

Friday 5th May 2023



Newsletter

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Another great week at Bleak Hill, full of learning and engaging curricular activities. It has been great to see children across school taking part in athletics lessons in preparation for our upcoming sports days. Key Stage 2 sports day is on Tuesday 23rd May, EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sports day is in the afternoon of Wednesday 24th May. Fingers crossed for nice weather!

The children in Reception visited Knowsley Safari Park this week as part of Bleak Hill's Road Trip to Knowledge. The children loved seeing all of the different animals and their behaviour was exemplary.

A group of Year 5 children had the opportunity to represent school at a cricket competition this week, they loved competing with other local schools. Year 6 took part in their second Yoga session this week and feel calm in preparation for their end of year SATs next week.

We are again looking forward to another long weekend. Lets hope the sun shines whilst we celebrate King Charles' Coronation. Have a great weekend!

Merit Award - Children who persevere

	R.O.T.W	W.O.T.W	M.O.T.W	Bronze	Silver	Gold
RH	Isla N	Roman g	Ella W	Reuben B	Roman T	Sophie M
RR	Jacob C	Bobby H	Sadie C	Haydn R	Jayson B	Alfie U
RS	Ava B	Harper I	Etta H	Hadassah B	Lydia A	Ren K
1A	Aria B	Blake M	Daniel B	George M	Harry C	Ezri N-J
1MA	Harry C	Seren A	Luke R	Harry B	Max B	Lucas M
1MC	Alfie W	Joseph U	Hallie W	Clyde W	Emily T	Alex D
2G	Corey R	Harry W	Billy B	Imogen D	Nancie J	George M
2H	Jacob R	Harriet B	Evie	Hugo T	Oliver T	Harper E
2W	Ava B	Cohan W	Molly W	Matthew M	Saxon B	Martha M
3H	Phoebe C	Amelia B	Olivia G	Nancy W	Oscar D	Michael O
3MD	Charlotte L	Jude W	Sky W	Joseph S	Imogen S	Evie S
3D	Mason M	Frankie M	James D	Olivia S	Dean T	Gracie L-G
4B	Emily O	Elliott C	Emily D	Finley D	Elsa C	Evan B
4M	Freddie P	Jonah H	Eva M	Charlotte T	Max R	Niamh P
5KW	Evie Y	Jessica F	Isla B	Isla R	Joshua N	Zak N
5RW	Oliver A	Joseph A	Harry C	Millie W	Leon O'B	Charlie B
6C	Jack B	Will D	Evie D	Lucy S	Harry S	Vincent K
6D	Michael C	Dominic W	Matilda H	Sophie C	Isabelle B	Harry M
6M	Rudy M-S	Ted B	Ethan E	Holly M	Oliver P	Ella H

What's on next week (week 3 of 4 Extra-curricular clubs)			
08.05.2023	Before School	During School	After School
Monday	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY
Tuesday	Football Y5 & 6 - Ian McMinn (external provider) Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Y3, Y4 & Y6 PE Day KS2 SATs	Ukulele Y3, 4 & 5 Mrs Burrows Exit via main reception at 4.15pm
Wednesday	Dance YR, 1, & 2 - Karen Elliott (external provider) Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Reception & Y2 PE Day KS2 SATs	Fitness Frenzy Y5 & 6 - Miss Williams Exit via main reception at 4.20pm
Thursday	Football Y3 & 4 - Ian McMinn (external provider) Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Y1, Y4, & Y5 PE Day KS2 SATs	Craft Club Y1 & 2 - Mrs Griffin & Mrs Williams Exit via main reception at 4.15pm Gymnastics Y3 & 4 - Future Gym (external provider) Exit via main reception at 4.20pm
Friday	Gymnastics YR, 1 & 2 - Future Gym (external provider) Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Reception, Y5 & Y6 PE Day KS2 SATs	

300 Club

You've got to be in it to win it!

Congratulations to this week's winner - Molly F (2G)

Tickets are still available on our School Money Shop

**Weekly Draw £10
Christmas Draw £100 & £50
Summer Draw £100 & £50**

Friday 26th May - Own Clothes Day

Friday 26th May is own clothes day in exchange for chocolates and gifts for the summer gala.

Friends of Bleak Hill



Clothes Fundraiser

Please see separate sheet on newsletter for details.

Amazon Wish list

If anyone is able to help school by purchasing an item from the below amazon wish list it would be greatly appreciated.

We know the staff would be grateful for the items and they will be well utilised by the pupils.

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2AX8U3RM4NGZD?ref=wl_share

Thank you to those that have purchased items through the wish list already.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for two Parent Governors in school. In particular we would welcome applications from those with Financial or Special Educational needs skills.

Nominations should be returned to Mrs. Knapper in the school office no later than the 10th May 2023.

Documents are also available on the school website and in paper form from the school office.

Dates for your diary - Sports Day

Tuesday 23rd May 2023 - KS2 Sports Day (All day)

Wednesday 24th May 2023 - EYFS & KS1 Sports (Afternoon)

KS1 - Children take part in all events

KS2 - Programme of events to follow at a later date.

Coronation Celebration

As we enter the Coronation weekend, we look forward to celebrating in school. Due to KS2 SATs, we have made the decision to celebrate on **Monday 15th May**.

Children will have the opportunity to have a picnic with their class on the field and take part in a range of fun activities in the afternoon. Children that have purchased a Coronation lunch or ordinarily have a school lunch will receive it in a picnic box. Children will remain in school uniform (PE kit if it is a PE day) during this day.



Future Gym—May Holiday Club

All bookings and enquiries will need to be made directly with Future Gym as the May Camp is not run by school. To make a booking please visit: <https://futuregymsports.as.me/camps>

Places are limited to Bleak Hill Primary School pupils only and will be on a first come first serve basis. Additional details can be found on the attached information sheet.



