



Friday 14th December 2018

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Dear Parents/Carers,

On Wednesday this week, it felt very much that Christmas had arrived at Brantridge, with us having our school Christmas lunch. The catering team led by our chef, Mr Adrian Clover produced a delicious roast turkey meal with various 'trimmings' followed by a traditional pudding.

This year we decided that everyone would eat at the same time and we used not only the Dining Room but an adjoining classroom to get everyone – pupils and staff together. Crackers and jokes were shared with many donning paper hats. The pupils had an excellent time and behaved very well. I was delighted when a member of the catering team, who was only with us for the day in order to support the team, commented positively on the boys' impeccable manners when collecting their lunch. Well done boys!

On Thursday morning many of our pupils again visited 'Jumpin' – a soft play area in Burgess Hill for our half termly behaviour reward trip. I was encouraged that even more children 'earned the right' to access this trip than in the previous few terms that we have been running these trips. On one session each week, 'Jumpin' have a session that is geared towards pupils with various special needs, where modifications are made with regards to the sensory environment and our pupils were able to benefit from this. Again, I understand that the pupils' behaviour was of a high standard.

As you know, the Open Afternoon that I have been referring to in recent Bulletins takes place this coming Wednesday – 19th December at 1.45pm. Thank you to so many of you who have replied to the letter noting that you will be attending and asking for various appointments with members of staff. If you haven't yet done so, can I encourage you to do the same. If you would like another copy of the letter please email or phone the school office – they will be more than happy to oblige.

I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday afternoon.

Yours Sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts

Pluto:

This week Pluto have been showing me how they have improved over the term (how amazing they are) by completing assessments. They have written lovely Christmas short stories in English displaying the learning they have achieved this term. In Maths they have shown a resilient attitude and completed assessments on the topics of fractions and addition and subtraction. As a reward for all their good behaviour and hard work the boys went on the credit trip to Jump in which they enjoyed.

They have also embraced the Christmas spirit enjoying, a lovely Christmas lunch whilst wearing a Christmas Jumper to support the Charity Save the Children. The boys have started warming up their voices for the Christmas carols on Open Day and are sounding great.

Mercury

This week the boys have had a good week in class. The boys enjoyed eating Christmas dinner and doing Christmas activities. Some boys also got to go on their end of term credit trip, which they thoroughly enjoyed. They loved the inflatable trampoline park and enjoyed being able to run around and play in the ball pit. In Maths this week we did some problem solving activities, whereby we had to solve the sum and then colour in the sum in the correct answer using a colour grid shown above. In English this week we focused on our spellings, phonics and writing skills.

Jupiter: This week in Jupiter the boys have been expressing their creative side. They have worked together in making Christmas decorations for the class, out of various materials. They then moved on to creating props from their favorite game; which was very successful and enjoyed by all. We then linked this into PE and the boys each made something to use for target practice and we worked on our throwing techniques. We have been assessing our progress in Maths and English throughout the week, showing some good progress for everyone.

Neptune: In Neptune this week the boys have been completing assessments in Maths and English. They have focused well and are all showing good progress. They have also been involved in choosing their next topic and history. We have attended the behaviour reward trip at 'Jumpin' the boys thoroughly enjoyed this and had a brilliant time! They also had Christmas jumper day on Wednesday for 'Save the children' and Christmas dinner with all pupils and staff. This week was their last swimming lesson all boys have shown a fantastic improvement in their swimming skills and also learnt some life saving skills!

Saturn

In Saturn this week, we have been assessing our learning and progress across Maths and English. The boys have done really well with being able to sit down and complete maths tasks and some, even reading tasks. We have welcomed a new boy in Saturn class this week and the boys have been very helpful and considerate towards him. They helped him settle and feel part of our class. The boys have been working towards their badges in Gym and have done really well showing good listening and following instructions.

Titan:

Titan class have been completing their assessments for Literacy and Maths this week. All the boys have worked very hard and have shown great resilience in all areas of their work. The class had a fantastic day on Wednesday at the school's Christmas Jumper day and lunch. The following day was another success with most of the class attending the credit trip to Jump-in.

Mars: This week the boys have been completing their assessments in English and Maths, all trying really hard to stay focused and complete them with maximum effort. On Wednesday they enjoyed wearing their jumpers for 'Save the children' and enjoyed a whole school Christmas dinner complete with crackers and music. On Thursday all of Mars gained enough credits to attend the reward trip to Jumpin which the boys really enjoyed, having a brilliant time.

Brantridge Weekly - Roll Of Honour!

