

Friday, 5th March,
2021

Dates for your diary:

- Monday 15th March 2021- INSET day
- Friday 2nd April 2021 to Friday 16th April 2021 - Easter Holidays

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you read this week's bulletin, you will be interested to hear about the wide range of activities that have been going on in the school, including participating in World Book Day yesterday! Next week is British Science week, so we will be doing some school wide investigations as well as entering a poster competition. Various practical experiments will be taking place during the week and Mr Sid Adams will round things off with a Science based virtual assembly on Friday.

Hopefully you will have read my letter earlier this week with regards to our arrangements over the coming weeks, where I also alluded to opportunities for your families to participate in testing. I mentioned that I would update you with any further information and yesterday we received the following information from the Department of Eductaion:

"NHS Test and Trace announced earlier this week, that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Tests are fast, easy and completely free. There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site - anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online - please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most"

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts.

Mercury

It has been a jam packed week in Mercury class! We thoroughly enjoyed world book day where we had some amazing highway rats in the class! We have enjoyed reading some Julia Donaldson books and we have created a newspaper article about how the highway rat is still on the run. In Maths we have been studying coordinates, we made a quadrant of the school grounds and did a treasure hunt only knowing the coordinates to guide us. In Science we made a compass out of a bowl and water, we discovered that on a compass the north pole of the magnet will tilt towards the north pole on Earth. We have also been creating some costumes in textiles for world book day including hobby horses.



Mars

Another busy week in Mars Class. We have been dividing fractions in maths. In English, we have been learning about the Highwayman by Alfred Noyes, we have created word banks to describe some of the characters, using a thesaurus to find synonyms. This led to some great discussions and debates about good and evil.

In art this week we continued our investigation into animals of the arctic and created collaged walruses to go onto our whole school mural.

In food technology we made cookies then on World Book day, we decorated them with the characters from this year's book The Highway Rat!

Other activities that we did on Book Day was to create Highway Rat costumes, make hobby horses out of sticks and old socks that we then raced around outside on- a great time was had by all!



Pluto

This week on-site Pluto have enjoyed the story of *The Highway Rat* as a big part of World Book Day celebrations and our learning about diary writing. We have also expanded our morning read to include CBBC news articles which we read and discuss as a group. We have been using the number washing line to practice our 3,4 and 8 times tables and some of us have also made great progress in learning division. We have been doing specific times table tasks on Sum Dog and we are eager to prove ourselves again in the next West Sussex Sum Dog competition.

In science we have been learning about diet and nutrition and have made some pretty special looking birdfeeders from old milk cartons. We have been keeping active by doing our morning mile most days this week.



Saturn

This week we wrote instructions for our fantastic chocolate biscuits which we made last week. We learnt how to use imperative verbs and change sentences into commands. In maths we have continued working on number and division. We had great fun on world book day, we made hobby horses relating to the *Highway Rat* and listened to lots of other stories by Julia Donaldson.

Galaxy:

Goodness another week has flown by. With it we have been exploring special slimey goo which is hard when you tap it or poke it, but it swills around inside the cup like a normal liquid. We tried to make shapes out of it but it wouldn't its form and would run across the floor again. Very confusing, but very exciting. We trundled off into the mist to try and see if we could spot or find the local Red Kite which was fruitless, but finding a robin, singing so beautifully in the tree more than made up for it. RS started a script book- a book that will contain all his magnificent dramatic doodling that's will lead him onto a number of short films and feed into his film editing activity. The result of which will be premiered at the end of term to the whole class, which is incredibly exciting.

Neptune

World Book Day has been our inspiration for learning this week. We looked at highwaymen and what they did and we also found out that Haywards Heath has its very own legend of Jack Hayward the highwayman who terrorised the locals. The boys learnt to use vocabulary to help with expressing their opinions and used this to help them write a book review on The Highway Rat. In DT we created hobby horses and highwayman masks and the boys used these as props for their film interpretation of The Highway Rat. They showed good teamwork between actors and cameraman and worked hard on developing their expressive voices. In maths, we have been learning about shape and measures exploring the relationship between mm, cm and m and then leading into measuring and finding the perimeter of shapes. Continuing with Our Local Area topic, we investigated the solar panel farm in Staplefield which will lead into a more in-depth investigation next week.

Titan

Another week packed full of activities and outings for Titan class, as well as WBD! In Maths we focused on solving number puzzles, e.g. magic square and I am thinking of a number... using all four calculations; the pupils have enjoyed these activities immensely; furthermore, the On the run maths board game that they played on Monday was a definite hit with the children.

In English, the children have taken part in the Reading Eggs writing challenge - they had to write their own story and submit it so they can take part in the writing competition organised by Reading Eggs - as well as writing a recount based on our trip to St Mark's church on Wednesday morning, which the children enjoyed greatly. We had the pleasure of listening to the church warden, who gave us some historical information on the church, how old it is, which parish it belongs to, as well as telling us that the paintings were produced by a famous painter, Charles Eamer Kemp. The children had to use some of these facts in their recount writing when we got back to school.

In PHSCE this week we looked at how we can keep our bodies healthy and how we can look after them, e.g. personal hygiene, exercise and rest.



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 will begin 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!

8th March 2021

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Everyday
Main	Meat Free Monday Macaroni Cheese	Jambalaya	 Semiolina	Jerk Chicken	Baguette with Bacon or Sausage	Salad Bar Jacket Potatoes
And to go with	Green beans	Sweetcorn		Caribbean Braised Rice	Chips	Jelly Yoghurt Cut Fruit
Pudding	Peach Crumble	Raspberry Yoghurt		Pineapple Upside Down sponge	Choc Ice	

Supper
Connect