

# Newsletter

WEBSITE: www.bleakhill.st-helens.sch.uk

#### Message from Mrs Lawrenson

Another four-day week this week but it has been very busy. Firstly, we would like to say a huge well done to all of the Year 6 children who have completed their Sats this week. We could not be any prouder of the children who approached the assessments with maturity and positivity - you are all super stars.

Year 1 have been busy practising their class assemblies and cannot wait to share this with parents and carers next week. All of the KS2 children have been selecting the events that they would like to take part in for Sports Day and a timetable of events will be sent home next week so that you are able to see the race schedule.

Enjoy the weekend and we will see you back in school on Monday.

#### Merit Award - Children who never give up

	R.O.T.W	W.O.T.W	M.O.T.W	Bronze	Silver	Gold
RH	Alfie H	Celine M	Casper L	Emma H	Finn T	Charlotte A
RR	Zain T	Elara J	Vinnie F	Reuben C	Jacob C	Jayson B
RS	Albie P-S	Ren K	Alannah P	Ben B	Cynthia U	Leo B
1A	Ethan D	Jude D	Thea H	Billy N	Blake M	George K
1MA	Pippa I	Florence S	Esme B	Annabelle B	Lincoln H	Harry J
1MC	Bobby G	Annie B	Ellen H	Finley W	Edie F	Beatrice P
2G	Jude M	Maddison G	Fifi N-W	Mia J	Riley W	Lucy R
2H	Theo B	Nancy A	Frankie C	Jacob R	Nell C	Lucy D
2W	Iris J	Louie R	Jude N	Daina R	Amber C	Thomas K
3H	Nancy W	Rhea J	Lilly I	Amelia B	Michael O	Ella G
3MD	Max R	Annie D	Charlie B	Charlie B	Lydia C	Camron F
3D	Una Q-D	Emily L	Hallie S	Teddy R-G	Hawley A	James E
4B	Henry M	Jack M	Evie S	Isabelle K	Amelie P	Jessica S
4M	Flynn O'B	Lilly W	Maisey T	Jonah H	Ethan C	Harriet B
5KW	Riley L	Alice T	Stanley W	Evie C	Isla B	Sam B
5RW	Abigail T	Diya S	Evie P	Lois T	Frankie W	Lillia F
6C	All Children					
6D	All Children					
6M	All Children					

What's on next week  (week 4 of 4 Extra-curricular clubs)						
15.05.2023	Before School	During School	After School			
Monday		KS1 SATs				
Tuesday	Football Y5 & 6 - Ian McMinn (external provider) Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Y3, Y4 & Y6 PE Day KS1 SATs Y1 Assemblies- see website for times	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  KS1 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 KS1 SATs Y4 Trip - Science & Industry Museum	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	Reception, Y5 & Y6 PE Day KS1 SATs				

#### 300 Club

playground)

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

Congratulations to this week's winner - Ella A (1A)

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.

#### **Coronation Celebration**

We are looking forward to the coronation celebration 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.



Children will receive a commemorative gift on Monday 15th May to celebrate the coronation from Friends of Bleak Hill.

#### **Year 6 Coronation Crispy Cake Sale**

Year 6 are fundraising in several ways at the moment. As part of this process, Year 6 are going to be making and selling Crispy Cakes on **Monday 15th May.** 

Cakes will be 50p and available AM for KS2 and PM for KS1.

#### **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 next week.

#### 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.



# All Day. Every Day.



# Attendance Matters



Attendance		
Whole School	96.8%	
Reception	96.5%	
Year 1	97.6%	
Year 2	94.7%	
Year 3	99.2%	
Year 4	97.8%	
Year 5	95.7%	
Year 6	96.3%	



Please remember term time holidays should not be taken, and in most cases will not be agreed.

All term time holidays must be requested by filling out the correct form. This can be found on our website under the Parental Information tab, or you are able to collect a form from the office. Once it has been submitted you will receive a response within 7 working days.

If a completed form is not submitted then an unauthorised mark will be given.

