

Merry Christmas

TO ALL OUR FAMILIES

As we reach the end of our autumn term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what a truly brilliant couple of months it has been at Bradfield. The children have thrown themselves into their learning with such curiosity and determination, and the atmosphere across the school has been one of energy, kindness and togetherness. It has been a privilege to see them grow in confidence and pride as the term has unfolded.

One of the highlights, as always, has been our Christmas performances. Our EYFS children melted every heart in the room with their concert – their singing, storytelling and sheer joy were a beautiful reminder of what makes this time of year so special. And our Nativity was simply wonderful: full of character, humour and that unmistakable Bradfield sparkle. Huge thanks to the staff teams who worked so hard to make both events feel magical for families.

As the term draws to a close, I am reminded of how much a school community can hold, especially at this time of year. For some, Christmas is full of excitement and celebration; for others it can be a more challenging or reflective season. Whatever this time looks like for your family, please know that we hold all of our children, and all of you, firmly in our thoughts.

The warmth, generosity and support you show our school every day is never taken for granted.

I hope the Christmas break brings rest, laughter and moments of stillness for you and your loved ones. Thank you for your continued trust, partnership and positivity this term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back in January for another brilliant term ahead. Until then, I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Miss Davies



In school this term...

OCEAN RAMSEY YR

This term, Ocean Class have settled happily into school life and made excellent progress across all areas of learning. Through strong routines and a nurturing environment, the children have built positive relationships and developed confidence, independence and a sense of belonging.

Learning this term has been underpinned by our Christian values of respect, courage and kindness. Children have been encouraged to care for one another, work together and reflect on what they are grateful for, particularly during our learning about Christmas.

The children have enjoyed developing early reading, writing and maths skills through practical and engaging activities, including phonics, storytelling, counting and problem-solving. Creative learning has been a highlight, with art, music, dance and design playing a key role in expressing ideas and imagination. Exploring the wider world has included learning about the Christmas Nativity story, other religious celebrations, and our local environment. Regular library visits and home reading have supported a growing love of books.



In school this term...

NEIL ARMSTRONG Y1

Practical science lessons involved investigating various materials and designing a functional raincoat for "Teddy". English lessons centred on the book *Astro Girl*, sparking the children's interest in space and leading them to research facts and write their own non-fiction space books. In Design and Technology, the children applied their knowledge of stable structures to construct and evaluate their own windmills.

The term's highlight was undoubtedly the children's first school Nativity performance, where they demonstrated dedication in learning their lines, songs, actions, and dances.



In school this term...

NIGHTINGALE Y2

Over the autumn term, Year 2 have been busy learning how to solve addition, subtraction and place value problems with number up to 100. In English, they have been fully engaged by using uses books to hook and immerse the children, whereby, they have investigated a mysterious object hidden in the room, written wanted posters, their own adventure books and information texts about bears and wolves. Year 2's History topic this term was the Great Fire of London. During learning about the events and causes of the Great Fire, the children were very enthusiastic to attempt to put the fire out; carrying 'heavy' buckets of water from our own River Thames. After gathering all the evidence, they were also able to conclude about who had the greatest impact on the fire's devastation held a trial for the accused historic characters.. This topic was also brought to life by a History visitor, who brought her own artefacts and maps of the fire to help them become even better historians.



In school this term...



NIGHTINGALE CONT...

We have also learned about recycling and sustainability in Geography. In these lessons, the children learnt about what sustainability was and the impact that not effectively using our resources would have on the planet. They were fascinated to find out that gold was in lots of medicine and if we do not use it sustainably, we will not be able to make the same medications as we currently do. The children also learnt about the impact of litter and landfill sites on the environment and they even went on a litter pick around Bradfield – noting the worst places for litter to be at the park and outside the Queen's Head.

The children also enjoyed Forest School in the final 6 weeks of the autumn term. In these sessions, it was wonderful to see the children flourishing in an environment outside of the classroom learning new skills from sawing wood to making bug hotels and mud cakes .

In school this term...



