

Brundall Primary School

Newsletter



May 2024

HOS NEWS

Surely the half term can't be over already. I feel like I am always saying it, but what a busy but wonderful half term. We were so proud of our Year 6 children. The attitudes and dedication they displayed during the SATS week were fantastic. It was also great to see children enjoying the tradition of Drip, Drip, Drop on the Friday and tucking into a breakfast of croissants, crumpets, toast and fruit after the tests. I would also like to extend a thank you to the staff who supported the early morning breakfast during that week. Also, as a school community, it was great to see people working together and the flexibility that was shown made me feel really proud to be a member of such a wonderful team.



Our Healthy Body and Healthy Mind week has been really successful. The early morning activities on the field have been well-received and we are going to be offering an unofficial Park Run every Monday morning until the end of the Summer term. The Dale Gates will be opened at 8:30 and we look forward to seeing you and your child with running trainers to go. Mrs. York-Smith has offered to organise these but I am sure that other staff members will be joining in.



Next half term is already very busy and we have included a list of dates that you might find useful. The teachers have planned some great trips and each year group is having the opportunity to extend their learning beyond the classroom.





Reading

A big thank you to the parents who came to the Reading Fluency Workshop and for their positive feedback. They suggested we broadcast this message loudly to parents, as it is such a simple concept and something that they felt other parents would want to know about. Being able to read and understand what you have read is a vital skill in your child's educational journey.

So, what is reading fluency and why is it important?

Scientific research has consistently recognised the critical nature of fluency as a bridge between effortful decoding and comprehension. A fluent reader is one who can accurately and automatically decode words.



If readers can decode words accurately but have to employ an excessive proportion of their cognitive resources to do so, they have fewer of those resources available for comprehension. However, when reading is accurate and automatic, they can decode with minimal use of their cognitive resources, thus allowing them to channel their effort into comprehending and making sense of what they have read.

Readers who read with high levels of word recognition, automaticity, and good prosody tend to be the most proficient readers. Lower levels of automaticity and prosody are associated with lower levels of comprehension and overall proficiency.





How can I help my child and nurture fluency?

- Read aloud and model reading. This allows children to hear fluent reading.
- Echo read with your child. This is where you break the sentence up and say a part of a sentence and the children repeat it back to you. The children in our school from Year 2 + are experienced at doing this. This is one of the most powerful tools you can use.
- Ask your child to read along with you as you read and to say the last word in the sentence. This means they follow along and stay engaged while hearing the words being read.
- Regular reading is key. In school, we ask that your child reads at home at least 5 times a week. This is because it is vital that children practice reading, especially if it is a skill they find tricky. If children are not reading daily they will find it much harder to become fluent.

With all of these approaches it is even better if you can practice reading a page or a paragraph until the children feel confident and have rehearsed it. The text should be very familiar. This seems alien to us as adults but is very effective. It builds sight word recognition, prosody and really helps to develop fluency.

Science ambassadors update.

Our Year 6 science ambassadors have been working hard this term to introduce a drop-in science club for our younger children on the KS1 playground. We have taken part in bird watching, gone on a discovery adventure with magnets, gone on bug hunts and explored time.

Next term, we are very excited to announce that we will be giving each child a 'Science at Home' bag, funded from our partnership with The Ogden Trust. These will be science bags including all of the equipment and instructions to carry out your own science experiment at home. They will even include a story read by Mr. Parnham-Burns.

In the meantime, check out these ideas for science experiment you could do at home during the half term holidays from The Primary Science Trust - <https://pstt.org.uk/resources/science-fun-at-home/>

The 'liquid science' experiment is particularly fun especially if you use all sorts of different liquids, like custard, golden syrup, ketchup, fruit juice etc.) Have fun and enjoy your experimenting!



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During our Healthy Body, Healthy Mind week, we had the pleasure of hosting Rich Potter and Ian Miller on Tuesday, May 21st. They led a Sport for School Sponsored Event as part of the activities, with help from our very own Sports Mentors.

Rich, an Invictus athlete, shared his journey of shifting focus to the Invictus Games after a military career and the loss of his left leg due to an injury. The day was wonderful for the children and staff, with Rich speaking in an assembly about his life-changing experience and truly inspiring story.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all who contributed to the sponsorship funds, which will be used to purchase sports equipment for our school, enhancing the children's overall experience.



Important Dates



DATE	EVENT
27.5.24 - 31.5.24	HALF-TERM
4.6.24	YEAR 1/2 CROMER TRIP
7.6.24	YEAR 3/4 TRIP TO WEST RUNTON
3.6.24 - 14.6.24	MULTIPLICATION TIMES TABLE CHECK YEAR 4
10.6.24 - 14.6.24	PHONICS CHECK
12.6.24	RECEPTION SPORTS DAY 9.10AM - 9.45AM
19.6.24	MUSIC ASSEMBLY FOR ANNELY'S PIANO/KEYBOARD STUDENTS 2.45PM-3.15PM
21.6.24	RECEPTION TRIP TO THE PLAYHOUSE
27.6.24	NORFOLK SHOW YEAR 5/6
9.7.24	WHOLE SCHOOL SING-A-LONG PM
10.7.24	CRUCIAL CREW YEAR 6
17.7.24	YEAR 6 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY AM
19.7.24	END OF TERM
4.9.24	AUTUMN TERM BEGINS

