



Brackla Primary School

Brackla Way, Brackla, Bridgend CF31 2EZ

Tel: 01656 815570

Headteacher: Mrs. K. John

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. A. Baldrige

School website address: www.bracklaprimary.co.uk

Brackla Bulletin 507 (10.01.25)

Value of the month: Happiness



RRS - Article 6: You have a right to life and grow up to be healthy

Dear all,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! It was great to see the children return to school this week, refreshed and ready to start the new year. It has been a great start to 2025, with our whole school Science and Technology topic 'Paws, Jaws and Claws' being launched this week. The topic is mainly biology led, however, physics and design and technology are also woven through. It will be an action packed term, and all classes will be working towards their rich task at the end of the term - more details on this will follow. Each class will explore their sub-topic (see below), which is designed to provide children with hands on learning experiences that spark curiosity and creativity.

From investigating the wonders of the natural world to understanding the principles of design technology, the staff will provide opportunities for children to collaborate, experiment and discover together. Below are a list of the sub topics each class will be exploring, and for further information, please click the link which will take you to your child's class page on our website.

Nursery:	'Amazing Animals' Topic overview
Reception:	'The Perfect Pet' Topic Overview
Reception/Year 1:	'The Perfect Pet' Topic overview
1D:	'Rats, Bats and Cats!' Topic overview
2H:	'Paws, Jaws and Claws' Topic overview
2/3P:	'Paws, Jaws and Claws' Topic overview
3/4M:	'Our Ocean Planet' Topic overview
4B:	'Our Ocean Planet' Topic overview
4/5H:	'Jurassic Smart' Topic overview
5/6S:	'Jurassic Smart' Topic overview
6S:	'Jurassic Smart' Topic overview

In our mixed classes, we ensure that skills are integrated in a progressive manner and meet the developmental needs of each child. We encourage families to support and engage with their children's learning at home, as we work together to foster a love for the fascinating world of science and technology.

Nursery Applications

From 6 January 2025, parents/carers will be able to apply for a full-time Nursery place for September 2025 or a part-time Nursery place for January and April 2026.

The timing of the admission rounds is as follows:

- 1. For children born between **1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022** eligible for a full-time Nursery place in a local authority-maintained school starting in September 2025:

Action	Date
Opening date for applications	10am: Monday 6th January 2025
Closing date for applications	4pm: Friday 4th April 2025

- 2. For children born between **1 September 2022 and 31 December 2022** eligible for a part-time place in a local authority-maintained school starting in January 2026, and children born between 1 January 2023 and 31 March 2023 eligible for a part-time place in a local authority-maintained school starting in April 2026:

Action	Date
Opening date for applications	10am, Monday, 6 January 2025
Closing date for applications	4pm, Friday, 29 August 2025

Please note that there is no automatic right to a full-time Nursery place in September 2026 even if your child is due to start attending a part-time Nursery class in either January 2026 or April 2026.

For further information, please see the Local Authority’s website [BCBC School Admissions](#)

Headteacher Awards

Well done to the following children on being nominated for a Headteacher Award this week. They have worked well in demonstrating the monthly value and right. Well done to: [Rosie Black](#), [Deniz Baykara](#), [Henry Cox](#), [Isaac Bowes](#), [Sebastian Davies](#), [Eylul Baykara](#), [Harrison Cooper](#), [Annie Bebb](#), [Scarlett Nutting](#), [Emilie Jones](#), [Lacey Jenkins](#).



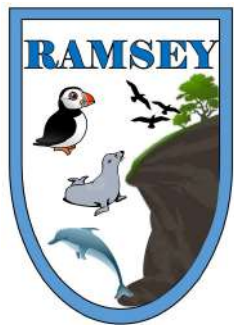
House Points Winner this week:



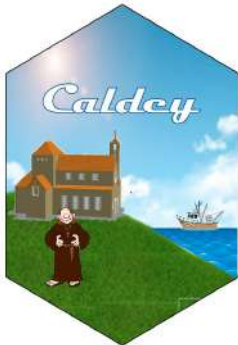
364 Points



343 Points



342 Points



340 Points

Attendance

Each week class attendance is celebrated in assembly and this term, we will be awarding a trophy to the class with the highest attendance. The winning class will also get an additional 5 minutes playtime on Monday. Take a look below to see how your child's class did this week:

