



BRAYS SCHOOL FAMILY NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM 1, 2025

Welcome to our latest edition of the Brays School Family Newsletter.

HEADTEACHER'S WELCOME ...

Happy Valentine's Day, Brays family! ❤️ It's a fitting day to express the love I have for our wonderful school, and it's heart warming to see that sentiment reflected in our families, staff, children, and the wider community. We are excited to announce our involvement in a global music video, released today, celebrating our love for our planet and inspiring action for its care. Remember that we have recycling onsite so if you have a clear out at half term, be sure to send in your clothes to school.

As always, this half term has been action-packed, culminating in a spectacular performance of The Greatest Show by our Lively Lions and Jolly Jellyfish. Our pupils have truly shone! We've made great strides in personal development, including competing nationally in sensory snooker, where our Jolly Jellyfish team excelled along with attending a SEND Sports Festival - we were the only special school! The trip to The Hippodrome was enjoyed by all who attended - *"oh yes it was"*!

This half term we warmly welcomed Bhupinder to our team, who will provide invaluable personal care support, along with Jakson, who has stepped in to continue Dave's fantastic work.

Wishing everyone a safe and restful half term break! ☀️



PUPIL VOICE - OUR ENVIRONMENT

This half term Brays Parliament had a visit from Darran Carter who works for the Waste Investigations Support & Enforcement Ltd (WISE) was established in 2020 and has since partnered with over forty local authorities across the UK, delivering bespoke Environmental Enforcement and are the main providers of Environmental Enforcement Officers in the UK.

Darran met our Parliament and worked with Brays school to create a presentation on the importance of managing waste, recycling and keeping our world free of litter.

Parliament members, inspired by the presentation took part in a litter picking activity around the school, we were amazed at how much litter and plastic there was outside our own school and are reminded of the importance of managing waste.



PUPIL VOICE - OUR PLAYGROUND

Brays School Parliament MP's have been working on ways to make the playground more exciting and communication friendly. The MP's took a vote on what Makaton signs they wanted around our playground; Layla, pictured above, voted for the 'listen' symbol to be placed by our playground chimes.

PUPIL VOICE - OUR LIBRARY

We are buying new books for our school library, and the children and staff have been telling us what type of books they would like. Lots of children have discussed this in their classes and have filled in simple questionnaires for us to look at. We also went into some classes to talk directly to the pupils and to see what they were enjoying reading.

BRAYS ROCKS NSPCC NUMBER DAY!

The classrooms were alive with laughter and learning as families joined their children to take part in a variety of number games and challenges. Everyone got into the spirit of the day by dressing up as their favourite numbers, sporting vibrant colours, and even transforming into characters from Numberblocks!

Our "Guess how many Dice" competition brought out everyone's competitive side filled with cheers and friendly banter. Well Done to Lewis who guessed 257 dice! The actual number was 254.

Thanks to the incredible support from our school community, we managed to raise an impressive £97.75 for the NSPCC!

A huge thank you to all the parents, pupils, and staff who made NSPCC Number Day such a success! Your enthusiasm and generosity truly made a difference. We can't wait to see what exciting adventures you'll join us for next!

#BraysBelonging #Teamwork

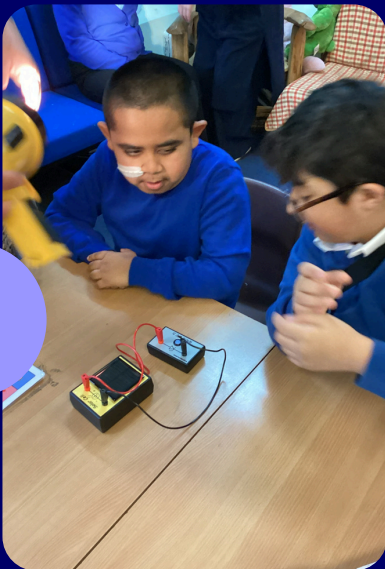


PARTNERSHIP WORK - STUDENT TEACHERS

At Brays, we truly value our partnerships with external organisations, as they play a vital role in providing enriching work experience placements and teacher training opportunities. This half term, we've welcomed Nichole and Saskia, who are gaining invaluable experience in our Wriggly Worms and Cheeky Cheetah classes. Our children are teaching them so much, and this hands-on experience is equipping them with essential skills and expertise in meeting the diverse needs of children with additional needs. We're proud to help shape future educators who will carry these valuable lessons forward in their careers!



