



Newsletter

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Message from Mr McCoy

The festivities are fully underway at Bleak Hill and it has been a brilliant week. We started the week with our School Council visiting the Town Hall to meet the Mayor. They enjoyed learning about the Mayor's role and she looks forward to visiting school to join a School Council meeting. During the afternoon, members of our choir visited Eccleston Court to perform for the residents and later in the week a different group of the choir visited Ruskin Lodge. The children were excellent ambassadors for school and received amazing feedback. We have two more performances in the next two weeks in which the rest of the choir will get to perform.

It has been a busy week for Year 4. They went to the Theatre Royal on Tuesday to watch the pantomime, Aladdin, all of the children thoroughly enjoyed it. On Wednesday, they visited St Andrews Church for a Christmas experience. Thank you to Reverend Fran and the team for putting on a great event.

It has been a very busy week for our Friends of Bleak Hill. Thank you to Friends of Bleak Hill, staff, families and children for supporting our Tea with Santa, Xmas Extravaganza and Bingo this week. The money raised creates extra resources and experiences for our children. Every child was lucky enough to watch a pantomime on Thursday morning from Altru Productions, the children loved watching Pinocchio. Once again, thank you so much to our Friends of Bleak Hill for funding a wonderful experience.

We have had groups of children attending Boccia and Multi-skills events as well this week. Well done to all of the children that attended. Next week, we have lots of groups on in school again. Please see the Christmas Overview for all of our events. Have a lovely weekend!

Merit Award - Children who show tolerance and respect for other faiths

	R.O.T.W	W.O.T.W	M.O.T.W	Bronze	Silver	Gold
RHE	Jackson K	Isaac H	Xander P	George D	Maggie C	Jacob H
RHU	Ava D	Zak P	Jessica Ca	Sofia D	Imogen C	Noah R
RR	Charlotte E	Fin H	Caleb T	Autumn P	Ella D	Ella U
1A	Roman G	Roman T	Ethan H	Finn T	Ella W	Amiyah M
1CS	Reuben C	Vinnie F	Sadie C	Leo R	Ollie A	Matilda N-C
1M	Luna R	Frahzer N	Max H	Ella C	Ava B	Louis J
2G	Harry B	Sophie F	Lincoln H	Penny T	Max B	Mollie B
2J	Eleanor H	Ella A	Daniel B	Theo D	George M	Millie H
2W	Sienna C	Joseph U	Hattie H	Alfie W	Ellie H	Isobel R
3D	Eva R	Nicole M	Lucy D	Nancy A	Luca D	Harriet N-C
3H	Matthew McC	Jaxon C	Tom K	Isla S	Joel D	Daina R
3M	Regan L	Lacey J-M	Fifi N-W	Ryan S	Harry W	Mia J
4C	Amelia B	Leah X	Phoebe A	Lilly I	Phoebe C	Adam B
4MC	Imogen S	Amber S	Charlie B	Millie M	Jude W	Hannah K
4MO	Jacob H	James D	Olivia S	Teddy R-G	Emily L	Zac G
5B	Emma B	Ollie L	Niamh P	Charlie H	Annabelle K	Charlotte T
5W	Skyler A	Elsie B	George B	Bea D	Alfie F	River L
6D	Stanley W	Theo C	Evie Y	Alice T	Finn F	Evie C
6W	Oliver A	Abigail T	Joseph A	Millie W	Joey L	Elodie A

What's on w/c 11.12.23

11.12.2023	Before School	During School	After School
Monday		Y2 & Y6 PE	
Tuesday		YR, Y4 & Y5 PE 2G Nativity 9.15am 2W Nativity 10.15am 2J Nativity 11.15am	Lost property tables
Wednesday	Lost property tables	Y1 & Y3 PE YR & Y6 Height & Weight Screening (Mop-up) Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Day Santa Dash	Lost property tables
Thursday		Y1, Y2 & Y5 PE 6D Choir to sing at Willowbrook	
Friday		YR, Y3, Y4 & Y6 PE 6W Swimming KS2 Dance Competition (online)	

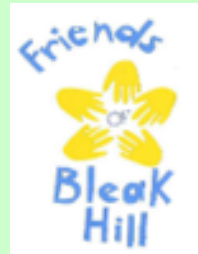
Christmas Shop Fundraiser—Please note the deadline for orders of reindeer food, hot chocolate cones & guess the name entries is the morning of **FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER**. After this date we will not be able to fulfil any orders sorry.



