

Brackla Primary School

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Brackla Bulletin 528 (04.07.25)

Value of the month: Independence

RRS - Article 2: All children should be treated equally

Dear all,

As we prepare for the new academic year, I would like to take a moment to explain how our class structure is organised at Brackla Primary School, particularly in relation to mixed age classes.

Our Published Admission Number (PAN) is 45, meaning we can admit up to 45 pupils in each year group. While this gives us flexibility, it also means that we will always have some mixed age classes. This is a common and effective approach in many primary schools and allows us to make the best use of our teaching staff and resources.

Mixed age classes are carefully planned to ensure that all pupils receive a high-quality education tailored to their individual needs. Teachers are skilled at delivering differentiated lessons, and our curriculum is designed to support progress for every child, regardless of their year group.

This year, there is a slight change in our class structure to accommodate the needs of our pupils and the distribution of year group numbers. Full details of the new class can be seen on the following page. There have also been a few changes to staffing which can also be seen. On Monday, the children will be spending some time in their new classes, meeting their teachers and exploring their new classroom.

Class	Teacher	Support Staff
Nursery	Mrs Whelan	Miss Steel, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Drummond
Reception	Mrs Driscoll	Mrs Jones
Reception/Year 1	Mrs Ellis (covering Mrs Bartle's maternity leave for the autumn term)/ Mrs Bartle	Mrs Charles
1/2	Mrs Delgado	Mrs Robinson
2	Miss Helm	Mrs Thompson
3	Miss Pavitt	Mrs Davies
3/4	Mr McNamara	Miss Thomas
4	Miss Dawson (new member of staff)	Mrs Williams
5	Mrs Stephens	Miss K Davies
5/6	Mrs Hayter (3 days)/Miss Jones (new member of staff)	Mrs Hunter
6	Mr Still	Mrs Robinson
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The School Essentials Grant

The School Essentials Grant is available to children and young people eligible for free school meals (eFSM) in year groups Reception to Year 11 and Children that are Looked After (CLA).

Funding of £125 is available for each eligible learner with the exception of those in Year 7 who will be entitled to £200 (to reflect the increased cost of starting secondary school).

The Purpose of the Scheme is to provide grant assistance to families on lower incomes for the purchase of:

- School uniform including coats and shoes
- School sports kit including footwear
- IT Equipment: laptop and tablets ONLY (School Essentials should only be used in limited situations where a school is unable to loan equipment to the family)
- Uniform for enrichment activities, including but not limited to scouts; guides; cadets; martial arts; sports; performing arts, or dance;
- Equipment e.g. school bags and stationery
- Specialist equipment where new curriculum activities begin such as design and technology
- Equipment for out-of-school hours' trips such as outdoor learning e.g. waterproofs; and,
- Non-uniform essential items such as clothing to support access and involvement in residential outdoor education.

The above is not an exhaustive list and discretion will be required using local knowledge, in line with the principles of the scheme, especially in relation to enrichment activities, specialist equipment, equipment for out-of-school hours trips, and essential items for residential outdoor education.

The scheme for the 2025-26 academic year will begin on 1st July 2025 and end on 31st May 2026.

The Funding is available to learners who are eligible for free school meals

- Entering Reception, Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 in September 2025 at a rate of £125
- Entering year 7 in September 2025 at a rate of £200
- For all children looked after by a local authority, regardless of their placement.

You may be eligible if you receive one of the following:

- Income support
- Jobseeker's allowance (income based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (income related)
- Child Tax Credit, with a household income of £16,190 or less
- Pension Credit (guarantee)
- Universal Credit with net household earnings of less than £7400
- Help under Immigration and Asylum Seekers Act 1999.

In some cases, you may need to receive one of these even if your child receives free school meals.

Even if your child is receiving free school meals as part of the Universal Free School Meals initiative, it is still important to check eligibility to access the School Essentials Grant and extra funding for your school.

