



# Brackla Primary School

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## **Brackla Bulletin 551 (13.02.26)**

**Value of the month: Responsibility**



**RRS - Article 19: You should not be harmed and you should be looked after and kept safe**

Dear all,

Two weeks ago, Estyn carried out an interim visit to review our progress in one recommendation from the January 2024 core inspection ('improve the quality of feedback so that pupils understand what they do well and what they need to improve') and one priority from our current School Development Plan (the development of writing across the school). Inspectors praised our whole school approach to feedback describing it as '*clear and systematic*' and recognising that it enables pupils to '*understand how to improve their work and make progress in their learning.*' Inspectors commented on the strong impact of purposeful classroom dialogue and celebrated the fact that '*nearly all pupils value this feedback and explain how it helps them to improve their work clearly.*' The success of our assessment practices, including our reflective 'Feedback Friday' sessions, was recognised as a key factor in helping pupils take ownership of their learning.

The visit also confirmed that we are making highly effective progress in developing writing across the school. Inspectors highlighted our '*clear vision for developing writing*' and the strong professional learning that supports consistency and progression. They praised the way our classroom environments encourage pupils to take risks and learn from mistakes, supported by rich displays, purposeful scaffolds and a positive culture around improvement. Estyn noted that pupils make strong, sustained progress in their writing and show high levels of engagement in lessons. The report highlights the strength of our work and captures the commitment of our pupils, staff and leaders and the full interim visit letter is available on the Estyn website and can be accessed at: [Estyn Interim visit 29.01.26](#) Well done everyone at Team Brackla!

### **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: [Aliyanna Jones](#), [Olha Goncharova](#), [Finn Hope-Woodroffe](#), [Maisie Oliver](#), [Max Meecham](#), [William Sokolowski](#), [Carter Lambert](#), [Marley Richards](#), [Tillie O'Donnell](#), [Bella Dang](#), [Hallie Evans](#), [Cohen Stanford](#).



### **House Points Winner this week:**



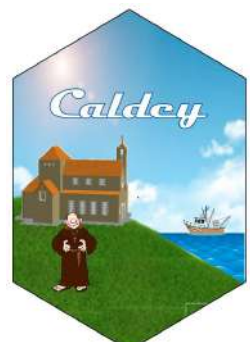
**554  
Points**



**553  
Points**



**544  
Points**



**521  
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/Reception (Mrs Whelan)	89.64%
Reception (Mrs Driscoll)	89.83%
Reception/Year 1 (Mrs Ellis)	98%
1/2D (Mrs Delgado)	95.48%
2H (Miss Helm)	98.06%
3P (Ms Pavitt)	93.57%
3/4M (Mr M <sup>c</sup> Namara)	87.69%
4D (Miss Dawson)	97.20%
5S (Mrs Stephens)	96.79%
5/6H (Mrs Hayter)	95.86%
6S (Mr Still)	95.67%



## Birthdays this week

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

Megan Mitchell, Charlie Livick, Cohen Stanford.

**Birthdays during the half term holiday:**

Adam Halbert, Rae Muckell, Ava Rowsell, Harri Belmont, Olivia Allen, Ronnie Chivers.



**Nursery News - It's time to Rhyme! From Booktrust. - written by Mrs Whelan**

Our wonderful rhyme calendars have arrived and your child will be bringing home a new rhyme each week for the next 5 weeks.

Saying rhymes together and singing simple songs are great ways to have fun with your child. Rhymes help children understand how language works. They help children to learn the different sounds in a language, to feel its rhythm and to have fun with words. These things will really help your child to read, talk and write.

Please keep your calendar at home and return the folder with the name card, each Thursday for a new rhyme. Rhymes and activities will be given out on a Friday. We hope you have lots of fun rhyming together!



**The Case of The Missing Lemon Cake Recipe - written by Mrs Stephens**

On Wednesday 7th January, all of the children in PS3 were summoned to the junior hall to be greeted by a very distressed Mrs Robinson. Her Granny Grainger's lemon cake recipe had gone missing! The children rose to the challenge in solving this mystery and have worked tirelessly over the half term to find the culprit. They have carried out a variety of experiments and applied their scientific knowledge to eliminate the suspects. On Wednesday afternoon, we all watched Miss Steel's confession interview. Miss Steel was extremely remorseful and was deeply sorry for causing any upset. Well done to all of the children in 4D, 5S, 5/6HJ & 6S forensic scientists in the making!



