



Bramley Church of England Primary

## **Bramley Bulletin – 13<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

What a fortnight! The school has been a buzzing hub of exciting activities, from sporting events to residential trips to author talks to name just a few. We pride ourselves on the core curriculum we provide for our children, but school life is far more than that. We want to continually offer our children a broad and engaging education full of opportunities – we love sharing these in our bulletins with you. This week's bulletin has a focus on reading.

### **What are we learning in school?**

#### **Mrs Bellemere says...**



This half term we are focusing on the aspiration: To discover the passions of others – what will mine be?

We have been looking at non-fiction texts about our bodies, talking about keeping fit and healthy and what foods are good to support this. We have discussed the importance of brushing our teeth and keeping our bodies clean to stay healthy. We have had a great time taking part in class yoga sessions and outdoor physical lessons working on our co-ordination particularly with throwing and catching. We have also shared the book 'The proudest blue' and have had fantastic discussions with the children about different cultures and religions. The children have enjoyed learning

about special people and are developing their vocabulary and language when discussion about different faiths. They have also partaken in Music lessons that is exploring music from different cultures. This week we have listened to a traditional African lullaby. The children are developing their own thoughts and opinions on these texts and music which has been lovely to see.

#### **Miss Barrett says...**

Year 1 have started the new year on the other side of the world, our new topic is Awesome Australia! The children have been learning about the continents of the world in Geography. They have also painted Australian landmarks including Uluru using artistic skills inspired by Van Gogh. We have introduced the children to one of our learning behaviour characters this half term – the resilient racoon! He has been popping up in our lessons to remind the children to keep trying and dig their way out of the learning pit.



Year 2 have had an exciting start to the term with our topic of Titanic. The children really enjoyed their topic day where they dressed up as people who may have been boarding the famous ship. They learnt morse code, looked at 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> class menus and shared some of the passengers' experiences. This week, we went on a trip to SeaCity in Southampton where they had a tour, workshop looking at who to save, how it sunk, artefacts, smells on the ship. They also had a chance to steer the ship, see what a cabin looked like, learn about who was to blame and look at the jobs of the crew from Southampton. In our topic lessons, we have started using the Charanga music scheme to create our own rock music and in Maths we have been learning about money including counting coins and how many different ways can we make one value.

#### **Miss Denham says...**

In Year 3, the children have had a fun start to their topic. They have used junk modelling to make their own dragons during their launch day. In English, they have started writing their brochure about their dragon's habitat. In science, they have investigated magnets and forces in experiments to test the strength of magnets with the aim to make a



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magnet-based game. In geography, the children have completed a country study of China, thinking about its physical geography as well as human geography.

In Year 4, the children enjoyed their launch day when they created their own volcanoes from clay. They especially loved exploding their volcanoes, using bicarbonate of soda and vinegar. The children have recapped their knowledge of continents and countries to help them find volcanoes around the world. The children have learnt about tectonic plates and their link to volcanoes, looking particularly at the ring of fire, where 75% of the world's volcanoes are found. The children have used the cardinal points to give directions, using a compass.



### **Miss Meads says...**

In Year 5, the children have started their learning all about the rainforest. During their launch days, they used papier mâché to create 3D animal masks which they then painted and decorated. Within geography, the children have learnt all about the different biomes in the world. In groups, they spent some time researching specific biomes, creating posters and presenting these to the rest of the class. During their English unit, they have been looking at discussion texts with a view to writing their own looking at the key question 'Should we help to save the rain forest?'

Year 6 have also started their new topic- World War 2. They spent the first few days of the half term learning about the potential causes of the war and looked at how life changed for those on the home front. As part of their launch days, they baked carrot and jam puddings which were made with rationed ingredients and spent some time in the allotments planting vegetables, discussing how many families during the war needed to do the same in order to have more food. They also worked in groups to design and build a model Anderson shelter.



### **Christmas Challenge**

Over the Christmas holidays, we sent home a 12 Days of Christmas Challenge sheet. Our aim was for the children to keep up a regular practice of their basic skills. We are so pleased that 125 children across the school took up this challenge and will have benefitted from this continued practice. We could see from some of the forms that many children did much more than just the 12 challenges! Well done to all those who took part, the children would have received their 'rewards' at the end of the day today.

### **Reading Reward**

We are continuing to promote reading for our children and trying to inspire them to read regularly both at school and at home. As well as the weekly reading race - where classes compete to earn a class reward by having the most children reading at least 5 times during the week - we are introducing an individual reward. Every week that your child reads 5 times, they will earn a raffle ticket. These will be placed into a draw at the end of each half term where a child from each year group can win a new book to enjoy. We have gathered a broad range of new books for the children to choose from which is really exciting!

We started the Reading Raffle last Friday to help inspire children to want to earn as many raffle tickets as they can this term. Children who had read at least 10 times over the Christmas Holidays were entered into the raffle and the following children have all brought home a brand new book.

Year 1 - Freddie H

Year 4 - Daisy M

Year 2 - Edison S

Year 5 - Jack M

Year 3 - Ellie S

Year 6 - Isabelle B



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### **Learning Behaviours**

The House Captains worked closely with Miss Thomson last half term to develop a system to help us to discuss learning behaviours with the children. They have created a series of 6 animals who themselves 'behave' in this way to help the children to imagine and understand the behaviour.



As a school, we have all focused on Resilient Racoon this week. Helping the children to understand what resilience means, what it looks like in our learning and being able to spot the characteristic in class. Children have enjoyed supporting each other to be resilient this week and also celebrating when they have seen resilience.

Next week we will be discussing Collaborative Clownfish.



### **Yr R Applications September 2023**

This is a final reminder that the deadline date for Yr R Applications for September 2023 is January 15th. I am very pleased to share that our current number of applications are high. So, if you have not yet applied for a place for a younger sibling, you can do so by completing the online form that can be found following this link: <https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

Finally, please have a look at the key dates for this half term which are shared below.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and we hope you all have a restful weekend.

Take care

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Moore".

Mr Steve Moore  
Executive Head of School

### **Key dates:**

19/1	Census Day
24/1	Y6 Milestones trip
1/2	Y6 Heights & weights pm
3/2	Y3 Winchester Science centre visit
6/2	Netball Match @ Silchester leave at 3pm – need minibus
7/2	<b>Parents Evening (3.30-6.30)</b> Safer Internet Day
8/2	Guitar & Ukulele performance pm
9/2	<b>Parents Evening (3.30-6.30)</b>
10/2	<b>Inset Day</b>