



Bramley Church of England Primary School

Bramley Bulletin – 4th January 2024

Welcome back after the festive break! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a fantastic start to the New Year. It is with great excitement that we enter 2024, ready to embrace new challenges and opportunities. Well done for getting your children in to school on the 2nd of January. This came as a bit of a shock to the system in my household, but our daily routines are starting to return. I hope your body clocks and daily calorific intake is starting to return to pre-Christmas levels as well.

Please have a read of the Learning Overviews at the end of the newsletter to see what each year group is focusing on this half term, as well as the key dates so far.

Our spring year group topics are:

EYFS: My Passions

Year 1: Our Kingdom

Year 2: Disaster Strikes

Year 3: There be dragons!

Year 4: Volcanoes

Year 5: Should we save the rainforests?

Year 6: World War II

Living our School Vision...

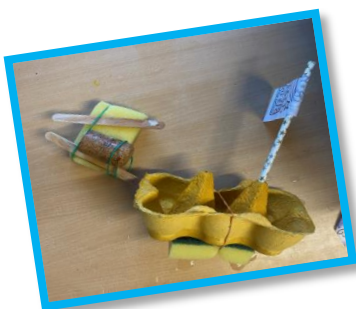
As we kick off the year, many of us have made New Year's Resolutions. These resolutions serve as a reminder to focus on personal growth and self-improvement. In Collective Worship on Tuesday, I shared my personal goal for this year which links to our school vision of *showing kindness to all*. Throughout this term, we will be encouraging our students to do the same, both within our school community and beyond. Whether it's helping a friend, holding the door open for someone, or simply offering a smile, these small acts can make a big difference. Let us teach our children the power of kindness and the impact it can have on the world around them.

STEM Week...

The whole school has started the term by focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM). Each year group has chosen an element of the Global Goals initiative and developed a week of learning and investigations around different areas of STEM.

Children in EYFS have used a range of Traditional Stories as a way to introduce the children to different 'world issues'.

In Year 1, they have looked at how different animals can struggle for food during the winter months, they have then designed and made bird feeders for our school grounds (GG 15 – Life on Land).



Children in Year 2 have been investigating different materials to be able to design and make lifeboats that float (GG 9 - Infrastructure).

Whilst the children in Year 3 have been looking at the impact of natural disasters on people's homes, they have tried to build structures to withstand hurricanes - with varying success! (GG 13 – Climate Action).

In Year 4 they have been looking at water filtration systems and how to get the cleanest water using a range of materials (GG 6 – Clean Water)

The focus in Year 5 has been on designing and building working mechanisms – they had to create a 'machine' to help tomato farmers transport the delicate goods from the top to the bottom of the mountains (GG 2 – Zero Hunger).

While in Year 6, they have been looking at different types of plastics, how they are recycled and supporting Zero Waste (GG12 – Responsible Consumption and Production).

Huge thanks to Mrs Hadlow and Miss Knight for leading our STEM work across the school and to Mrs Polden for driving the Global Goals initiative – ***Making a difference.***



New entrants for September 2024...

This is a final reminder that the deadline date for Yr R Applications for September 2024 is January 15th. I am very pleased to share that our current predicted numbers for September are looking very positive. If you have not yet applied for a place for a younger sibling, you can do so by completing the online form.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our school community. Together, we can make this year a remarkable one for our children. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Take care

Mr Steve Moore
Executive Head of School

Key Dates...

12/1	Yr6 Milestones trip
18/1	Census Day – American Diner School Lunch
26/1	Diversity Day - Families are all different
31/1	Yr3 Science Museum trip
6/2	E-safety day
19/2	INSET Day
26/2	No teacher led clubs this week
27/2	Parent's Evening 3:30 – 6:30
28/2	Parent's Evening 3:30 – 6:30
29/2	Parent's Evening 3:30 – 6:30
1/3	Cricket Day Yr2 & Yr3 – Chance to Shine Cricket Coaching
22/3	BSA Disco
28/3	Last day of Spring Term
29/3	Good Friday – Easer Break

Spring 1 - Learning Overviews



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Communication & Language and Personal, Social & Emotional development

This half term, we will be having a weekly story telling session in which children create their own stories and we act them out as a class. Through this, the children will grow in confidence and develop their vocabulary.