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)	79.9%
Reception (Mrs Driscoll)	87.41%
Reception/Year 1 (Mrs Martin)	92.5%
1D (Mrs Delgado)	93.21%
2H (Miss Helm)	96.43%
2/3P (Ms Pavitt)	98.21%
3/4M (Mr M°Namara)	98.57%
4B (Mrs Bartle)	95.33%
4/5H (Mrs Hayter)	98.28%
5/6S (Mrs Stephens)	96%
6S (Mr Still)	95.67%



Birthdays this week

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

Aisha Jaiteh, Kobey Rees, Mira Savda, Rosie Emery, Romeo Jones, Thomas Mowbray-Harwood, Fayea-Jane Raymond, Lola Thompson.



What's On Summer Term B

Please take a look below at what is coming up till the end of school year. As you can see it is a very busy 7 weeks and we will keep you updated as we move through the half term.

Date	Event	Additional details
7th July	Rangers Bike and scooter wash	Bring your bike and scooter to school to be cleaned
7th July	Class assembly for families	4B 2.30pm
8th July	Class assembly for families	3/4M 2.30pm
8th July	Picnic fest for families (Bring a picnic)	3.15pm-4.30pm
9th July	'Welcome to the 60's' show	4/5H; 5/6S and 6S 2pm
10th July	'Welcome to the 60's' show	4/5H; 5/6S and 6S 2pm and 5pm
14th July	BBQ	Year 6 - time TBC
18th July	Break up for the summer	3.15pm
1st September	INSET Day	
2nd September	Back to school for the children	8.50am

INSET Dates

The INSET dates for next year are as follows:

- Monday 1st September
- Monday 3rd November
- Monday 23rd February
- Thursday 21st May
- Friday 22nd May
- Monday 20th July

Newbridge Fields Trip with 4B/L - written by Miss Lynch

On Tuesday, 4B/L went to Newbridge fields for their end of year trip. We first enjoyed a lovely walk from Brackla Primary to Newbridge Fields. When we arrived we found a nice area to set up camp for the day and played different team games including rounders and football. Meanwhile, we took it in turns to go to the park, which we really enjoyed! After a busy morning, we sat down for lunch in the shade. Before we left, we had great fun exploring Ogmore river. We all had a fabulous time!



Aberavon Trip with 4/5H, 5/6S and 6S - written by Erin, Amelia, Cohen and Hope

On Wednesday, classes 4/5H, 5/6S and 6S, went to Aberavon for their end of year trip. We first went to the park and let off lots of energy, swinging, sliding, spinning amd speeding. We then hit the beach with a bounce of excitement that took us into the sea for a swim and a splash. The terrific teachers surprised us with yummy lollies and ice cream to cool us down ready to explore the Splash Park! We all got completely and utterly drenched but loved every second and wish we could do it all over again. Thank you to all of our teachers for this fabulous year and the best year!





On Monday 7th July, The Brackla Rangers will be holding their annual bike and scooter wash to help raise money for The Tremains Woodland Rangers so they can continue the great work they do in maintaining and improving the beautiful landscape down at Tremains Woodland.

Im sure if you have ever visited the woodland that you would all agree just how amazing and vital a resource it is, especially to our local community!

If you would like to make a donation to the Bike and Scooter Wash, even if your child doesn't own a bike or scooter, no matter how small, it would be graciously received and the Brackla Rangers would be extremely grateful!

Many thanks for your support!

Mr Williams 🦺

BPS Picnic Fest- Written by Mrs Kelland (Family Engagement officer):

Join us for a free Family Summer Picnic and games event right after school with your whole family on Tuesday 8th July- 3:15pm-4:30pm. Celebrate the summer with food, fun and laughter. Bring a picnic, bring a picnic blanket, and bring the whole family!! We'll have classic lawn games, music, and plenty of space to relax and play. Don't miss this perfect chance to unwind and connect with other families at BPS! Sign up at the office or drop me an email at familyengagement@bracklaprimary.co.uk





Upcoming Events 2025

MON 7TH JULY

Kelland's Fitness and fun

WALK, TALK AND TREAT!!!!!! Join us for a "walk and talk" adventure through Brackla and end up in a cosy cafe (our treat) to finish our last session.