FUTURE
GYM SPORTS

HALF TERM CAMP

For Bleak Hill pupils only

Tue 30th May - Fri 2nd June

Mon 5th & 6th June

Individual days or full camp
available to book via the
website



All Day. Every Day.

Attendance Matters



Attendance	
Whole School	96.3%
Reception	96.2%
Year 1	96.0%
Year 2	95.5%
Year 3	97.1%
Year 4	99.4%
Year 5	94.8%
Year 6	96.2%



Please Be Aware

Doors to classes open at 8.40am (Rec) and 8.45am (KS1 & KS2).

Classroom doors are being closed promptly at 9am when the school bell sounds. It is important to do this so that classes are able to start their lesson uninterrupted.

Any children arriving onto school grounds after this time and unable to gain access via the classroom doors **MUST** be escorted by parents to the front office where an adult will be asked to sign them in on our arrivals screen.

Attendance Update

We need to try really hard each and every week to make sure every year group is beating our **96%** target this will help us to succeed

Our attendance for the year so far is: 96.4%

10 top tips for safely using SMARTWATCHES

Kids love gadgets, and smartwatches – available to buy from as little as £20 online – make a tempting gift. As with any type of mobile technology, though, smartwatches can pose risks to children unless they're used safely. Receiving unwanted calls, cyber-stalking and distracting a young person when they're crossing the road are all known risks associated with smartwatches. However, these devices can bring plenty of benefits for children and parents alike – so let's examine the pros and cons of smartwatches.

AVOID CHEAP OPTIONS

A quick search online yields a torrent of cheap smartwatches for kids, costing as little as £20. It's wise to avoid this bargain basement tech: it tends to deliver a poor experience with inferior battery life, and it's hard to have faith in the software's safety. There have been cases of smartwatches being hacked to track or contact children; stick to known brands who have a reputation to protect.

CONTROL CALLING

Many smartwatches have the facility to make or take calls. As with a phone, you may want to restrict who your child can call – or be called by. On Apple Watches, you can select trusted contacts who are allowed to ring your child, while other watches' controls vary hugely. Some need to connect to a linked phone for calls, so you may be able to block unknown contacts via that device instead.

BEWARE HIDDEN COSTS

For a smartwatch to allow calls independently (that is, without being connected to a phone via Bluetooth), it will need its own mobile data plan. This might take the form of a tiny SIM card that you slot into the watch – or an eSIM, where the physical card is replaced by software settings. Either way, this will incur an additional monthly cost that you'll need to factor into any buying decision.

ENABLE FAMILY SHARING

Apple Watches aren't cheap, but they do offer superb safety features – allowing parents to control calls, messages and emails on the device, as well as a location tracking system that can send alerts if kids wander beyond pre-set boundaries. Their SOS function enables children to contact emergency services instantly if they're in trouble, which simultaneously also alerts parents and carers.

MAKE THEM COOL FOR SCHOOL

Some schools have banned smartwatches, as pupils have been using them as substitute phones. If your child's school does permit them, some devices can be set to prevent distractions in class. For example, Apple's Schooltime feature turns their watches into ordinary time-keeping devices during school hours. The display changes in this mode, showing teachers that it isn't being used for other purposes.

BE MINDFUL OF BEDTIME

Many smartwatches offer sleep tracking, which some (usually older) children use to justify wearing them to bed. However, that also presents a temptation to message friends or check social media late at night, even if their phone is downstairs. Unless there's a valid reason not to, you could encourage your child to remove the watch in the evenings and ensure the charger stays in a different room.

TRACK ITS LOCATION

Both Apple and Android devices have apps which allow you to track a smartwatch's location. They can also initiate an audio alert – avoiding those cushion-hurling panics when a treasured device can't be found at home. If you're planning to track your child's location via their watch, make them aware of that in advance. You could even make it a condition of them getting the watch in the first place.

THINK 'SAFETY FIRST'

Smartwatches are often worth hundreds of pounds, which can make young people wearing one a target for thieves. Advise your child to keep the watch hidden in public (when possible) and not to resist if muggers demand their watch. If you manage to track a stolen device, pass that information to the police: location data isn't always accurate, so you could end up wrongly accusing someone.

STORE MEDICAL INFO

Devices including the Samsung Galaxy Watch and Apple Watch can store the owner's medical details (such as their blood group and any pre-existing medical conditions), potentially giving emergency services access to vital information in a crisis. These devices also have 'hard fall' detection, which sends a text message to selected contacts along with a map showing the wearer's location.

USE THEM AS MOTIVATION

If you're worried your child's spending too much time slumped on the sofa staring at screens, smartwatches are great fitness trackers and can be a powerful incentive to get moving. Some devices will alert the wearer if they've been inactive for a long time and encourage them to do some exercise. Many watches record the user's daily step count and measure other health metrics.

Meet Our Expert

Barry Collins has been a technology journalist and editor for more than 20 years, working for titles such as the *Sunday Times*, *Which?*, *PC Pro* and *Computeractive*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *BBC Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and the *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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#WakeUpWednesday

CLOTHING FUNDRAISER

We are holding a clothing collection at school and we would like your help with this fundraiser.

We need you to simply have a sort through your wardrobes/ drawers and collect any old / outgrown clothes. Just pop the clothes into any bin/ carrier bag and bring to school on **Thursday 8th June**. The bags can be dropped in front of the school building to the right. You can boost the amount raised by asking family and friends to help and have a sort out as well!

Friends of Bleak Hill use these collections to raise valuable funds for the school and to provide resources for your children.

We thank you for your support

Friends of Bleak Hill

WHAT WE WON'T ACCEPT



WHAT WE WILL ACCEPT