Nursery (Mrs Whelan)	95.16%
Reception (Mrs Driscoll)	92.41%
Reception/Year 1 (Mrs Martin)	97.77%
1D (Mrs Delgado)	98.33%
2H (Miss Helm)	94.83%
2/3P (Ms Pavitt)	92.50%
3/4M (Mr M ^c Namara)	97.41%
4B (Mrs Bartle)	97.84%
4/5H (Mrs Hayter)	99.14%
5/6S (Mrs Stephens)	92.92%
6S (Mr Still)	97.50%



Birthdays this week

On behalf of all the children and staff at Brackla Primary School **Happy**

Birthday to:

Eric Low, Tieraraye Wetton, Zac Carey, Miley Folley, Chase Hill, Maddie Re
Lyla Williams, Alfie Meecham, Mia Owen.



Nursery - There's a Rumble in the Jungle! - written by Mrs Whelan

We would like to welcome all our new starters this term. This week the children have settled quickly back into our school routines and had lots of fun helping to create a jungle role play area. They have explored mixing paint to create some fantastic jungle leaves.

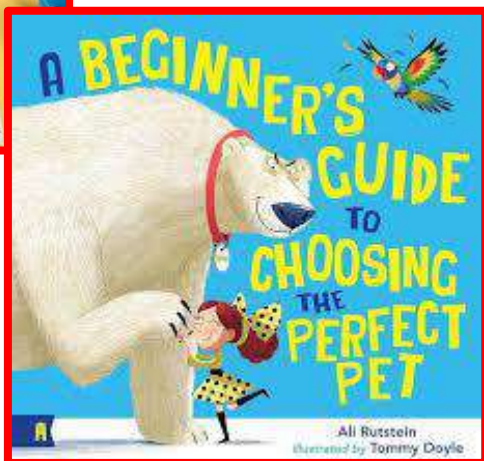
Look out for our 'It's Time to Rhyme' launch this term with lots of lovely resources to do at home.





Reception and Reception / Year 1 - written by Mrs Driscoll & Mrs Martin

We have had a great start to our new topic 'The Perfect Pet'. The children thoroughly enjoyed our immersion day, discovering that their classrooms had been taken over by animals of all different kinds! The story 'A Beginner's Guide to choosing the Perfect Pet' made us all laugh and think about what animals would make the perfect pet. We spent the day exploring with the animals, making masks, stick puppets, chalk drawings and sharing stories together. To finish the day, the children shared their wonderful ideas about what they would like to learn to help them find the perfect pet. We can't wait to begin this exciting term!



1D Sensational Senses activities! - written by Mrs Delgado

To kick-start our topic Rats, Bats and Cats this term, we had engagement sessions this week which required us to use our senses to work out what things were. We played sound bingo and used a feely box to touch items and describe them without being able to see them. We looked at a number of optical illusions and described what we could see and the effects the images had on our eyes. Next week we will be carrying out smell and taste tests to complete the 5 senses activities!



4/5H, 5/6S & 6S - written by Mr Still

On Tuesday, the children in 4/5H, 5/6S & 6S received a video call from a very concerned Mrs Robinson! Something suspicious had happened down The Wild. On arrival, the children saw Mrs Robinson being chased and attacked by a dinosaur! All children thoroughly enjoyed our immersion day. A great start of the year kicking off our new topic.



Reading books

Unfortunately, we have had a number of reading books either not returned to school or returned in a very poor state. As I am sure you will appreciate, this is a difficult time for us financially and reading scheme books are very expensive. Reading scheme books often have to be purchased in sets, which is very costly. Therefore, a charge of £5 will be made for any lost or damaged books. Thank you for your understanding.



What's On Spring Term A

Please take a look below at what is coming up till the end of Spring Term A.

Date	Event	Additional details
27th January	3/4M Parent/Carer meetings	
11th February	Community fair for families	More details to follow
13th February	Valentine's Disco	3.15pm-4pm: R-Yr 2 4.15pm-5.15pm: Yrs 3-6
21st February	Break up for half term	

INSET Dates for 2024-2025

We have 5 more INSET days this year, however, only 3 have been confirmed and are below. There are 2 more to be confirmed.

