

# Brays School Newsletter

## December 2022



Brays School  
Newsletter

### In this issue:

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Message from our Head Teacher | 1 |
| Disco photos                  | 1 |
| Welsh National Opera          | 2 |
| Space Science                 | 2 |
| Children in Need              | 3 |
| Black History Week            | 3 |
| Seasonal Celebrations         | 4 |
| Communication Roundup         | 4 |
| News                          | 5 |
| Quick Diary Dates             | 5 |
| School Uniform                | 5 |
| Contacts                      | 5 |
| Pupil Absence                 | 5 |

## Message from our Head Teacher

What a busy start to our new academic year and thank you to everyone who has contributed to school life at Brays this term.

It has been lovely to welcome parents/ carers into Brays again and we have had two successful coffee mornings. Well done to Rubina Akbur, our Family Support Worker who has supported parents this term and will continue to do so throughout the academic year. We will put together a timetable of events for parents and hope to invite some key professionals into school over the coming months to help parents/Carers access support.

I am so pleased that we have been able to re-open our hydro-therapy pool and the children have had a great time during their swimming sessions. Thank you to Tracey and Agnes for all of their hard work.

Class Dojo is going really well, it is great to be able to show you all of the things our children do at school. If you haven't joined please contact your child's class teacher who will be able to connect you.

Our Christmas productions went very well and it was lovely to see so many parents attend, Brays children are so talented! Class 6 and EYFS visited the local church and the children had a wonderful time. JSG Roadshow provided a disco for our pupils and it was fantastic! The children had an amazing time and thank you to Indi who would not accept any money for the day and provided the disco for free.

I have been asked to continue in my role as Interim Headteacher and I have agreed to stay on at Brays until April 2023. I am really looking forward to working with all of you and continuing the good work at Brays.

Please stay safe, warm and healthy over the Christmas holiday and we will see you all in 2023!

Warmest wishes

Nova Harvey



Thanks to DJ Indi and the JSG Roadshow, pupils and staff had a really fantastic Disco afternoon. DJ Indi did a really kind thing in offering his fantastic services for free, we had so much fun!

If you need a Birmingham based DJ call and support DJ Indi on 07424025426 or message on Instagram @j.s.g.roadshow



## Welsh National Opera



The Welsh National Opera came to perform for Talented Turtles and Early Birds in November. They had different sensory props to use whilst performing a range of classical music pieces. All the children loved listening and taking part in the session. We had lots of smiles, dancing and singing from the children!

## Space Science



Our Theme for Autumn 2 half term has been Space. Brays school welcomed Scientist Julie Neil, who also works for Forward Educational Trust, as she introduced us to some amazing Rocket Science. Pupils had opportunity to create Alka seltzer rockets, have balloon rocket races and see the what happens when you drop mentos in coke. Julie has a great passion for Science and her enthusiasm is contagious, pupils and adults had a fantastic Science session, we can't wait to take part in more experiments!

## Children in Need



This year, we had our most successful fundraising day to date for Children in Need. With your help we managed to raise a 'Spotacular' £885.87. A big thank you to Amelia Adams from Lively Lions who managed to collect over £250 in sponsor money. Great work! To mark the day everyone danced their socks off in our 60 minute non-stop Danceathon session, we had lots of fun across school and played lots of games and we enjoyed a surprise visit from Micky Mouse and had lots of cuddles.

A big Thank you again to everyone who helped make Children in Need a successful day!

## Black History Week



This year classes across school focused on different icon's from popular culture and history including writers, musicians and sports personalities. Many of us tried traditional dishes such as plantain, bun and cornmeal porridge from the Caribbean. Classes explored sensory stories and songs with lots of props, flags, music, smells and flavours all linked to culturally significant people of African origin. Archive footage of Blues from the 1950's became a surprising favourite with some of our pupils. We finished the week by dancing our socks off at a carnival party and enjoyed listening to a range of music from Afrobeat and Reggae to Samba from Brazil.

## Seasonal Celebrations



Christmas is a busy time for the school calendar; We have welcomed parents to our Christmas productions, pupils and staff worked hard to make them musical, entertaining and great fun for everyone involved. Classes have taken part in Christmas craft activities, games afternoons, seasonal signed singing and a visit from a special very Christmassy guest! Class 6 and EYFS were invited to St Thomas Church to experience their amazing sensory nativity, we thank them for welcoming us to their church. We have loved being open as a school to visits from parents and look forward to building and developing our links as a school community over the coming year.

## Communication Roundup



At Brays School we have been working closely with the Ace Centre who are providing us with valuable Speech and Language support and advice. We are excited because the centre have loaned one of our pupils a communication device this term. Umar has been amazingly using the device to communicate his wants and needs. Umar is the first of our pupils at Brays School to receive an Assisted Technology device, with the hope that many more pupils will have access to the technology. The Ace Centre will back in January to work with more pupils, so watch this space!

## COVID-19 Information

There are no coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions in the UK.

If you have COVID-19 you should try to stay at home.

Most people cannot get free COVID-19 tests. You can buy tests in shops but you cannot report the result to the NHS.

You can get vaccinated against COVID-19 by the NHS.

Visit  
[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)  
for most recent guidance

## Quick Diary Dates

**Christmas pupils break up:**

16th December '22

**Pupils return to school:**

4th January '21

**Staff Training Days:**

3rd January 2023 - closed to pupils

5th June 2023 - closed to pupils

**A warm welcome to:**

Rafika Baiai, Harmandeep Kaur, Georgina Davey, Dina Salih, Frances Cherry-France

**A sad goodbye to:**

Patricia Horsfall, Annie Ingram

## School Uniform

In line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform, our school has a duty to ensure the uniform we require is affordable.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We therefore recommend:

Light blue or white short sleeve polo shirt. (no need for school logo)

Blue sweat shirt. (no need for logo)

Trousers or skirts but not jeans.

Please shop around to find the best value for money as parents/carers.

Please contact school if you require support.

For parents/carers wanting logos on the uniform: [www.brigade.uk.com](http://www.brigade.uk.com)

## Contact

### Brays School

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Phone: 0121 743 5730

Email: [enquiry@brays.fet.ac](mailto:enquiry@brays.fet.ac)

Website: [www.brays.fet.ac](http://www.brays.fet.ac)

## Pupil Absence Notification

Always ring school by 9AM to let us know if your child will not be in.

On some occasions if your child has been absent for 3 days without notifying the school, a safe and well check may be carried out to the family home.