



Braunston C.E. Primary School

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12th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week, our Year 6 children have completed their Standard Assessment Tests (SATs) and have been supported by the whole school community. You may be aware from the media, that SATs have been incredibly challenging this year and led to increased stress and anxiety for Year 6 pupils. You may not be aware that schools do not choose to deliver SATs but that it is a directive from the Department of Education.

We have all been so proud of how Year 6 children have conducted themselves this week. They have remained calm, approached their assessments sensibly and have shown resilience each day. The children have turned up to Breakfast Club smiling and joking with each other and have always displayed polite manners to the staff who have supported them. The Year 6 children have been incredibly well supported, by staff and by many volunteers who have given up their time to assist classes where teaching assistants have been involved in the administration of the tests.

Whilst we appreciate that many of the children have been nervous this week, they have managed their emotions incredibly well. We all know that the children at Braunston have so many talents and we work hard to ensure they are valued for these. The SATs measure a small part of learning and now that they are completed, I hope that the children look back on this time and remember their positive attitudes, the help given from the school community, the loud cheers that raised the roof and their tasty pizza, brownies and goodies!

Thank you to all the Year 6 parent community – I can imagine that it has been a tough week for you too!

We are so proud of Year 6.

Even though it is only May, we have started to plan for next academic year. You may have noticed a teacher vacancy being advertised. Miss Tant has secured a promoted post and will start her new role as Deputy Headteacher in September. We are delighted for her and know that she will be a valuable member at her new school – but, of course, she will be greatly missed.

Please note that swimming for Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 starts on Monday 15th May. The pool continues to be lovely and warm despite the ever-changing weathers that we are experiencing.

Please see the diary dates for updates and changes.



Reception Class – Inkpen

In Reception class this week, we have been involved in lots of exciting learning. In maths, we have been looking at sharing groups of objects into equal parts. We have been sharing into groups of two, we found this made a half of the original group. We also practised how to share objects into 3 groups by putting one into each group at a time. In computing we have been using a music programme to create our own music. We also learnt how to record a short piece of music and play it back at different speeds. We really enjoyed listening to the music we made and being creative with the sounds.

Next week, we will be starting swimming in the school pool. We have been down to look at the pool. We were able to put our hands into the water, look at the changing rooms and find out about some of the things we will be using like armbands, floats and toys. We are all looking forward to going swimming with Mr Pryce.

I'm excited to go swimming, I
really like it.
Luna B

I like to do the different
sounds (music on computers).
Stanley W

I've been swimming and I like
it.
Cleo



Class 1 - Donaldson

It is a very exciting time to be in Year 1.

We have shown all of our school values in welcoming Mrs Park into Year 1. We are very happy to be welcoming her into our school for the next few months.

We are soon to start swimming which will normally be on a Wednesday. More details to follow about the first week as we are going on our class trip so will need to change to another day.

