

What a wonderful start...

TO A BRAND NEW ACADEMIC YEAR...

The first half term of this new academic year has flown by and it has been lovely to see the children settle in so well to their new classes. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all our new families who have joined us this year, both those in Reception and all those who have joined this term from surrounding schools - I wish you all a successful and happy journey here with us.

It has already been a busy term in school, with student elections, workshops both in and out of school and our participation in the NSPCC programme, 'Speak Out, Stay Safe'.

Our new Head Girl and Head Boy, Ophelia and Charlie, have also been hard at work, supporting me with prospective parent tours and leading

our daily prayer to open each assembly. You can read more about what they have been up to later in the newsletter.

There are lots of exciting things coming up as we head towards the festive season, including a host of PTA events and the first of this year's Super Six opportunities. In particular I would like to draw your attention to our upcoming parent event, 'The Bradfield Way' on Thursday 21st November, an evening dedicated to sharing more about the approach to teaching and learning, curriculum and personal development that we use at Bradfield and the rationale and reasoning behind why we work this way in our school (more details later in the newsletter).

Finally, I would like to thank you, as always for your ongoing support and I wish you all a relaxing and enjoyable half term break.

Miss Davies



In School This Term...

ARMSTRONG CLASS

After settling into our new class, We have been having great fun learning lots of new graphemes and phonemes in our phonics lessons. We have also been working on our fine motor skills, doing things such as threading, dough disco, cutting, using tweezers and lots more!

We have been exploring lots of different stories, such as the colour monster and We're Going On A Bear Hunt.

We spend lots of time running, climbing, hopping and jumping which is helping us grow strong and build up our gross motor skills. On top of all this amazing learning and development we have also been building great relationships with our friends and teachers!



In School This Term...



ANNING Y1

In science we have been learning about how we can tell it is autumn and the difference between evergreen and deciduous trees. We made these deciduous leaf decorations to know what leaves can look like in autumn.

In DT we have been learning about structures and how to make them. We have made our own windmills and had to focus on things like if the structure was stable, if the sails spun, and if the rotor was steady.



In School This Term...

ANNING CONT

In Geography we have been looking at our routes to school and the difference between human and physical features. We planned routes to school on aerial photos and went on a walk around to village, spotting the different human and physical features we see on our way to school.



In School This Term...

NIGHTINGALE Y2

Year 2 had a very busy and exciting first half term. In Science they have been learning about materials and their properties. They wanted to find out if bendy materials could ever be strong. This led us to some surprising results. The children all agreed that a bridge made out of paper straws would not be able to support a 1kg weight, but it did! However, it was not long before the bridge weakened under the weight and collapsed.



We have also been learning about where our rubbish goes. Once they learned about recycling centres and landfill sites, they went off on a walk of Bradfield community to see how rubbish was affecting the local environment. They were not happy with the amount of rubbish they found in the paths, bushes and fields, so they decided to write to the council to ask for more bins to be placed on the field behind the village shop.



In School This Term...

ANNING CONT...

Lastly, the Year 2 children have been thoroughly enjoying their History lessons. They have been learning about the events of the Plague and the Great Fire of London. They were fascinated to learn the origins of the song 'Ring of Roses' and asked lots of questions about the Plague. They then re-enacted the initial events of the fire and dashed outside before the fire could spread.



In School This Term...

EARHART CLASS

We have had a busy time this half of term in Year 3. We have started learning French and the children have been hugely enthusiastic conveying their learning through their new vocabulary and various gestures.

We have also enjoyed learning a French poem with the help of les petits chatons finger puppets.



We emulated the hunter-gatherers during our history lesson and went searching for images of the types of food that man would have lived off during the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic eras of the Stone Age.



In School This Term...

EARHART CONT...

In DT we considered the advantages of using seasonal food in our cooking. We learnt various chopping and grating skills, to prepare us for an afternoon of making apple and blackberry crumble- in the week after half term.



In Geography, we used our knowledge and understanding of the structure of the earth and plate tectonics to investigate how and why volcanoes occur. This involved building a model of the Earth to show the 4 layers: crust, mantle, outer core and inner core.



In school this term...



ROWLING

This term Year 4 enjoyed a virtual workshop with Reading Museum to learn about the Romans! The class really enjoyed learning about what life was like for Romans living near Reading.

