary is an Operation Encompass School, working with the police and children's services to ensure that any children experiencing domestic abuse receive timely support in our school.



CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

As we begin this new academic year, there are some small moments where things feel "normal" again and this is a welcome change for all of us. We must all stay vigilant and look after one another with our actions, but begin to adapt to our new ways of communicating and engaging with one another. We have held our first meeting of the year as a board of governors and heard about the exciting plans for the school this year. I am looking forward to seeing these come to fruition over the next few months.



Joshua Cronin

HONESTY ♦ UNITY ♦ RESPECT ♦ CARING ♦ PERSISTENCE

M E E T T H E S T A F F

Y E A R 4 T E A C H E R

Hello! My name is Miss Mitha and I have joined the Blakesley family this September. I was born and brought up in Birmingham. From a very early age I always wanted to work in the field of education to make a difference to children's lives. I firmly believe that education has the power to change lives through helping people believe in themselves and recognise that through hard work and resilience you can achieve anything! After growing up in a community just like this, I went on to complete a degree in Education at The University of Birmingham. After this, I trained as a primary school teacher – it

felt like a dream come true! In my previous school, I taught in both Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. During the first national lockdown in 2020, I also completed my Master's in Teaching Studies which focused on Mathematics. I even had a virtual graduation – what a memorable experience! Outside of school, I enjoy spending time with my 13-year-old brother - I am yet to beat him in a game of bowling! I am also a keen traveller and can't wait to plan my next adventure. At Blakesley, I look forward to inspiring the future leaders!



Miss Mitha

Y E A R 5 T E A C H E R

My name is Mr Addis and I have resettled in the Midlands after working in international schools in Egypt, Indonesia and Saudi Arabia. My wife and I have two children; one is at university and the other is studying for her A Levels. We also have two street cats that we adopted in Indonesia. So far, I am really enjoying working at Blakesley Hall Primary

School and have been very impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm of the staff and the friendliness of the children. The children really are remarkable for the fact they have bounced back from the pandemic with resilient, cheerful attitudes.

Mr Addis



S C H O O L B U S I N E S S M A N A G E R

Hi all, my name is Ms Ord. I joined the Blakesley family in September and am really excited to be a part of this great team. I worked in the banking sector for over 15 years and decided to change my career path and have worked in schools since 2015. I enjoy my role and strive to do better. My role might not be pupil facing but it is to ensure our pupils get quality

education and lifelong experiences at school. I am a mother of two young children and enjoy cooking and gardening. I am looking forward to getting to know school better over the coming months and enhance schools education by supporting teachers and staff.

Ms D. Ord



S E N I O R L E A D E R S H I P T E A M

Assistant Headteachers



Mr Protherough



Miss Cameron

Deputy Headteachers

*Safeguarding, Attendance,
Pupil Premium & Early
Career Framework*



Mrs Smith

Maths Lead



Mrs Hack

English Lead



Mrs Key

*Special Educational
Needs Co-ordinator*



Mrs Reid-Leonard

*Pupil Progress
Leader*



Mr Walmsley

*Curriculum
Leader*

H O N E S T Y ♦ U N I T Y ♦ R E S P E C T ♦ C A R I N G ♦ P E R S E R V E R A N C E

Can you identify the flags?


All of these are countries our school communities have links to.



At Blakesley Hall Primary School, we are proud of our diversity. It is important that we celebrate each culture so that we can learn about ourselves and each other. When we learn about ourselves it strengthens our individual identity and grows our confidence; when we learn about each other, it brings our community closer together, building respect and trust. This is why, in school, we learn about our individual **Cultural Legacy**. When teaching in the wider curriculum subjects, we ensure that each child learns about their own cultural identity, making links between what they are learning and why it is relevant to them. We believe this makes the learning more interesting and therefore more exciting. It creates a real purpose for learning and helps each child develop pride in who they are, where they and their family have come from and the path they may take in the future. They find their place in the learning. **Cultural Legacy** development provides children with a voice to celebrate who they are. It

provides them with the history of who they are so they can talk confidently about themselves. It will give them the vocabulary to positively celebrate our diversity and to tackle discrimination. By owning our individual heritage and knowing the contribution it makes to school and society, we can all leave our own legacy for future generations. Staff are encouraged to all share their cultural identity so that children can understand and appreciate their cultural background. This allows us all to connect better with each other. It can also allow for children to identify individuals who they share a culture with. This can provide additional positive role models to the children. These connections can bring pride and confidence and with this comes academic success. Birmingham is a great place to live. Its diversity is its strength. We have such a wide range of different cultures that are at the heart of our schools and the places where we work. If we can be proud of who we are as individuals, share our

stories and learn from each other, then we build a community that we can all be proud of. **Cultural Legacy** will help us all to be Safe, Secure and Successful-the Blakesley Way.


The Halo Code
For Schools

Our school champions the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We acknowledge that Afro-textured hair is an important part of our Black staff and students' racial, ethnic, cultural, and religious identities, and requires specific styling for hair health and maintenance.

We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscarves, and wraps.

At this school, we recognise and celebrate our staff and students' identities. We are a community built on an ethos of equality and respect where hair texture and style have no bearing on anyone's ability to succeed.

www.halocollective.co.uk



Mr Walmsley

Children with good attendance and punctuality are more likely to make good academic progress, a missed school day is an opportunity to learn. At Blakesley this year there will be lots of

100% - 96% attendance - Excellent

95% - 90% attendance - Satisfactory

Below 90% attendance - Cause for concern

A T T E N D A N C E

competitions and prizes to be won for good and improving attendance and punctuality. So that your child has the opportunity to win these prizes please ensure that they have excellent school attendance.

Remember that children need to be in their classrooms by 8:55am at the latest ready to learn.

Kelly

H O N E S T Y ♦ U N I T Y ♦ R E S P E C T ♦ C A R I N G ♦ P E R S E V E R A N C E

Early Years has had a makeover. We have been very lucky in Early Years to receive some funding to upgrade and improve our offering. As you can see from the pictures our classrooms have been transformed into calm, organised and inviting spaces for our children to play and learn. Our children have access to a variety of inspiring resources to support their play. We have been very impressed with how well they children have settled into life at Blakesley Hall. They have been taking time to become familiar with our rules



and routines, whilst getting to know their new teachers and peers. We have been working hard to make friends, communicate with our peers and learn to take turns. Adults in the classroom have been supporting to children to extend their vocabulary by taking in full sentences and using new words children may not have heard before. Our topic this half term has been "Ourselves". The children have been thinking about who lives in their house and drawing pictures to represent this,



then comparing our pictures with our friends to explore similarities and differences. We have been using mirrors to look at ourselves and represent ourselves in different medium; paint, playdough and natural materials. Next half term our topic is "Journeys". Throughout the half term we will be going on lots of different journeys through our chosen stories.

Miss Bowker

Reception 2022

If you have a child due to start Reception in September 2022 (DoB: 01/09/2017 – 31/08/2018) we would like to invite you to our open day on **Wednesday 17th November 2021**. Please call the school office on 0121 783 2148 and book a visit to come and meet with our staff and have a look around our school.