

BRANTRIDGE BULLETIN

Friday, 2nd December, 2022.

Dates for your diary:

Christmas lunch: Wednesday 14th December 2022

End of term: Friday 16th December 2022

First day Spring Term: Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It was great that so many of you have managed to meet with the staff who work with your child this week in the 'Parent Consultations'. We hope that you found it beneficial and gave you a helpful understanding of how your child is progressing. We say it regularly, but the importance of a school and parents working closely together is vital if a child is to reach their full potential.

It was good to hear that 40 of you have said that you are hoping to attend our Christmas Fair on 9th December between 2-3pm. It promises to be a great afternoon with a wide range of stalls, a raffle with good prizes and refreshments. For those of you who haven't yet signed up, but who intend to come please use the link below:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdEhZwld7DoRtAu9_adsA7DItaeWjt6QTqyacNssM7l8GXHxA/vi/ewform?usp=sf_link

Over the next two weeks we are hoping to play two football matches against our local primary school - St Mark's. The idea of having two games is to give as many pupils as we can an opportunity to play. The games will take place here on our all-weather pitch. If past matches between the two schools are anything to go by our children will have a great time!

Finally, we wanted to draw your attention to Wednesday, 14th December. This is the day of our school Christmas lunch. As in recent years we are encouraging staff and pupils to come into school that day wearing their Christmas jumpers if they have one. There is an optional £1 donation which goes towards 'Save the Children' for those who intend to wear their Christmas jumpers.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

Dafydd Roberts
Principal

Therapies and Interventions

Occupational Therapy

The Senses

Most people think there are only five senses but did you know, we do in fact have eight sensory systems delivering information to our brain? The familiar senses are;

1. **Taste or gustatory**
2. **Sight or visual**
3. **Touch or tactile**
4. **Smell or olfactory**
5. **Hearing or auditory**

The less familiar senses are;

6. **Vestibular (balance)**. The sensory receptors are in the inner ear and stimulation occurs through any change in position, direction or movement of the head. Vestibular input contributes to our sense of body position in space, posture and muscle tone, the maintenance of a stable visual field, bilateral co-ordination, a sense of equilibrium/balance and gravitational awareness.

7. **Proprioception (movement)**. This sensory receptors for this system are in our muscles, tendons, ligaments and joint receptors. It tells us where our body is in space and detects and controls force and pressure. It helps us to feel grounded and know where we are and what we are doing.

8. **Interoceptive (internal)**. This system is becoming more familiar and gives us the ability to feel what is happening inside our body. It plays a role in influencing emotions and sense of wellbeing and detects changes in our internal state. These include knowing when we are hungry or thirsty, hot or cold, or need the toilet for example. Many children struggle to regulate this

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sense and will wear a jacket in hot weather. This will be familiar to a lot of parents and caregivers.

The 'senses and sensory' is a vast topic and next time in occupational therapy we will explore when children are under responsive, or over responsive regarding behaviours and levels of arousal, to then begin to look at strategies.

Dana Turner

Occupational Therapist

Advanced Sensory Integration Practitioner



'Idiom of the Week'

The 'Idiom of the Week' for the week beginning Monday 5th December is:

'by the skin of your/my teeth'

(meaning 'only just' / 'barely')

e.g. "I passed my test **by the skin of my teeth.**"



Nova

What a good week we have had in Nova class this week.

In English we have continued to look at speech marks and writing to preform.

In maths we have been recapping what we have learnt this term and will be extending our knowledge on areas in which we are struggling in.

In Geography we have looked at compasses and how they work and played an interactive run around the classroom game learning ways to remember the 4 points of a compass. We have also started to look at maps and how compasses and maps are created.

We have been horse riding this week continuing our journey of controlling our horses and our rising trot.

We have enjoyed making bird feeders in outdoor learning.

Pluto

In English we applied all our skills and knowledge to write an imaginative story. We all contributed great ideas and re-read our ideas to check they made sense. We checked that we were using the correct punctuation too.

In our DT lesson we had a great time using a range of construction kits to make 'Stone Age' shelters. Children co-operated well and praised the work of other children. They really concentrated on the task and produced a range of creative models. Pluto class were able to discuss these models in a lot of detail pointing out the different features of the shelters. The children used appropriate vocabulary which illustrated their great understanding of the key terms.

Lots of other activities have been going on including working with Dana using some different sensory equipment to help develop our fine motor skills and help regulate our emotions. This proved to be great fun! Also, we have working on some yoga mindfulness exercises to help with our mental health and general

Zephaniah

This week in Zephaniah Class we have been busy learning lines and rehearsing songs for our end of year performance- *Macbeth the Musical*. All boys tried incredibly hard and sang brilliantly- still lots of work to go but with everyone on board and engaged we should have this mostly completed by this time next week and we will look forward to sharing with you.

In maths this week, we have been investigating properties of 2d shape. We practiced drawing accurately and then created shape algorithms that we wrote instructions including deliberate errors which our partner had to de-bug.

For PE we went to K2 for gymnastics which we love and on Friday West Sussex Music came in to school to visit us as part of the termly roadshow. We got to sing the songs that we have been practicing this term as well as creating and learning new songs, rhythms and beats that played along with percussion instruments.