Name	Fingerprint	Type	Name	Fingerprint	Type
Eva		Whorl ✓	Max		Whorl ✓
Hung		Whorl ✓	Jacob		Whorl ✓
		Loop ✓			Whorl ✓
		Loop ✓			Whorl ✓



### Our first half term - 3P - written by Ms Pavitt

We might only have been in school for 6 weeks but we have learnt so much already! Our topic, 'Science For Survival', has allowed to investigate lots of problem and improve our observation skills.

We have investigated how different liquids affect reactions, how different materials are best for insulation, suggested ways in which we can filter dirty water, observed how solids, liquids and gases change when heated and cooled, and expanded our scientific vocabulary when describing the properties of materials. Needless to say it has been a very busy, but very enjoyable first half term.



### CRIW CYNEFIN

*written by Miss Jones*

Our Criw Cynefin after-school club has been busy exploring what *cynefin* really means — our sense of belonging, identity and place. The children have created thoughtful mind maps about their own cynefin, shared ideas about culture, Welshness and what makes them *them*, and enjoyed reading stories such as *The Suitcase of Belonging*, *You Are Stardust* and *Cwtch*.

Through discussion, storytelling and lots of fun games, the children have shown curiosity, kindness and pride in who they are and where they come from. And this is just the beginning — lots more exciting learning still to come!



# BOOST!

This term saw the start of our new BOOST rotations. Over the course of the term children will have the opportunity to take part in activities such as orienteering, making healthy snacks, WeDo lego, music and many more. Keep an eye open over the next few weeks to find out about the fabulous activities the children take part in.

## Mini Makers Boost Group - Years 1 & 2 - written by Ms Pavitt

Years 1 and 2 will have the chance to complete activities with a focus on Design Technology. They will learn how to make moving joints on an animal or person using split pins, and will work as a small team to solve an engineering problem. Children have to get their car across a crocodile infested river by making a bridge from only a few pieces of paper and a limited amount of sticky tape. We have already had lots of fun testing our designs!



## Mighty Movers Boost Group - Years 5 & 6 - written by Mr Still

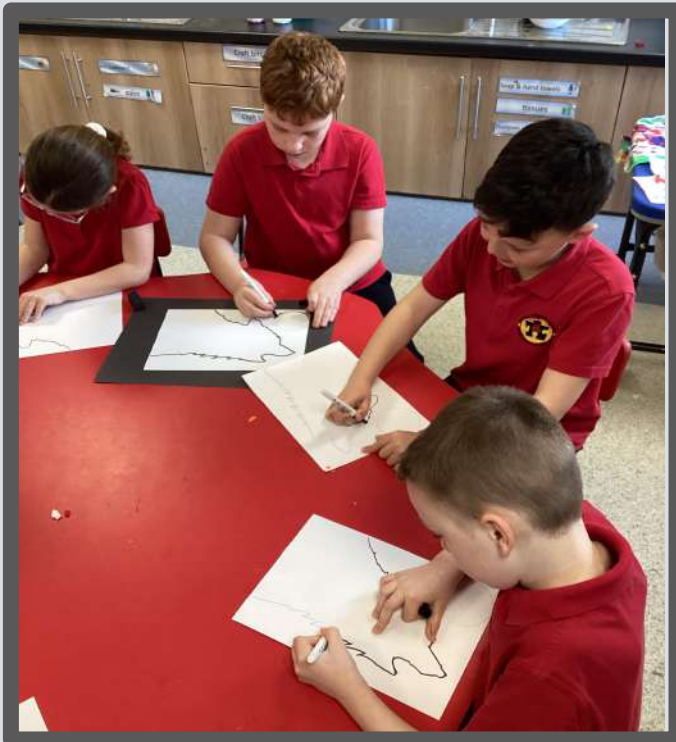
One of the new boost groups for Spring 2026 for the Year 5 and 6 children has the name 'Mighty Movers' and has a strong focus on fitness. Children who have participated in this activity so far have had a chance to learn how to use some new fitness equipment such as balance boards, weighted vests, dumbbells, and boxing gloves. The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning how to use this equipment and finding out how they can help us keep fit and healthy.



