

Friday, 19th March,
2021

Dates for your diary:

- Easter Holidays : Friday 2nd April to Friday 16th April 2021
- Bank Holiday: Monday 3rd May 2021
- Half Term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021
- INSET day: Monday 14th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware that we as a school take our responsibility to support children and colleagues with their mental wellbeing very seriously. We recognise that both children and adults have various stresses and challenges. If children are going to maximise their learning, or staff are to perform to their full ability, everyone needs to be in a good 'place' in terms of their mental health.

The appointment of a Mental Health advisor who leads both whole class sessions as well as individual sessions has been a significant landmark for us, as has having an Art Therapist (3 days per week) and a Counsellor for pupils (1 day per week.) When delivering our PSHE curriculum, staff take every opportunity to reinforce positive messages about how we look after ourselves.

You can imagine then how pleased we were to receive the 'Commitment' award as part of our work with EduPod. EduPod is an online portal that allows us to continuously evaluate our mental health offer and support our pupils and families. An audit of our mental health offer takes place every term and an action plan for improvement is created. This will help us to aim for the next award which is categorised as "Achieving."

Finally, we have added next academic year's term dates on our website. The dates for the beginning and end of the terms match that of the majority of West Sussex schools, which may differ slightly from those of other local authorities that I know some of you are based in.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts

We have published below our new 'Privacy Notices' which include details about:

- your rights relating to the information we hold about you
- how we keep your personal information safe
- the legal basis we rely on to use your information.

Our full statement and notice is updated on the website

https://brantridgeschool.org/about_us/privacy-statement/

Mercury

This week we have been studying poetry in more detail where we created a cinquian poem about Minecraft. For Maths we have been learning how to divide by 2,3, 4 and 10. For R.E this week we looked at the Jewish story of Moses and considered whether Moses was a good leader. For topic this week we discovered where in the U.K our school is and what part of England we are from. For cooking we made some healthy pizzas using pitta bread as the base and making the tomato puree from scratch. We also played some catching games for P.E to improve our coordination.



Mars

Mars class have been working really hard this week. With a new member joining our class, we have been working on friendships through lots of games to help us to get to know each other.

In English this week we have been thinking about how the characters in *The Highway Man* might have been feeling. We took turns to act out the scenes and thought of words for our word bank to describe how they might feel, what they might be thinking and how they acted or moved. We used this information to write paragraphs describing the inner thoughts and actions within the poem.

In maths we have continued to learn about decimals, we have been ordering and partitioning decimals to 2dp through lots of games and quizzes to help to embed the knowledge.

In science we have been learning about the reproduction of different species', then we created flip charts to show our understanding.

We went out to play in the forest school area and built dens on Thursday, we used team work and listening skills to make our dens the best that they could be.



Pluto

During this shorter week on-site Pluto have enjoyed practising our multiplication at the (fictional) Brantridge Tuck Shop in Maths. In English/Computing we have been learning how to compose an email as well as how to decide which emails are safe to open and those that should be removed without opening.

In Art we have been decorating our class mascot (Mr Rusty) and creating collage animals for the school mural. We have had a couple of very successful bicycle workshops which saw our stable of bikes audited and some basic repairs completed. Well done boys! We have welcomed a new member to the group and are very happy that he has made such a positive start to his time in Pluto.



Zak and Reagan decorating our class mascot.

Saturn

We have continued our learning of position and shape in Maths. In English we read the book Zog and we pretended we could fly, we visited different locations and used our senses to describe what we could see, hear, touch, taste or smell. Afterwards, we wrote a postcard from a chosen location to our families. In our Speech and Language session we were introduced to a new character 'Brain bully'. The brain bully takes over our mind and makes us think we can't do things. We talked about different things that can help when we notice that. Our walk offsite was a huge success, there should be lots of tired boys today, we walked 3.5 miles.

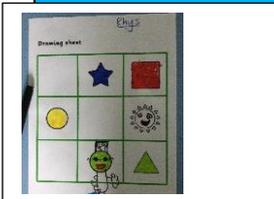
Galaxy:

Some more kind and respectful peer interactions once again this week as the boys continue to show kindness and friendship towards our new pupil. We have had displays of the most wonderful manners and social skills from and towards everyone. We went for a lovely long walk through the woods, using footpaths safely and opening and closing latched gates effectively. Hand feeding the ducks at the pond was fabulous- they were very socialable and a little bit fierce at times but it was great fun to be so close to nature. The real highlight was a pupil sitting down to read to the ducks as they waddled past! Very calming and very picturesque.



Neptune

This week we have been enjoying our singing and percussion lessons, creating whacky sentences and with the help of the book *Flotsam* with the boys learning to make inferences regarding characters as well learning to observe and wonder. In maths we have been triangle sorting and continuing with our 6 times table. We have been learning what it takes to be a good friend and following instructions to fill in a chart and to create a manic monster.



Titan

Although a shorter week for the pupils, a busy one for all of us. The children looked at Highwaymen characters throughout history, and we used that in both English, to write an explanation of who Dick Turpin was, and whether the children believed he was a hero or a villain, as well as in History, as the children had to study different sources and decide whether the source portrayed him as a hero or as a villain.

In Maths, we started looking at data; how to present data, types of graphs, reading data and solving problems involving data and graphs.

In Geography we looked at landmarks in West Sussex and what a landmark is, then they had to produce a list of at least 5 landmarks that you can find in West Sussex; then they produced a factfile on a chosen West Sussex landmark, using research on the internet and taking notes.

In our PSHCE lesson this week, we looked at puberty, what puberty is and how our bodies change during puberty.

Parent/Carer Support Helpline

To all Parents/Carers,

We are pleased to announce that, in conjunction with YourSpace Therapies, we have arranged a helpline for any of our Parents/Carers to call if in need of additional support during the current challenging times we are all facing. The parent helpline has been a huge success and is highly rated by parents and schools who already use it. The helpline is staffed by experienced specialist child and adolescent counsellors and psychotherapists. Parents can use the helpline for specific concerns and to get strategies, advice and specialist consultations, they can also use the helpline as a signposting service, to self-regulate and as a supportive listening ear.

Brantridge School has been given an allocated slot by YourSpace to their helpline which is on Wednesdays between 13:30 and 14:30pm. This began on Wednesday 24th February and will run for five consecutive weeks. Parents/carers can call as often as they would like in these allotted times. The helpline is a confidential service, and we hope that you find it a strong additional source of support over the next coming weeks.

The number to call is 01903 209991, and you will have the opportunity to speak to our assigned School Counsellor Clare Bell.

If you have any questions about access to the helpline, please contact the School Office and ask for Mr Robert Chowns.



Winter LUNCH Menu

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

22nd March 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Everyday
Main	MEAT FREE MONDAY Vegetable Paella	Traditional Beef Lasagne	Sausages & Mash	Chicken Biryani	Fish Finger or Bacon In a Baguette	Salad Bar Jacket Potatoes Baguettes
And to go with	Sweetcorn	Medley of Broccoli & Cauliflower	Green Beans Baked Beans	Spicy Cabbage & peas	Chips	
Pudding	Yoghurt	Apple Crumble	Banana & Chocolate Cake	Flapjack	Ice Lolly	
Supper	<p>HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND ☺</p>					

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