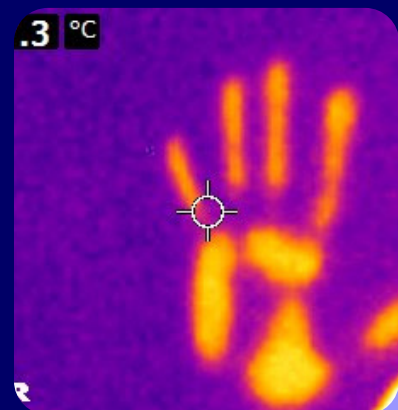
ENVIRONMENT EDUCATION - ENERGY SPARKS



TAs part of our personal development education we are committed to supporting our children to become change makers in climate education. We hosted a workshop from Energy Sparks. As a legacy from our attendance at YESFest, this workshop allowed our children to engage in hands-on learning about energy efficiency and sustainability in an accessible way. Led by the knowledgeable James from Energy Sparks, the children went on exciting "heat hunt" around the school. They identified areas where we are losing heat, gaining valuable insights into how we can improve our school's energy efficiency. We need some more double paned glass in certain areas!

The children applied their learning from the Understanding the World curriculum by creating solar-powered circuits.

Together, we are shaping a generation of environmentally conscious children ready to make a difference!



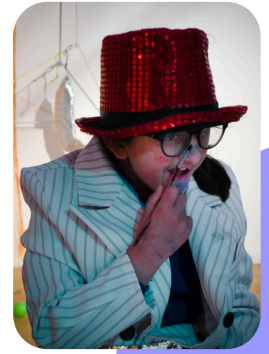
CREATIVE SPACE

This half term we have been learning about the circus in The Creative Space as part of our theme called The Greatest Show.

All the workshops took place in a circus ring. We spent lots of time trying on different costumes, eating lollies from the ice cream trolley and putting on face paints. Some animals came to watch the show so we fed them lollies as well.

One week the circus went underwater! There was lots of sand and we met a mermaid lying rock next to a pool. She had big eyes and shells in her hair.

In the last week there was a Grand Parade and we watched and we played in the magic spinning lights.



HARUN & FAIZAN FIND GLOBAL FAME

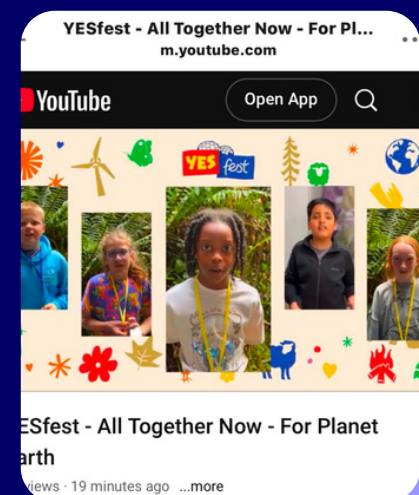
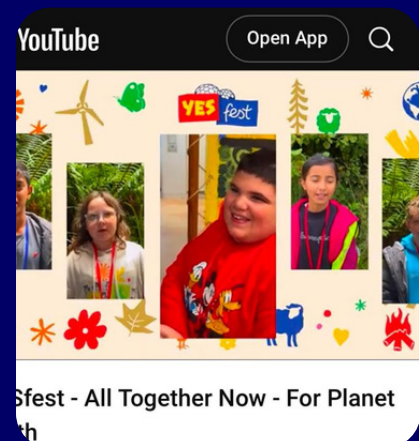
How incredible that Harun and Faizan feature in a global music video released on the 14th February which is a song and video sharing our love for planet Earth and a call to action to take care of it.

See if you can spot them in the video <https://youtu.be/skno-nqCgzE?feature=shared>

The video took six months to make, features children from five continents.

Let's make the video go viral
#AllTogetherNowForPlanetEarth

- ◆ #YESfest
- ◆ #ValentinesForThePlanet
- ◆ #ClimateAction
- ◆ #MusicForChange
- ◆ #YouthVoices





FOND FAREWELL TO DAVE

Oh Dave, our site manager, it's hard to part,
You've been a true gem and dear to our heart.
With chemicals and care, our pool's been safe,
Your efforts and diligence, we truly appreciate.

You've painted our walls, made our school bright,
Creating a staff room that feels just right.
The king of vinyl, with a calming touch,
Making our space feel welcoming and such.

We'll miss your dedication, your friendly face,
Thank you, dear Dave, you've left a warm trace.
As you embark on new ventures ahead,
Know you're cherished here, and in our hearts, you'll tread.

ATTENDANCE

When the weather outside is cold and wet, we can start to think about holidays and warmer days! It is important to remember that the Government published 'Working together to improve school attendance' in August 2024, which is statutory guidance for schools. The guidance is clear that school CANNOT authorise holidays during school term time.

