

Braiswick Primary News

ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2023

Head Teacher Area

I am sure, like me, you will be glad that we are now at the end of January. Although, after our visit to the O2 this month it has not felt like a gloomy January at all! I felt so very proud of our children who absolutely threw themselves into the singing and dancing and did a fantastic job representing the Braiswick family. This year we had 28 pupils in attendance, but I hope in future that this number will be greater! Thank you to our families who attended our SATs information evening this week, we hope you found it an enlightening session! Also a big thank you to the staff who stayed for the evening to share what we hope was useful information about these national assessments.

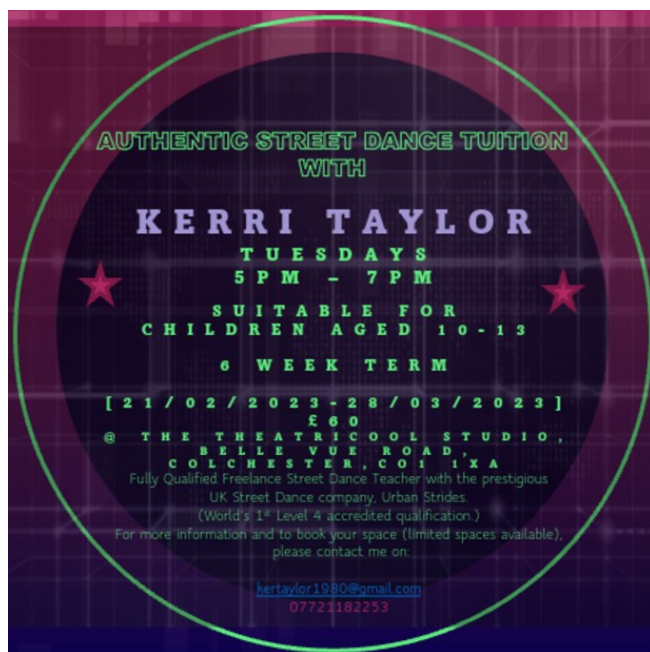
Sadly, at half term we say goodbye to our teacher Mrs Rayner and our LSA Miss Stone. Both have been part of the Braiswick family for many years and will be greatly missed by both pupils and staff. We wish them all the very best in their new roles. Mrs Rafter will be joining the Braiswick family to cover Mrs Rayner's Friday with Wagtails and Mrs Floodgate will be joining us as one of two new LSA's. I am sure you will give them both a warm welcome!

Parking

Following concerns from parents and staff, please can you ensure that you stop at the crossing to allow pupils to cross safely. If you are parking near to the crossing, please ensure you are not overhanging the lines and leave enough space for people to pass carefully. We have also noticed an increase in parents using the staff car park in the mornings and afternoons, can we please ask that you refrain from using this and you park considerately in the allocated parent bays.

Please only park in the disabled bays if you have your blue badge displayed correctly.

Please also be reminded that the gates close at 8.50am and pupils arriving after this time will then be registered as late. Please ensure that you drop your children off with ample time to enter the school building.



Please, please, please...

Please clearly name all your child's belongings particularly coats, jumpers, cardigans and sweatshirts. It is so difficult to ascertain the owner of an item of clothing when it is not clearly named. It is understandable that parents become frustrated when items are lost but without a name it is unlikely to be returned to the owner.

Please remember that it is very important to pay for school meals in advance. Unfortunately we have an increasing number of dinner money accounts which remain unpaid despite reminders being sent. The current cost of a school meal is £2.30 per day.

Year 3 & 4 Colchester-Blackwater Sportshall Athletics—10th January 2023

On Tuesday 10th January, 18 children, 9 boys and 9 girls, from years 3 and 4 attended a Sportshall Athletics competition at Northern Gateway. The children represented the school in a number of track and field events.

Unfortunately, the organisers of the competition were unable to give us the exact results for the field events. Please see the track results below for each year:

	BOYS	RESULT	GIRLS	RESULT
Obstacle Relay	Jimmy, Angelo, Hunter & Reuben	2nd	Daisy, Amaya, Grace & Darcy-Rae	2nd
1x1 Lap Relay	Aryan & Kwadwo	3rd	Isla & Emmalyn	1st
2x2 Lap Relay	Edward & Angelo	3rd	Ronni & Kirsten	4th
4x1 Lap Relay	Aryan, Henry, Byron & Kwadwo	1st	Amaya, Isla, Emmalyn & Lexie	1st

Overall, we came 4th place out of 8 schools, missing out on 3rd place medals by 8 points. The children represented the school brilliantly and behaved fantastically; putting 100% effort into each event they were asked to participate in. Well done to all!!

Athlete of the competition goes to Angelo who showed amazing effort and an outstanding attitude. He had great determination and fantastic sportsmanship!! Well done Angelo!!



Congratulations to Edward, Lexie, Emmalyn, Isla, Byron, Hunter, Aryan, Jimmy, Henry, Amaya, Ronni, Kirsten, Reuben, Angelo, Grace, Daisy, Darcy-Rae & Kwadwo

Young Voices—18th January 2023

On Wednesday 18th January, our day started at 9:30am, as the children excitedly received their brand-new Young Voices T shirts and torches. With their bags, water bottles and enough pasta to feed the whole school, the children boarded the coach ready for our journey down the A12 to The O2!

As the white canvas and yellow supports came into view, the buzz on the coach was amazing. We wandered along in the winter sunshine to The O2, before entering and finding a suitable space (near to some essential toilets!) for our lunch.

Once lunch was gobbled, it was time to ascend to our concert positions! Once the wobbles of standing at the very top of the venue had settled, we launched into a whirlwind rehearsal to prepare us for the evening's concert – and a chance for Mr Gilbert to learn some new dance moves!