Friday 23rd May
Monday 21st July
2 more to be confirmed

Wellbeing Update

Attendance at Brackla Primary is a priority alongside Bridgend CBC and also for Welsh Government. School attendance gives your child the best chance at academic success alongside the vital social skills and securing good friendship which contribute to good mental health and wellbeing. There is a consistent protocol to support attendance across Bridgend and you will have received the Attend to Achieve Letter explaining your child's attendance.

How can you help support your child's attendance?

- ★ By ensuring your child arrives at school on time. Doors open at 8.45am and school start at **8.50am**
- ★ Communicating with school on the first day of any absence: Ring on 01656 815570 or email admin@bracklaps.bridgend.cymru or send a message on the school Gateway app.
- ★ Ensuring your child only misses school for days of illness or religious observance
- ★ Not booking holidays during term-time

Lisa Hicks is the Educational Welfare Officer (EWO) for Brackla Primary School. She regularly meets with us in to monitor and discuss pupils' attendance and any persistent lateness. She also supports families to improve attendance and punctuality. The flow charts below shows the actions that school and the FEO follow if a child's attendance falls below 92% or if there are any concerns with punctuality.

If you have any concerns with your child's attendance or punctuality at school, Mrs Baldrige is available to discuss and support further.

Safeguarding at Brackla Primary School

The Safeguarding leads at the school are Mrs Baldrige, Mrs John and Mr Still. If you are concerned about any child please come and speak with either of us at school or ring on 01656 815570. If you feel a child is at immediate risk of harm or danger ring 999.

