



# Brackla Primary School

Brackla Way, Brackla, Bridgend CF31 2EZ

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Headteacher: Mrs. K. John

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs. A. Baldrige

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Cyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol



## **Brackla Bulletin 508 (17.01.25)**

**Value of the month: Happiness**

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

Dear all,

This week's newsletter contains lots of information on how we support families with the challenges faced due to the rising cost of living. We are committed to supporting our school community by thoughtfully planning out events throughout the year, ensuring that families have plenty of notice (please see page 5 for what is planned for the spring term). We strive to minimise the costs associated with school trips and seek to subsidise transport costs wherever possible. Additionally, whilst we support charities and theme days, we are mindful of keeping these to a minimum.

We value your input and are keen to hear any suggestions you may have on how we can support you further during these challenging times, so please reach out to our Family Engagement Officer, Mrs Kelland (details on page 6) or Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Baldrige.

### **BOOST at Brackla**

A new cycle of our enrichment programme BOOST starts today, which aims to give our children a variety of activities that enhance their learning experiences beyond the classroom. The children are split into smaller groups and rotate through the activities during the term. This cycle includes:

Year group	Activity
Years 1 and 2	Local Heroes; Musical Mayhem; Happy and Active; Beebots and Scratch and board games.
Years 3 and 4	Puppets; Polish and Minecraft; Scratch; Super Sports.
Years 5 and 6	Strictly Brackla; Canva Creations; Rockin' Resin and Brackla Bake Off.

### **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: [George Apsee](#), [Vienne Francis](#), [Chase Hill](#), [Ava James](#), [Hope Smith](#), [Caleb O'Connor](#), [Alfie Meecham](#), [Morgan-Mae Jenkins](#), [Isla Evans](#), [Elizabeth Topham](#), [Harris Tabor](#).



### The Puffin Award

Our previous Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Davis came into school this week to talk to the children in assembly about the 'Puffin award.' This will be awarded at the end of the school year to a pupil for demonstrating a love and passion for the outdoors. As well as having their name on the puffin award, the winner will receive a family membership for The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales. This includes: free entry to all their nature reserves; membership magazine and a welcome pack.



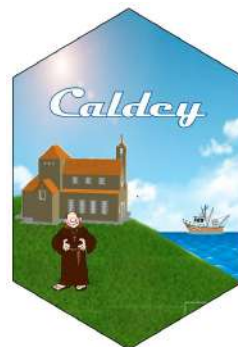
### House Points Winner this week:



544  
Points



534  
Points



505  
Points



505  
Points

### Birthdays this week

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

Parker Kemp, Evelyn Morgan, Jenson Powell, Aston Cheung, Emilie Jones.



### 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

## 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)	87.47%
Reception (Mrs Driscoll)	91.43%
Reception/Year 1 (Mrs Martin)	92.07%
1D (Mrs Delgado)	93%
2H (Miss Helm)	97.93%
2/3P (Ms Pavitt)	94.67%
3/4M (Mr M <sup>o</sup> Namara)	94.14%
4B (Mrs Bartle)	97.59%
4/5H (Mrs Hayter)	91%
5/6S (Mrs Stephens)	97.67%
6S (Mr Still)	98%



## 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	
5th February	3/4M & 4B trip to Techniquet	£5 payment to be made on the School Gateway app
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	



**Brackla Bake-off BOOST group - written by Mrs Delgado and Miss Thomas**

We kicked off this term's BOOST group cooking potatoes 4 ways. Travelling around the world, we made Rosti potatoes from Switzerland, Patatas Bravas from Spain, Hasselback potatoes from Sweden and Boulangere potatoes from France. The children followed instructions and worked well together. We even did a scientific test to see if a peg on the nose stopped crying when chopping onions. It didn't!



*Boulangere*



*Rosti*



*Patatas  
bravas*

*Hasselback*





Have a look at events planned for the upcoming Spring term. We are hoping to give plenty of notice of what's happening at BPS so you can budget where there may be a financial implication for your child.