TOP OF THE LEAGUE



Jayden, Felix, Carter, Isaac

TITAN

MARS

King of the Credits

Jayden

King of the Credits

Felix

Star of the Week

Isaac

Star of the Week

Oliver

SATURN

PLUTO

King of the Credits

Carter

King of the Credits

Jacob

Star of the Week

Carter

Star of the Week

Jacob

JUPITER

NEPTUNE

King of the Credits

Tyler B

King of the Credits

Matteo

Star of the Week

Star of the Week

Joe

MERCURY

King of the Credits

Leo

Star of the Week

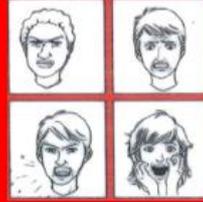
Leo

Most Improved – Riley

Friendship- Aaron

Therapies:

The whole school has been targeting 'ready to learn' over the past week in our Social Communication Programme. This target supports pupils to identify their regulation levels and provide them with strategies to access the waking day curriculum. This is achieved using the 'Zones of regulation' programme. This programme supports pupils to learn to identify where they are in the regulation scale and it supports their understanding and development of vocabulary to tell people how they feel. The next step is that pupils become aware of what strategies they need to support them to regulate their sensory needs. The aim is that pupils will become increasingly independent in identifying and using strategies to be ready to learn which will support them to access the waking day curriculum.

			
<p>BLUE ZONE</p> <p>Sad Sick Tired Bored Moving Slowly</p>	<p>GREEN ZONE</p> <p>Happy Calm Feeling Okay Focused Ready to Learn</p>	<p>AMBER ZONE</p> <p>Frustrated Worried Silly/Wiggly Excited Loss of Some Control</p>	<p>RED ZONE</p> <p>Mad/Angry Terrified Yelling/Hitting Elated Out of Control</p>

Next week the target we will be looking at is 'Your idea, my idea' This target supports flexible thinking skills and helps us learn that others have valid and differing opinions.

If you could please fill out the questionnaires we have sent home and get them back to us by Wednesday 19th December if possible. This is so that we can assess your child's functional independence skills and monitor their progress. If you have any queries then please feel free to contact us or if you need help filling it out then we are more than happy to do so on open day.

Thank you

Therapies

Outdoor learning

We continued with the Christmas theme this week in Outdoor learning making pine cone decorations at the beginning of the week. Then finding Christmas clues towards the end of the week with a reward for finding all the clues and a warming drink to warm them up in this colder weather.

Safeguarding:

To Parents/Carers

It has come to our attention recently that a number of our pupils have and use their own YouTube Channel. Whilst this can be a great platform for young people to express themselves creatively, it can also present dangers if it is not used and supervised appropriately. There are a number of steps you can take in order to help support your child to use YouTube Safely.

- 1) Watch with your child.** Simply ask your child what they're watching and join them. In general, children are tuning into certain channels or following specific YouTube personalities because they're entertained by them (not because they are actively searching for "bad" stuff). Many children naturally want to share the videos they like.
- 2) Watch by yourself.** If children don't want to share, get the name of the channel they're watching and watch it later. Watch a few videos by the same creator to get a feel for the content, whilst also ensuring it is safe and appropriate.
- 3) Be sleuthy.** If you're concerned about the content your child is watching on YouTube -- and you've tried talking to him -- there are ways of tracking his viewing habits. If he has a YouTube account (which only requires a Gmail address), his YouTube page will display his recently watched videos, recommended videos based on his watch history, and suggestions for channels similar to the ones he's watched. Even if your child deletes his "watch history," the recommendations all will be related to material he's watched.
- 4) Subscribe.** Encourage your child to subscribe to their favourite channels rather than hunting around on YouTube for the latest ones from a specific creator. Subscribers are notified when a new video is uploaded, plus all their channels are displayed in the Subscriptions section, making it easier, and faster, to go directly to the videos they like. Consider choosing subscriptions together, and make an event out of watching the newest uploads with your child.
- 5) Channel Safety –** if your child has their own YouTube Channel that they use to post videos of themselves, please take the following safety measures. Ensure that your child does not include their full name as their Channel Account name e.g. Joe Bloggs Channel, their address or their school information. Check the content of the videos they are posting regularly to ensure they are using appropriate language and not filming others who may be unaware they are being recorded e.g. other family members. Regularly check what comments are being posted in response to your child's videos. Videos can often attract negative or unkind comments that can lead to low self-esteem.

If you have any questions about the above, or would like to speak to someone in school about any concerns you have about your child's safety online, please call into school and ask to speak to a member of the safeguarding team. All team members can be found in the Safeguarding Policy listed on the School Website.

Have a great weekend!

Robert Chowns (Designated Safeguard Lead)