This half term, we are also going to be learning about the different parts of language through Colourful Semantics. This includes who, where, what doing (verbs) and what (objects). This will help the children to understand and answer questions and also construct sentences.

Physical Development

We will continue to develop movement, balance and ball skills during this half term's PE. These skills help the children to develop their core muscles and strength.

EYFS Spring 1

Aspiration 1: Where do I belong in my community and in the wider world?

Aspiration 2: How can I grow my own food to create a tasty recipe?

Aspiration 3: What are the passions of others? What will mine be?

Personal, Social and Emotional Development

We will be starting Thrive sessions. These are whole class activities which support the emotional and social wellbeing and teach them skills to use in their lives in school and at home.

Both in the classroom and outside, we will be learning new games. These will help us to work in teams and to also deal with difficult emotions such as frustration if things do not go to plan.

Expressive Arts & Design

This term we continue developing our art and design skills through using paint, collage and mark making resources.

We are also going to be practising our singing and music skills such as keeping beats.

Mathematics

In maths, we are going to be learning number bonds to 5 and continue learning about numbers to 10. We will continue counting to 20 and subitising small groups of objects with speed. The children will be continuously counting in sessions and also writing numbers regularly.

Understanding of the World

This term, we will be looking at some of our own history such as when we were born and when we started nursery.

We will also be learning about Chinese New Year at the end of January.

Literacy

In phonics, the children are learning many new digraphs (2 letters making 1 sound) and also a trigraph (3 letters making 1 sound). They are developing both their reading and spelling skills, using these new sounds as well as recapping ones from last term.

In English sessions, the children are going to be looking at a number of books and stories including Stick Man and The Gingerbread Man.

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Maths

This half term, we will be carrying on with our place value learning, focusing on number bonds. We will be looking at addition and subtraction through part-part wholes. We will then move onto developing conceptual understanding of the number 11-19. We will then look at beginning to read the time and comparing mass.

Science

Science will be the observation and exploration of seasonal changes as we are in Winter. The children will continue these observations throughout the seasons. We will describe the weather associated with the seasons and how the day length varies.

English

This term in English we will be continuing to work on our sentence composition skills. We will be exploring a range of word types and how best to use them as well as varying punctuation including question marks and exclamation marks. We will also begin to sequence sentences into short narratives and learning how to apply our phase 5 alternate graphemes in our spelling.

Geography

The focus of our topic this term is geography – specifically focusing on the 4 countries within the UK. Children will learn to name, locate and identify characteristics of the four countries and their capital cities. They will explore the physical and human geography of these places and make comparisons. Children will be exposed to a range of new and exciting geographical vocabulary too!

Year 1 Spring 1 Our Kingdom

Art

In art this half term we will be focusing on the artist David Wightman. We will be creating UK landscapes using mixed media.

Computing

In our computing sessions we will be using Lego WeDo to build and program Lego models. We will follow the steps to create a Lego model and then use our coding skills to program it to do different things.

PE

In our indoor PE lessons, we will be learning flight and rotation on the floor and apparatus through focused skill development, thematic warm-ups and games. In our outside PE lessons, we will be learning how to send and receive with reaction and response.

RE

It is Passover in April and so Year 1 will be learning about how and why this is celebrated by Jews. They will also be relating this, and the concept of remembering, to their own lives.

PSHE – HeartSmart

For this term, the children will be learning to think about others. They are introduced to the idea that they can help, think about and love the people around them. They will be encouraged to think about how they make others feel. They will also begin to learn about how to keep safe online.

Maths

During this half term, the children will be developing their knowledge of number lines and using these to solve addition and subtraction problems. We will be recapping multiplication and division, applying our 2's, 5's, 10's and 3's knowledge to solve problems. Before half term, the children will be introduced to time and mass.

English

This term the children will be using their growing topic knowledge to write a trip recount, newspaper report and diary entry! The children will also be using their knowledge of verbs to write a set of instructions for their own disgusting sandwich.

