



Braunston C.E. Primary School

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‘When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.’

Matthew 2:10

12th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's our last week of term and the Christmas build up can be felt in school. Classrooms look 'Christmassy', children are learning songs and our youngest children are getting ready to perform, 'Jesus' Christmas Party'.

The school community is dealing with another type of outbreak with small pockets of scarlet fever in our midst, yet school continues as normal and children are coping admirably.

During the last two weeks, children have been assessed in reading, writing and maths and we look forward to sharing your child's progress with you in our teacher/parent progress meetings being held early next term. Teachers use the information generated by the assessments to ensure that we can adopt a 'keep up' structure in school. Children will be given interventions as and when needed and we will share how you can help at home.

We are very proud of sporting successes, particularly in athletics, where Years 5 and 6 came third and our Hotshots Basket Ball team came first. On both occasions, children were praised for their encouragement of each other and our cheers were heard across the gymnasium.

You will have noticed that in addition to our diary dates and WEDUC calendar, we have sent out a weekly reminder to help keep on top of the many events that have been planned for in the last few weeks of the autumn term. It has been delightful to see how well supported we have been in these events and our thanks go to all the staff, FOBs team and parents that have made these events possible. The Christmas Fair raised £366.35 and this will be put towards our planned new play equipment in reception and key stage 1.

Braunston's Got Talent returns and all children are invited to showcase their talents on Thursday 15th December. This is optional; however many children decide to participate and perform as a solo act or with their friends. This is an in-school event only and we cannot wait to see the many talents displayed.

We look forward to seeing you this week hoping that our planned events are able to go ahead. Your support of the school and children is truly appreciated.

Wishing you a happy and healthy Christmas break and we shall see the children on Wednesday 4th January.



Reception Class – Inkpen

These last few weeks Reception children have been very busy learning the songs for our Christmas Nativity, 'Jesus's Christmas Party.' In between rehearsals, we have been creating routes to find a polar bear (based on the text 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt') using positional language, writing our letters to Santa and working on balance and spatial awareness work in our PE lessons. On Wednesday we attended our Christingle service at 'All Saint's' church. We are very much looking forward to performing our Nativity performance to the older children in our school and our parents, friends and relatives on Tuesday 13th December.

The polar bear started in a round tunnel, then he went through the cave, up to the iceberg. He jumped over the tree, really high, all the way to the curly cave.

Erin

I can hold a balance for 10 seconds!

Luna M

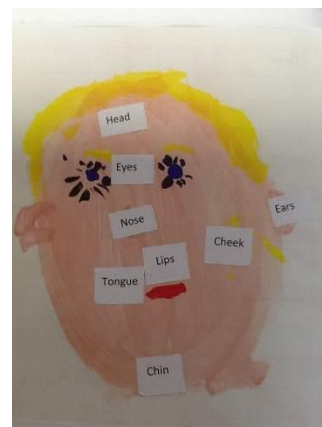
Mary and Joseph had baby Jesus in a stable. The shepherds followed the star to see Jesus.

Cleo



Class 1 - Donaldson

Our science topic this term is all about the human body. We carefully observed our faces and labelled our main body parts. We explored our senses; touch, taste, smell, sight and sound. We walked around the school grounds, using our senses to identify signs of Autumn. We had a carousel of activities to use and test our senses. We used blindfolds to lose our sense of sight but using our sense of touch we were able to guess given objects. We also used our sense of touch to match the fabrics to the correct pair. We had a listening station and had to guess what the noises we heard were. We liked the sound of the fireworks the best! We are looking forward to testing our senses of smell and taste.



We could eat food to test our sense of taste. – Dexter

We felt different materials using our sense of touch. – Abigail/ Van

We could smell different things to see if they are nice or strange. – Finlay/ Mary

Class 2 – Ahlberg

We have been even busier than usual - fitting in our learning around rehearsals for our Christmas play. The children are so excited about all the parents coming to watch and they have worked so hard at learning their dances and songs.

In the classroom we have been combining coins in maths, writing reports about possums and koalas in English and learning about the nativity story in R.E.

In geography we have been comparing Daventry to Alice Springs and we have found some significant differences. The children have been checking BBC weather every day and keeping a log of daytime and night-time temperatures and I think it is fair to say that no one in Alice Springs will be needing gloves, hats or hot water bottles anytime soon. We have also been comparing physical features (like mountains, rivers and valleys) and human features (like airports, shops and houses).

