



Bramley Church of England Primary

## **Bramley Bulletin – 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

What a half term! 2023 is flying by and it's fantastic to see that Spring is on its way! We've had great fun today - 'Express Yourself Day' is something we definitely need to repeat at Bramley! Seeing the children dressed in a way that represents them has been wonderful to see, such a range of personalities, cultures, hobbies and activities on display across our school. We have also managed to raise £385 towards the children's mental health charity 'Place2be'.

As always, there's lots to share about what has been going on in school:

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

This week the children have been learning all about the story 'The Dot'. The children made predictions about what they thought might happen in the story using the picture clues on the front cover. The story enabled us to share lots of ideas about feelings, and it gave us the opportunity to explore colour mixing. In music, we have enjoyed listening to a piece of classical music; 'Horn Concerto No.4' by Mozart. We expressed our opinions through class discussion, talking about what why we liked, or did not like the piece. We also noticed lots of instruments within the piece of music, such as trumpets, horns and even a tuba! In maths, the children have been working very hard learning all about pairs, and odd and even numbers - the children enjoyed using the practical resources to explore this concept! To round off our week, we came dressed in our own clothes for 'Express yourself' day, and didn't we look wonderful! We hope the children have a great half term break – they have definitely earned it with all their hard work this half term!



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



Year 1 have been learning more about Australia the past two weeks. They have been creating sculptures and collages of Australian landmarks including the Sydney Opera House and Uluru. In science, the children have been naming and labelling the parts of a plant, creating their own flowers using string for the roots, bright coloured tissue paper for the petals and green paper for the leaves and stems. They enjoyed exploring the outdoor area to recognise different types of trees and investigating the size of leaves using their maths measuring skills. They have been introduced to the new learning behaviour characters- Collaborative Clownfish, Independent Iguana and Critical Thinking Crocodile so the children may come home with stickers of these characters if they show these learning behaviours at school.

The children in Year 2 have been practicing their balancing skills in PE using 'points and patches', they have stretched their learning using the wall bars and other apparatus. In writing we received a postcard from Samson, a mouse who travelled on the Titanic to start a new life in America. We then pretended we were Samson and wrote a postcard back home using our skills of punctuation, conjunctions and expanded noun phrases. In maths we have been practising our recall of 2's, 5's and 10's, the children are really doing well at these skills! In music we have been learning the song 'I wanna play in a band' and applying their skills of beat and rhythm. Our science is focusing on plants this term and we have planted tulip bulbs. This is a part of our longitudinal study, over the next few weeks, we will be observing and noticing differences as they hopefully grow.



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

Year 3 enjoyed their school trip to the Winchester Science Museum. The children made their own rockets and loved the Planetarium, where they got to gaze at the stars and learn about the solar system. It was a wonderful experience and the adults were very proud of how everyone showed their Bramley Values and were great ambassadors for the school. Back in the classroom, the children have been writing stories about making their own mechanical dragon inspired by *The Clockwork Dragon*. They have even drawn their own dragons in art.

In Year 4, we have been investigating different techniques in painting and the different effects they create. They have also looked at using different types of brushes. This has culminated in their creating their own volcano painting using a range of techniques and brushes to make their volcanoes come alive. They particularly loved flicking the paint! In science, the children learnt about different states of matter and carried out an experiment to see if different types of chocolate melted at different temperatures. The children loved using the evaporation kits but were a little disappointed not to eat the chocolate! In computing, the children used Lego We Do to build and program a device that will provide scientists with information about volcanic activity.

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

In computing, the Year 5 children have been learning all about databases and how to search using them. Once they were confident with what a database included, they used their computing skills to create their own databases all about the rainforest. Within English, the children have been continuing to write their adventure stories about coming face to face with a rainforest animal of their choice. Within this, they were thinking carefully about how their language choices impacted the reader, creating highs and lows throughout their stories as well as ensuring the reader felt tense at specific times. Throughout their science unit, they have learnt about different animal classification groups as well as looking at the different life cycles of animals and plants and how they differ.

In Year 6, the children have been writing their own survival guides in the style of Stanley Yelnats, a character from the book 'Holes' which we have been continuing to read. They have been enjoying writing in an informal manner, using key skills such as modal verbs and contractions, and looking at the differences between informal and formal texts. In art, the children have practised a range of techniques using acrylic paints before designing and creating their own WW2 painting with a clear background and foreground. During our house games last week, the children put their ball skills and reaction skills to the test as they played games of end ball and throw tennis against each other to win points for their houses. We were so impressed with the team work and resilience they showed.