- 1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on a holiday for a week.**
Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Your child will miss 5 days of school and given a penalty notice fine. The fine is **£160** but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to **£80**.
- 2 For every child a penalty of £160 is given.**
4 children & 1 parent = £640
Reduced to **£320** if paid in 21 days.
4 children & 2 parents = £1280
Reduced to **£640** if paid in 21 days.
- 3 Irregular attendance 10 in 10**
If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.
1 day = 2 sessions
- 4 If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...**

<p>2nd Time</p> <p>1 child = £320 2 children = £640 3 children = £960 4 children = £1280 No discount for early payment</p>	<p>3rd Time</p> <p>A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. Magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child.</p> <p>1 parent & 4 children = £10 000 2 parent & 4 children = £20 000</p>
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FAMILY SUPPORT



SPRING TERM **2025**

SEND SESSION EVENTS SCHEDULE

SAT 15 MARCH	TUBING	
10-11.30am meet at Ackers Ski Centre		
SAT 29 MARCH	ARCHERY	
10-11.30am meet at Ackers Ski Centre		
SAT 12 APRIL	CLIMBING	
10-11.30am meet at Ackers Ski Centre		
SAT 26 APRIL	BELL BOAT	
10-11.30am meet at Ackers Ski Centre		

TO BOOK:
<https://ackers.cinolla.com/ackers/course/send-2025>



Foundation



FEBRUARY HALF TERM WEEK FREE SESSIONS

King Edwards School of Grammar, Aston, Birmingham, B6 6DJ

DAY	TIME	TITLE & SESSION
MONDAY 17th Feb	10 am - 3pm	<u>Wellbeing & Sport for Females (8 - 14)</u> Affirmation & Wellbeing Sessions Flag Football
TUESDAY 18th Feb	10 am - 3pm	<u>Wellbeing & Sport for Adults & Young People (12 - 15)</u> Healthy Cooking & Environmental Action Workshop Physical Activity & Football Sessions
WEDNESDAY 19th Feb	10 am - 3pm	<u>Multi Sport Activities for Young People (8 - 11)</u> PE Sessions & Multi Sport Activities Badminton & Dynamo Cricket Sessions
THURSDAY 20th Feb	10 am - 2pm	<u>Interactive Play for Young People with SEND (8 - 14)</u> Play Interactive Session

FREE Lunch provided by Kerbside Cobs








SCAN TO BOOK YOUR PLACE



FEBRUARY PROVISION

Ladybug Lodge are incredibly excited to host a range of activities over the February Break!
 All activities must be booked separately, families are welcome to book as many sessions as they wish!

All sessions hosted at: Tiverton School, Ashington Grove Whitley, CV3 4DE

STAY AND PLAY

Sensory Stay and Play for the whole family
 Access to Sensory Room, Soft Play, Indoor Swing, Secure Playground and more

Tuesday 18th February
 Wednesday 19th February
 Thursday 20th February



DANCE

Small group and 1:1 sessions hosted by Alexis from Off Balance Dance. SEN Children only

Thursday 20th February

SWIMMING

Small group hydrotherapy pool swimming. An Adult must accompany their child in the pool. SEN child and 1 adult only.

Tuesday 18th February
 Wednesday 19th February
 Thursday 20th February

Exclusive Swimming Pool hire sessions are available on Wednesday and Thursday only. This is open to the whole family

Sessions are suited for children and young people aged 0 - 19 with a range of needs. Hoist access is available in all rooms and from the changing room to swimming pool.

Advance booking via the website is essential via QR code link or web address below



Further information regarding all sessions is available via the website

www.ladybuglodge.co.uk/activities/holiday

PLEASE NOTE: All sessions require an upfront donation which can be made payable via the website.

Charity Number: 1207790 info@ladybuglodge.co.uk 07301 680835 www.ladybuglodge.co.uk

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 14th February - **School Breaks Up, usual time**
- 24th February - **Children return to school**
- 27th February - **Para Athletic Talent Spotting Workshops**
- 28th February - **Personal Development Theme Day - What it means to be a Muslim?**
- 3rd March - **Zorbing Workshop**
- 6th March - **World Book Day & Family Fun with Breakfast and a Book - Take Away Bags for those Fasting**
- 6th March - **Children's Progress for IEP Targets Shared**
- 26th March - **A Visit from The Fire Service**
- 5th April - **Friends of Brays Jumble Sale**
- 11th April - **Personal Development Theme Day - What it means to be a Christian**
- 11th April - **Children Break Up @ 1.30pm**

FIND US ONLINE

If you are on facebook, please like, follow and share our page with family and friends. You'll find us under 'Brays School'.



If you are on X(Twitter), please follow @BraysSchool1.

