



Our Newsletter



April/May 2018

Welcome to the summer term:

Our second term as Brackensdale Primary School and another very busy half term. It is the summer term so hopefully the weather will reflect this and the children will get to enjoy some outdoor activities integrated into their topics for the next few weeks. You have already received a topic overview, but here is a reminder of what is being covered across the school:

FS1/Nursery: The children are going to be **Busy Builders** and will use fictional, well known texts to explore this topic such as 'The 3 Little Pigs'

FS2/Reception: The children are going to be using the popular topic of **Pirates** to continue their learning journeys into the summer term.

Year 1: The children are looking at **Watery Worlds** and a trip to the Sea life Centre this week will be an amazing real life stimulus for the topic.

Year 2: A science based topic for Year 2 based on **Scented Gardens**, looking at growing.

Year 3/4: They are looking at real life and fictional characters through the topic of **Heroes & Villains**. This will also include a visit from the Dogs Trust.

Year 5/6: They are looking at how animals are adapted to their environments through the topic **Beast Creator**. They will have a visit from Bugs 'n' Bones.

If you have not received a topic web and homework suggestion sheet then please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Brackensdale's 6Rs:

This half term we will be focussing on being RESOURCEFUL, using the Andy the ant to reflect how we can problem solve and make connections to become better learners. The children will have weekly assemblies about how they can put this into practice inside the classroom and at home. There will also be an assembly in both KS1 & 2 about the difference between bullying and a disagreement. Brackensdale Primary School aims to be a 'bully free' school and the children will receive regular reminders about this issue through PSHE lessons and circle time for some of the younger children.



General Information & Reminders:

SATs

Year 6 SATs will begin the week beginning 14th May and the children are currently working extremely hard (as are the teachers) to ensure your child achieves the best results they can. Any support you can offer at home will be most welcome, including making sure they go to bed early and have had breakfast before they come to school during that week.

Year 2 SATs will be during the month of May (up until May 19th), but the test zone is a little more flexible and Mrs Latham & Miss Dilkes will be able to tell you more specific detail next week during Parent's Evening. All Year 2 pupils MUST attend during this period.

Attendance

We have made the issue of attendance high priority. It really does make a difference to your child's education if they do not attend school, unless they are poorly of course. We will continue to issue warning letters and penalty notices if needed, but also try and support you through face to face meetings when appropriate.

Children who attend school every day ACHIEVE more than those who are regularly absent. Give your child the best chance you can.

PE Kit reminder: As the weather will now be better (hopefully) we ask that all children have their PE kits in school, particularly in KS1. It has been challenging without a hall and the teachers have done the best they can but we can

Together ... learn, care, succeed, share, belong.

now take the children outside and we hope to have a hall back again before May half term. It is important that all children have appropriate clothing and footwear for safety reasons. Please check this is the case for your child. We do have some spare kit but not enough for large numbers of children.

Uniform Reminder: Just a quick reminder that jewellery is not to be worn in school, several children particularly in KS1 have been coming in necklaces, rings and bracelets. Lovely as they are, can they be kept for out of school wear as they can be dangerous and be misplaced which can result in upset. Thank you

Parents Evenings:

They have taken place for KS2 this week on Wednesday 18th & Thursday 19th April and was an opportunity for you to discuss the recent spring term assessments.

They will take place for KS1 on the 25th & 26th April and again you will have the opportunity to see how your child did in the recent tests and more generally in other areas of the curriculum.

FOB (Friends of Brackensdale)

This will be run by 2 school governors: Letitia and Amanda. The next meeting is planned for the 2nd May and everyone is welcome.

Yr5/6 only

There will be a parents meeting at 3.30pm on Thursday May 3rd regarding the residential trip to Pine Lakes on Wednesday 6th June. Year 5 & 6 parents of children going on the residential are encouraged to attend this meeting.

Infant Photographs: Class photographs will take place on Friday 27th April

Year 6 Leavers Photographs: They will take place on Friday 11th May.

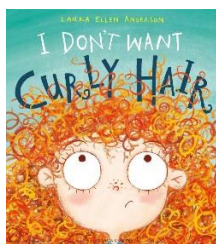
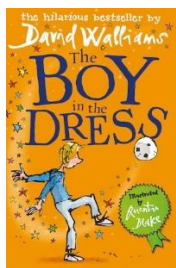
Year 4 Brass Performance: This will take place at 1pm on Friday 27th April.

ART WEEK



All the children will be taking part in an Art week beginning on May 21st and will have the opportunity to complete some fantastic creative art work with their teachers. It may be based around a specific artist or style of art. There will be an art exhibition on the Open Evening on Wednesday 18th July where you will see some of the work they produce.

BOOK WEEK



Book week starts on Tuesday 5th June after the **INSET day on Monday 4th June**. This may focus on a book or a specific author and links nicely with Derby Book Festival which some children will be attending (1st- 9th June) Unfortunately we can only take a small number of children and we will let you know who they are nearer the time. In the meantime, please keep reading with/alongside your child or simply reminding them to read as often as they can. It does not have to be their school book.

Dressing Up Day: There will be a Book Week dressing up day on Friday 8th June with further details to follow.

Parking Reminder:

Now the weather is improving can we ask as many families as possible to try walking to school to reduce the congestion around school at either end of the day. If this is not possible please respect our neighbours when dropping off: do not park across driveways or on driveways at any time.

Key Diary dates

These dates now take us up to the Summer break



Wed 25 th Apr	Infant Parents evening 1 3:30 – 6:00
Thurs 26 th Apr	Infant Parents evening 2 3:30 – 6:00
Fri 27 th Apr	Photographer – Infant class photos
Mon 30th Apr	Y2 test zone begins
Mon 7th May	Bank holiday
Fri 11 th May	Photographer - Y6 Leavers
Mon 14th May	Y6 SAT week
Mon 21st May	Art Week
Tues 22 nd May	Govs mtg – Book scrutiny
Fri 25th May	Break for ½ term
Mon 4th June	Back to school (7 weeks 3 days) – <u>INSET</u> (Report writing & TA training)
Tues 5 th June	Book week – to link with Derby Book Festival (1 st – 9 th June 2018)
Wed 6 th June	Y5/6 Residential at Pine Lakes (2 days)
Friday 8 th June	Dressing up Day
Mon 11 th June	Y1 Phonics check End of year assessment week (inc Y6 writing)
Tues 3 rd July	Transition day (Welcome Assembly for Y2s 9:15 & New parents mtg 3:30pm)
Thurs 5 th July	KS1 athletics morning at Moorways + Summer Fair afternoon
Wed 11 th July	Sports morning am
Thurs 12 th July	Marathon am
Fri 13 th July	Reports to parents
Mon 16 th July	Awards assembly – Swimming + Star of the term
Wed 18 th July	Open evening/exhibition
Thurs 19 th July	Family Bike ride
Mon 23 rd July	Y6 Leavers Performance 1:30pm followed by Y6 leavers party
Tues 24 th July	Final awards assemblies - 100%ers for term & year, Star of the year – Children break up
Wed 25 th July	INSET + Break for Summer

Suggestions:

Thank you for taking time to read this newsletter. Please continue to use the Suggestion Box in the Main reception if you have any further ideas/comments.

