

Newsletter

Friday 15th July 2022



Issue 39

Note from headteacher

Dear parents

We as a staff would like to thank you for all the support you have shown the school in the past year.

As a team we have worked very hard to develop a challenging and relevant curriculum for our children and have been very impressed to see how the children have responded this year after the past years of disruption.

We wish our Year 6 children every success at their new schools and feel confident that they will build upon the successes they have had in their time at Brambleside.

It has been a privilege to work with your amazing children. We hope you all have a restful and refreshing summer break and we look forward to your continued support September.

Kind regards,

Drew Brown

Reception news

Recently, the children have been looking at timelines of their lives, and plotting all of the important things that have happened to them. They have been looking at the past, present and the future of going into Year 1!

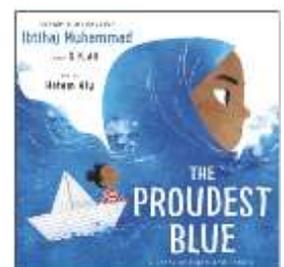
In Phonics, the children have amazed the teachers with their super knowledge of all the sounds they have learnt this year. They have been reading and writing lots of sentences with these sounds in. In Maths, we have been looking at 2D and 3D shapes this week, remembering the names and the properties of all of them. We have also enjoyed our final visit to the shop, and have been enjoying lots of yummy food for snack including wraps, Weetabix and crackers!

This week has been a week full of performances! We have enjoyed seeing the Year 1 children perform their songs in assembly. We've watched the Key Stage 1 & Foundation Stage Rocksteady performance, as well as lots of rhyme time performances in our own classes. We have thoroughly enjoyed our last full week of singing lots of songs, reading lots of stories and having lots of fun!

Year 1 and 2 news

Year 1 this week have completed their final class book for the year, *Proudest Blue*.

They have enjoyed reading about a young girl's excitement as she watches her older sisters purchase and wear the hijab for the first time. The children have discussed the importance of respecting others faiths and having confidence in what may make us seem different is worth valuing and celebrating.



Dates for your Diary

18 July - Year 6 leavers' assembly, 2pm

19th July - Last day of term

5th September - First day back to school



In DT the children have been learning about structures and finding ways they can answer the question 'How can you stop a tower from toppling over?'. Year 1 looked at structures around the world such as The Eiffel Tower and The Learning Tower of Pisa, discussing the vocabulary foundations, balance, perpendicular and topple. When building their own tower, they learnt how to use a flange hinge, foot and create stable joins.

Year 2 in writing have been studying the use and play on words and writing their own acrostic poems about Stop

Motion Animation. They then used a range of model humorous poems about moving to Year 3 to write their own poem about their hopes for next year. In Computing they worked on Data Handling and focused on the International Space Station, finding out how the ISS use computers to create an environment that can sustain life. They created their own spreadsheet to record the temperatures around school and read information from a spreadsheet to create their own fact file on planets using Word. The fact file gave them the opportunity to revisit their word processing skills developed earlier in the year.



Year 3 and 4 news

In the last full week of **Year 3**, we have been cooking! The children made three dishes which included a fruity oat/yoghurt, popcorn and oven chips. They experimented with using savoury or sweet flavorings and then evaluated the taste of each dish. We were all impressed with how sensible the children behaved in the kitchen area. On Monday we had our penultimate swimming lesson where again the children worked on water safety and their technique. On Thursday we enjoyed listening to the children in the Rocksteady concerts with some children in Year 3 performing. In between, we finished our last piece of writing a letter of complaint and in Maths, the children recapped the four operations, addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. We hope you have a great weekend.

Year 4 have had a lovely week of learning. In Writing, they have been looking at explanatory texts, focusing on the importance of including technical vocabulary, and subheadings to help the reader navigate the text. In Reading, they have finished reading the class text 'The Girl Who Stole and Elephant' written by Nizrana Farook, whilst focusing on their comparison and inference skills. Some of the children are already reading other books written by the same author.

In Maths, the children have been learning about plotting coordinates in their 'Position and Direction' topic. They have drawn and translated shapes using coordinates and described their location on a grid.

During French, they have been doing a topic called 'My home' where they have learnt how to say and spell words for a house/apartment. They have also learnt how to talk about the rooms they have in their house.



Year 5 and 6 News

Year 5 have been working hard on creating structures this week. They needed to fulfil the brief of creating an emergency structure for 4 Lego-sized people. We put our learning about the Iron Bridge in Shropshire to good use, incorporating gusset plates, braces and complex joins to finish our builds. We have also been impressed with the continued maturity shown by the whole year group this week; they really are looking like an amazing year 6 already.

This week, **Year 6** have enjoyed learning about 3D sculpture in Art. They employed several different techniques throughout the week, then combined their pieces to form one large sculpture on Friday. Ask a Year 6 which technique was their favourite! Many of the Year 6s also took part in Bikeability this week, where they learnt cycling proficiency and how to be safe on the roads on their bikes. They are all looking forward to their final days of Year 6 next week and can't wait to have a celebratory burger at the bbq after their leavers' assembly on Monday!

Millionaires and Bookworms

This year the children have once again shown their love of reading. We have a total of 35 Millionaire Badge holders and 8 Bookworm Badge holders. To gain these awards the children in KS2 have to read a minimum of one million words during the academic year, while Y1 children gain their Bookworm Badge by reading at least 100,000 words and Y2 250,000 words.