Year 2 are excellent geographers! Well done Ahlbergs!



Blake F: I like talking to Kim, our class koala. He tells us about where he lives in Australia.

Bertie: I like writing reports in English. We have read reports about elephants and then I wrote my own about possums.

Alfie: I like learning about Australia and learning new things.

Sophia: I love singing our Christmas songs.

Class 3 - Jamila

Year 3 have been busy learning lines and practising their acting for their role in the Christmas Performance. Children have been learning how to use inverted commas accurately in English and have used role play to model how to speak in different ways.

In art, children have been blending using chalks and pastels and have created wintery nature scenes. Year 3 are working very hard to practise their times tables and are focusing on the 4x tables. Children need to know facts like $3 \times 4 = 12$ and use that to work out 4×3 . 12 divided by 3 and 12 divided by 4.

The children are really enjoying listening to our class reading book, 'The Christmasaurus' by Tom Fletcher and cannot wait to hear what happens next.



Class 4 – Morpurgo

It has been a busy few weeks again in Class Morpurgo with lots of learning. In Science, we have been finding out all about the human body's digestive teeth. We began by finding out about types of teeth and their functions. We investigated the effect of liquids on teeth by leaving egg shells in drinks – hopefully, all children have now stopped drinking sugary drinks after seeing what they did to the shells. After that, we found out about the parts of the digestive system. We made our own poo, yes poo, by putting a slice of bread through all the parts of the digestive system (well, sort of: sandwich bags and tights!) and releasing poo at the end. We also learnt about food chains and webs and made our own hanging food chains.

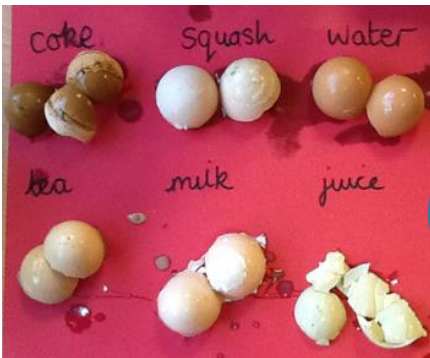
To support our history unit, The Romans, we have been writing mystery stories based on The Roman Mysteries by Caroline Lawrence. In our writing, we have been using expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials and dialogue. Our stories have been full of description and suspense.

Now it is nearing the end of term and Christmas is approaching, we have a new class member, Elfina, who has done maths homework and been reading in the library! She seems to be a well-behaved elf so far this year. We made our Christingle oranges and enjoyed the lovely service at the church.





We can't touch Elfina. She is doing lots of things around the room.
Stanley



Ugh! Making poo was gross but fun!
Joshua S

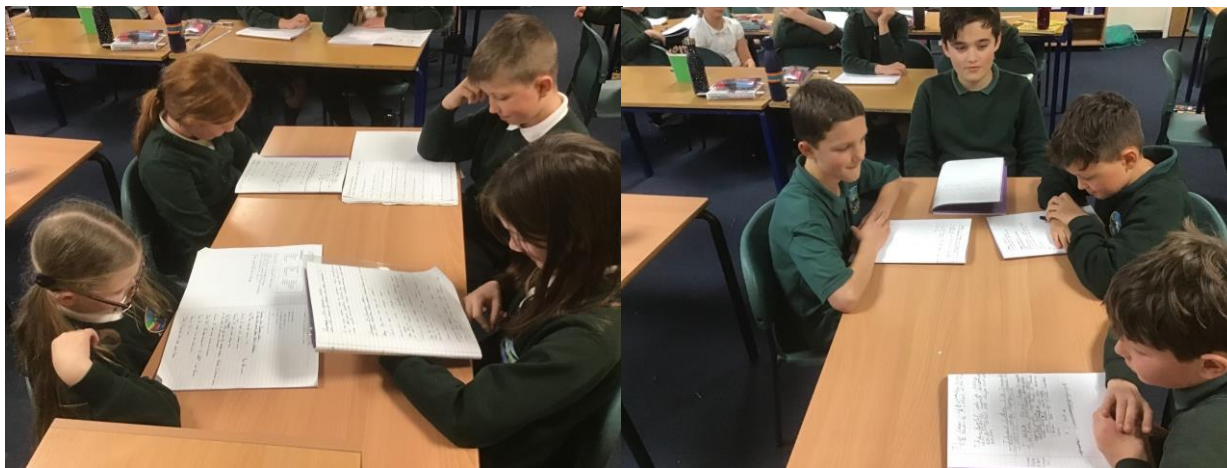
I have enjoyed the Roman Mystery story and write my own at home.
Lily

Class 5 – Rowling

Year 5 have been working incredibly hard as always. In maths there has been a focus on fractions and in English we have been creating a description of a fantasy creature. The work that has been produced has been inspiring!