Dinner time in the dizzy heights of our seats came and went and it was time for the show! For the second time, the buzz amongst the children heightened, with a sprinkling of nerves mixed in for good measure. The concert itself went by in a flash, with each member of the choir singing and dancing brilliantly! The lights, special guest performances and volume of the 8,888 strong choir made it a night that the children will never forget.

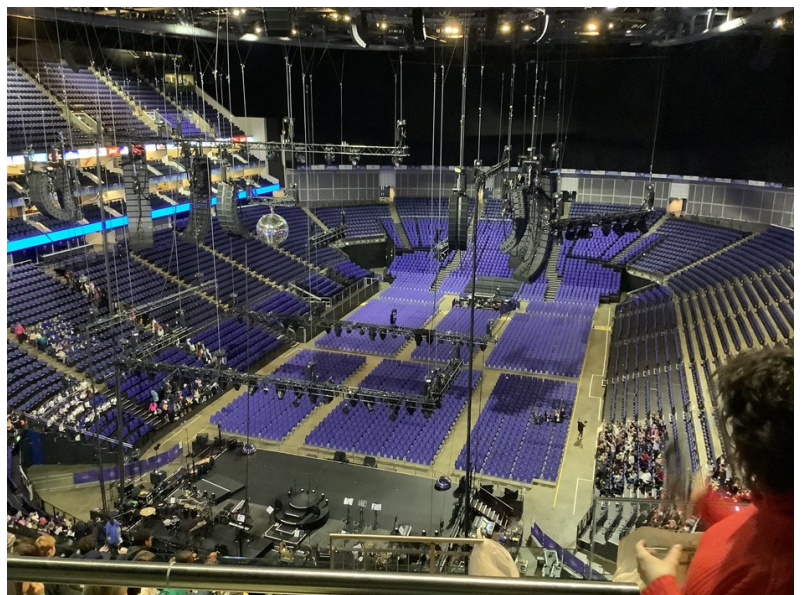
After an HOUR of snaking through crowds of the other schools we finally made it back to our coach! For some, sleep was almost instant! For others, not so much...though Mrs Shepherd was able to summon a superhuman ability to engage in 11pm conversations!

Triumphant, we returned to school feeling like super cool performers after our first gig at The O2! Roll on YV24!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the children for their incredible behavior, resilience, attitude and performance on the day – you represented the school so well! And to the adults; Mrs Byrne, Mr Gilbert and Mrs Shepherd – it is thanks to you that the day ran so smoothly and that I didn't manage to lose too much more hair from the stress!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Mr Smith



Year 5 & 6 Colchester-Blackwater Archery—25th January 2023

On Wednesday 25th January, Braiswick's travelled to Thurstable school with four year 5 & 6 children to take part in an archery competition and skills event.

There were 12 team involved which were split into two groups with each school playing 5 games each. Unfortunately, the time ran out and we only managed to play 3 games. The games consisted of 3 arrows per student and 2 rounds per game.

The children behaved impeccably, and put in 100% effort. They should be really proud of the way they applied themselves. Well done to all!!

Mr Hayter

Results

Braiswick 95 – 108 Heathlands

Braiswick 86 – 74 Tollesbury

Braiswick 71 – 142 Mersea



Congratulations to Millie D, Aishling, Rylee & Archie

Forest School

Year 4 have been having a fantastic time at Forest school this half term. We have enjoyed the cold frosty days. The children have had great fun on the mud slide and in the digging hole and we have made dens and feeders for the birds.

The children have used their own initiative and made bows and arrows, and practiced whittling.

Just to remind you that they need lots of layers as it is very cold. If you have any hats and gloves that are no longer used at home, we can always do with spares. Thank you!!



Forest School Spring Term Two (Week commencing Monday 20th February)

Magpies—Tuesday

Jays—Wednesday

Your child will need to come into school on their allocated day wearing appropriate clothing for outdoor activities: long sleeve tops, high socks and long trousers. Please ensure your child also has wellies/walking boots and a waterproof coat. As the weather will be potentially very cold, they should also have a hat and gloves. Wearing layers is important, so that your child is comfortable during Forest School and for the rest of the day.

Diary Dates



30th January: Early Years Height, Weight & Vision Check

31st January: Year 5 Astronomy Roadshow

2nd February: Magpies Class Assembly, 9am

10th February: Culture Day

13th—17th February: Half Term

2nd March: World Book Day

9th March: Wagtails Class Assembly, 9am

13th March: Kimmy's Zoo, Year 1

15th March: Consortium Art Project

17th March: Red Nose Day

21st March: Pupil Teacher Conferences, 4.30pm-7pm

23rd March: Robins Class Assembly, 9am

23rd March: Pupil Teacher Conferences, 3.30pm-6pm

31st March: Last Day of Term

17th April: First Day of Summer Term

19th April: Class Photos and Year 6 Leavers Photos

27th April: Sparrows Class Assembly, 9am

Week Commencing 8th May: KS2 SAT's Week

Week Commencing 15th May: KS1 SAT's Week

18th May: Oyster Catchers Class Assembly, 9am

25th May: Doves Class Assembly, 9am

29th May—2nd June: Half Term

5th June: Non Pupil Day

Week Commencing 6th June: Year 4 Times Table Check Week

10th June: FOBP Summer Fete, 11am-3pm

Week Commencing 12th June: Year 1 Phonics Screening Week

Week Commencing 19th June: Healthy Living Week

21st June: Sports Day

28th June: Reserve Sports Day

10th-14th July: Year 6 Residential

14th July: School Reports

17th July: Volunteer & Governor Tea Party

19th July: Performing Arts Festival

20th July: Year 6 Production & Leavers Party

21st July: Last Day of Term