Science

This term in science, the children will be planting cress seeds to observe and describe how seeds grow into mature plants. Over Spring term we will be checking in to observe changes.

History

This term our topic is Disaster strikes! This topic is all about the events which led to the sinking of the Titanic. The children will be asking questions about the past and retelling the story of the Titanic. Towards the end of term, the children will be comparing life now and then by taking part in a class debate.

Year 2 Spring 1 Disaster Strikes

Art

This term the children will be making sculptures relating to the Titanic. We will be comparing the work of different artists and then designing our own sculptures.

R.E

In R.E this term our topic is understanding ideas of God. The children will be exploring Christian and Jewish ideas about God.

PSHE

Building on their learning from last year, the children will continue to think about how they can show love to the people around them and to notice what other people do to help them. They will apply their knowledge of how to keep safe online, to keeping safe in real life too.

PE

In outdoor PE, the children will be developing their creative skills and developing their ball control. In gymnastics they will be working on balances using apparatus and developing their partner skills.

Mathematics

This term we will be revisiting fractions and shape to start the term
Following this, we will be deepening our understanding of addition and subtraction and the different methods available to help us.
After that, we will be finishing the term with a week on reading the time.

English

We have started this term by advertising a trip to a dragon's homeland using a range of descriptive language features and persuasive writing

We will then finish the term by reading "The Clockwork Dragon". We will use this story to create our own story with similar themes and outcomes.

Science

For science, this term we will be investigating the different types of forces and discovering the different effects these forces can have on different objects. We will be further focusing on our science skills of observation and recording

PSHE

The children will be thinking about how to show love for others and the positive impact of helping others on their own emotions. They will learn about teamwork and listening to other people's ideas. They will also think about how to keep their personal information safe.

Year 3 Spring 1 There be dragons!

Computing

For computing this term, we will be using the Lego WeDo program to create a machine capable of pulling different weight objects over different terrains.

PE

For outdoor P.E this term we will be using the Real PE model supporting children develop a range of movement and reaction techniques as well as focusing on their control and balance. For indoor P.E, we will be focusing on a range of movements and balances, building up to performing them on a range of different apparatuses.

RE

Our RE this term is Holi. We will be learning about the concept of good and evil within the Hindi religion.

The children will be comparing this the Christian concepts of good and evil and how these are represented in everyday life.

Geography

This half term we will be learning about the origins of Dragons. We will be using maps to locate key places and compare different places in the world and their historical links to dragons.

Art

For art this term, we will be using a range of sketching, shading and colouring techniques to create our own sketch of dragon's scales.



Maths

We will start by revising fractions. The children will be applying their knowledge of tenths and hundredths converting them into decimal numbers. The children will compare decimal numbers and fractions. The children will build on their knowledge of the properties of shape, applying this to different triangles and quadrilaterals.

Science

We are going to investigate the 3 states of matter – solids, liquids and gases. Looking at what they are like and how they can change between each state. We will also be setting up a range of investigations and looking at how to work scientifically.

Computing

Children will continue to learn how to build and program a robotic device using The Lego WeDo 2 Kits and iPads. They will build a simulation of a real life example of technology and robotics

English

This term we are focusing on choosing our vocabulary to teach or engage the reader. We will be using descriptive language to describe volcanic eruptions. We are going to write a diary entry based on *Escape from Pompeii*, focusing on how to paragraph our work. We will then create a narrative based on *The Firework-Maker's Daughter* by Philip Pullman.

Music

We will be focused on the song Stop! a rap song about bullying. This unit will build on our previous work of finding the rhythm and appraising music.

French

Children will focus on developing their confidence in speaking and listening. They will learn the words for different animals, and how to describe them.

PSHE

This term, we are continuing our journey with *Heart Smart*. We will be learning about the importance of telling ourselves and others positive messages. We will recognise there are all things that make us all unique and that we should value them in ourselves and others.

**Year 4 Spring Term 1
Volcanoes**

RE

In RE, we are looking at the concept of devotion by exploring how Hindus show this in their religious practices and rites.

