

## BRANTRIDGE BULLETIN

Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2022.

**Dates for your diary:**

**INSET Day:** Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022

**End of term:** Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

**First day Spring Term:** Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you know we have an INSET day on Monday, 28<sup>th</sup> November. I am aware that schools don't often explain to parents what happens during these days, so we thought that we would share with you what this forthcoming INSET is all about. As with many of our INSET days, different staff are involved with different things.

There are 12 staff doing First Aid training facilitated through an external company which will take up the majority of the day. Our teachers and teaching assistants will be attending 'Personal, Social, Health Education' (PSHE) training for the morning, again delivered by an external provider. The idea being that our staff are given a range of ideas to deliver this subject in an interesting and accessible way.

In the afternoon the teachers will be planning an overview of what they hope to be covering in the different classes in the new year. This co-planning enables teachers to support each other with their various subject expertise. During this time the teaching assistants will be doing online courses to support the delivery of food tech lessons going forward.

The day will finish with input on supporting children to keep safe online.

Our therapists and Pupil Support Team will spend the day visiting various local special needs schools to observe their way of working. We have taken this approach previously and it invariably leads to staff gleaning new ideas and approaches. It also very often leads to staff reflecting on the way we do things here at Brantridge in view of these visits, something that is always very healthy.

We hope that this training will be engaging and informative for staff and that in turn your children will benefit from that.

Have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts.  
Principal.

## Therapies and Interventions

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30-11am there will be a parent training session on The Zones of Regulation, how we use this at school and how you can use this program at home. The session will be held online (via Teams) and is free to all parents and carers of current Brantridge pupils.

The Zones of Regulation is a program we use at school with all pupils to help them identify their own emotions and the emotions of others and to learn strategies to use to help them regulate emotionally. This program is most effective when used at home as well as at school.

We all use strategies all the time to regulate ourselves. When you wake up in the morning, you might have a cup of tea or coffee or do some exercise to wake yourself up. You might recognise that you are still sleepy and use these strategies help you to shift from the Blue Zone to the Green Zone to enable you to be able to focus and listen in a calm state. Similarly, if you are anxious, you might recognise how this feels in your body (e.g. pounding heart, biting nails, unable to concentrate, clammy palms) and use strategies to help you calm down such as seeking reassurance by talking to someone, taking deep breaths, etc. Many of our pupils find it difficult to recognise emotions within themselves and to identify them. They also struggle to know how to self-regulate their emotions. The parent training session aims to provide you with the knowledge and skills to be able to help your child at home with this so that they are receiving this support at home as well as at school.

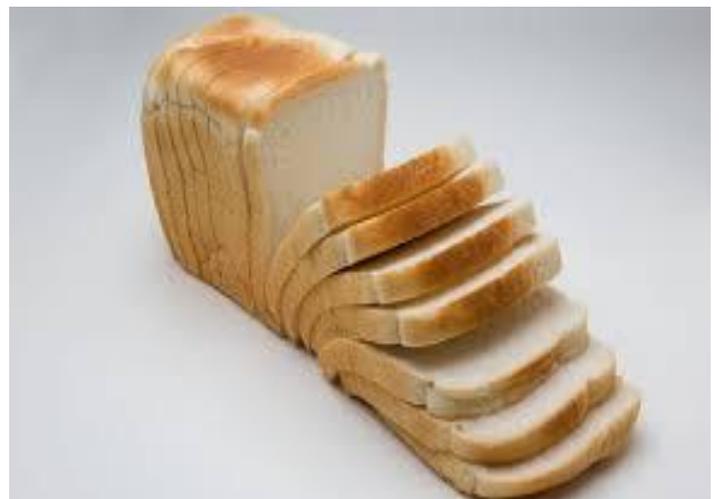
To secure your place on this training, please email me **by 25<sup>th</sup> November**. I will then email the Teams link to everyone who has expressed an interest.

