



Newsletter 25th March 2024

Learning for life in all its fullness. John 10:10

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourself.

Philippians 2:3

Head Teacher's Welcome - issue 4

Dear Parents and Carers,

'Respect and Reverence' have been our values this term and we have been encouraging all members of the school community to treat each other with respect and show that we care about wellbeing and how we can make each other feel. Children have been reminded that you show respect by treating people kindly and using good manners. It can mean doing things for each other, listening carefully, valuing our friend's opinions, (even if we do not agree with them) and taking turns.

Children have been taught and shown that reverence is a profound respect and love and that this is demonstrated through our behaviours, attitudes and feelings.

Despite being a short term, we have endeavoured to provide rich opportunities for our children in order that they are able to 'Learn for life in all its fullness'. John 10:10. This has included numerous sporting events, with a particular highlight in winning our basketball heat and moving onto the finals and on a separate note, a whole school visit from our MP, Mr Chris Heaton-Harris.

This week sees our Year 6 children out on residential, the return of the Book Fair, FOBs Easter Egg Hunt and the whole school being invited to watch a performance of The Railway Children. We all believe that these experiences are so important for the children and I am grateful that the staff share this vision and work hard for our school community.

Finally, thank you for attending our recent parent/ teacher consultations last week. We had a really good turn out and almost all parents were able to attend. We will be sending out a survey this week to seek parents' views and would welcome your responses and feedback.

We break up for Easter on Thursday 28th March and look forward to welcoming the children back into school on Monday 15th April.

Wishing you all a 'Happy Easter'.

Best wishes

Lianna Willis

Headteacher

Reception - Inkpen

The last few weeks in Reception have been exciting.

We have had new additions to our classroom, frogspawn. The children have been really interested in the lifecycle of a frog and have had a go at creating their own once we had explored all of the stages together.

We have been exploring shadows. Inside, we built a den where the children were able to use torches to aid them in creating shadow puppets with their hands. Outside, we have been able to draw round our dinosaurs shadows. This was super tricky as the sun didn't want to join in, however, the children enjoyed it when the sun did decide to come out. Lots of discussion about how the object is blocking the light to create the shadow.

The children have been exploring numbers to 10, they have been great at exploring different ways they can make up a number (composition of number).





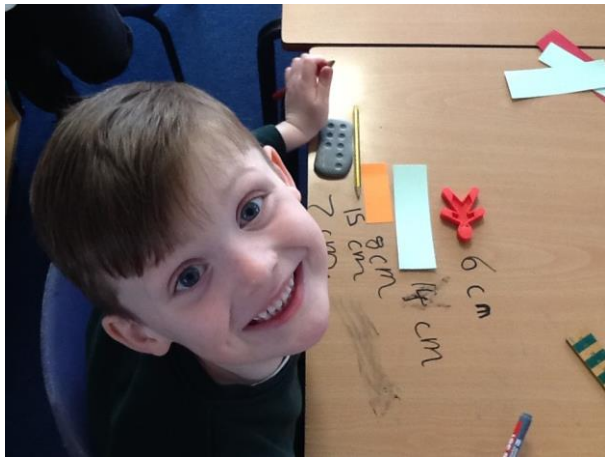
"I can make a reindeer" - Charlie

Class 1 - Donaldson

In Maths Year 1 have been busy learning all about place value. We have re-visited using our part, part whole model to visualise how many tens and how many ones there are in 2-digit numbers. We also recognise that it is quicker to count larger quantities in groups of tens.

We have practised applying our grammar skills in our English lessons and trying very hard to up-level our pieces of writing to make them interesting to the reader. I cannot wait to read the children's latest hot writes!

The children designed some fabulous bridges this term and really enjoyed building their models. In Science, we have undertaken some exciting experiments and learnt some scientific words to use within our work.