All available on Tapestry!

Have a great weekend

Jupiter

This week, Jupiter have been working on narrative stories.

The boys have started planning and writing the beginning of the story.

We plan to complete the middle and the end next week.

Jupiter have been working on multiplication and division by 10,100,1000.

We have been working on night and day, where does our food come from and team games.

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Saturn

In maths this week we have continued our learning on multiplication and division, sorting objects into equal and unequal groups.

In science we explored safari's and the continent of Africa which links to our learning in Geography.

We read the story Oi Frog and looked at the work of the illustrator Jim Field and drew our own versions of the frog.

In phonics we have continued blending and segmenting. It has been quite a lively week! Children are excited about Christmas and keen to create some crafts for our stall at the Christmas fayre

Titan

Although a short week for pupils, we have managed to fill it up with a lot of learning, both old and new!

In Maths, we have started learning, as well as revisiting, telling the time; we practised telling the time to o'clock, half past, a quarter past, a quarter to and to the 5 minutes; we have also started looking at converting between the 12 hour and 24 hour clock, as well as solving problems involving time and time intervals.

In English this week, we looked at expanded noun phrases and how we can use them to improve our writing, for e.g. the beautiful, blue sky, rather than just the sky. The pupils had to write a short paragraph demonstrating they have understood the aim of the lesson. We had some amazing short descriptive paragraphs.

In Computing, the pupils have started working on touch typing which they have loved. They are using an interactive approach where they can see progress and it gets more and more difficult as you go through the levels.

Galaxy

Prodigy English and Maths has really taken off with some Galaxy boys this week. They have enjoyed it so much they have even done some homework. Also, the results are in from Galaxy's design a 'Remembrance Day Medal'. All entries were amazing and our resident Galaxy Judge, Mary T was hard pressed to pick a winner, so she picked three winners. Congratulations to everyone who took the time to enter and thanks to Mary who had the hardest task of all.



Earth

We have had a lovely week in Earth. In our horse riding session this week, we were 'trotting' with our horses and even took our horses out onto the road! The children did an amazing job to keep their horses calm on the road. On Thursday, we had an extra treat and went to the park! It was lovely to see the boys playing kindly together! In phonics we've continued to focus on single sounds and in maths we have started to look at money!

Neptune

This week in Neptune we have continued our work with the Highway Man, planning and making props so we can recreate the story next week. There have been lots of debates about specific details, we have come up with some great compromises. We have also investigated Victorian crime and punishment with the boys enduring classroom activities based on the hard labour prisoners experienced. Geography helped us determine how we can improve our treatment of the environment by conserving energy in our homes and school. We used string in art to create some different patterns and have looked at different mark making to shade our images.

This week we have also had a visitor in class from the North Pole. Neptune have been visited by Billy the elf who intends to help the boys make good decisions. As well as refreshing on our talk with local police about expected behaviours.

A good week for Neptune, well done.

Orwell Class

This week Orwell class enjoyed Friday's Scottish feast to finish our "Experiencing Other Cultures" unit of the ASDAN Life Skills Challenge programme. The boys learnt about Robert Burns, comparisons between Scotland and England and a wee bit of Glaswegian slang. Haggis, neeps and taties were served, and they were a big hit with the boys. In Maths we have been working on multiplying 2-, 3- and 4-digit numbers through various tabletop games and online gaming challenges. We are still working through Holes by Louis Sachar in English and the boys are getting good at describing the famous yellow spotted lizards.

In History we have been learning about the crusades and the positive and negative legacy of these actions. Rock climbing was a big success with a mixture of Orwell and Zephaniah boys pushing themselves to keep on improving their climbing techniques.

On Thursday the boys learnt about charity in PSHE and we discussed the reasons why they exist and why people give to charity. On the charity theme Orwell class will be raising money at the school fete next Friday by selling the stunning LEGO picture frames that they made. Today all boys were 100% focused on making frames to their own particular designs. Great work lads!

Pictures and details on Tapestry.

Outdoor Learning

This week in outdoor learning we have been thinking about the birds and how they may be struggling to find food. To help the birds out we have been making hoop cereal bird feeders. The boys have been showing how they can safely use the pillars to cut and bend wire, before threading the cereal onto the wire and creating a shape. Some of the boys decided to take their feeders home and some chose to hang theirs in the outdoor learning area



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Stir.

W/C: 14/11, 5/12

week: 01

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Meat Free Monday Veggie Bolognese With Wholegrain Penne Pasta	Sausage & New Potatoes	Chicken & Tomato Pasta Bake	Mild Chilli Beef & Rice	Bacon Baguette
Garlic Bread	Carrots	Green Beans	Sweetcorn	Packet of Crisp
Jacket Potato with Cheese or Baked Beans will be Available Daily				
Baguettes/Wraps with Cheese, Egg Mayo or Ham are Available Daily				
Chefs Special	Chefs Special	Chefs Special	Chefs Special	Chefs Special

menu

let's eat, together
www.stirfood.co.uk