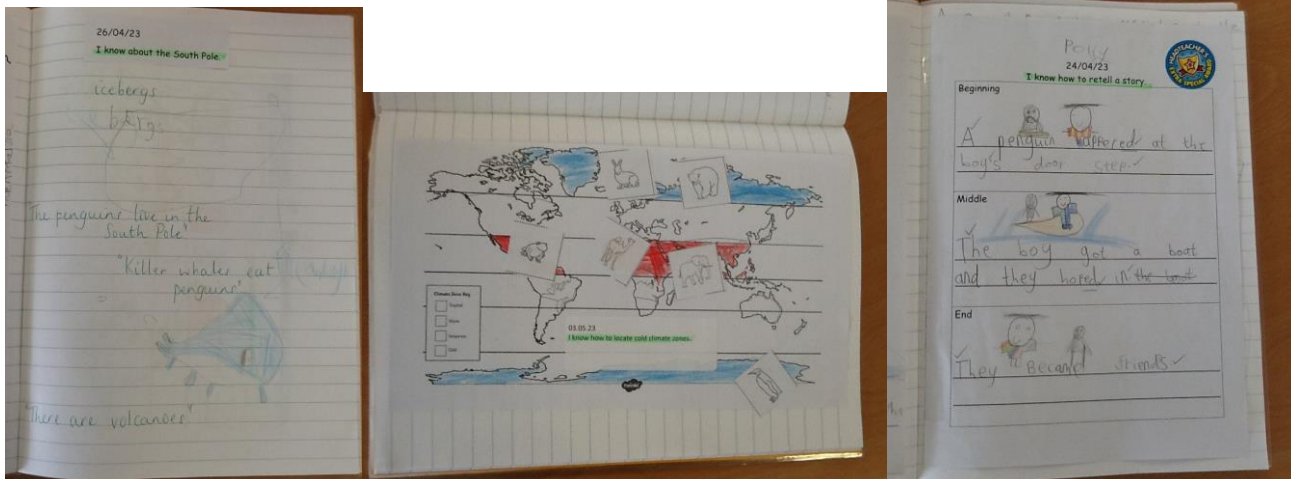
We are very much looking forward to our class trip to Woburn Safari Park, where we will travel through the road safari by coach, engage in an outdoor activity called 'Poo in the Zoo', have a picnic and walk around the foot safari. This visit will link nicely with our next science topic all about animals. We will learn to identify and name a variety of common animals including fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. By finding out what they eat we will also group them into carnivores, herbivores and omnivores.

We have almost finished our geography topic about the poles. We have searched for the coldest parts of the world using maps and a globe. We have learnt which animals live there and how they survive. In our English lessons we have used the book 'Lost and Found' as a stimulus for our writing. Sadly, the penguin was lost so we used our knowledge of the poles to help him find his way home. We then discovered he was not lost; he was lonely and needed a friend.

You can't see penguins at the North Pole. Gracie-May

Polar bears live in the Arctic. Leah

Nobody lives at the South Pole. Noah



Class 2 – Ahlberg

Year 2 are as busy as the spring bees! In geography we have been learning all about maps and we have looked at both aerial photographs and maps of Braunston. We have even made our first attempts at drawing our own - which is harder than you think!

In our science lessons, we have planted seeds ready to experiment upon them! Our main questions will be: what do seeds need to grow? Then, once germination happens, we will find out what plants need to thrive. Some plants may be injured during this process....

In English, we have been writing stories about Jack and the Beanstalk - using the most amazing adverbs and adjectives in our sentences! In maths, we are remembering all our four maths operations and reminding ourselves about fractions.

Well done to everyone completing their homework in their homework books - you are all working so hard - at home and at school!

Alfie : I really liked reading Jack and the Beanstalk because I really liked the part when it said 'the ground started to shake'

Darcie: I liked looking at the plants outside in the playground. The roots and the detail on the leaves were really interesting.

Jamie: I liked the aerial photographs because everything looks different from above.



Class 3 - Jamila

This term, Year 3 have been learning about Ancient Egypt. As part of our English unit on narrative, we have been exploring plot using a story arc to help us map the key parts of a story. We have focused this week on the problem in a story and have been thinking of our own to include in our stories. There have been some super ideas!

As part of our history unit, we have started to look at the different gods and goddesses and their roles in Ancient Egyptian deities. I couldn't believe how many gods they had, over 1,000. I was shocked by the gory nature of some of the gods, like Anubis, who was looking forward to trying to murder his victims.

My problem is my character presses a button that makes the statues of the gods come to life.

Florence

My problem is a load of mummies appearing from the sand.