The plastic pots are waterproof because the water just ran off the sides and didn't go through it! - Stanley S

The best material was the best to use for the gymnast because it was stretchy and flexible. - Luna M

2 tens and 4 ones are in 24. - Destiny

Class 2 - Ahlberg

Ahlberg class have continued to impress in the last part of this spring term. We have now finished our 'lost pet' writing in English and it has been amazing to see what fluent, capable writers all of the children have become. They are able to use a range of skills from the Year 2 curriculum very independently now, and also have the stamina to write happily for a long period of time. Very well done Ahlbergs!

In maths we have mastered halves, quarters and thirds as well as practising past skills at the beginning of each maths lesson such as multiplication and division. In Science we have been learning about micro-habitats and the invertebrates that live in them. We found so many fantastic small habitats in our school environment and rather a wide range of animals living within them!

In the last week of term we plan to have an entire day dedicated to art. Our medium will be clay and the children will learn all sorts of modelling techniques through the lesson. I can't wait to see what we create!

Have a very happy Easter break - well done year 2!





Kingsley: 'I can see the exoskeleton of this ant!'

Class 3 - Jamila

Year 3 had a fantastic time during World Book Day! We even had our very own Matilda but thankfully no Miss Trunchbull! There were so many brilliant books and fabulous costumes! We loved sharing our books and wrote a book review for each one. There are so many we want to read now!

In Maths we have been learning about units of measure and how to convert between them. We now know how to measure in mm, cm and m.

In Geography this week, we have been learning about earthquakes. We used our classroom tables to recreate the different ways that earthquakes can happen, depending on the type of tectonic plate boundary. We used a piece of Jenga to act as a building. We looked at the Ring of Fire in the Pacific Ocean and all decided we were much safer living in Northamptonshire away from any major tectonic plate boundaries!







There are lots of earthquakes and volcanoes around the Ring of Fire. In Japan they have lots of earthquakes and it looks a bit scary! - Ellis

Class 4 - Morpurgo

This term, Year 4 have been working incredibly hard to improve their times tables. They are working with peers to find ways to remember those tricky ones. We are working hard to score 22 / 25 and above. This week 12 children managed to score 25 / 25 consistently. We are determined not to let that six second timer scare us. Mrs Oliver couldn't be prouder of her amazing mathematicians.

It was lovely to see so many children enjoying World Book Day. The range of characters and costumes was fantastic! We loved listening to a range of stories read by our peers. The enthusiasm towards

reading was beautiful - well done Year 4. If you have any books that you would like to donate to the year 4 class library, we would be very happy to have them. We are trying really hard to expose the children to a range of authors for their age.

PE is a popular subject in Year 4 and the children were thrilled to have a cricket taster session. They learnt how to bat, bowl and field. We worked in teams to score runs and knock down wickets. Our visitors were so impressed with the maturity, teamwork and sportsmanship that the children of year 4 showed towards each other. They were a credit to the school - well done class!









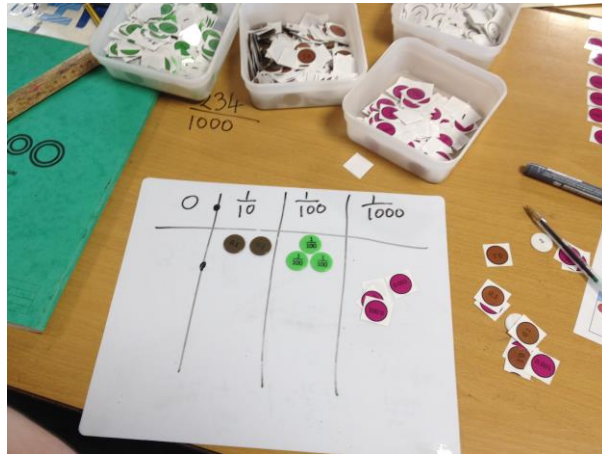
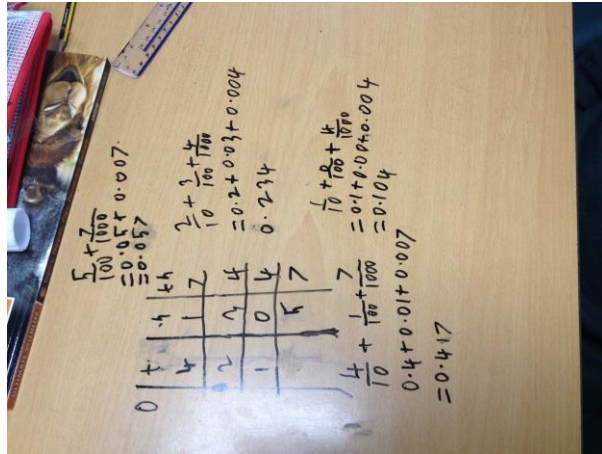
I really liked cricket. I have never played cricket before. I liked it when I hit the ball and my friends clapped for me. - Adam