Best wishes

### **'Idiom of the Week'**

The 'Idiom of the Week' for the week beginning Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November is:

**'The best thing since sliced bread'** (used to emphasize one's enthusiasm about a new idea, person or thing).



## Nova

WOW!!! What an incredibly progressive and learning rich week we have had. The progress shown in maths, where we have been learning how to multiply 2 two-digit numbers using the grid method has been incredible! The boys have worked independently and together, to calculate difficult sums, using prior knowledge of place values and their times tables effectively. In English, we have explored organisational devices and chronological reports. We used a highly competitive game of AORF (American Ozzie Rules Football) as our subject, and used paragraphs, bullet points and headings to highlight important information, and make it easily accessible to a quick scan. I was blown away at horse riding, where the boys showed excellent reign control and timing with the seated and rising trot around the parade ground.

Well team Nova.

## Pluto

We have focussed this week on 'Anti-Bulling Week' where we have participated in many fun activities to develop our understanding of what bullying means and raise awareness of what you can do about it.

This week we have looking at working hard on consolidating our multiplication knowledge by using different ways to represent multiplication number sentences through using arrays, repeated addition and using equipment. From working hard and looking carefully we spotted a lot of patterns and made links to other areas of maths.

From studying our text 'Cave Baby' we have got lots of creative ideas so we can write our own story. We have found out what needs to be included in a story. These features we are now using, to help us create our own imaginative story ideas.

Through using Atlases and maps, we found out the names and positions of the countries of the United Kingdom and that we live in the South-East of England. We also looked at a map of the world to see where England is, and we discovered England is in the continent of Europe.

### Zephaniah

This week in Zephaniah we have been working very hard. We have been learning about inequalities in maths and after recapping symbols we were able to apply this to real life situations such as writing equations for speed limits and age restrictions- everyone made great progress and really pushed themselves.

In English, we have continued to study Macbeth, this week we used lots of drama games and techniques where we practised tone, volume and devised actions to portray the story. Everyone had lots of fun and really tried hard to put themselves out of their comfort zone.

On Thursday, we went to gymnastics and everyone engaged and enjoyed themselves practicing forward rolls into somersaults.

On Friday, we had another ASDAN session where we continued our investigations into Scottish culture. This week we held our own highland games where we played mini golf using homemade holes and indoor curling. We finished off with a Kahoot quiz to test our learning.

All this and more is available on Tapestry to view.

### Jupiter

This week, Jupiter have worked on time. We have been telling the time to the hour, half an hour, quarter to/ past, 5 minutes, and minute. We have started work on converting between 24 hours and 12 hours. We have been working on this by using clocks, playing games, and answering questions.

Jupiter have written letters to Mr Roberts. The boys have tried persuaded him to give them £10,000, a bike ride, extra days off for Christmas and rewards at the end of team

The Boys have been working on renewable energy, solar panels, and wind turbines. In science, Jupiter have been working on and learning about the solar system. We figured out how it all moves and facts about the different planets.

Well done on your hard work!

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### Saturn

In Saturn this week we have been focussing on time, we played a game of call my bluff where children had to answer multiple choice questions by using a voting paddle. We have been working on phase 3 phonics sounds and the children are showing an increasing understanding of how to decode and blend sounds. In geography we looked at Europe and found out some interesting facts. We were then given the challenge to create a European landmark of our choice using any resources we liked. We had some amazing results including a large scale role play area of Buckingham Palace. This led to further learning about palaces and castles. We learned key features of castles and incorporated some of those by adapting the palace. We have had a big focus on anti-bullying this week, along with anti-bullying workshop and using resources and learning from the campaign for Odd Socks day, we listened to stories like *The Rainbow Fish* by Michael Pfitzer and *Odd Dog Out* by Rob Biddulph. Both stories are about celebrating differences and being kind. The children created their own rainbow fish pictures



### Titan

This week in Titan we have been focusing on multiplication and division, with the emphasis on written methods for both calculations. We have also looked at using multiplication and division in the context of word problems.

In English we have carried on with reading our class book, *Holes*, which the pupils enjoy thoroughly. We found out a bit more about our main character Stanley Yelnats and his family. The pupils then had to work in teams and describe a picture that showed *Green Camp Lake* as accurately as they could.

In PSHCE we talked about negative and positive thoughts and how they can influence our behaviour and feelings.

The anti-bullying session focused on what bullying is and what pupils can do to tackle bullying in school and in the wider community.