### **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%



# Suggested Apps and Cames For









Jearning





#### FISH SCHOOL HD



#### GREEN EGGS AND HAM - DR. SEUSS The classic Dr. Seuss book has been reworked into an interactive adventure

The classic Dr. Sexuss book has been reworked into an interactive adventure for modern day devices, with an emphasis on encouraging literacy learning in younger children. Within the app, there's a few different options on how to enjoy the story; you can read it aloud together, have the app read the book and follow along, or just play the story through automatically. You can even tap on words to hear them individually to practice vocabulary, While the app will set you back £2.79 on Android £2.99 on £05) it has an excellent rating and over 10,000 down loads, with many noting how much their young children have enjoyed the story. It speaks volumes about the quality of the work, too, that a book from 1960 can still be read and losed for children now two momentures after its initial release. nd loved by children some two generations after its initial release

#### TOCA LAB: ELEMENTS

Toca Lab is the app of choice in encouraging little scientists to get to grips with elements, our world and how physics and chemistry work. This one might be a little advanced for younger kids and, though it has a PEGI 3 nating, it does recommend appes 6-8 in the description. All 118 elements are present in Toca Labs and kids are encouraged to find and test them all. Experimenting with things like Gold, Neon. Hydrogen and more, it gives a better grasp of how everything in our universe is formed. Bear in mind though that it's not meant to be a scientifically accurate account of how elements react, but to build carlotify in young minds. The app is available on IOS and Android for £3.99.

#### BAREFOOT WORLD ATLAS

What's the next best thing to travelling the world? Well, for kids with access to an iPad or Apple phone, Barefoot World Atlas could be a close second. In this app available only on 105 for £4.99, kids and adults can explore the globe from the comfact of their own homes and learn all about our planet. The app, which is roted 4+, only appears on Apple devices but the sheer ount of Information contained in here will keep curious kids busy for us on end.





# SKETCHBOOK - DRAW AND PAINT (AUTODESK SKETCHBOOK ON IOS)

Encouraging artistic ability at an early age can often be invaluable in letting kid's imaginations loose and there are many apps that allow them to unlock that passion. SketchBook comes highly recommended with over 300,000 reviews. Essentially, the app comprises a blank carries and a host of "fast and powerful creative sketching tools" like pens, pencils and paint brushes to let those creative jukes flow. SketchBook is rated PEGI 3 so even younger childres should be able to get to grips with it. However, it could prove a little too complex for some and the large collection of tools and ority graphics would suit a larger screen like an if Fad, over a mobile phone. Despite this, the ability to simply mess around and could not be able to get to download on both Android and iOS.













#### LITTLE FRIENDS: CATS & DOGS

If you're looking to introduce pets into the family home but aren't sure about how your children might react, a good way to get your younger ones acquainted with an animal before a big commitment is a game like Little Friends: Cats & Dogs. This Nintendo Switch game tasks players with feeding, playing with and loving their own virtual cat or dog. Much like Nintendegs or even Tamagetchi of the 90s, Little Friends is a fun way to build up confidence to owning a real animal. While only a 1 player game, Little Friends: Cats & Dogs is suitable for all ages and entirely offline, so there's nothing at all to worry about when they're enjoying it alone.

O

YouTube Kids takes the popular YouTube format and curates a more specialised environment for children to search through. While any age range can benefit from YouTube Kids, the Preschool Mode is specifically designed for kids aged 4 and under. According to the apply description, Preschool Mode permotes creativity, playfulness, learning and exploration through its channels. The inclusion of parental controls (limited screen-time, video blocking and flagging) and strict advert monitoring by YouTube means the experience is incredibly safe for younger kids. It should be noted that in the app description, YouTube say that some inapprepriate context can all pit through the cracks, but they're constantly implementing updates to stop these. A hugely popular app, YouTube Kids is available on iOS and Android with well over 100 million downloads.

#### BBC iPLAYER KIDS Plant Kids

This app is designed for kids and lets them watch all their favourite CBBC and CBeebies shows in one place. The simple presentation is super-easy to navigate and the app itself is estirely free on both Android and iOS with no adverts whatsoevers. BBC FPayer Kids can downloo shows to your device's internal storage allowing you to take all the best bits with you when there's no WiFI and multiple profiles mean everybody gets straight to their favourities with minimal bass. According to the app description, it will ask for your child's name an age to recommend other programmes it thinks they might like.



