

# BRANTRIDGE BULLETIN



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.

## Dates for your diary:

- **Last day of term:** Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021
- **INSET Days:** 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2021
- **First day of Autumn term:** Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

You will be aware that I have mentioned previously that a therapy dog – Kimi, has started ‘attending’ Brantridge.

Kimi is a four year old male dog who is a Finnish laaphund. He has already been into school a few times and as you can imagine has been very popular. Many special schools have therapy dogs on site as their presence can support pupils in so many positive ways.

Pupils who are reticent to read will often be willing to read to the dog; pupils who can be reticent to communicate will often be happy to give the dog very clear instructions; as you can imagine the list goes on.

As well the positives already mentioned, some of our pupils struggle to see ‘outside of themselves’. Developing an understanding of the need to consider the needs of someone else apart from themselves and to try to see things from another’s perspective is again something that we hope that Kimi will be able to help our pupils with. Finally it is probably worth noting that the presence of a dog can help to regulate young people if they are feeling anxious – again another benefit.

When I first contacted you as parents/carers about Kimi, I did ask you to let your child’s class teacher know whether there are any allergic concerns with your child coming into contact with dogs or is frightened in any way. In the same communication, I mentioned the fact that we were having chickens and asked the same questions. It is as of yet unclear how things will proceed but we may be having additional animals at our school in the coming months and so you will be receiving a form for you to complete next week asking if there are any concerns with your child working with animals in general. Please return the form to the school office.

Whilst I mention returning forms, not all parents have returned the questionnaires we sent out last week. You’ll remember that we sent them out electronically and on paper. If you would like another copy of the paper version please do contact the school office and Susie George will gladly ensure that you receive another copy. Please ensure that we receive these responses by Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> June.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts

## Mercury

This week in Mercury we have created our own mythical creatures. We have then created a wanted poster explaining the crime they committed and a description of what they look like. In Maths this week we have been learning about adding and subtracting money. In Science this week we looked at how animals are different and sorted animals using a Venn diagram. In art this week we painted our 3d sculptures in the style of Giacometti. For Topic this week we learnt about the Battle of Marathon alongside creating a wind vane to test the direction of wind. For P.E we learnt the technique of how to run for speed.



## Mars

This week Mars class have been working hard learning about coordinates in maths, we have played lots of games and activities working in the first quadrant.

In English, we have continued learning Greek myths- this week we have been looking at the story of Kronos and Rhea. After we read about the events, we then retold the story using StoryJumper on the computers which meant that we got to practice out IT skills as well as editing and illustrating our fantastic stories into books, we really enjoyed the process.

We have spent lots of time with the school chickens this week too, we really enjoy holding them, feeding and filling their water. We have also walked the therapy dog around the school.

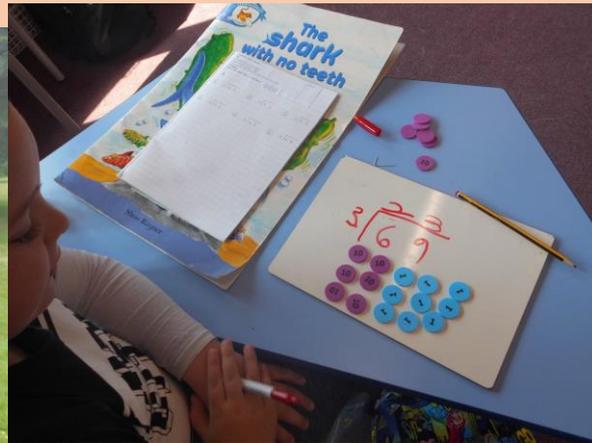
Another thing that we have really enjoyed this week has been learning to skip using our new skipping ropes! We have really had a good workout with these and have become quite quick

On Friday we are hoping to go out to Tilgate Park to feed the ducks.



## Pluto

Pluto this week have learnt about the Greek Myth of Theseus and the Minotaur. They retold the story in their own words and wrote a character description for the Minotaur. In maths they have been learning different ways to divide by using number lines and place value counters with the bus top method. In Science they learnt about the parts of a plant and in Geography they learnt how the Earth was divided into parts e.g. Equator and Tropic Lines. Pluto enjoyed throwing sticks for Kimi the therapy dog on the days he was in.



## Saturn

This week we have continued our learning of shape, this time focussing on 3d shapes. In English we read the story of Monstersaurus and donned our lab coats, goggles and clipboards to select ingredients for our own 'monster' creation. We thought about which ingredients might make a soft/hard monster and what might make a scary or friendly monster. Some of us thought feathers and shaving foam would be great for a soft, friendly monster. We mixed up our potions and were very proud of our creations! We have played volleyball, practised our cycling, scootering or skateboarding skills and built fantastic dens in our construction area.



## Galaxy:

Galaxy have continued to show some more superb social skills this week. It has been really lovely to watch both classes playing nicely on the playground at break, making up their own games and following the rules nicely. We have also continued to develop our times tables using a range of strategies and this morning's football maths was exceptional. Goals were worth either 3 (for staff) or 4 (for pupils) points each, excellent links were made and it was great fun! It has also been great to hear about the positive experience that two of our pupils have had whilst visiting their Angling4Education provisions this week.

## Titan

The pupils in Titan class have had a very different week; with Mrs Puica not being in, they all tried to adapt to the new routines and staffing. However, they did very well and managed to cope with the change well.

They all completed all the work that Mrs Puica left for them and some extra.

They enjoyed the Gym on Thursday and we completed another class quiz on Friday, where we looked at questions from Maths, Geography, general knowledge and sports.

In assembly we talked about Summer solstice and what it means, as well as, looking at different ways that people celebrate in around the world.

A very positive week!

The children are looking forward to getting back to normal next week!

## Neptune

This week in Neptune class we have continued to work on adding and subtracting decimals and the boys have moved onto working on numbers up to two decimal places. In English, we are working on another Greek myth, Theseus and the Minotaur, and the boys have started creating their own books based on this story - thinking about using more ambitious sentence starters. In PSHE, we have been finding out about democracy and about the freedoms we enjoy living in a democratic country. In History, the boys have been finding out about life in Ancient Greece. They were surprised to find out how much of a difference there was between how boys and girls were treated - being a boy was definitely a better deal!!! In art, we have started making clay pots based model on Greek pots. The boys were totally engrossed in this activity and are rightly proud of what they have accomplished so far.

## Outdoor Learning

Continuing with the topic of the Olympics, we have been looking at how each ring represents a different continent and have been working on the yellow ring for Asia and creating banners using the ancient Japanese art technique of Hapa Zome. Where the boys find foliage and flowers in the outdoor learning area and hammer them carefully onto a piece of calico





# Summer Menu

28th July 2021

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

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main	<b>MEAT FREE MONDAY</b> Vegetable Paella	Traditional Lasagne		Sweet & Sour Pork	Cheese Burger Or Bacon In a Bap
And to go with	Sweetcorn	Green Beans Carrots		Vegetable Fried Rice	Chips
Pudding	Semolina	Yoghurt		Chocolate Ice Cream Tubs	BIRTHDAY CAKE

*Connect*