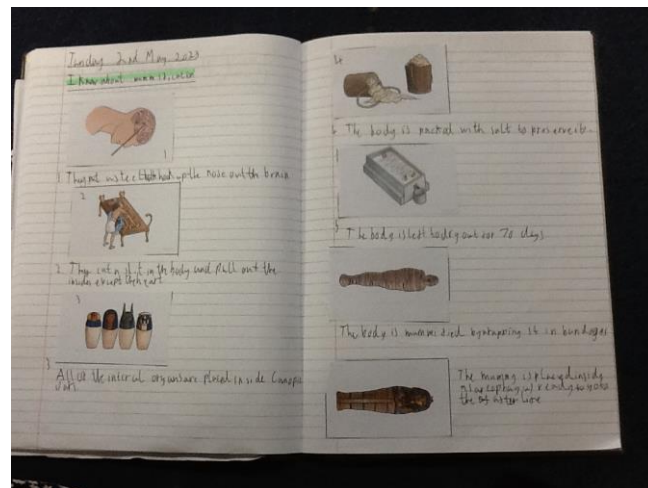
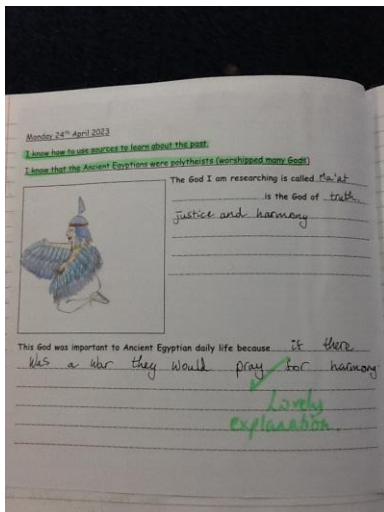
~~Max~~

They stick a bronze hook up
the nose, wiggle it around and
pull the brain out of the nose.

Alfie

They stick gold inside the body
because they think it will be
helpful in the after life.

Phoebe



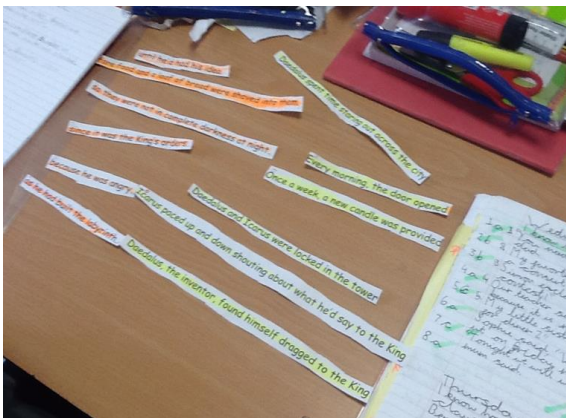
Class 4 – Morpurgo

Yet another busy start to a busy term... Our great adventure was in the first week back when we went to Everdon. We enjoyed walking, garden games and challenges with plastic tubing, pond dipping and orienteering. We caught many interesting species from the river, including leeches and snails. Although we had to orienteer in the rain, it did not deter year 4 and they navigated themselves expertly around the bases. For many it was the first time staying away from home and the children had a great time.

In school, we have begun learning about Ancient Greece in History and to accompany this, in English we have been reading and writing myths: Daedalus and Icarus, as well as Theseus and the Minotaur. During our writing, we experimented with the position of subordinate clauses by cutting up sentences and moving them. Through our science work, we have found out about vertebrates and invertebrates, and have classified these into groups. We are glad to have the new and upcoming 'David Attenborough' in our class to help and guide us!! PE has been great fun doing Tri-Golf as we have all enjoyed the putting challenges.

There are many animals with different subspecies. I know that a whale is a mammal as it has fur.
Josh B

My favourite part of residential was pond dipping.
Francisco



There are many animals with different subspecies. I know that a whale is a mammal as it has fur.
Josh B

Class 5 – Rowling

Year 5 have worked incredibly hard this term. We have learnt about reading and interpreting timetables. If you spot a timetable whilst you are at home or out and about, please challenge your year 5 child to interpret it and give you some information from it. In English, we have been looking at setting and character description with help from Agent Spyfox and the evil villain Dr Hammer. We have been busy creating our own stories with a villain and a hero. We are incorporating dialogue into our story too and using speech punctuation accurately.

