



Blakesley



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THE BLAKESLEY

— BULLETIN —



SCHOOL PROSPECTUS



Don't forget to check  ClassDojo for regular updates.

HAPPY BLAKESLEY CHRISTMAS

The Christmas break is almost here,
It's not been an easy term.
Children and staff have worked so hard,
And Blakesley values have stayed firm.

We treat each other with **respect**,
And **care** for everyone.
We are like one big family,
Our **unity** is second to none.

We encourage children's **honesty**,
To be truthful and be kind.
Their hard work and **perseverance**,
Is the best that you could find.

For those of you who celebrate,
We hope your Christmas is the best.
Fun with friends and family,
And making time for rest.

The children make us very proud,
Each and every day.
They all deserve a Christmas,
That's special in every way.

We'd like to show **appreciation**,
For the support from all of you.
So thank you parents and carers,
See you all in 2022.

Mrs Lynda Scott
Teaching Assistant

WELCOME FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It is time for a welcome break from routines as we enjoy the next two weeks with family and friends. The term has been filled with fun in learning, we haven't had many visits and visitors, we have been creative with the curriculum and ensured enrichment for the children.



Ms Phillips

The term has had its challenges with Covid, lots of sickness and most recently, new guidance for us in managing the risks of the Omicron variant - but we have prevailed and we will come back with strength and continued passion in January. Despite the difficulties, you have been supportive and managed the changes. I have enjoyed seeing many of you on the playgrounds, many with a cheery smile and words of encouragement for us. Thank you. My secondment as Executive Headteacher working with Bordesley Green Primary comes to an end this

term; it has been a privilege and a joy to have had the opportunity to support another school, we have created a strong partnership which will continue. I hope you enjoy this 5th edition of Blakesley Bulletin.

I wish everyone a lovely Christmas time, be safe, be happy and see you all in 2022!

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

During the Autumn term, all members of the governing board have been able to meet with their key contacts in school to hear about the progress being made against our school development plan objectives. All governors have also had the opportunity to hear directly about the exciting changes and work going on in early years. Finally, I am excited that we will be welcoming a new parent and local authority governor to our board,



both of whom bring with them valuable experience and an important perspective on school life.

Joshua Cronin

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

Hello, my name is Mrs Key. I have worked at Blakesley Hall Primary School for 20 years. I moved to Birmingham in 2001 from my home town, Kendal, which is the gateway to the Lake District. During my time at Blakesley Hall, I have taught in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Some of the children I have taught are now Mums and Dads! I love it when children I have taught come back to school to tell me how well they are doing. Nowadays, I am an Assistant Headteacher and Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator for the school. I am passionate about helping children

ASSISTANT HEADTEACHER - SENCO

with additional needs to achieve their potential and lead an active life. I want children with special educational needs and disabilities to believe in themselves and to take the opportunities in life they are offered.

Over the years, I have worked with some truly inspirational children who have overcome lots of difficulties in life. I am sure that our Blakesley children will continue to amaze me.



Mrs Key

Hi, my name is Mrs Lahoria and I have been part of the Blakesley family for 11 years! I started my teaching career here in Year 5 then taught in Year 6 and now I love teaching and being Year Group Leader in Year 2.

I was born in Plymouth then lived in Leicester until I moved to university in Birmingham to train to be a teacher. Here, I specialised in Design and Technology – it is one of my favourite subjects to teach. I also love teaching Maths and also had the opportunity to train as a Maths Specialist Teacher,

Y E A R 2 T E A C H E R

this experience ignited my passion for the subject.

Outside of school I love to read, cook and spend time with friends and family. I also like to travel to places far and wide and hope to do lots more in 2022.

I wish all the Blakesley community a restful holiday and a happy new year!



Mrs Lahoria

Hi! I am Mr. Bailey a teacher in Year 4 and the school's P.E co-ordinator. I am in my fifth year of teaching at Blakesley but this is my first year as P.E. co-ordinator. I was born and raised in neighbouring Solihull and have lived in Birmingham or Solihull my whole life. Although, I have travelled around the world often spending months living in other places such as Whistler, Canada, Brisbane, Australia and La Plagne in the French Alps. Outside of school I keep an allotment, play badminton and frequently go mountain biking and roller skating.

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

This half term it has been great to be involved in the music tuition Year 4 have been receiving. 4B have been learning the tenor horn and I have been able to have a go myself. Although I am nowhere near as good as the rest of the class. This year I am looking forward to providing as many start of each half term for details of sports clubs. Children as possible the opportunity to learn new skills in a sport they may have not tried before. Keep an eye on Ping at the



Mr Bailey

Ms McArthur



Mrs Zaman



Mr Wilkes



Mrs Brannon



LUNCHTIME SUPERVISORS

Meet some of our 18 Lunchtime Supervisors. They are an important part of our team.