#### MARIO KART 8 DELUXE

YOUTUBE KIDS

Mario Kart has been a staple of Nintendo consoles since 1992. It has been a favourite of young and old alike for over 20 years and is always an incredibly fun experience. Now exclusively on the Nintendo Switch with Mario Kart 8, the bells and whistles may have changed, but the enjoyable to core gameplays and challenge have not. Suitable for all ages, Mario Kart can be played alone, online or at home with up to 4 players on one screen. The ability to take the Switch out with you into the world and play wherever you like is a huge advantage over other games and means you can always be sure of some quick entertainment.

#### ROCKET LEAGUE

The concept behind Rocket League takes teams of jet-fuelled cars zipping around football-inspired pitches in an attempt to knock a giant, over-sized ball into nets. Rated PEGI 3, the challenge of Rocket League is probably more suited to those 5 and up, but anybody can enjoy the bright colours and fun gameplay. Rocket League is available on Windows PC, Mac, PlayStation, Xbox One and Nintendo Switch at various price points. Be warned though, you can spend money in the game for certain items so be sure you know when your young ones are playing and what they're buying.

### Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.













## Suggested Apps and Cames For



**Jearning** 





#### MAGIC PIANO BY SMILE

While Magic Piano doesn't strictly teach you how to play the piano it does teach hand-eye coordination and can help spark creativity in young minds. Users can play along to a variety of popular songs on a mage of difficulty levels in an attempt to get through the song with as few mistakes as possible, increasing dexterity and reaction times. Free on 305 & Android, the game does contain some advand le-app purchases, so be sure to check these out before letting younger players unleash their missical side. Magic Piano is PEGI 3 rated but requires slightly more nimble hands to master so older kids will get the most from this.



#### AZOOMEE

azoomee Azoomee houses over 1,000 garnes, videos and activities for kids of all Accome houses over 1,000 garses, videos and activities for kids of all ages to play, have fun and most importantly, develop their key skills in. The app is award winning, BAFTA nominated, supported by the NSPCC faccording to the description on their app page; and comes with a suite of parental controls built in. As well as educational games, activities and kid's favourite TV shows, the app also has a built-in chaft feature where they can talk to their friends safely. A nice little touch is that if you buy a subscription to Azsomee for unlimited premium content for £4.99 a moeth, a portion of the money raised goes towards supporting the NSPCC. The app is available on iOS, Android and Amazon.

### POLY BRIDGE

POLY While Pely Bridge could be easily enjoyed solely as a game, it's actually an incredibly clever way to learn critical thinking and engineering skills in a kild friendly way. It's set in a colourful, cartoony world and has extremely simple gameplay. In Poly Beidge, it's your task to get care, buses, trucks, bearts and more safely to their destination by designing bridges that are sefe and practical. How those bridges are created is entirely up to you. With over 100 levels, a sandbox mode and aimset infinite playability, Poly Bridge is available on PC, Android, IOS and Nintendo Switch at various price points, so be sure to check which is the best option for you.

#### CROSSWORLD PUZZLES (WUBU APPS LTD)

Crossword puzzles might not immediately seem like a learning game for younger hids, but they're incredibly effective at building strong word skills and problem solving. This one by Wubu Apps Limited is exclusive to iOS and constantly change its roater of daily crosswords and challenges. although there are a whole busch of apps available out there which do similar things. The app is rated 4+ but would likely be suited to kids a little older as the crosswords are designed for adults as well. As mentioned, Crossword Puzzles is only available on iOS devices and is free to dewnload but does contain in app purchases.

#### SCRIBBLENAUTS UNLIMITED

Scribblenauts is a game like few others in that it actively encourages children to use their intuition to solve a variety of puzzles. Armed only with their imagination, players must complete levels by conjuring potentially useful items for main character Maxwell to collect the Starites and achieve his goal. The game helps create strong vocabulary and weed association to a few 2D backurps, While any version of Scribblenauts is good, Unlimited is the most readily available, eing released on Wil U, PC, Nintendo 3DS, IOS and Android devices, PS4, Xbox One and Nintendo Switch.