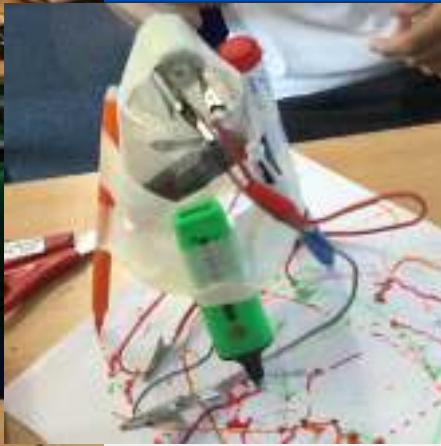
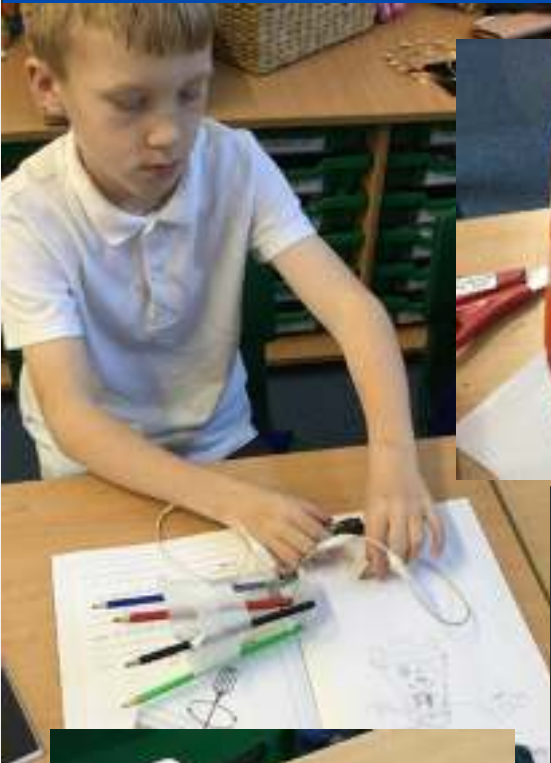
We also visited St Andrew's School to see Cressida Cowell, author of the How to Train Your Dragon books. They were inspired by her engaging and exciting presentation about how she became an author.



In School This Term...

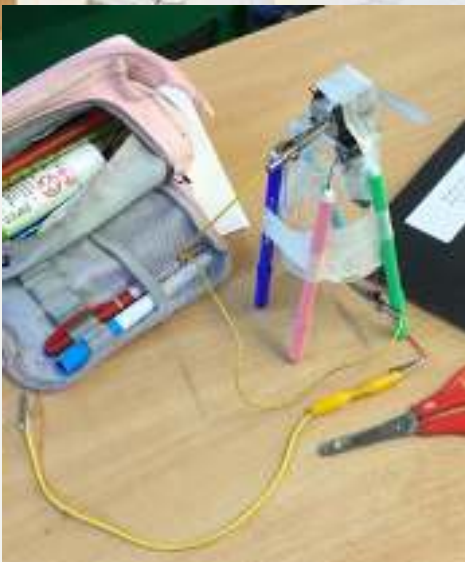
ELIZABETH

Elizabeth class have had a fantastic start to year 5. In English we have been writing Greek myths, to do this we have been designing our own mythical creatures to include within our writing as well as creating comic strip versions before finally writing and publishing our Elizabeth class book of Greek myths. We were also lucky enough to go with Year 4 to meet Cressida Cowell, who wrote 'How to Train Your Dragon', and be inspired by her approach to writing stories whereby she bases her characters and settings off of real-life places and animals before putting her own imaginative spin on them.



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In School This Term...

ELIZABETH CONT...

We have also been working hard in our gymnastics lessons, learning and perfecting new paired balances, rolls, jumps and cartwheels, before putting it all together to create a final group performance to wow the class.

More recently we enjoyed our first visit to the updated library, children were thrilled to be able to borrow a book again, although for some the selection was very difficult! We then enjoyed some quiet time in the library to enjoy our chosen book and all of the new features of the library.



In school this term...

LUTHER-KING JR

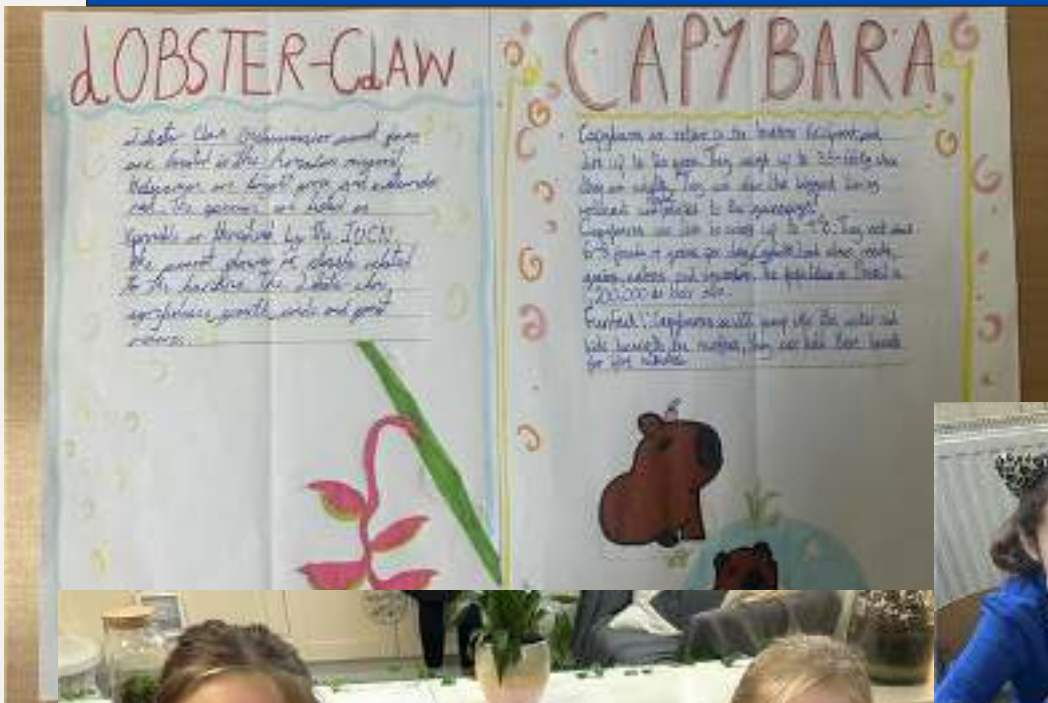
This half term, Year 6 have been busy learning about The Maya in History – we were lucky enough to have Vanessa, an Archaeologist, spend the day teaching and showing us various things about The Life of The Maya. Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed this and it has provided them with a much greater insight into our topic this term. We have also finished, much to the disappointment of the class, our Forest School sessions – the children had a great time working together to create some of the best dens we've ever seen in forest school, fire lighting, hair braiding, making wood cookies, mud slides and of course finishing off with smores and sugar apples!