Class 5 - Rowling

After reading a letter to humans about how they are treating the planet so appallingly, Class Rowling have been writing persuasive letters in English to persuade others to look after Earth. First, we wrote to Walkers (using lots of modals and adverbials) persuading them to reduce their use of plastic and then to the Brazilian government persuading them to stop cutting down the rain forest. Walkers have replied with all the wonderful things they are doing and we are now writing to YOU to persuade you to cut down your use of plastic – we do not think the Brazilian government will get back to us though! Of course, we also had World Book Day during which we donned some amazing costumes, shared our book recommendations and wrote our own wacky ‘fold-over’ stories.

In maths, we have been exploring decimals: place value of tenths, hundredths and thousandths, partitioning, comparing, ordering and rounding. We have further investigated life cycles in science by researching and comparing those of mammals, amphibians and insects.

We have also shown our creative flair in the first of our media portraits. After drawing our portraits, we chose to use different mediums to colour or paint them in a Pop Art style. We hope you liked the Mother’s Day cards too in this style.







Pippa - I am proud of my Pop Art portrait - it looks cool!

Class 6 - Horowitz

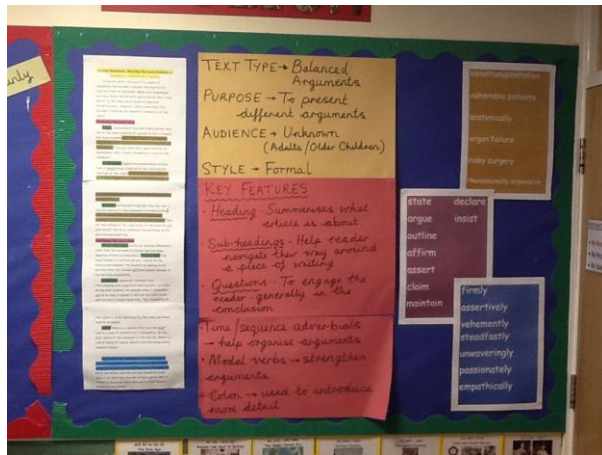
Year 6 have been working as hard as ever at the same time as counting down the days to our residential on Monday 21st March. We are all very excited about our adventures and challenges ahead. In maths we have continued to focus on fractions, decimals and percentages as well as looking at specific maths focus areas that we need to remind ourselves of. Ask us about Zero (the hero)! We have also been using Times Table Rock Stars to support our learning and we have created our own individual heat maps that shows the times table areas that need further practise. In English, our balanced argument have been written about xenotransplantation - inspired by the book 'Pig-Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman. We are also enjoying a reading focus and are making good use of our newly refurbished reading corner. It is like a mini Waterstones - without the coffee shop! In Year 6 we have also introduced 'Free Read Friday'. This gives us the opportunity to bring a book in from home and share it with a friend. We will also be bringing home library books on a Friday too!



1 - Working together in gymnastics



2 - Our amazing new reading corner



3 - Getting ready to write our balanced arguments

'We are so looking forward to the residential'.

