

Friday 25th November 2019

Dear parents, carers, staff, governors and friends,

This week...

We welcomed over 150 people to our open morning and evening on Tuesday. We had many people coming to look around Brindishe Manor for places for both Nursery and Reception. I would like to say a huge thank you to the year 6 children who spent the morning showing families around. They were congratulated on the thorough tour of the school they offered and for answering so many questions with real honesty and clarity. A fantastic job and thank you to all of them!

This week we also had visitors from UCL leading a workshop on discovering more about DNA extraction in year 6. This was a real hands-on session and very informative for the children who will now be able to use this to support further scientific learning.

Climate Change Strikes

On Friday 29th November, many locations around the country will see Climate Change Strikes take place. We will be holding assemblies about Climate Change and making sure that children have the opportunity to take part in learning throughout the day, linked to climate change. We know many children are very passionate about this topic and that for many it is a very worrying time.

“Without immediate action from all countries, climate change will come to define the health of an entire generation.” Nick Watts, Lancet Countdown Report on Health and Climate Change 2019.”

Young Climate Warriors

If you and your family would like to learn more about how we as individuals can play our part in tackling climate change, you may want to visit www.youngclimatewarriors.org. Every week this charitable initiative sets a new challenge to try at home – something fun and informative that suggests ways to reduce our climate impact. For a refreshing change, this week’s challenge involves making a cup of tea ... **and younger children will need your help to complete it.** Please remind children to ‘**HIT THE RED BUTTON**’ when they have completed this challenge – it enables us to count up the carbon emissions saved!



Fabulous attendance this week...

KS1 – Jasper 98%

KS2 – Jet 97%

Children in Need 2019!



Our collection for Children in Need raised **£346.63**. Many thanks to all of the children and families that donated on the day.

Winter Performances

KS1 – This year each child in Y1/Y2 will be allocated 2 tickets. You may choose whether you use your 2 tickets for one performance date, or split them for two different performances. You will not need to apply for tickets. A letter was sent home today to explain how this will work.

Moonstone & Onyx	Monday 16th December - 9.30am
Amethyst & Jasper	Monday 16th December - 2pm
Ruby & Jasper	Tuesday 17th December – 9:30am
Moonstone & Onyx	Tuesday 17th December - 2pm
Amethyst & Onyx	Wednesday 18th December - 9:30am
Ruby & Jasper	Wednesday 18th December - 2pm

KS2 - performances are split into two groups and tickets will be available for these performances on request, via the letter that will be sent home in due course.

Tues 10th 9.30am

Weds 11th 2pm

Pearl

Topaz

Quartz

Diamond

Tues 10th 2pm

Weds 11th 9.30am

Sapphire

Amber

Jet

Opal

Dates for your diary



Friday 13th December - Christmas Fair 3:15pm

Tuesday 10th- Wednesday 11th December – KS2 Winter performances

Thursday 12th December – EYFS Winter performance

Thursday 12th December – Christmas Dinner/ Dress Festive day

Thursday 12th December - Full governing body meeting

Monday 16th – Wednesday 18th December – KS1 Winter performances

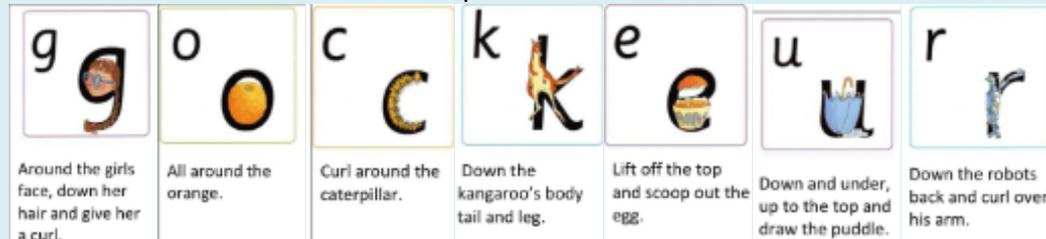
Best wishes for the weekend

Kate Porter
Headteacher

Nursery: This week Nursery children have continued sorting pictures and items that starts with the sounds 's', 'a' and 't'. We are practising writing these sounds on white boards, little books, notepads and label cards. We have also been matching numerals with quantities and played more number games. Nursery has started practising their songs for the Christmas Performance, something we do every day now. Thank you to all the old (and new) Christmas decorations adults have been bringing in as well as the tree donated to us. We appreciate every donation. If you have any more old decorations that won't make the tree this year, Nursery would be more than happy to take them off your hands.