NIGHTINGALE Y3

Year 3 had an exciting day at Ufton Court this term, when they stepped back in time to experience life in the Stone Age. They became hunter gatherers, made tools, created a stone circle, and even made music. It was a fun and unforgettable learning experience!

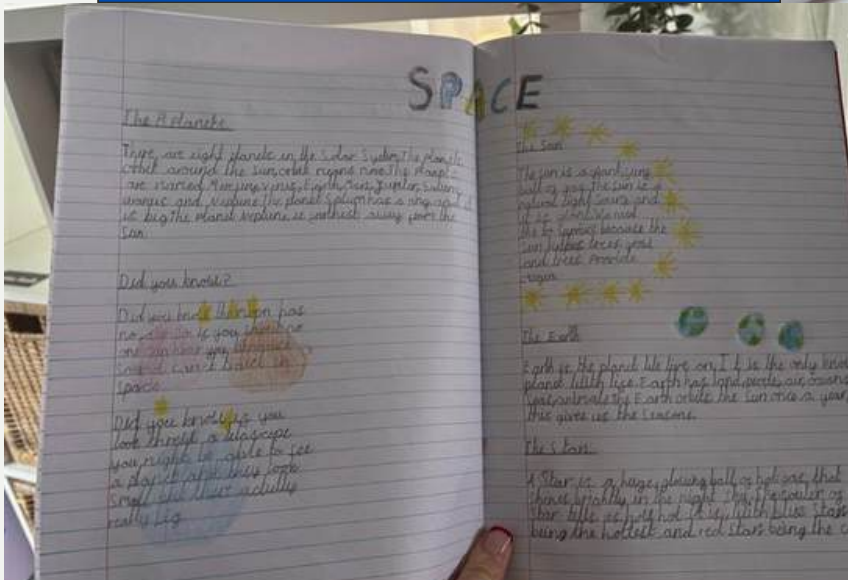
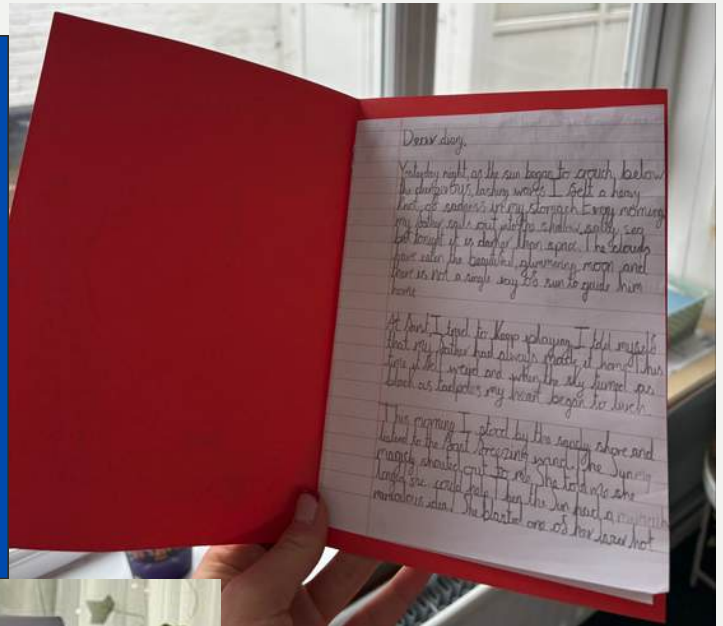


This half term in English, Year 3 have been basing their learning on the book 'How the Stars Came to Be'. The children explored the story in depth and used it to inspire their own writing. They created detailed space fact files and wrote diary entries from the main character's perspective, showing great imagination and thoughtful use of language.

In school this term...

NIGHTINGALE CONT...

Year 3 also enjoyed a hands on cooking lesson where they peeled and chopped apples to make a delicious apple crumble. The children learned important food preparation skills, including using utensils safely and working carefully as a team.



In school this term...

EARHART Y4

Year 4 have had an amazing term full of learning, creativity, and fun! One of the biggest highlights was our trip to the Roman Baths in Bath. The children loved exploring this incredible historical site, and the hands-on activities really helped bring our Roman topic to life. It was wonderful to see their curiosity and excitement as they discovered how people lived thousands of years ago.