We are continuing to enjoy rehearsing our 1920s performance about the canal boat strikes and the impact this had on Braunston Village and school. We are looking forward to hearing who has been allocated speaking parts. It will be amazing when it all comes together with the acting and the songs.

In art, we have been researching a famous German textile artist – Gunta Stolz- and been trying to show movement in art using her work as inspiration for our collage pieces.

We are now counting down the days until our residential at Rock Uk in Irthlingborough and Mrs Carter and Mrs Sawyer will be happy to share more details at a parents' information evening on Tuesday May 23rd at 5pm.

I have been enjoying English as I get to use my imagination and the Spyfox video that we based our writing on was great.

Billy

I am enjoying learning about life cycles in science – it is very interesting.

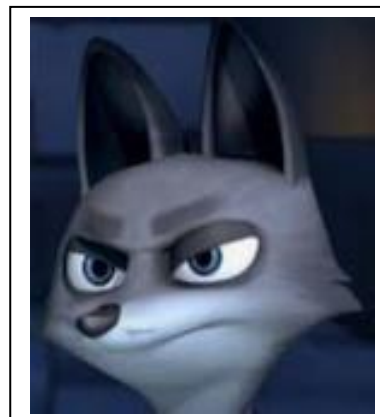
Jack

I am enjoying maths and learning about degrees and turns.

Freddie



Practising degrees and turns in maths



Spyfox

Class 6 – Horowitz

Horowitz class have returned after the Easter break with a willingness to get going with the term and have been showing superb resilience with their work.

The children have been working extremely hard on their arithmetic skills. Their pace and accuracy has improved over the last two weeks.

During our PE sessions, we have been learning the skills and rules to be able to play a successful game of rounders - the trickiest part being able to hit the ball with the rounders bat! We have also been practising our targeting skills which have proved to be a great source of fun. The children have been showing an excellent sporting attitude towards all the activities.

We have continued with our sessions with Alarum Productions and we are now beginning to learn the songs for our summer production. Some of the children have been surprised at their own singing capabilities and have grown in confidence when singing solo or in small groups.

I have enjoyed the play production and am very pleased with the role that I have been given.
Iszy

I've been really enjoying rounders. I have learnt how to bat properly and the games we play are great fun!
Louis

When we first started to do arithmetic, I didn't think that I was very good but now I am scoring more and have made good progress.
Aimee



Pupil of the Week			Our School Value		Most Active Class	
	21.4.23	28.4.23	21.4.23	28.4.23	21.4.23	28.4.23
R	Roman	Chester	Lucy	Eloise		225
1	Leah	Theo	Finlay	Luke		201
2	Freya	Bertie	Olivia	Tobey		189
3	Phoebe	Sophie	Mya-Poppy	Adam		120
4	Year 4	Jenson	Year 4	Amelia		534
5	Peter	Darcey	Bella	Henry		195
6	Charlie	Frankie	Allysia	Alfie		218
Best Attendance R & R Abis the Ape visits the class with the Best Attendance (Abis stands for always being in school)						

Pupil of the Week			Our School Value		Most Active Class	
	5.5.23	12.5.23	5.5.23	12.5.23	5.5.23	12.5.23
R	Cleo	George	Luna	Lune		
1	Seth	Kingsley	Polly	Gracie-May		
2	Jamie	Jasmine	Avery	Harvey-Jack	133	
3	Thea	Jacob	George	Mikey		
4	Toby	Violet	Francisco	Pippa	139	
5	Jessie	Ryan	Billy	Sophie	205	
6	Allysia	Year 6	Ethan	Year 6	176	
Best Attendance 5 Abis 3 the Ape visits the class with the Best Attendance (Abis stands for always being in school)						

Best wishes,
Lianna Willis, Headteacher