### Galaxy

This has been a positive week for Galaxy. Especially since the boys have not had any access to any kitchen facilities. Four boys have enjoyed playing the card game UNO. This not only has helped them with numbers, colours and symbols, but it has promoted a good sense of camaraderie. Also this week one pupil has learned to ride a bike and has done a lot of homework on the days he is not in school. Walking (mainly in the rain) has become popular. Trips to the local park and church are particular favourites. Yesterday we had a parent tour of Galaxy. They were really impressed by the way of learning we have adapted in Galaxy. Their son is on assessment for two days next week. Let's all make him welcome with our own style of Galaxy bonding. Last Friday Mel left our 'family' for pastures new in the Police. Some of the boys bought her a leaving present and they all signed their name on a sheet of paper, which Mel said she would treasure for ever. Good luck Mel. Nice touch boys.

This Friday is the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of Children in Need. I wonder how many Brantridge staff were born when the programme first aired in 1980. Not too many. Only one from Galaxy.

### Earth

This week in Earth we have continued to work hard on our maths, focusing on multiplying and counting in 2s, 5s & 10s, whilst some of us have been recapping our knowledge of place value. We have been working well on our writing in phonics this week, learning lots of new sounds and trying to apply them to help us write.

We also enjoyed our second horse riding session where we rode our horses outside!

## Neptune

This week in Neptune we have focused on 'The Highway Man' - the boys have really enjoyed this and have enjoyed using their comprehension skills to make predictions about what happens next. We have also spent some time on our AQA projects which the boys are really enjoying! Enthusiastically taking part in their independent learning, they are learning and developing new skills. Thanks to one project we now have a robot assistant named "Rex" in class. The boys have thoroughly enjoyed watching the Robot be built by their peer and have kindly offered support and a hand when needed. This, alongside assisting another peer to fix school bikes has lead to some great peer lead learning. We have also begun to understand the different types of settlements people live in and their characteristics (geography) while designing our own dream town - lots of big, expensive houses being planned. With some big projects planned for Neptune over the next couple of weeks, we look forward to sharing the finished products with you soon. Overall, a great learning week!

## Orwell Class

This week Orwell have been enjoying *Holes* by Louis Sachar as our new class book in English. We have been learning how to use expanded noun phrases in our writing. In maths we have been exploring multiplication with a focus on squared numbers which we have been practising through the medium of board games.

In History we have been learning about the successes and tribulations encountered on the third crusade. The boys made a good job of the Kahoot that we used to check for understanding at the end of the lesson. In science we learnt about energy transfer through heating and conducted several investigations to confirm the hypothesis regarding temperature.

We had another successful session at Boulder Brighton and invited three climbers from Zephaniah class to add to our number. In Outdoor Learning we have been working on our bases in the new forest area and hope that they can withstand the November deluges of rain. Tomorrow will be the Scottish Olympics which will involve developing skills at indoor putting and curling. This event contributes to the citizenship element of the ASDAN Life Skills Challenge programme.

More detail and photos and links to Kahoot quizzes are available on Tapestry.

## Outdoor Learning

It has been a very wet week in outdoor learning which has meant that wellies and coats have been a must, and usually activities changed to enjoy the puddles and mud that developed in the outdoor learning area. Instead, the boys had the freedom to choose to take the risk of going into the puddles or mud, or just play in the rain.



# BRANTRIDGE BULLETIN

**Stir.**

**week: 02**

**W/C: 31/10, 21/11, 12/12**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Meat Free Monday</b> Wholemeal Pasta In a Rich Tomato Sauce	<b>Classic Beef Burger</b> in a Bun	<b>Macaroni Cheese</b>	<b>Not So Spicy Chicken Tikka Masala</b>	<b>Sausage Or Bacon In a Baguette</b>
Garlic Bread	Hash Brown & Green Beans	Sweetcorn	Wholegrain Rice & Garden Peas	Packet of Crips
Jacket Potato with Cheese or Baked Beans will be Available Daily				
Baguettes/Wraps with Cheese, Egg Mayo or Ham are Available Daily				
<b>Chefs Special</b>	<b>Chefs Special</b>	<b>Chefs Special</b>	<b>Chefs Special</b>	<b>Chefs Special</b>

**menu**

**let's eat, together**  
[www.stirfood.co.uk](http://www.stirfood.co.uk)