### **Safer Internet Day...**

This Tuesday, the children of Bramley joined learners from over 170 countries in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2023. It was a day when we celebrated all the great things about being online and reminded ourselves how we can stay safe. This year's theme was "Want to Talk About it? Making space for conversations about life online" and focused on sharing and discussing the use of technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. The children thoroughly enjoyed themselves as they learnt about personal information, the different experiences that they can have online and who they can talk to about their online lives, good or bad. We feel that staying safe online is a very important message for our young people and ask that you continue the conversation with them at home by following this link to find out more. <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023/parents-and-carers>

### **Sporting Events...**

Last week our Year 3 and 4 team took part in a set of football fixtures against Whitewater and Bishopswood. They worked well together and supported one another throughout, showing great resilience when they went behind in one of their matches. They were able to win all of their matches in typical Bramley fashion showing Love, Respect and Courage all the way.



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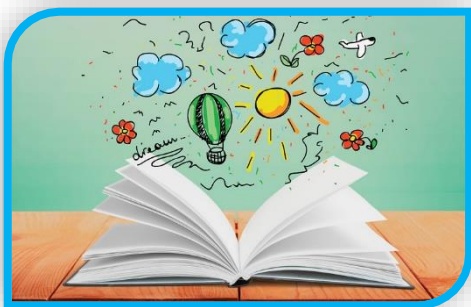
This week, eleven of our runners took place in the annual Basingstoke Primary Cross Country Competition. It was a wonderful opportunity for them to stretch their legs and show just how quick they really are. They all showed real courage and determination to complete the course with a large field of runners. We were so impressed with their fighting spirit as they became involved in the battle for places at the finish line. Their resulting positions are definitely something they should all be very proud of.

Our netball team also had their second league match against Silchester school this week. It is great to see them putting so many skills into action but also see their confidence grow. They are working incredibly well as a team with speedy and accurate passing. We are very proud to have secured another win!



### **Reading Week...**

We are delighted to announce that the week after half-term, the week commencing 20th February we will be having a Bramley Reading Week. This week will be a celebration of different authors and texts. As part of our reading week we will be having a Bramley Book Day on Friday 24th February.



For our Bramley Book Day, we will be encouraging children to dress up as a character from a story. This could be any character from any story they like. Dressing up should be about having fun, not spending lots of money. Costumes can be homemade as well as bought. Costumes can be as simple as making a golden ticket to be Charlie from Charlie and The Chocolate Factory or coming in one colour and being a crayon from The Day The Crayons Quit. For ideas about costumes visit: <https://www.worldbookday.com/dressing-up-ideas/>

Bramley Book Day will take place instead of having national World Book Day.

Children who have read 8 times by the Thursday of our Reading Week (including over the half term break) will have a raffle ticket. A raffle ticket from each year group will be drawn and the winner will be able to choose a new book on Friday during our celebration worship.

### **Book Fair...**

Thank you to all of the families who came along to the book fair – we hope you managed to pick up some exciting new reads for your children. We make fantastic commission from holding this fair and now have over £260 to spend on new books for the library!

### **Saying goodbye...**

Today, we have had to say goodbye for now to Mrs Tarrant, our School Business Manager. Mrs Tarrant is starting her maternity leave as she prepares for baby number 2! As a school, we wish her the very best and we look forward to meeting the new arrival in the near future. Mrs Garvey and Mrs Orriss-McArthur will be covering Mrs Tarrant's duties and the recent addition of Mrs Hellier adds further capacity to the admin team.

In addition, we have two trainee teachers working across the school whose placements with us are coming to an end. Mrs Coppin in Donaldson and Mrs Duquemin in Lewis class have worked exceptionally hard over their time with us and have supported the children in their care brilliantly. We are incredibly grateful for all of their efforts and wish them well with their next placements and future careers in teaching.



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### **Lost Property...**

We have a huge amount of lost property at school! If your child has lost something, you could encourage them to have a look by reception or you could pop in and we will show you where it's kept. There is a lot to be reunited!!

As always, thank you for your ongoing support and we hope you have a lovely half term break. Rest, enjoy some lovely family time and we look forward to having the recharged children back in school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Take care

Mr Steve Moore  
Executive Head of School

### **Key Dates:**

20/2	Visiting author
21/2	Visiting storyteller
22/2	Rugby tournament at Sherbourne St John 2.45pm
24/2	Character dress up day
27/2	EYFS vision screening
27/2	Netball match v Tadley at Bramley
27/2	Yr 4 Parent meeting re: Gordon Brown Centre
22/3	Rugby tournament at Burnham Copse 2.45pm
24/3	Yr 5 Harry Potter trip
29/3	Church Service
30/3	Rocksteady concert