

Bramble Bulletin

13th November 2023 (Term 2)

The Bramble Academy

Headteacher's Updates



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Term 2!

Last term was a very busy one as we started the year with a strong focus on developing the quality of education across all parts of the school. Our children came back with a thirst for learning, and ready to take on the challenge to make Bramble the best it can be. Our youngest children joined us and settled in beautifully, making lots of friends in EYFS.

Our Priorities

- 1) Developing the quality of education in Reading, Writing and Maths across all parts of school.
- 2) Developing the profile of Science and the wider curriculum, with subject leaders.
- 3) Ensuring our attendance procedures are robust enough so children do not fall behind.
- 4) Review and build on the behaviour strategies used in school.
- 5) Maximise the learning in EYFS by using the provision to develop language development.

This means that everything we will be doing this year, will be underpinned by these priorities across school. We are hoping to focus on doing a few things and doing them well for sustainability and impact for our children.

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Thank you for participating in our parent and carer survey, it was great to see that nearly 90% of our parents would recommend our school to someone else. As always, if you would like to discuss any parts of school life, please come and see me on the yard or make an appointment through the office. From the questionnaire, parents reported that they would like more information about what their child will be learning. We're happy to report that we have updated the curriculum pages on our website and will be sharing more of the progress through X and Class Dojo. Overleaf is a summary of each year group, more information can be found on the website or by speaking to your child's teacher.

Miss P Theodosiou

P. M. Theodosiou

Class Updates

EYFS

We're watching the new area being built in front of our eyes! Have a look on Twitter to see it developing. In the classroom, we are celebrating differences, learning about each other and difference celebrations across the world. We're working on developing our gross and fine motor skills through clay modelling and mark making.

Year 1

Year 1 are learning about the journey of toys through time, the subject driver will be history as children learn about the changes in living memory. This will be supported through a range of books such as Toys in Space and Old Bear Stories. Children will then have the opportunity to make their own toy in Design and Technology by using wheels and axels to make their toy move.

Year 2

Our Year 2 children will be building on their learning from Year 1 by learning about changes in living memory through the influence of key individuals. They will be learning about Rosa Parks, Queen Elizabeth II and Neil Armstrong. In Science, they will explore everyday materials and their uses to keep us dry and warm in winter.

Year 3

We have started the year by reading parts of The Flower, we are keen to share what we know so far! Our history is around getting to know the local area better, and how the past has influenced our lives today. We're busy revisiting addition and subtraction in Maths before moving onto multiplication and division.

Year 4

This term Year 4 are focusing on developing our key skills of finding the information from texts through the choice of words by the author whilst reading Tudor Boy Spy. We will be working with Year 3 to learn more about the local area and the Industrial Revolution.

Year 5

Building on our artwork last term, we have started our new topic in History on Ancient Greece, we're focusing on how history has impacted our lives today. We have already thought about the birth of democracy and how this is used in school life as well as the wider world through British Values. In Science, we're going to learn about the use of materials around us and how we can describe properties with improved vocabulary.

Year 6

After the successful start to Year 6, we're going to deepen our understanding of history through learning about Ancient Greece. We already have enjoyed learning about where Greece is and asking our Headteacher about Greece, where she is from and how so many words are from the Greek language! We're busy trying to write a persuasive letter to Miss Theodosiou to let us continue to have playtimes, we're using all the technical features and vocabulary to put our point across. Wish us luck!

Attendance Challenge



Pupil Voice

We have been asked by our pupils to buy a bike shelter to protect bikes and scooters. We are thrilled that our pupils have been active in developing our school life. Our pupils will be holding regular fund-raising events to make this happen.

Children in Need Day

As a school we will be raising awareness for Children in Need by dressing up on the 17th of November. The theme will be Pudsey linked or anything spotty, there is no need to buy any additional costumes, children should wear something that they have at home already which is suitable for the wintery weather. Donations can be made online directly to Children in Need using their website.

<https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/>

Parent Group

The parent group continues to fundraise for each year group, ensuring memorable enrichment trips for all. You can support them with their weekly bake sales on Thursdays and Fridays but donating store-bought cakes (due to allergies) or bring any spare change to indulge in treats.

The next parent group meeting is on November 21st at 8.45am, the focus of the meeting will be on the upcoming Christmas Fayre, if you would like to get involved please join them and find out how you can contribute to making it a festive success.

Christmas Fayre

Get ready for a magical evening at the Christmas Fayre on December 14th, right after school until 4.30pm. The parent group is working tirelessly to organise a delightful event for everyone.

There will be lots of stalls with things such as cakes, crafts, gifts, raffles, tombola's and much more as well as hotdogs and warm drinks available.

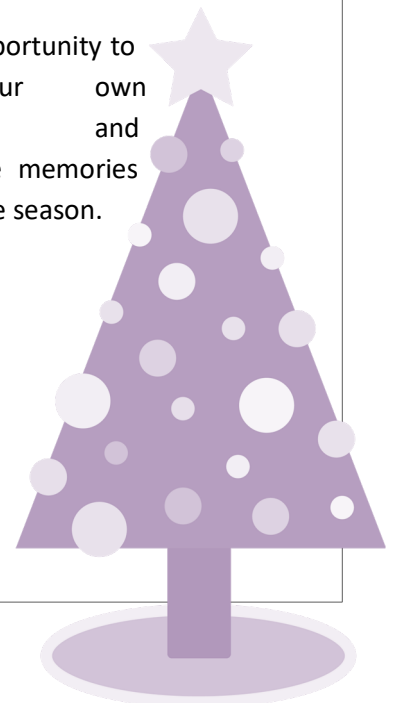
You can contribute to the charm of the Christmas Fayre by donating toys, prizes for raffles, or teddy bears. Just drop them off at the school reception, and let's create a memorable experience for all.

Santa himself will be making a special appearance at the fayre! Children can chat with him and receive a small Christmas pack filled with goodies. You will also

Free School Meals

Have you applied for Free School Meals (FSM) recently? Did you know that if your circumstances have changed or if your child is in Years 3-6 they may be eligible for FSM, please ask the office for an application, apply online or call school admissions on 0300 500 80 80.

have the opportunity to take your own photographs and treasure the memories of this festive season.



Key Dates for your Calendar

When	What	Key information
Friday 17 th November	Children in Need Day	Wear something spotty to school, donate online at https://donate.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/
Tuesday 21 st November	Parent Group Meeting	From 8.45am in the hall
Wednesday 29 th November	School Photographs	The school photographer will be on site in the morning to capture photographs of children who were absent on the 7 th .
Friday 1 st December	Staff Training day School closed to pupils	
Friday 22 nd December	Last day of Term 2	
Thursday 4 th January	Start of Term 3	
Thursday 8 th February	Last day of Term 3	
Monday 19 th February	Start of Term 4	
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Details to be shared at a later date.
Thursday 28 th March	Last day of Term 4	
Monday 15 th April	Start of Term 5	
Monday 6 th May	Bank Holiday School closed	
Thursday 23 rd May	Last day of Term 5	
Monday 3 rd June	Start of Term 6	
Friday 26 th July	Last day of Term 6	

DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR CHILD'S ATTENDANCE RATES MEAN?

- 98% 4 days absent from school
- 95% 10 days absent from school
- 90% 4 weeks absent from school
- 85% 5.5 weeks absent from school
- 80% 7.5 weeks absent from school

“90% of success is showing up”!

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 95%

Let's work together for a successful future!

If your child is off, you must report daily to our attendance team on 01623 635928 or via message on Class Dojo.