SCHOOL COUNCIL



On Friday 19th November, School Council invited all the children at Blakesley Hall Primary School, to wear something yellow or black to raise money for Children in Need. It was amazing to see how many children supported us with this and we raised a magnificent **£304.05**.



School Council have also been busy sharing with Ms Ord (School Business Manager) their ideas about improving the school's playgrounds. They went on a walk around the top playground and looked at the equipment and environment that is there now and suggested ideas that would make the playground more appealing for children.

Watch this space to see what ideas become a reality!



This term it has been great to see our school rekindling it's passion for P.E and sports. Our clubs have frequently been oversubscribed and those that have attended have learnt new skills in all kinds of sporting activities. So far this year in P.E and after school clubs we have tried our hands (or feet) at athletics, basketball, rounders, rugby, football, netball and dodgeball as well as multi-skills clubs to improve our fitness, co-ordination, balance and team working.

Our Year 5 and 6 boys and girls football teams have both competed in the local EBSFA football tournament where both teams gave it their all and did themselves and the school proud.

Mr Bailey



SPORTS REPORT

This term we have welcomed Birmingham City Football Club into our school. A coach from the club has been here every Thursday working alongside teachers and learning mentors providing P.E lessons, sports coaching and 1:1 sessions. We will be working with BCFC for the rest of the year and they will be providing lots of exciting opportunities in and out of school.



Reception September 2022 Applications
(Children born between 01/09/2017 and 31/08/2018)
Applications for a reception place for your child should now be made online
[Birmingham Schools Admission](#)
The closing date for applications is 15 January 2022

SUPPORTING OUR PARENTS AS LEARNERS

In school, we currently have three parents who are on placements from their colleges, while they study for their qualifications. It has been great to see parents back in the classroom, working alongside children. We asked the parents to provide us with a few words about their work in school.

Here's what they said:

"It is wonderful to be back in school, working with the children. I am very grateful to Blakesley Hall School for giving me this opportunity."

"It's lovely to be in school and getting back to my studies which I started 2 years ago. It's great to be working with the children once again and have some normality in life."

"It is never too late to learn. Learning has helped to keep my brain active. My studies are helping me to understand how children learn, including my own. This means I can help them more at home."



We wish all our parent learners the very best with their studies this year and thank them for the support they are providing for the children.

Mr Walmsley

LEARNING AMBASSADORS

In school, we have a team of 41 children who are Learning Ambassadors. They have a number of important duties in school like providing feedback to teachers and leaders about lessons and talking with visitors about their learning. I asked some members of the group what they love about school. This is what they said:



Mr Walmsley



Year 4-"The school is really positive about things. We love that the teachers are fair, funny, kind and positive. We always get to join in during lessons, learn new things often and recap our learning so that we can remember it. This also helps us to correct any mistakes we might have made. We also love that we get to meet new friends from different cultures which is great too."

Year 5-"Teachers help us to persevere with our learning, even when it is difficult. We are always encouraged to pursue our dreams and we get help from lots of different people in school. We love that there is always someone who is there for us. In class, the knowledge we learn, across lots of different subjects, helps us to grow. This, we think, is the key to success. We've loved learning about our rights and how to respect the rights of others."

Thank you to all the Learning Ambassadors who are providing valuable feedback about their learning, which helps us all to improve and grow. You are doing a fantastic job!

We were itching to get back into Geography at the start of the year and are now ending the term full of new knowledge and equipped with new skills. **In Year 1**, the children have been exploring Blakesley's school grounds and learning the skill of creating a key, to map our various outdoor zones and spaces. We've expanded our reach in **Year 2**, researching the landmarks we see around us in Birmingham. The children created tourist leaflets, featuring the Birmingham Library and Symphony Hall. Do our European neighbours have any landmarks that can compete? **Year 3**



have been learning about natural and man-made landmarks in France – both in school and at home. Look at these brilliant homemade sculptures – how many Louvre museums and Arc de Triomphe can you spot?

GEOGRAPHY



Year 4 have been getting equally crafty in Geography, creating dioramas to reflect the biomes of the Indian savannah, Spanish chaparral and Australian desert. *Can you work out which is which?*

It is great to see so many children across the school developing into geographers. We're eager to see what next term has in store.

Miss Choi