

Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> March,  
2021

Dates for your diary:

- INSET day: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021-
- Easter Holidays : Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> April to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know this coming Monday 15<sup>th</sup> is an INSET day.

We thought you might be interested in knowing what we are focussing on. We have a team of people having First Aid training. Those participating in this have been doing some online modules in preparation and will be working on Monday with a trainer from 'First Response'.

Some recently recruited staff will be participating in MAPA training. MAPA stands for Managing Actual and Potential Aggression. This is an accredited training course which all our pupil facing staff have participated in. The focus on this training is de-escalation - how to reduce the likelihood of a pupil entering an emotional crisis and if a child is already in that place, how to support them to re-regulate themselves emotionally. This is a hugely important part of our work and we are fortunate that Mr Gio de Lucia is a qualified MAPA trainer. This allows us to train in-house. Again staff have been doing online learning in preparation for this.

Following recent testing it is clear that a number of our pupils have at least some traits of dyslexia. Whilst our staff have received training previously in this area, we are looking forward to gleaning further skills on Monday. This will no doubt be invaluable in supporting so many of our pupils.

We will also be having online training from Adrian Gorman. Adrian has been working alongside our staff for over a year now as Psychotherapist. His work has been very beneficial. He will be working with staff to enhance our own strategies to look after our own mental health in what has been a hugely challenging year.

We look forward to welcoming your child back to school on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts.

## **Nut free school**

As we have welcomed some new families to Brantridge in recent weeks I thought this was a good opportunity to remind you that due to allergies we are a nut free school. Please don't send in any items containing nuts. Any items containing nuts will be stored securely until home time.

Thanks for your support with this.

Danielle Harry

## Mercury

Brantridge have thoroughly enjoyed British Science week. We have created Elephants toothpaste using hydrogen peroxide, we then wrote an explanation text explaining the process of the experiment. For Maths we have been studying angles and learning how to use a protractor. We have been part of a whole school investigation where we are looking at if you have longer legs can you jump further. We then looked at if there was a pattern in our scatter graph. There has also been a whole school poster competition where each pupil has created a poster about "innovating the future" some pupils have created some amazing inventions on their posters linked to how we can help save the planet.



## Mars

Great to have all of the boys back in school this week! After a lovely welcome back breakfast and check in we hit the ground running by creating a time capsule to mark the end of the school lockdown. We discussed how we had felt then wrote down words and phrases both good and bad and sealed into a box to be buried in the woods.

In English this week we have continued our learning around the Highway Man by Alfred Noyes- this week concentrating on the part of the Ostler. We played lots of drama games to help us to find vocabulary to describe his actions and feelings.

In maths we have been looking at decimals, we created a shop where we have a certain amount to spend and had to create a healthy vegetable soup. We played dice games on the number line and we played games where we coloured grids to find hundredth.

In art this week we created collaged penguins to go on the whole school mural. As part of science week we created posters to show future innovation. After a lot of discussion to brainstorm ideas we created some fabulous work to enter into the school competition.



A very busy 1<sup>st</sup> week back!

## Pluto

This week on-site Pluto have enjoyed learning how to multiply and divide in Maths using a variety of practical resources and stories. We have been riding high in the West Sussex SumDog Maths competition with special efforts from Harry and Zak. In English we have been practicing postcard and letter writing and produced some wonderful heartfelt messages for family and friends.

We continue to start our day in a healthy fashion by walking our morning mile around the school grounds. As part of National Science Week we have been learning about solar power and we are all agreed that more people should use this source of energy. One of our group has been out on his first bicycle repair session and has been busily mending school bikes. Behaviour has been really good this week and all members of Pluto have qualified for rewards.



## Saturn

This week the boys have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the science week activities Mr Adams organised for the whole school. The long jump got very competitive with both adults and children, it was so much fun! The poster competition inspired the children and we had some fantastic inventions!

In English we created a menu for the Gruffalo which will inspire our food technology lesson next week. In maths we have been looking at position and direction. We gave each other directions on the playground. We also learned about clockwise and anti-clockwise and had great fun spinning our toys to show what we'd learned.

## Galaxy:

A super kind, sociable and respectful week had by all peers towards each other. It was wonderful to see how nicely they welcomed a new boy into our class, offering to show him around, playing nicely, and sharing things with him. We had a flurry of postcards home as a result. We have been learning a new card game that has been reinforcing our number bonds, bridging and addition no end and enjoying more sensory art while listening to calming music. What a nice week, well done Galaxy.

## Neptune

We had science week this week in Neptune class and we undertook a wide range of activities and investigations. We looked into whether longer legs meant you could jump further. We discovered that the boy with the shortest legs was the one that jumped the furthest this led to a good discussion among the boys. We felt that weight and muscle mass might make a difference too. Even our Food Tech had a science theme; we made meringues - this showed the boys how materials can change from a liquid to a solid that would not move even when we tipped the bowls upside down. We made raisins dance by creating carbon dioxide and we looked at wind resistance by making kites (the blustery weather really helped us with this!!). In maths, we learnt about acute, obtuse and right angles and how a protractor works. In geography, the boys also enjoyed a walk to the River Ouse, which flows very close to our school. We will be using this to hook the boys into exploring the features of rivers and then using a map to follow the course of the River Ouse as it flows through West Sussex.

## Titan

A busy week in Titan class this week! In English, the children used the photos from our trip to Slaugham Place and the internet to research about the place, then they had to write a newspaper report and we have had some great pieces of work! We also continued looking at the Highwayman poem and we did some work on inferring meanings, as well as looking at the usage of hyphens in the poem.

In Maths, we focused on problems using multiplication and division, as well as problems with remainders where you had to decide whether you round up or down. We have also practised our multiplication and division skills using 10 a day interactive game (the children are given 10 questions and a certain amount of time to answer the questions, then they correct them using purple pen so they can see, and compare with previous work, how well they have improved).





# Winter LUNCH Menu

15<sup>th</sup> March 2021

DID YOU KNOW? We use Free Range Eggs & MSC Fish!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Everyday
Main		Beef And Vegetable Stew	Batter Cod & Chips	Sweet & Sour Pork	Cheese Burger Or Bacon in a Bap	Salad Bar Jacket Potatoes
And to go with	<b>INSET DAY</b>	Mash Potato	Peas Bake Beans	Vegetable Fried Rice	Chips	Jelly Yoghurt Cut Fruit
Pudding	<b>DAY</b>	Rice Pudding	Arctic Roll	Peach Sponge and Custard	Choc Ice	
Supper	<b>Connect</b>					