



Newsletter

HAMILTON ROAD, WINDLE, ST.HELENS WA10 6HG

TEL: 01744 678190

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

EMAIL: bleakhill@sthelens.org.uk

Message from Mr McCoy

Welcome back, I hope you all had a lovely half-term break! It has been great to see all of the children back in school and enjoying their learning.

Year 5 had their first rugby session with Sale Sharks this week, we look forward to welcoming them in every week of this half term as part of our PE offer. Year 4 children had the opportunity to compete in an intra-football competition this week with their peers and a group of Year 4 children represented school excellently at an inter- football competition. 6W attended their first swimming lesson of the year and will continue to do so until Christmas.

Our School Council took part in a remembrance day service and laid a new poppy wreath by our soldier on the KS2 playground whilst the rest of the school observed a period of silence.

Thank you to all of our families for attending parents evening this week. It is a very busy half term and we look forward to welcoming you to school for a range of brilliant events. Have a great weekend!

Merit Award - Children who include others

	R.O.T.W	W.O.T.W	M.O.T.W	Bronze	Silver	Gold
RHE	George D	Louie G-M	Hope K	Isaac H	Imogen L	Nova K
RHU	Cassidy M-S	Gracie H	Brody T	Indie F-G	Nancy M-S	Louie S
RR	Lucy J	Ella U	Rhys S	Walter P	Fin H	Penelope K
1A	Casper L	Johnny S	Taliha W	Finley McC	Sophie M	Ella W
1CS	Oliver A	Nancy L-G	Hannah C	Nancy S	Harriet L	Ruby W
1M	Ava B	Alex W	Ivy H	Lydia A	Max H	Luna R
2G	Connie C	Alex E	Molly H	Harry B	Harry B	Bernard R-G
2J	Hanna S	Dimitar S	Noah D	Ezri N-J	Aria B	Theo D
2W	Ella W	Evie Y	Harrison J	Mason P	Isobel R	Beatrice P
3D	Charlie D	Hugo T	Maggie L	Harriet B	Jenson P	Evie F
3H	Amber L	Matthew McC	Martha M	Joel D	Jaxon C	Jude N
3M	Ryan S	Regan L	Ari W	Imogen D	Isaac G	Maddison G
4C	Joseph H	Alfie W	Elise S	Nancy W	Amelia B	Sophie C
4MC	Charlotte F	Sky W	Myles B	Imogen S	Eleanor C	Finley C
4MO	Mason McC	Lucas W	Gracie L-G	Dean T	Bella S	Emily L
5B	Ella T	Lilly W	Ollie L	Annabelle K	Alex B	Eva M
5W	Evie S	Charlie McK	Bea D	Henry C	Freya B	Tom B
6D	Stanley W	Daniel K	Isla R	Riley L	Sophia J	Sapphira H
6W	Leon O'B	Elodie A	Cora A	Evie B	Oliver A	Thomas S

What's on w/c 13.11.23

Arts Week All Week

13.11.2023	Before School	During School	After School
Monday		Y2 & Y6 PE <i>World Kindness Day</i>	Judo Y3, 4, 5 & 6 - (external provider) 2 of 4 Exit via main reception at 4.10pm
Tuesday	Football Y3 & 4 - Ian McMinn (external provider) 2 of 4 Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	YR, Y4 & Y5 PE <i>Author Visit</i>	Young Voices Y5 & 6 - Mrs Burrows 2 of 4 for T1B Exit via main reception at 4.30pm
Wednesday	Dance Y1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6 Karen Elliott (external provider) 2 of 4 Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Y1 & Y3 PE <i>Y6 Visit St Andrews</i>	Multisports Y1 & 2 - Future Gym (external provider) 2 of 4 Exit via main reception at 4.15pm
Thursday	Football Y5 & 6 - Ian McMinn (external provider) 2 of 4 Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	Y1, Y2 & Y5 PE <i>Author Visit</i>	Gymnastics Y3, 4, 5 & 6 - Future Gym (external provider) 2 of 4 Exit via main reception at 4.20pm
Friday	Gymnastics YR, 1 & 2 - Future Gym (external provider) 2 of 4 Enter via Junior Library corridor (KS2 playground)	YR, Y3, Y4 & Y6 PE <i>Children In Need Day</i> <i>Y6 Sportshall Athletics</i> <i>6W Swimming</i>	

Friends of Bleak Hill

The first winner of the 300 Club draw was Rhea J 4C—Congratulations !



Christmas Shopping Event

Thursday 23rd November 6-8pm

£1 entrance for adults, children free entrance.

Several stalls with a variety of goods for sale—a perfect opportunity to get some Christmas presents !



All Day. Every Day.



Attendance Matters



Attendance	
Whole School	95.1%
Reception	90.9%
Year 1	93.9%
Year 2	97.0%
Year 3	96.2%
Year 4	96.0%
Year 5	96.4%
Year 6	96.4%



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 23—27 Oct was:

95.1% below target

Our attendance for the year so far is: 97.0%

Our first register review was completed at the end of last half term, Some people have received information letters and offer of support, some have been invited in for an attendance meeting in line with our graduated approach to attendance.

If you yourself have any concerns around your child's attendance please get in contact with a

Toy Collection for Bristol Children's Hospital in Memory of Harry Cardwell

During the week of 13th-17th November we are welcoming donations of new toys, craft items and books. These are being given to Bristol Children's hospital by the family of Harry Cardwell as a thank you for the care and support they provided for Harry and the family. Please see the article below in the St Helens Star for further details.

<https://www.sthelensstar.co.uk/news/23837225.heartbroken-family-boy-10-died-want-help-thank-hospital/>

Sponsored 5K Run

Hi, its Phoebe Cunningham since I have been elected for school councillor for 4C. As promised me and Leon Tracey are going to run 5k for schoolbooks and equipment.

Venue – Victoria Park, St Helens

Time – 9:00

Date – 11th November



If anyone would like to sponsor us, please scan the QR code that will take you to our Just Giving Page.

Children in Need - Friday 17th November 2023

We will be supporting the BBC's Children in Need charity fundraiser this year, which will take place on Friday 17th November.

The appeal seeks to help change the lives of disadvantaged children and young people living throughout the UK. Every penny raised will make a massive difference to the cause.

We ask that children come to school in their pyjamas or spotty clothes. There is no need to purchase any special costumes/outfits for this event.

Donations can be made via SchoolMoney and the amount can be overtyped to allow you to donate what you feel is appropriate.

Thank you for your continued support.



Bleak Hill Eco Uniforms is back open for donations!! We are asking for only **items with the school logo on please**, and as always they must be good condition, washed and ironed. We do not accept shoes and bags. Please place all donations in the uniform bin in the main school reception.

We still have logo and non-logo items in stock so if there is anything you need please contact us via the Facebook page (or find us at school).

For any one who doesn't know we offer good quality, pre-loved uniform (often brand new) for low prices. All money is given back to school via Friends of Bleak Hill. So, by donating and buying from us you are being environmentally friendly and helping school at the same time.

Search for 'Bleak Hill Eco Uniforms' and request to join. Send a private message to Esther Hindley to check stock.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

X

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who promote denial and hatred.

LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user doesn't already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

BLUE TICK SALE

Advice for Parents & Carers

PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow; this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 01.11.2023