

Braiswick Primary News

ISSUE 4

DECEMBER 2023

Head Teacher Area

Well here we are in December...and despite the rain of this week, we are ending it with seasonal joy from all the festive fun over the past few weeks. The children thoroughly enjoyed their Christmas lunches and the EYFS children did a fantastic job performing their nativity to a full house of families! Our panto might not have attended as we hoped, but the children got into the panto spirit watching the CBeebies version of Peter Pan – oh yes they did! All of our children have also given their all in learning the songs for our Carols Round the Tree today and their efforts continue to bring such joy! In our assembly this week I told the children some of the history of The Christmas Carol written by Charles Dickens, a story that is 180 years old this week. Dickens wrote his story to change the narrative of Christmas as he saw social injustice all around him in Victorian London. He felt he could inspire change in wider society if he published a book about how change is possible and the Christmases he'd like to see. I reminded the children about the power of change and possibility and how none of our journeys are ever fixed!

"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach."

I therefore wish all our Braiswick families a wonderful break reflecting on the past, present and future and a very Merry Christmas if you are celebrating! Much love, Miss Russell and all of the staff in the Braiswick family.

Forest School Spring Term One

Sparrows—Tuesday

Wagtails—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.

Reception 2024 Primary School

Admissions

If your child is due to start primary school in September 2024, please remember that online applications for a Reception place are now open. Further details can be found at

www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

All applications must be made by the closing date of 15th January 2024

"Every child deserves the magic of Christmas!"

As families decorate their tree and prepare for Father Christmas to visit, it's hard to believe there are children of all ages across Essex who have never experienced Christmas before. Foster carers Sheila and her husband are bringing the magic of Christmas to vulnerable children in care. [Watch her video](#) to hear her heart-warming story of how they are restoring the childhood magic of Christmas time. We carefully match children to your family and support you every step of the way. Could you consider fostering and transform a child's life?

Visit www.essex.gov.uk/foster or call 0800 801 530 to find out more.

Year 5 & 6 Colchester-Blackwater 'B' Team Football Tournament—30th November 2023

On Thursday 30th November, Braiswick's 'B' team took part in a football tournament at Shrub End Sports Ground. We managed to finish in 3rd place, after winning 3 and drawing 2 in our group stage. We then played the semi final which we unfortunately lost 1-0, which put us into the 3rd/4th place playoff, which we won!!! The team played brilliant football for their first tournament together and they should be so proud of their fantastic teamwork, sportsmanship and attitude.

Mr Hayter

Results

Group Stages:

Braiswick 2 – 0 Friars Grove (Goals: Aryan, Zachary)

Braiswick 2 – 0 Boxted (Goals: Aryan, Zachary)

Braiswick 2 – 0 Hamilton (Goals: Aryan, Karter)

Braiswick 0 – 0 St Lukes

Braiswick 2 – 2 St Johns (Goals: Byron, Zachary)

Semi Final:

Braiswick 0 – 1 St Andrews

3rd/4th Place Playoff:

Braiswick 1 – 0 Montgomery (Goals: Byron)



Congratulations to Kosi, Byron, Callum, Miguel, Zachary, Aryan, Max, Karter & Noah

Peter and the Wolf

The choir had a fantastic experience at Charter Hall this week. We began with a brisk walk to the venue, before rehearsing for our evening performance with a full youth orchestra. The children also had the opportunity to watch an animated version of Peter and the Wolf, accompanied by the orchestra, which was a brilliant and emotive experience. The children met Mr Smith back at the venue in the evening where they performed to a large audience of parents and members of the public. They did the school proud and performed and behaved excellently—they even threw in their own dance moves for the performance of The 12 Days of Christmas. We look forward to hopefully returning to Charter Hall for another Christmas show next year.



Forest School

We have had a great half term with Year 3 at Forest School. The activities that we have done have included den building, making clay animals and hedgehog houses, and making autumn crowns and decorations for Christmas. On the last session before the holidays we will have a fire and cook marshmallows. The children have also enjoyed climbing trees, whittling with potato peelers, and using the mud slide and swing. We have also played lots of games.