Friends of Bleak Hill

300 Club

Congratulations to the winner of the December draw Laura B (2J).
 Christmas draw for £100 & £50 to be made the last week of term.
 Tickets still available in the Shop on School Money.



The Tea with Santa and Christmas Extravaganza events were a big success, as was the Christmas Bingo. We will let you know how much was raised for school shortly. Thank you to all who attended and to the FOBH for organising the events.

Christmas Raffle

Tickets will be available in class for the week of Monday 18th-Friday 22nd December—£1 a strip (cash payment). The draw will take place on Friday 22nd December.





Harry's Star Tribute Fund & Toy Appeal

Last weekend the Cardwell family returned to Bristol Children's hospital to present them with the money raised toward the Grand Appeal in Harry's memory and the toys collected for children who have to spend Christmas in hospital.

A phenomenal £25,137.50 was raised in total.

The family would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who donated in any way.

All Day. Every Day.



Attendance Matters



Attendance	
Whole School	96.3%
Reception	95.7%
Year 1	95.2%
Year 2	98.2%
Year 3	96.9%
Year 4	95.5%
Year 5	96.8%
Year 6	95.2%



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 27 Nov—1 Dec was:

96.3%

Our attendance for the year so far is: 96.6%

Meet our Team of Time Keeping Teddies. Classes will be able to look after these if they have no lates (Arrival before 9). More to arrive. We will need 19 names beginning with T.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about SETTING UP NEW DEVICES FOR CHILDREN

At Christmas, millions of lucky children will be excitedly ripping the wrapping off new phones, tablets, computers or consoles. However, in the rush to let young ones enjoy their shiny gadgets, many parents neglect to set these devices up safely – increasing the chances of children going online and stumbling across adult content, making expensive downloads or installing unsuitable apps. A little time configuring the device properly can save a lot of anguish later. Here are our top tips to ensure that a dream gift on Christmas morning doesn't turn into a nightmare by New Year.

PASSCODES FOR IPHONE/IPAD

If your child's getting their own iPhone or iPad, you can set parental controls that make it difficult for them to access inappropriate content or download expensive apps. Once the device is set up, go to the Settings app and tap Screen Time, then select Use Screen Time Passcode and enter a passcode. Keep it to yourself so your child can't switch the protection off.

SCREEN TIME SETTINGS ON IPHONE/IPAD

Once you've set a Screen Time Passcode, you can adjust various safety settings. You could, for example, only allow communication with people from the Contacts app, place restrictions on App Store purchases and apply age limits to movies, music and web content. There are many more protective options available within the Screen Time settings section.

FAMILY LINK FOR ANDROID

Parents can manage Android phones and tablets, as well as Google Chromebooks, through Google's Family Link app. This gives your child some independence (and their own Google account) but lets parents monitor which apps are being used, set limits on content and ensure that parental permission is required to install apps. Look for Family Link in the Google Play Store.

ADD A CHILD TO FAMILY LINK

The easiest way to add a child's device to Family Link is to set it up with its own Google account. It's a good idea to create this before they use their new phone, tablet or Chromebook. Once they're logged in, open the Family Link app on your phone, press '+' in the top right and add a new family member using their Google account details. Then follow the on-screen instructions.

FAMILY SHARING ON A MAC

Families using a Mac get similar screen time options to iPhone and iPad users. Again, if you're setting up a Mac for a child, make yourself the main admin and add them as a user. This is handled through Apple's Family Sharing service, which not only allows you to put controls on child accounts but share apps and other purchases with them too. Search 'family sharing' at <https://support.apple.com>.