Attendance Flow Chart

Schools meet with
EWS every 3 weeks

Attendance
above 92% - no
further action
needed

Attendance
below 92%
Letter 1 sent to
parents

Attendance must
improve in 3 weeks by
next EWS Meeting

No improvement
Letter 2 sent –
invite to meeting

If you attend
Attendance will
continue to be
monitored and
improvement
expected

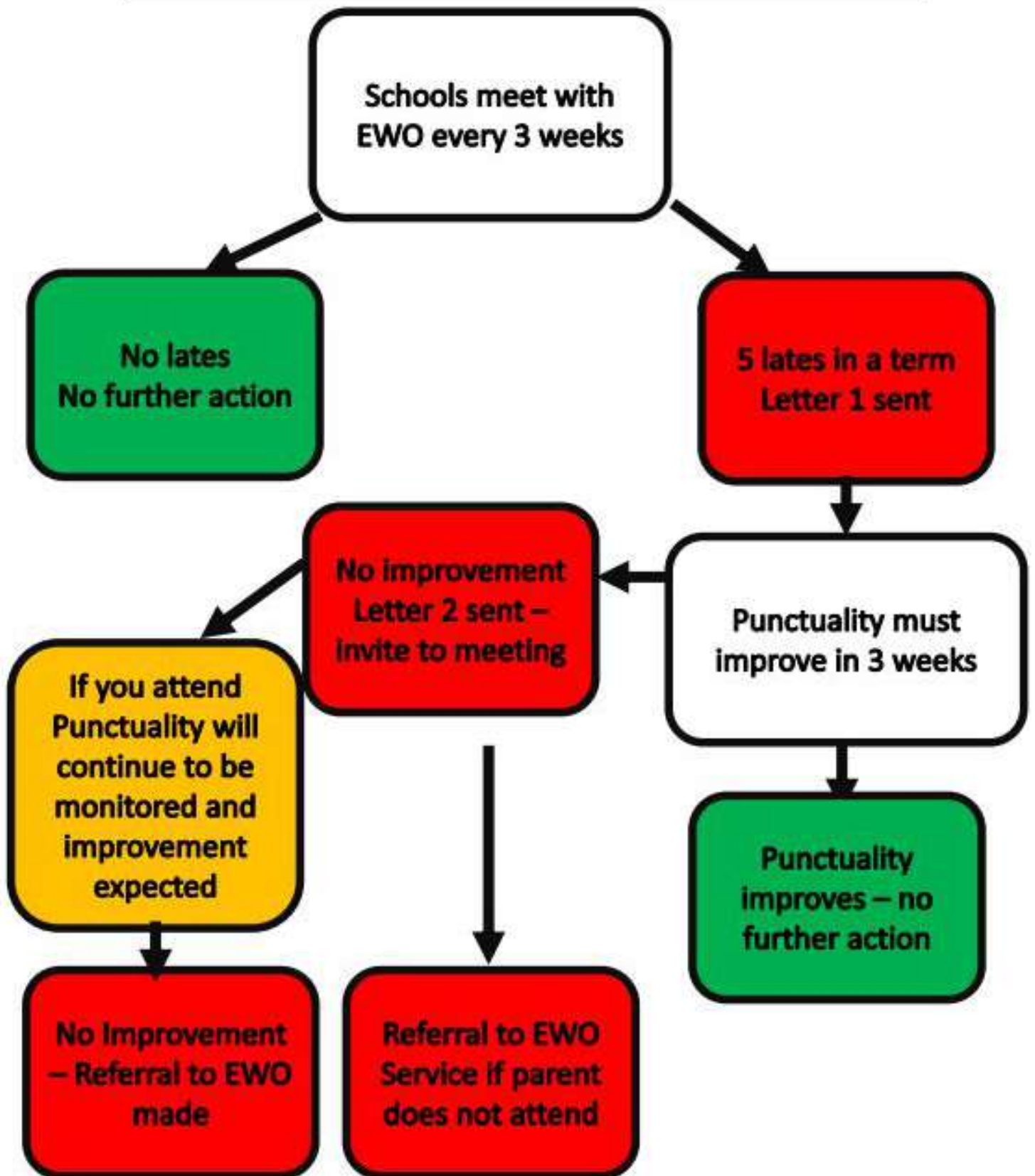
Attendance
improves – no
further action

No Improvement
in 2/3 weeks
Referral to EWO

Referral to EWS
Service if parent
does not attend

#attendtoachieve

Punctuality Flow Chart



#attendtoachieve



Introducing "Kelland's Fitness & Fun", a new fitness class exclusively for adults, led by Mrs. Kelland, the Family Engagement Officer. This class offers a mix of dynamic workout videos and circuit-style exercises designed to boost strength, endurance, and overall health. Whether you're looking to get fit, improve your fitness levels, or simply enjoy a motivating workout, Mrs. Kelland will guide you through every session, ensuring a supportive and engaging environment. After the workout, there will be time for refreshments and a chance to chat, allowing participants to relax and connect with each other. Join us for a fun, effective way to stay active and build community!

Drop Mrs Kelland (familyengagement@bracklaprimary.co.uk) an email or sign up in the office by Monday 13th January.

Parent/Guardian Survey: Family Engagement Activities and Events Feedback:

written

by

Mrs

Kelland

Today you'll be sent a link to our parent/guardian survey. We would love to hear about your experiences and thoughts on our school's family engagement activities and events. Your feedback is crucial in helping us improve and better support our school community. Please take a few minutes to share your insights. Please can the survey be completed by Friday 17th January. Thank you.

School Clubs

Please take a look at the school clubs on offer this term. If your child would like to take part, please sign up using our electronic booking system on the school gateway app, (please note that karate is done directly through the instructor Christian Whale). There are a variety of clubs on offer which change on a termly basis. Thank you to all the staff for delivering this term's clubs.

SCHOOL CLUBS

(Week beginning 13.01.25)

MONDAY

Karate (charge per session)	3.30pm - 4.30pm	Years 2 - 6	External Provider
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TUESDAY

Fun & Games (Max 15)	3.15pm - 4pm	Years 1 & 2	Mrs Driscoll
Animation (Max 15)	3.15pm - 4pm	Years 5 & 6	Mrs Delgado

WEDNESDAY

Clwb Darllen	12pm - 12.30pm	Years 5 & 6	Mrs Martin Mrs Bartle
Netball	12pm - 12.30pm	Years 4 - 6	Mrs Hunter Mrs Stephens
Circuits	3.15pm - 4pm	Years 3 - 6	Ms Pavitt

THURSDAY

Rangers	3.15pm – 4.15pm	Brackla Rangers	Mr Williams
Karate (charge per session)	3.15pm - 4.15pm	Years 2 - 6	External Provider