In school this term...

EARHART CONTINUED...

Back in school, Year 4 have been busy with their Design and Technology projects, focusing on creating pavilion structures. They worked brilliantly in teams, showing fantastic problem-solving skills and creativity as they designed and built their own models. The results were so impressive.



In school this term...

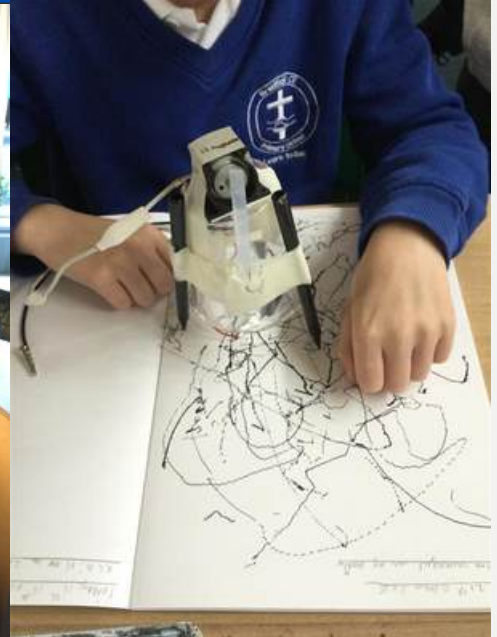


JK ROWLING Y5

Year 5 have had a very busy and creative term. In DT they designed and created doodlers which drew colourful patterns using the power of a motor. As part of their Science 'forces' topic, they thought about what the best shaped boat would be to reduce water resistance, and had a go at making them out of tin foil.

Later in the term, they investigated gears, pulleys and levers, creating their own pulley system out of a milk bottle.

In Art they have been learning about installation art, and have produced a number of different installations from using everyday objects to creating a miniature room art installation with great success.



In school this term...

ELIZABETH Y6

Year 6 have had a fantastic and action-packed term! In geography, we travelled to South America, learning about its diverse landscapes and cultures and comparing them to life in the UK. Our history lessons saw us getting stuck in with The Maya, exploring their fascinating civilisation and way of life.

In science, we became true investigators by asking the question “Is yeast a living organism?” — and we certainly found our answer when it blew up the balloon! In DT, pupils enjoyed getting creative by designing and sewing their own Christmas decorations, showing great care and craftsmanship.

Maths lessons focused on sharpening our arithmetic skills, with pupils growing in confidence and accuracy. We also finished the term with some festive fun in English, exploring the classic tale A Christmas Carol, bringing Dickens’ story to life through discussion and creative tasks.

A wonderful term of hard work, curiosity and creativity — well done, Year 6!



School News



GOODBYE MISS WEBBER

We are saying a warm goodbye to Miss Webber. As our Year 5 teacher and Sports Lead, she has brought huge enthusiasm, skill and positivity to Bradfield. Her passion for PE has inspired so many children, and she has been a brilliant ambassador for sport across the school. Miss Webber is moving on to an exciting new role at a local independent school where she will be able to focus even more on her love of sport. We will miss her greatly, but we are delighted for her and wish her every success in this next chapter.

FAMILY DINING UPDATE

As part of our regular review of Family Dining, we'll be refreshing the groupings for January. Class teachers are thoughtfully reworking these to reflect the friendships and dynamics we see developing this term, ensuring every child feels comfortable, included and supported.

The heart of Family Dining remains unchanged: sharing food together, building confidence, and strengthening the sense of community that makes Bradfield so special. It has been wonderfully successful this year, and we're excited to see it continue to grow in the new term.

WELCOMES

In January we officially welcome Mrs Irene Stock to our teaching team, who takes over from Miss Webber in Year 5. Mrs Stock has visited us a few times as part of the transition and we cannot wait to have her with us in the new term.

We also welcome two final year student teachers, Miss Malpas and Miss Yeatman, who join us for the Spring term in Year 6 and Year 3.

I know you will join me in offering a warm Bradfield welcome to our new team members.