This week in Reception we have been writing all sorts of things: pizza menus, shopping lists, mini books and more. It is lovely to see the children using their phonics in their writing. In maths, we have been using the language of *more* and *fewer* to compare amounts. We have also continued with our daily date routine and singing our days and months songs.

Recent sounds we have learned in phonics are:



The children have enjoyed creating their own vehicles using various recycled materials, as well as building up their hand and finger strength with a range of 'Finger Gym' activities.

We have begun practising for our Early Years Winter Singalong on Thursday 12th December. Please look out for a letter this week with more details of the performance times.

Year 1 This week in Jasper class we have continued with our animal leaflets, writing about our animal's habitat and why they suit living there. The children are extremely engaged with this topic and absolutely love watching David Attenborough documentaries to give them even more information about animals and their habitats. We have also been making information posters to raise awareness about pollution, giving suggestions about what we can do to help this issue. In maths we have been using the bar model to represent a subtraction sentence. Try some at home where the children will draw a number train with their whole amount and cross out the number they need to take away. Remember to say the number sentence aloud!

In Onyx class, we have continued our theme of light and dark. We created a science experiment using a dark den to see which colours show up the best in the dark when using a torch. We have also started writing out pirate stories inspired by The Night Pirates book, which are coming along very nicely. In

maths, we have been writing out own subtraction stories - have a go at home by using objects around the house.

Year 2 This week, Year 2 have begun rehearsing for our Nativity performances! A reminder that the performances themselves will be happening between Monday 16th - Wednesday 18th December. Scripts will be sent home with lines to learn, so any help with getting the words memorised and performed nice and loudly would be greatly appreciated! Elsewhere, we have been finishing writing our instructions for looking after a penguin. The children have been working hard on including adverbs and adjectives in their writing, and using conjunctions to add extra detail. Finally, we have explored the wider geography of the Antarctic - exploring where it is in relation to the other continents, and which oceans it lies next to.

Year 3 This week in English we have continued with writing our letters to our families from The Stone Age. The children worked in pairs to assess their writing and thought of ways their partners could improve their writing, the children then edited and improved their letters before publishing them. In Maths, we have moved onto multiplication. We started by finding different ways to recall the 3 and 4 times tables, we have been drawing pictures and using counters to count in 3s and 4s.

Year 4 have got into role as Hamlet and Macbeth this week. In Amber class, we have written monologues that really capture the turmoil he felt during the play, whilst in Topaz class we have used our reading strategies to unpick the character of Macbeth, using quotes from the text to support our viewpoint. In the end, the plan is for all the children to perform their monologues because we know there are many budding actors in the class desperate to play these roles! We have continued to investigate solids, liquids and gases and investigated 'How do we know gases really exist if we can't see them?' and 'How do we know liquids evaporate into gases when they are heated?' Do come and look at Topaz and Amber class' Science Big Book to look at the learning we have been doing. Please continue to learn your times tables too - the 9 times table is a focus!

Year 5 This week, Year 5 have taken part in an art project all about space. We've been studying different artists who have been inspired by the solar system and beyond and then we investigated different media and techniques. Finally, we decided on which we preferred best and created our own space themed artwork.

In English, we've been redrafting our writing, focusing on ways we can improve. Children have done this in pairs and as a class, giving each other constructive feedback to help them better understand their next steps.

Do not forget, on Tuesday 26th November, we have our trip to the Royal Observatory and National Maritime Museum. This will involve a lot of walking and there is currently a chance of rain so please make sure your child is dressed appropriately. Your child will need a packed lunch but due to our lunch not being until the end of the trip, we recommend your child bring a couple of snacks.

Year 6 have had a fantastic week learning more Lindy Hop steps to develop their choreography. It's great to see the children challenging themselves to learn lifts they can do with their partners and thinking about ensuring they are safe throughout. It's also wonderful to see the children working with classmates they don't often work with.

In maths, fractions has been the name of the game for the last couple of weeks. Children have been adding and subtracting like and unlike fractions as well as dividing fractions by whole numbers and finding fractions of amounts. Ask your child to show you how they would do this.

Biography writing has commenced after thorough research into Anne Frank. The children have started by introducing Anne and giving a brief overview of her early life. Ask the children to explain where they plan to take their biographies next.