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#### SUPER MARIO ODYSSEY

Widely regarded as one of the greatest games Rintendo have ever made. Super Mario Odyssey provides family friendly fun and a challenging environment for kids to learn new skills in a video game. Rated PEGI 7, Odyssey can be enjoyed by almost any age range, even those who are young at heart. The caveat is that the game is only available on Nistendo Switch, so some investment will need to be made, but the console boasts a host of other child-safe titles and the ability to play on the go as well as at home







#### NETFLIX

NETFLIX As obvious as it may sound, Netflix's children's section is ideal for As obvious as it may sound, Netflat's children's section is ideal for keeping young ones and toddlers out of trouble on long journeys or at home. The specific prefile for kids allows them to only view content appropriate for younger audiences which lets you and them watch their favourite shows and movies anywhere, at any time. Curated playlists, easy navigation through TV series and movies, and so-hasde auto-play means a stress-free quarantee. The only downside to the app is that it requires a Netflix subscription in order to it but if you're happy to pay the monthly cost, it's an absolute must for any parent.

#### MINECRAFT

Minestraft is one of those rare, timeless classics that can be enjoyed by every age group. Coming in both a console version and a pocket edition for mobile devices the sandbox world-building fun in Minestraft can be an assazing place to let your imagination run wild. The game can be played enfine with friends and supports cross play, meaning that no matter what device everybedy has, it can be played together. While the game land three wild induce the power and hours of fun for the whole family so it's worth the investment of a one-time purchase. As one of the most popular games ever released, it inspires critical thinking, problem solving and above all, fun.

#### LEGO MOVIE MAKER 2

The LEGO Movie Maker 2 app lets users create their own stop-motion movies and uplead them for others to watch online. Rids can create a short LEGO movie in whatever gener they like using a range of easy to use tools and are able to add in sounds and visual effects to make the videos look super realistic. All movies are upleaded or viewed by third parties. The app is free to download on both IOS and Android devices but does require creation of a LEGO account to uplead videos. The only information needed for an account is the country you live in, your email address and date of birth. While it's rated for 4+, kids of 8 and up will get the most out of this one. MODE STREET

#### ADVENTURES OF POCO ECO: LOST SOUNDS

If something more slow-paced and chilled out is on your radar, Adventures of Poco Eco should be a ble to scratch that itch. With an emphasis on creating a rich and inviting musical soundscape over hardcore gameplay, the puzzle action is perfect for unwinding young minds, as opposed to challenging them. The single-player game is available on all 105 and Android devices, as well as the Amazon Kindle Store and you can also nab yourself a free copy of the soundtrack with the purchase.

### Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGbible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.













## Suggested Apps and Cames For









#### EVERNOTE

If keeping track of things like homework, links, i mages or basically anything is an issue, then livernote could be your new best friend. While not strictly a learning app, bromete does make organising learning so much easier. Used by both professionals and students, this app helps for little keeping on top of executive functioning skills, with online planners and notabooks made wallable across all your devices and computers. With over 1.5 million develoads, vernote is one of the most popular organisational apps in the world, and is free to leveload on IOS, Android and the Amazon Store.

#### DRAGONBOX

Dragonition isn't one singular app, but a series of educational and learning garnes designed to teach the fundamentals of Methematics. There are 5 apps in total for learning Algebra, Geometry, Numbers, Big Mumbers and Elements. Each app centains a number of mini-garnes to get kids thinking about getting a head start on the desirting numerical subject, backed by bright and charming visuals. Each app comes in at between \$1.99 and \$1.590 on 105 and Androod making it one of the more pricler investments. However, once you've paid the uphorn cost, the entire app is unlocked and fine to explore. It should also be pointed out that because most of the Dragonibox collection is recommended for children between 6 and 12 years old, older kids with a decent grasp on Matho might find this a little beneath their skill level.

#### NSF SCIENCE ZONE

Apps about our world don't come much more official than being created by the National Science Foundation, which is exactly where NSF Science Zone comes in. Featuring a wide and high-resolution pictures focusing on everything from the for reaches of space to the microscopic organizems that inhabit our planet and enwrything in between, this is perfect for anybody curious about nature and the world. The app is 100% free on iOS and Android and would be perfect as a visual encyclopedia for anybody doing any science related study. All the information on the Science. Zone app has been previded by scientists and unknertities accurd the globe so you can be confident of it being the highest possible standard to teach your young ones.