In school this term...

LUTHER-KING JR CONT...

As part of our Geography curriculum, we have been learning about the Amazon Rainforest, finishing off with group presentations to the class about the Amazonian Plants and Animals. In science we have been learning about living things and their habitats. We investigated whether yeast is a living organism! We have also been learning Long Division in Maths, and wow, we are super impressed with how well the Year 6 children have grasped this! It has been a busy, but fabulous half term and start to the year!



School News



FROM THE HEAD GIRL AND HEAD BOY

Hello, we are Bradfield primary's head boy and head girl, our names are Charlie and Ophelia. We were elected about a month ago and are delighted to assist our headteacher, Miss Davies, in changing our school for the better.

This includes opening our new, refurbished library. We also participate in the exciting responsibilities that the head boy and the head girl uphold such as opening our assemblies, giving parent tours and answering their questions.

The other roles that our school provides include: the deputy head boy and girl, who help us with our responsibilities and would fill in for us if one (or both) is ill. As well as this, our school offers the role of house captains, these people lead the activities on sports day and help Miss Webber in her role as Sports lead. Additionally, we have play leaders who run clubs for the younger children at lunchtimes, like tech clubs, acting clubs, art clubs or sports clubs. Jun-wei, leader of the craft club, states. "It is a great opportunity for playleaders to take on some responsibility."

In addition to these new roles, we also have new Reading Ambassadors being elected this week. These children from year 4, 5 and 6, will be responsible for keeping our beautiful new library looking tidy and inviting, and for running reading and story time events for the rest of the school.

school news

WELLBEING DROP-INS WITH MISS DAVIES

Sometimes we all need someone to talk to and a friendly ear.

Starting after half term, we will be offering a monthly 'well-being drop in' for our parents and carers to have a cuppa and a chat.

This will be an opportunity to talk, connect and, if necessary, seek support or signposting for your own wellbeing.

If you would like to come along, please email the school office ahead of time for one of the following dates (all at 2:30pm)

*Thursday 14th November

*Thursday 12th December

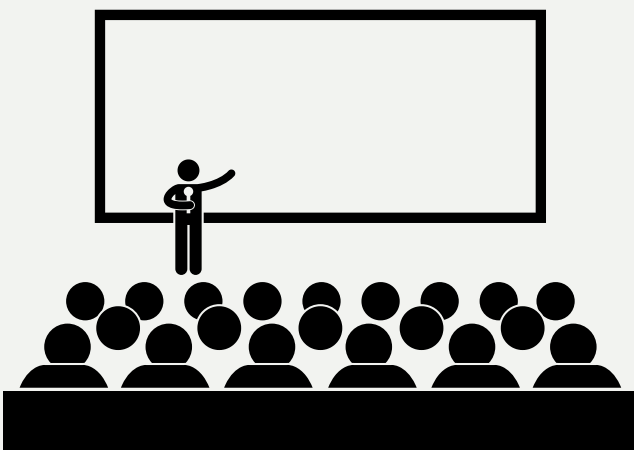


PARENT EVENT

We are delighted to invite parents and carers to our next Super Six Parent Event on Thursday 21st November at 6:30pm.

This event will be an evening dedicated to sharing more about 'The Bradfield Way' - including the vision and design behind our curriculum, the cutting edge teaching methods used in classrooms and the programme of strategic improvement that has taken place at Bradfield over the past eighteen months.

We do hope to see lots of you there!



school news

NEW LIBRARY

Last Friday we held the grand opening of our new library, during which our head boy and girl cut the ribbon during a live 'teams' broadcast to the children, and declared our beautiful new reading space officially open! The opening marks the culmination of our 'Year of Reading' here at Bradfield and we are absolutely delighted with the transformation!

We would like to say a huge thank you to the PTA for their support with the project; not only the new library but all the other mini projects that have made it such a successful year. From our new non-fiction corridor to our reading journal boxes and new reading books, none of this would have been possible with the support of our wonderful families and PTA - so thank you all!

