



Friday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we are about to enter December, I wanted to write to you about our Open Afternoon on the last day of term – Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> December. For those of you who attended the event last year, you will remember what a positive event it was.

The event will begin at 1.45pm and during the course of the afternoon some pupils will be running 'stalls', singing Christmas songs and there will be an opportunity for you to speak to your child's teacher, therapists or members of the Behaviour team. In order to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to speak to the relevant staff member, Miss Danielle Harry will be writing to you nearer the time with a form to complete, if you want to book a specific meeting time with a member of staff who works with your son.

The children singing around the tree and the sharing of different end of term certificates is a memorable and lovely way to end the year together. At the end of the afternoon parents are welcome to take their child home with them. If you do decide to do this, please remember to inform your son's taxi company, so that they do not come to the school that afternoon.

Please put the date in your diaries – 19<sup>th</sup> December at 1.45pm. I am always encouraged by the excellent turn out of parents at the end of term celebrations. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Whilst we are on the theme of Christmas, we will be having our Christmas lunch on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> December. As part of our festivities on that day, children are able to come into school wearing a Christmas jumper. Pupils are asked to donate a £1 if they are wearing a Christmas jumper and that money will be sent to 'Save the Children'.

I hope you have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts

## Neptune:

We have had a positive week in Neptune. We had a great start to the week with a visit from Ezekiel Ewulo, a former long jumper, who talked to everyone about what it is like to be a professional athlete and then the boys took part in some circuits. We have continued our learning of Macbeth and this week we have written a translation of Act 1 scene 7 where Lady Macbeth persuades Macbeth to kill Duncan. In Science, we learnt about specialised cells and in Maths, we are looking at Statistics and plotting linear graphs. All of the boys have engaged in their learning and have worked well as a group.

## Titan:

Titan have had an amazing week. We have seen an improvement in behaviour, effort and attitude from many boys. In English, the pupils have learnt about adverbs, conjunctions and the present perfect tense. Division strategies and problems have been the focus in Maths, which the boys have had great success with. We have continued to learn about crime and punishment for History and delved a little deeper into Buddhism, whilst learning about the Eightfold Path.

**Mars:** We have been working really hard in Mars Class this week. In Maths, we have been learning about equivalent fractions and we had lots of activities in class to help us, for example, we made equivalent fraction ice creams and had treasure hunt where we had to sort the fractions and match them to their equivalents. This was lots of fun and we learned many facts. In English we created our own similes, planned and wrote poems about our own heroes using rhyme, repetition and simile, we then performed these to the class. In Geography, we used google to plan a trip to different areas of North America; we had to find flight and accommodation costs, visa requirements, research time differences as well as interesting places to visit. We were just a little bit disappointed that we couldn't really go!

## Pluto:

Pluto have had a good week because they have been helping each other in class and listening to one another more. We had a great PE lesson practising different ways to move like fairground rides. Finishing the lesson with a class game of dodge ball where the children really impressed me with their team skills. In Maths the boys have been investigators finding equivalent fractions using shapes. In English the boys enjoyed creating a monster and writing a description of them. All the boys included some amazing adjectives e.g. horrifying and spiky. Enjoy your weekend boys and I look forward to the Trip next week.

**Jupiter:** Some foul weather meant that Jupiter just had to get out into the woods to hunt for seeds. Watching the sycamore seeds blow across the field in the wind was a great way to see nature at work first hand. We spent some time seeing how many different types of seeds we could find then taking them back into class to draw them and discuss what they do, how they work and the different ways seeds are dispersed was lots of fun. We continued our keenness in arts and crafts by creating some incredible games characters out of cardboard boxes and painted them to look tremendous. The boys worked collaboratively all week, helping each other with patience, good manners and allowing thinking time for each other. Well done boys.

## Mercury

Mercury have had a good week in class this week. They got to meet an athlete who is a long jumper on Monday. The boys got to participate in a number of activities with him and seemed to thoroughly enjoy themselves. They got to see his medals that he won and he explained to them what he does and showed them how far he could jump. The boys were really impressed! This week in Maths, we have been learning to count in our 2's, 5's and 10's. The boys were able to do this very well, and were even able to count past 100. In English this week, we looked at the story of the three little pigs. The pupils had to sequence the story in order and then write instructions using time conjunctions to go alongside the sequencing of the story. The boys enjoyed learning about the story and were able to contribute effectively within all areas of this piece of work.

## Saturn

In Saturn this week, we have been learning about money in Maths, recognising coins and making amounts, as well as using money in a shop. In English, the boys have had to write a short story about themselves, their magical bird, and the places where their magical bird would take them. The boys have come up with some great describing words for their bird and fabulous places they all want to go. The boys have learnt about singular and plural and how they recognise them. It was a very successful lesson as all the pupils did brilliantly! In Science we have learnt about bones and In History, we looked at the great fire of London where the boys have had to organise a time line for the events. All pupils took part in the circuits on Monday when the athlete Ezekiel Ewulo visited us and it was a pleasure to see that they all had interesting questions for him to answer.



## Brantridge Weekly - Roll Of Honour!

### TOP OF THE LEAGUE

Jayden, Tyler H & Blake



### TITAN

King of the Credits	Jayden
Star of the Week	Treye

### MARS

King of the Credits	Felix
Star of the Week	Tyler E

### SATURN

King of the Credits	Blake
Star of the Week	Carter

### PLUTO

King of the Credits	Tyler H
Star of the Week	Danny

### JUPITER

King of the Credits	Kyle
Star of the Week	Kyle

### NEPTUNE

King of the Credits	Jamie
Star of the Week	Matteo

### MERCURY

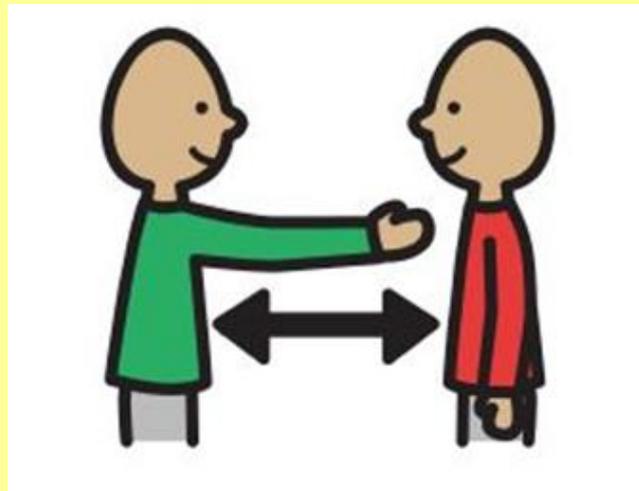
King of the Credits	Aaron
Star of the Week	Aaron

## Therapies:

The whole school has been targeting '**Personal space**' this week in our Social Communication Programme.

**This target is to support pupils' understanding of personal space and how they manage social situations.**

Our role as adults is to model that it is polite to give people personal space, as they may feel anxious if their personal space is invaded. It is also our role to make sure that you child understand that they need to ask another person to enter their personal space, e.g. hugging. Giving your child an example of making sure that there is an arm's length between them and another will help them to understand the distance needed. Another way is to get them to imagine that they are in a bubble and nobody can enter that space unless they have permission.



Next week the Social Communication Programme will be focusing on '**Hands up**'. This is to help our pupils understand the different ways of responding and turn taking skills.

# Forest School

This week our main focus has been 'looking after the birds' by making cookie cutter bird feeders to hang around the forest school area and enjoying a spot of bird watching. We have also enjoyed our usual forest school activities such as digging, shelter building, charcoal painting and team building games.