# BOOST! -Liquid Art Lab

What an amazing time we have had in BOOST over the past few weeks. We have created wolf silhouette pictures using various skills and painting techniques - tracing, cutting, sponging and flicking! It was messy, but well worth it for the final wolf silhouette pictures.

*Written by Mrs Delgado*



# RVE Detectives

RVE Artefact Detectives on the Case! - written by Miss Jones

This term in 5/6HJ, our classroom has been transformed into a hub of curiosity, discussion and discovery as the children became *RVE Artefact Detectives*! Using a range of religious artefacts linked to Christianity, the children explored, observed and questioned like true investigators.

To help shape our thinking and discussions, we used special Oracy Sentence Stems to guide our ideas. You may have heard some of these at home:

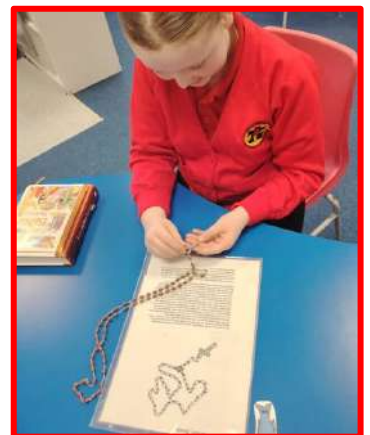
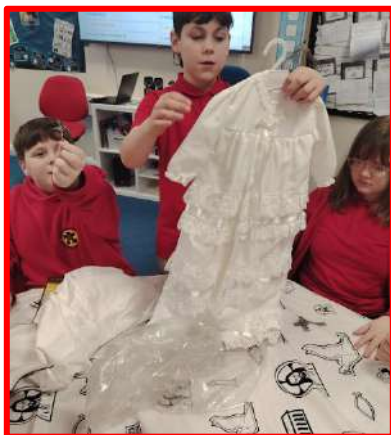
- *I noticed that...*
- *I was interested to find out...*
- *I wonder why...*
- *This made me think...*
- *I want to find out...*

Through exploring artefacts and sharing their ideas, the class generated some fantastic enquiry questions through pupil voice. Our questions included:

- *What is the oldest story from Easter in the Bible? What is the oldest story?*
- *Do different Christians celebrate Easter in different ways? Why is Easter a time to remember the resurrection? Why is it named Easter?*
- *Why do we have chocolate eggs at Easter?*
- *What is the fish symbolic of in Christianity? What does it stand for?*

As we transition further into our Easter themes, we are excited to continue exploring these important questions and deepen our understanding of why Easter is such a significant time for Christians around the world.

We are very proud of how respectful, patient and thoughtful the children have been throughout our RVE lessons. We look forward to continuing our journey of discovery together.



## What's On in Spring B 2026

Please take a look below at what is coming up in Spring Term B - these dates will be added to as the half term goes on.

Date	Event	Additional details
Monday 23rd February	INSET Day	School closed for children
Tuesday 24th February	Children back to school	
Wednesday 25th February	'Small People Big Online World' workshop for families	Nursery - year 2 2pm-3pm
Wednesday 4th March	Technquest trip	2H, 3P & 3/4M
Wednesday 4th March	'Digital Dilemmas' workshop for families	Years 3-6 2pm-3pm
4th, 11th, 18th and 25th March	Numeracy and Play	Nursery families 9.15am-10.30am
Tuesday 10th March	Yr 6 residential meeting for families	2.45pm
Friday 20th March	Outdoor learning for families workshops	Details to follow
Friday 27th March	Break up for Easter	

### INSET Dates

The INSET dates for this year are as follows:

Monday 23rd February

Thursday 21st May

Friday 22nd May

Monday 20th July

### Kids vs Parents - After school event

Get ready for an action-packed hour of fun, laughter and friendly competition! We are excited to invite children in **Years 3–6** (and their parents/carers) to our after-school event next week on **Tuesday 3rd March: 3.15pm-4.15pm**. This will be one hour of non-stop games, challenges and team competitions, where children go head-to-head with their parents to see who will be crowned the ultimate champions! **Sign up via the School Gateway app (you need to sign up each child individually)** and join the fun! We can't wait to see who wins... Parents or Children?