PE

This half term, we will be doing gymnastics for our Indoor PE. The children will focus on holding a range of balances on and off equipment. They will think about ways of travelling on and off the apparatus, including jumps. In outdoor PE, they will develop and apply their response and reaction through focused skill development sessions.

Art

In Art, the children will use more complex techniques to mould and form clay to make a volcano structure, adding detailed surface decoration.

Geography

We will be looking at the natural disasters of Volcanoes and Earthquakes. The children will learn how volcanoes and earthquakes are caused and what can happen when they occur. We will also be using our map-reading skills, to identify the locations of volcanoes in the world and why they only appear in specific areas.

Mathematics

In Maths, we will be converting between fractions, decimals and percentage. The children will be using their knowledge of place value and fractions to solve problems and then apply these to problems in different contexts.

Following this, the children will also be developing their knowledge of geometry, looking at calculating angles in shapes as well as on straight lines and around a point as well.

English

Our first writing topic will be focused on persuading the reader to adopt an orangutan from the rainforest. Following this, the children will be writing a narrative based on an adventure story.

Our class text for this half term is *Escape to the River Sea*. We will be reading this text throughout this half term. The children will be using this text to show their reading fluency and comprehension.

Science

We will be developing a broader understanding of living things.. We will look at the life cycles of a range of plants and animals (including humans), how they are similar /different and why different stages occur. We will look closely at plants, naming the different parts and their jobs while also thinking about why specific animals and plants are better suited to certain environments.

RE

In RE we will be looking closely at 'Umma,' meaning 'community' in Islam. We will be exploring how Muslims demonstrate a sense of community in the coming together of people. We will be linking this to our own experience of community, and all the positive things this brings.

Geography

In Geography this half term we will be looking at all things rainforest! The topic will begin with the children thinking about the climates in different biomes across the world. This will then lead on to them discussing the animals and plants that live in the different layers. We will also be thinking about why the rainforest is in danger and our responsibility to protect it.

**Year 5 - Spring 1
Should we save the
Rainforests?**

PE

This term, we will be developing our balance and coordination. The children will practice performing different balances and jumps in isolation and then applying these skills to competitive games. In our indoor lessons, we will be building on our work on gymnastics last term but also begin to incorporate large apparatus into our work as well.

Art

We will be focusing on sketching and developing our technique. The children will be sketching animals and improving their ability to draw details accurately.

Music

In Music we will be learning all about pop ballads, exploring those classic songs from the past as well as ones of present day. The children will be developing their skills in playing instruments and learning a tune to then perform from memory.

PSHE

This term, the children will continue to think about ways that they can show love for others. They will also think about organisations such as charities and their role in helping others. The children will think about what to do when they feel lonely and things to do to avoid feeling lonely.

Maths

In Maths we will be continuing our work on all things fractions, decimals and percentages, including finding their equivalents.

We will also be recapping converting between units as well as introducing algebra and ratio.

History

We will be exploring life in the times of WWII both fighting, and on the home front. We will focus on topics such as evacuation, rationing, the use of propaganda and more.

English

In reading we will be exploring the text 'Holes' and building our skills in vocabulary, inference, prediction, explanation, retrieval and summarising. In writing, exploring and creating WWII poetry. We will also be writing information texts and survival guides using Holes as a stimulus.

**Year 6 - Spring 1
World War Two**

PSHE

By the end of this topic the children will be able to demonstrate different ways to love other people. They will be able to discuss ways that we are all different and the many ways that we are the same. They will also be able to discuss the benefits and dangers of social media.

PE

Children will be developing their agility, balance and coordination skills in outdoor PE, playing jump ball & other ball games.

In Indoor PE, we will be participating in gym using Real PE.

RE

We will be exploring the concept of Peace through the religious lens of Islam. We will be exploring the importance of Sawm (fasting during Ramadan).

French

The children will continue to hone and refine their written and spoken French.

Art

We will be exploring different ways to use paint to build layers and interest to the background of a WWII painting.

Geography

We will be exploring how the geography of the UK has changed over time.

Music

The children will be exploring music using a range of different instruments including the glockenspiel.