PLAYSTATION PARENTAL CONTROLS

With parental controls for the PS5, you'll need a PlayStation Network account (as the 'family manager') and the child will need their own account, which they should sign in with on the console. This all needs to be set up in advance, so you might want to do it before the big day. Go to PlayStation.com and search 'family account' for instructions.

DISCUSS IT WITH YOUR CHILD

If you're planning to implement any kind of restriction or protection settings on your child's new device, we'd recommend having a discussion with your young one first about what these controls do, and what they are for. If you try to impose parental controls surreptitiously or with no advance warning, don't be surprised if your child tries to find a way around them.

SET AN ADMIN ON PCS

On Windows PCs and laptops, it's important not to let your child share a general user account or be the main admin on the device. If you're booting up a new family PC or a child's own device, set it up using your own account details and you'll become the admin by default. Then set up children with their own separate account: Settings > Accounts > Family & Other Users > Add Other User.

SET WINDOWS LIMITS

Once your child's account has been created, a parent admin can go back into the Family & Other Users menu and apply limits to it. These include restricting screen time, the type of games and apps that can be installed, web filters and more. Microsoft also includes reporting tools which, for example, can email you with a weekly summary of your child's activity on the device.

TREAT AN XBOX LIKE A PC

The same control settings you use for a PC can be used to apply parental controls on an Xbox. Again, once your child is signed into the Xbox with their own account, you can then monitor and regulate their activity from a PC or web browser. Microsoft's dashboard allows you to manage voice communication through the console: so you can limit who can contact your child, for example.

INSTALL XBOX FAMILY SETTINGS

If you don't have a PC, but your child does have an Xbox, it might be easier to use the Xbox Family Settings app for iPhone or Android. Here, you can restrict console screen time (particularly handy if the console is in a bedroom), restrict communication and monitor the types of game being played. There's also a feature where you can allocate spending money for games or in-game purchases.

STAY VIGILANT

It's important to remember that none of these methods is 100% foolproof. Nobody will ever invent flawless filters or parental controls – not least because what's unacceptable to some parents is perfectly acceptable to others. So although devices' parental controls will help to keep your child safe online, they work best side by side with good old-fashioned parental vigilance.

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 *Computative*. He's appeared regularly as a technology pundit on television and radio, including on *Newsnight*, *Radio 5 Live* and *ITV News at Ten*. He has two children and writes regularly about internet safety issues.



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ADVENT SEASON

AT ST ANDREWS DENTONS GREEN



CHRISTMAS LIGHT SWITCH ON

Wednesday 6th December 2023 | 7.00 - 8.00PM

Christmas Light Switch on with carols and a walk through the Christmas experience - Follow that Star

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Wednesday 13th December 2023 | 7.00 - 8.30PM

St Helens Concert Band with mulled wine and mince pies
Free - donations to the band gratefully accepted!

FOLLOW THAT STAR! CAROL SERVICE

Sunday 17th December 2023 | 7.00 - 8.30PM

Walk through the Christmas Story in word and music!

CHRISTMAS EVE MIDNIGHT MASS

Sunday 24th December 2023 | 11:15PM

An informal Reflective Midnight Mass Service with
Holy Communion

CHRISTMAS MORNING CELEBRATION

Sunday 25th December 2023 | 10:00AM

Join us for breakfast pastries and Christmas celebrations!



ST. ANDREWS
DENTONS GREEN



For full details, visit standrewsdentonsgreen.org/christmas



THE ROYAL BRITISH
LEGION

THANK YOU

YOUR POPPY SUPPORTS THE ARMED FORCES
COMMUNITY PAST AND PRESENT

Thank you for supporting the Poppy Appeal.

BLEAK HILL PRIMARY

Raised in the Poppy Appeal 2023

£245.50