Additionally, in RE, Year 5 have been reflecting on the true meaning of Christmas and creating short playscripts of how Christmas dinner conversations might be different in a Christian and non-Christian household.

During our PSHE we considered budgets at a local council level and how we would prioritize spending our budget. We then attended a public meeting (in the classroom) where we were questioned about the fairness of our spending and budget allocation decisions. There are definitely some strong Parliamentary candidates of the future within our class!



It was really hard to divide the budget to make it fair.

I found it hard to give money to some and not others.

I wanted to give the biggest amount to the NHS as my mum works in the medical field.

Class 6 – Horowitz

Horowitz class have been working hard to create some amazing shapes, travelling and sequences during their gymnastics sessions in PE. Firstly, the children learnt some gymnastics shapes including the straddle, pike, tuck and bridge. They then added travel to their shapes to create a sequence of movements and worked on various apparatus to vary the heights at which they were working. They were all fantastic at working individually and in pairs to show their work to the rest of the class.

In Design and Technology, the children have begun their topic on making bread rolls. They linked this with their last term's science topic and thought about why yeast is used in the bread making process. With ideas fully flowing, each child designed four different bread rolls and then chose their favourite design - or merged some of their designs together – to create their final design that they will making soon.

Our music topic this term, is based on the work of Burt Bacharach and has jazz influences throughout. Year 6 listened to and have begun to read the music for and play on the glockenspiel a composition called 'Bacharach Anorak.' They will also be using this piece of music to improvise to.

I have enjoyed doing our PE unit – gymnastics. I have learnt a lot about new balances and have had lots of fun doing them.
Georgia Bu

In PE, we have been doing gymnastics and I like doing the balances because some strengthen our abdominal muscles and some strengthen our core muscles.
Ethan

When I make my delicious bread, it will be plaited. I have never made bread like this so it is going to be the best!
Bella





Hello from Forest School.

Winter always seems to be the season we find the hardest, with cold hands and toes, but the Year 5 children have tackled all of this head on! They have occupied themselves well over the last six weeks by tidying the school grounds and removing all of the dead plants from our allotment area. They are now at the point in their Forest School journeys where they can choose the activities they want to carry out. We offer the resources and let the children carry out what they choose. God's Eyes are always a massive hit and a lot of the children made these in the first three sessions. As the Christmas Fair was just around the corner we also made decorations to sell and raised approximately £90 which was a massive achievement. The main attraction this year has been making gonks/gnomes. Using lots of wool and toilet roll tubes we managed to make over 40!! Some children wanted to whittle, whilst others helped to make more tree cookie decorations. Willoughby Church (St Nicholas) donated bat and bird box kits, one for each class to decorate and these were assembled and nailed by the children with direction from Mrs Allinson. A really productive and successful few weeks.

Merry Christmas to you all!





SPORTS NEWS

The hotshots basketball team took part in the tournament at Danes Camp Leisure Centre, they all played really well and came out overall winners as they won all of their matches. What was especially nice was that every team player scored at least one basket!



Pupil of the Week			Our School Value		Most Active Class	
	2.12.22	9.12.22	2.12.22	9.12.22	2.12.22	9.12.22
R	Luna		Oleska	Julieanna	187	29
1	Finlay	Polly	Dexter	Bertie	167	45
2	Alfie	Georgia	Jamie	Hanna	170	188
3	Thomas	Ava	James	Amanat	88	88
4	Francisco	Pippa	Joshua	Toby	114	136
5	Grace	Tallulah	Clayton	George	80	95
6	Georgia	Alfie	Logan	Georgia	89	145
Best Attendance 2 & 5 Abis the Ape visits the class with the Best Attendance (Abis stands for always being in school)						

Lianna Willis
Headteacher