**February 5th**  
Y3/4M & 4B  
Techniquet trip  
£5 coach costs

**TECHNIQUEST**

**February 13th**  
Valentine's DISCO!  
Rec, Y1, Y2 £3  
Y3-Y6 £2 + tuck  
money



**March 6th**  
World Book Day  
(No Dressing up  
required)

WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
6 MARCH 2025

**March 7th**  
Eisteddfod  
Wear something  
Welsh themed or  
house colours



**March 21st**  
Comic Relief  
Donations  
optional

**COMIC  
RELIEF**

**Y2-6**  
Technocamp  
workshops  
(Cost covered by  
school)



**April 3rd**  
Rec & R/Y1  
Cefn Mably trip  
£10

**Nursery**  
Living Eggs -  
Chick hatching  
(cost covered by  
school)

**Living Eggs**



At Brackla Primary School we understand that the cost of supporting your child through school can put pressure on household budgets. We want to do all we can to make every school day affordable for all our families and to help you find the support should you require it.

Here are some of the ways we support with finances during the school day.

# What Does BPS Provide?

<p><b>BOOST</b> (resources and transport costs paid for)</p> 	<p><b>Trips: subsidised by the school</b></p> 	<p><b>Free after school clubs</b></p> 
<p><b>No 'Dressing up' costs for Red Nose/World Book Day</b></p> 	<p><b>Free school meals for all children</b></p> 	<p><b>Pantri: open to all families</b></p> 
<p><b>Free Breakfast Club</b></p> 	<p><b>Pre-loved uniform available</b></p> 	<p><b>No logos expected on uniform</b></p> 
<p><b>Family Engagement Officer to support with forms/grant applications</b></p> 	<p><b>We hold sessions to help find out support available... Employability, Citizens Advice, Early Help</b></p> 	<p><b>Free swimming lessons...transport costs covered</b></p> 
<p><b>Fundraising events spread out over the year</b></p> 	<p><b>Chromebooks and iPads in every classroom</b></p> 	<p><b>Topic workshops: e.g. Medical Mavericks, Samba, drama</b></p>
<p><b>Monthly FEO newsletters with information on local foodbanks, free events</b></p>	<p><b>Weekly Super Savers scheme</b></p> 	<p><b>Outdoor Learning: Hot dogs, s'mores, weaving etc.</b></p> 
<p><b>Community Fair</b></p> 	<p><b>Snack Shack redistributes milk and fruit</b></p> 	<p><b>Christmas jumper/pop up toys recycling</b></p> 

Please contact Mrs Kelland our FEO or Mrs Baldrige if you want to know more about what we have on offer.

## Welcome to our FEO

Hello! I'm Rachael Kelland, the new Family Engagement Officer at Brackla Primary School. With over 10 years of experience in education, including roles as a primary school teacher and children's worker, I'm passionate about building strong relationships and creating enjoyable experiences for families. As a parent myself, with one child in the school, I'm here to support parents, carers, and families with anything you may need—whether it's related to school life or home support. I believe in the power of great communication between school and home to ensure a positive experience for both pupils and their families.

I'm here to listen to any concerns, big or small, and help you access any services or support you might need. If you ever have any questions or just want to chat, please feel free to reach out! You can find me at the Pod on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:40-9am, in the office or drop me an email at [familyengagement@bracklaprimary.co.uk](mailto:familyengagement@bracklaprimary.co.uk). The Pod is a dedicated space where families can connect with the family engagement officer, find leaflets about school events, and access spare uniforms when needed. It's a resource to help keep families informed and supported.

I enjoy staying active by running, and I recently received a pink scooter for Christmas (no, it's not electric!!). So if you spot me whizzing around Brackla, feel free to give me a beep!

I'm really looking forward to connecting with all of you and working together to make our school community the best it can be.





# BPS Community Fair

➤➤➤ Tuesday 11th February  
2-4pm

Join us at our first Community Fair in the school hall, where you'll have the opportunity to connect with over **20 local agencies** and services providing valuable support, advice, and resources for families.

**NO sign up required**  
**All welcome**

Care for the family

Financial support

Early Help

Well being/Mental health

Citizens Advice



Refreshments provided



[familyengagement@bracklaprimary.co.uk](mailto:familyengagement@bracklaprimary.co.uk)

We are very excited to host our first Community Fair, a special event for all families to connect and engage with over 20 local agencies and services. This event provides an excellent opportunity to discover valuable resources, advice, and support available to families in our area and beyond. Whether you're seeking guidance on health, energy saving, education, or wellbeing, there will be something for everyone, and we encourage all families to come a long and strengthen our community ties.

For more information speak to Mrs Kelland our family engagement officer.



## 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