Focus On Sport

The football teams have been out and about over the past two weeks. First, the girls played over at Long Buckby. At half term, we thought we were in with a chance of winning as we were 2-0 up thanks to a goal from Jesse and a goal from Charlie. Unfortunately, in the last 5 minutes of the game, Long Buckby snuck in not one, but two late goals. Never mind – we know now to play to the end! Tilly was Mrs Fisher's player of the match as she saved loads of goals; Darcie was Nick's as she played in a variety of positions happily. We then took a mixed team to The Abbey and the team played cohesively using all their players to their advantages. Defence, with Toby and Ben, and James as goalie, was solid (as always). Cruz, Jesse, Charlie, Sonny and Jenson rotated positions and Jenson got a goal. In the second half The Abbey scored and the final result was also a draw : 1-1. Well done all.

In school, year 4 and 5 have enjoyed getting out the apparatus to put together simple routines.

News from PACESETTERS Mr Webb

The children at Braunston have had a fantastic term at the new SPY CLUB.

They have been enjoying completing different missions each week. From code breaking and problem solving, to team games and fitness challenges. They have built bases to defend, solved mysteries to unlock padlocks. Each week they receive a letter from a different agent from around the world, which then must be destroyed once read so the secret doesn't get out. We are really looking forward to the next term of more exciting missions for our agents.







Forest School



Hello from Forest School Year 4 have had the best of the Spring weather. Our home site is not suited to some of our games and activities so we have walked to Jetty Fields where the children enjoyed den building, nature art, clay modelling, slingshot making and hammock swinging! All brilliant fun once we mastered tying the hammocks up between the trees and not letting the children fall out!! All warmed up by hot chocolate and biscuits.











Church and Community



Rev Kathryn continues to come into school and lead Collective Worship on a Wednesday. Last week, Rev Kathryn led a workshop on hopes and prayers in Year 1 and will work with Year 4 this week. This year, we have decided not to go to Church before Easter but we are looking on attending after Easter. Rev Kathryn will lead an Easter Service in school for children and staff only.

Wellbeing



One of the most important jobs we have is to ensure that the children in school are happy, settled and ready to learn. A huge part of this is to identify any issues early and offer support to children and parents as soon as possible.

Nationally, there is an increasing number of children showing anxiety surrounding coming to school. The earlier we can tackle any anxieties surrounding school the better so that we can avoid our children becoming school phobic and school refusers in the future.

It is normal for children to just not want to come to school at times, and we need to be mindful that feeling anxious about something does not mean that you have anxiety. However, if you are noticing a change in your child's wellbeing in terms of attending school, the following may be useful:

[School anxiety and refusal: How parents can help their child get through tough times - BBC Parents' Toolkit - BBC Bitesize](#)

[School Anxiety and Refusal | Parent Guide to Support | YoungMinds](#)

Define Fine – is very much a parent led group and has a closed Facebook group where parents can seek peer support from other parents.

[home - definefine](#)

The Anna Freud Centre has done a lot of work on this which you might find useful [Addressing emotionally-based school avoidance | Anna Freud](#)

To help your child to understand and manage their emotions, Youthworks run Emotion Coaching sessions – more information can be found here - [Emotion Coaching « Youth Works Northamptonshire](#)

As always, if you have any concerns relating to your child's mental health and wellbeing, please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Craig.

Attendance

Attendance		
	8.3.24	15.3.24
Inkpen	97.2%	93.1%
Donaldson	98.0%	98.0%
Ahlberg	97.9%	91.1%
Jamila	97.4%	97.8%
Morpurgo	96.6%	96.6%
Rowling	94.3%	97.5%
Horowitz	93.7%	91.7%
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.4%	95.3%

Contact Us

Tel :- 01788 890494

Website :- [Website](#)

Email :- bursar@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Headteacher :- head@braunston.pdet.org.uk

Chair of Governors :- j.morgan@braunston.pdet.org.uk

If you have a safeguarding concern click [HERE](#)

WEDUC

Link to calendar of events [Calendar](#)

Report An Absence - [Forms](#)