#### GUITAR COACH CHORDS TUNER TABS

Learning instruments like the guitar has never been simpler thanks to all the modern technology at our fingertips. Learning visually can often be the difference between giving up and persevering to acquire a truly sought after skill. HO videos, animated technology, and choose a supplemental to the state of the state



#### DUOLINGO

What's better than mastering one is nguage? Mastering all the languages? Doolings is world renowned for being able to teach ampbody a new language with its fun and easy to use app. Ideal for kids picking up a second language at school, DuoLingo offers a variety of languages including French, German, Spanish, Dutch, Railan, Irish and mere, all for free. You simply choose which language you want to learn, what kind of cosmitteent you can give per day and away you go. The best part about DuoLingo is that it is completely free to develoced and use and will sweet send you helpful notification reminders when it's to learn some new words and phrases. It should be pointed out that there are some in-app purchases, but they're strictly optional and transparent throughout, so no sneeky accidented payments can be made.





#WakeUpWednesday







#### TERRARIA

Much like Minerraft. Terraria has a focus on building and creating anything kids can put their imagination to. Whether they're digging into the earth to seek out treasures, or creating their own kingdoms out of stone, however your young ones like to play, there's guaranteed to be something to keep them busy for hours on each. There are a couple of slight caveats with Terraria though. As the game is so big. It does require more modern [2014 or up) devices to play on.

There's also the cost which stands at £4,90 and 65,490 on 165 devices. Argust bough, the game is worth its weight in gold when it comes to creating an engaging world to lose yourself in. It even has multiplayer for up to 7 friends over local with 6 or online. If that doesn't seal it, nothing will

#### THOMAS WAS ALONE

Thomas is a curious triangle. His curiosity is satisfied simply by exploring lists intriguing world and tackling the 100 award winning levels of puzzle solving, head on. Kids can guide Thomas around his world by jumping, and making friends, while the BAFTA award winning game also comes with an enchanting story narrated by cornedian and writer Darwy title lace. Perhaps the best things about Thomas War Alone are its simple control scheme allowing it to be picked up and played by almost anybody, and the fact that it's available on a wide variety of consoles and devices including IOS, Android, PSA, Ibber One and Historido Switch. Prices vary though, so be sure to check it out on your preferred medium.



The floors games are all about critical thinking and puzzle solving, offset by a rich atmosphere that has been pseudent throughout the series. The floors Three is the latest in the mobile favourite apps and offers up a uniquely challenging experience for those wishing to flee their legical muscles. The BAFTA award stimning series hits its peak with the bird entry feeling more like a full-blown adventure game than a more mobile app. The Roem Three is available on iOS and Android for £1.99 and resuld be well suited to older kids locking for a more challenging game. Be aware though that while the rating is PEGI7, younger audiences might find the serie themes a little unsettling. If this sounds like something you or a loved one might enjoy, the whole series of floors games offer much the same experience so there's plenty to get stuck into.

### THE SIMS FREEPLAY

Create your Sim and help them live thair life the way you want in The Sims FreePlay.
Based on the wildly popular garnes, this mobile version brings all the fun of The Sims into the polm of your hands, while lossing neare of the charm of the originals. As anybody what were played a Sims game will tell you, hours melt into misutes once you start playing this illestyle simulator and with good reason. It's incredibly addictive fan. While the game is, as the name suggests, free to play on IOS, Android and Amazon, please be aware that in-app purchases can be made of up to 199-39 so it's essential you keep an eye on whoever is playing and set strict boundaries if necessary. Over 10 million downloads of this game can't be wrong though. The Sims is back, and it's better than ever.

### HEADS UP!

Heads Upi is an incredibly fun game that the whole family can play together. The basic premise in that one person holds the phone to their freehead with a character, place, edjoct, etc en screen and tries to guess it from the class the rest of the players give them. There's a whole host of categories to choose from so it never person duel and there's even the options to record the other players trying to give class, so you can watch it back later for more laught. Rated PEGI 3, it's suitable for pretty much everyone but can ready help hore quick thinking and reaction times in more developed kids. The game comes in at 99 on iOS and free on Android devices but does offer in app parchases from between 55p and 69.49 per item for things like extra categories.

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# 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

















