Year 3/4 Sportshall Athletics—Thursday 7th December 2023

On Thursday 7th December, 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, Teddy, Freddie S & Abdulaziz	2nd	Lama, Evelyn, Rose & Riya	1st
1+1 Lap Relay	Angelo & Kwadwo	1st	Kirsten & Daisy	1st
2+2 Lap Relay	Henry & Freddie H	3rd	Ronni & Grace	2nd
4x1 Lap Relay	Jimmy, Angelo, Kwadwo & Zion	2nd	Kirsten, Ronni, Daisy & Dolcie	1st

There is no final being held this year, the winning school will be the school with the highest points over the two sessions (morning and afternoon). Over the two sessions, out of 12 schools, we were placed 3rd! An amazing result! Narrowly beaten by Prettygate (2nd) and Heathlands (1st). The children represented the school brilliantly and behaved fantastically; putting 100% effort into each event they were asked to participant in. Well done to all!!



Congratulations to Jimmy, Kwadwo, Angelo, Ronni, Daisy, Kirsten, Lama, Zion, Grace, Freddie H, Henry, Evelyn, Abdulaziz, Freddie S, Riya, Rose, Teddy & Dolcie

Early Years

The children in reception have had a wonderful and extremely busy half term! Out topic; 'Once Upon a Time' has been an opportunity to read lots of interesting books and we've even had a go at writing some of our own stories, which we have then brought to life as a class. We learnt the traditional tale 'The Gingerbread Man' and made salt dough decorations as well as baking our own gingerbread to eat.

Recently we have been busy learning songs, lines and stage direction for our nativity which we were very excited to show the school and our families last week.

All EYFS staff and children are feeling very proud but very festive now!



Online Safety



Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are?

Visit www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online.

#StaySafe

Street Dance Club

Street Dance Club recommences next term: Mondays years 1 & 2 and Tuesdays years 3-6

We'll be busy rehearsing for the Summer Performing Arts Festival! Look out for the sign up form on Parentmail!



Diary Dates



4th January: Spring Term Starts

10th January: Year 4, 5 & 6 VR Day

10th January: EYFS Parent Tour, 9.30am

11th January: Linnets Class Assembly, 9am

25th January: Jays Class Assembly, 9am

25th January: Year 5 & 6 Sportshall Athletics (invite only)

25th January: FOBP Bag to School Collection

26th January: FOBP Family Quiz (more details to follow)

29th January: Young Voices Choir, O2

7th February: KS1 SAT's Meeting, 5pm-5.45pm

7th February: KS2 SAT's Meeting, 5.45pm-6.30pm

8th February: Magpies Class Assembly, 9am

15th February: Larks Class Assembly, 9am

15th February: Year 6 Height & Weight Check

19th—23rd February: Half Term

27th February: Early Year Aerozone Trip

7th March: World Book Day

13th March: Year 3 & 4 Football Tournament (invite only)

15th March: Red Nose Day

20th March: Year 1 Exotic Explorers Visit

21st March: Wagtails Class Assembly, 9am

26th March: Pupil Teacher Conferences, 4.30pm-7pm

27th March: Pupil Teacher Conferences, 3.30pm-6pm

28th March: Last Day of Term

15th April: Summer Term Starts

15th April: Year 1 Jays Class Beth Chatto Trip

17th April: Class Photos & Year 6 Leavers Photos

22nd April: Year 1 Magpies Class Beth Chatto Trip

23rd April: Aspirations Day

24th April: Year 5 Sutton Hoo Trip

25th April: Doves Class Assembly, 9am

9th May: Oyster Catchers Class Assembly, 9am

13th May: KS2 SAT's Week

Week Commencing 20th May: Wellness Week

23rd May: Robins Class Assembly, 9am

24th May: Sports Day

27th-31st May: Half Term