Missing school books

Please have a look at home for Brambleside books! Kindly browse your shelves and book cases in case you have any school books loitering. Please return to us by Tuesday. Many thanks.

Reading Challenge

The theme for this year's Summer Reading Challenge is Gadgeteers. All children are invited to visit the library in town to read at least 6 books and gain stickers, certificates and medals. There is even a Reading Challenge for adults this year, which is a fantastic opportunity to share reading together as a family. Visit <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> to find out more.



Concern for the heatwave

We're aware that next week the temperatures will soar and many parents may be concerned about their child being at school during the extreme heat. If it is necessary, we will keep the children indoors because luckily our classrooms stay fairly cool during the summer. We are happy for children to wear their PE kit next week rather than their usual uniform if they prefer this to keep cool.

We will follow Public Health England's advice about protecting our children by:

- encouraging children to stay hydrated – please ensure they have their water bottles
- children will need to apply sunscreen and wear a wide brimmed hat
- we will close blinds in rooms that the sun faces – to help rooms remain cooler
- outdoor PE sessions will be limited or cancelled if necessary

Uniform policy

We know that many parents will be looking to refresh their child's school uniform over the summer months and thought we'd refresh memories about our uniform policy.

- navy sweatshirt or cardigan embroidered with school logo
- white polo shirt (with or without logo)
- grey skirt, pinafore, school trousers/ shorts
- gingham summer school dress during warmer months
- black sensible shoes that can be polished
- appropriate socks/tights (e.g. white, navy, grey)
- book bag – EYFS



- PE t-shirt in your child's house colour
- black PE shorts
- PE bag – ideally drawstring

We strongly recommend that all items are named so that any misplaced items can safely be returned. **The items of uniform with a Brambleside logo on need to be ordered online at**

www.yourschooluniform.com/

schools/index/brambleside-communityprimaryschool



Sports news



Last Thursday we took 4 teams to Moulton College for the Summer Games County Finals. We had 2 athletics teams participating plus a netball team and a goalball team. All students performed really well throughout the day. The goalball team managed to come away with bronze medals after finishing 3rd in their competition.



On Wednesday this week we took our boys and girls cricket teams to the County Ground in Northampton to take part in the County Cricket finals. The boys were extremely unlucky missing out on the semi finals on runs-scored. This meant they finished 6th overall. The girls won their first two group games putting them into the champions pool with the other two winners of other groups. They managed to win both of their champions pool games meaning that they became county champions finishing first overall. A great way to end the year!





Staff changes

We are sad that Miss Nagar, one of our teaching assistants, will be leaving us on Tuesday. Meera will be joining another school in Wellingborough. We've enjoyed her being part of our team and wish her the very best for the future.

Michael's kind gesture

Michael in Year 6 has been growing my hair since 2019 after finding out his Granny had cancer. He wanted to do something to raise money for cancer sufferers and so was inspired to growing his hair to raise money to make a wig for The Little Princess Trust so a child could have hair too. Michael is having his hair cut next week! Well done Michael, an excellent cause and good luck with your fundraising.



Poppy achieves a distinction

Many congratulations to Poppy in Year 6 who has achieved a Grade 5 distinction in her trumpet lessons. Excellent work Poppy. We wish you the best of luck with this in the future.

Teachers propose swapping gifts for donations

With July upon us, you may be thinking about how you can thank the adults who have worked with your children this year. At Christmas, we successfully donated goods to our local food bank. In Spring term, you made incredibly generous donations to support people living through the invasion of Ukraine. We have been bowled over by the kindness you have shown towards others and want to try and continue in this spirit.

It is a privilege to be able to work with your children every day. As a staff, we never forget that or take it for granted. We do it because we passionately believe in supporting your children to develop and grow into the fine young people we know they can become. This summer, as prices rise on almost everything, we'd like to invite you to try some of the following instead:

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/50-things-to-do-before-youre-11--activity-list>

If you can do one of them whilst enjoying an ice cream, even better!

If you would like to give something more tangible, the link details for you to donate to Kettering Foodbank: <https://www.ketteringfoodbank.org/>

Alternatively you might like to donate some dried food on your last day (pasta, rice etc) for Northamptonshire Help for Ukraine. We have contacts at Brambleside who oversee and track the transport of items directly into Ukraine and to refugees. Thank you from the Brambleside Staff 😊

Staff V Parents Football Match

We are delighted to announce that we raised a total of £356 for Skylark Ward at Kettering General Hospital. Thank you to the parents that either participated or donated money to watch.



TAKEHOME



In the news this week

An island of wet wipes has 'changed the course of the Thames' river in London. The island, thought to be around the size of two tennis courts, has prompted many campaigners to fight for them to be banned. Rebecca Pow, Under-Secretary at the Department for Environment, said that if members of the public need to use wet wipes, they should not flush them into the drains. Fleur Anderson, Labour MP, has warned that mounds of wet wipes and waste are changing the shape of rivers and polluting the water.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Do you use wet wipes? Can you think of different examples of situations when they are often used?
- > Thinking about what people use wet wipes for, can you think of any alternative products that people could use?
- > Do you think that people know that you shouldn't flush wet wipes? If not, how do you think people could be made aware?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