TUES 8ST JULY

Join us at Y Pod

Over the next three weeks-we're giving away FREE tea and coffee from 8:40am. Not in a hurry? Stick around! Enjoy our new outdoor tables and chairs.

TUES 8TH JULY

BPS Picnic fest

A family event after school for the WHOLE family. Bring a picnic, bring a picnic blanket and join us for some fun and games!

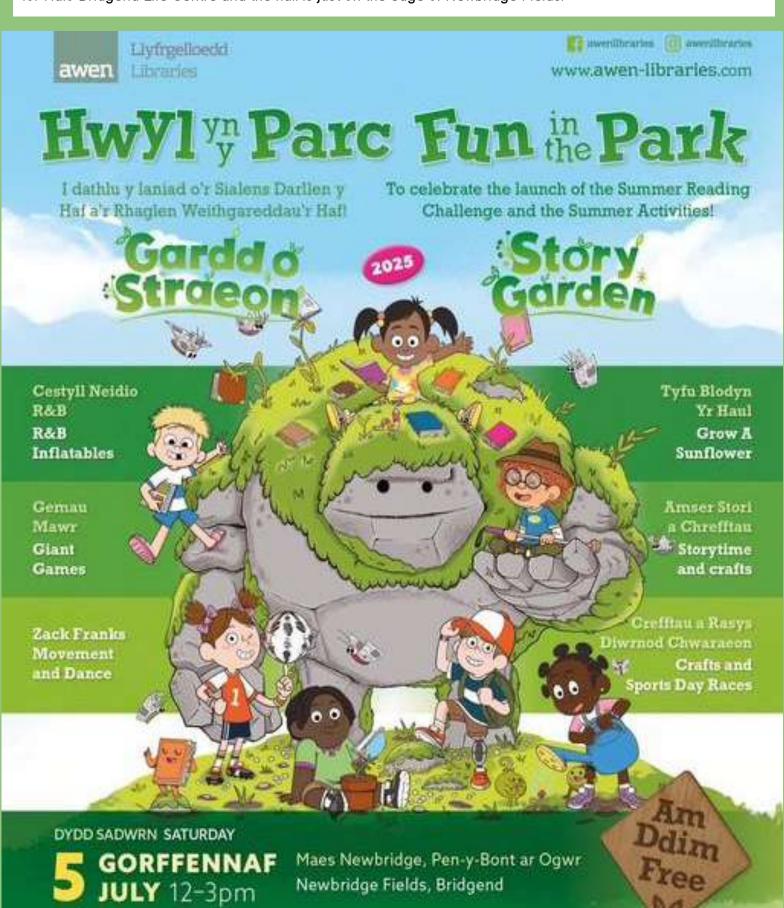
THURS 17TH JULY

Join us at Y Pod

Over the next three weeks-we're giving away FREE tea and coffee from 8:40am. Not in a hurry? Stick around! Enjoy our new outdoor tables and chairs.

Fun in the park event: Saturday 5th July- 12-3pm

Awen Cultural Trust will launch the 2025 Summer Reading Challenge and Awen Libraries' summer programme of activities with a fun-filled, family event on Saturday 5th July from 12 – 3pm. The event is supported by Bridgend County Borough Council. Due to the wet weather forecast for this Saturday 5th July, the Summer Reading Challenge launch will now take place indoors at: **Bridgend Bowls Hall, Angel Street, Bridgend, CF31 4AH.** Head for Halo Bridgend Life Centre and the hall is just on the edge of Newbridge Fields.



Brackla Tabernacle Church are holding a **three-day holiday club** taking place this August, and have extended the invitation to families at BPS. The event is completely **free** and open to primary-aged children from reception to Year 6...this is a supervised drop off event and the grown ups can go and enjoy a break while the children have fun.

Starlight Rescue will be a fun, faith-filled adventure packed with Bible stories, crafts, games, songs, and dance. We'll also be providing lunch each day. The theme focuses on Jesus and the way he demonstrates love to all people — it's a joyful and inclusive experience and all are welcome.