Cost of the school day



# SPRING TERM

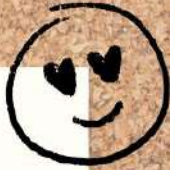
March  
4th

Techniquetrip -  
2H, 3P, 3/4M  
£10

Valentine's Discos Feb 5th

Rec - Year 2 3.15 - 4.pm £3

Year 3 - Year 6 4.14 - 5.15 pm £2 plus tuck



Feb  
25th

Mabinogion storyteller  
sessions

Feb 25th

R/1, 1/2D, 2H, 3P - school to fund



Look out for

Family

Engagement

activities for this  
term!

March 18<sup>th</sup>

Wacky Workshop for Parents

Mrs Whelan & Mrs Driscoll's classes

FREE!

# Small People, Big Online World

**Who is this session for?**

**Families who have  
children in Nursery  
up to Year 2.**

**Helpful Tips**

**Tips to get your  
child off screens &  
into the real world.**

**Youtube**

**Youtube  
Vs  
Youtube kids**

**What do you do?**

**My child is asking for  
a phone, tablet, etc.**

**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February: 2pm-3pm**

**Sign up now via the School Gateway app**

# Digital Dilemmas

**Who is this session for?**

**Families who have children in Year 3 up to Year 6.**

**Helpful Tips**

**Smartphones & gaming**

**Boys Vs Girls**

**Potential dangers for girls vs potential dangers for boys**

**Artificial Intelligence**

**Using AI responsibly.**

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March: 2pm-3pm**

**Sign up now via the School Gateway app**







# NUMBER AND PLAY



Wednesday 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March

9am-10.30am



Each session has two parts: a short, practical introduction for parents and carers (with a cuppa), followed by playful, hands-on numeracy activities you'll enjoy with your child. We'll show how early number skills and play work together to support your child's learning and confidence.

*Sign up to all 4 sessions via the school gateway app  
Spaces are limited - Nursery children only*





**Small cuddly  
chicks, sheep or  
bunnies**

**Easter  
crafts**

**Sensory  
toys**

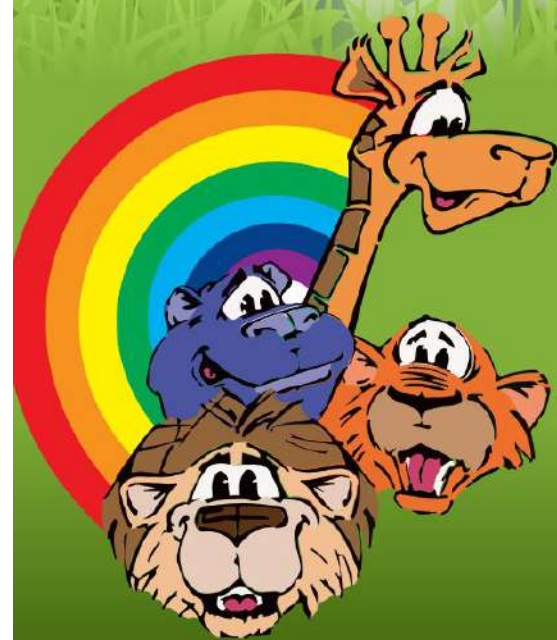
**Arts and  
craft**

# **EASTER DONATIONS**

**Allergy-friendly  
Easter eggs**

**Stickers**

**Easter  
eggs**



# **Noah's Ark**

**Children's Hospital Charity  
Elusen Ysbyty Plant**

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

# Upcoming Events

March

2026

TUES  
3<sup>RD</sup>  
MARCH

## **Kids vs Parents: 3.15pm-4.15pm**

One hour of fun, games & head-to-head competition. Will parents win....or will the kids take the crown? ??

FRI  
13<sup>TH</sup>  
MARCH

## **Pre-loved Clothes Swap: 8.30am-9.15am & 2.45pm-3.30pm**

Donate any unwanted children's clothes and pop to our pre-loved shop to pick up some freebies!

FRI  
20<sup>TH</sup>  
MARCH

## **Wild Adventures- morning**

More details to follow- sign up not open yet.

MON  
23<sup>RD</sup>  
MARCH

## **Easter Eggstravaganza: 2pm-3pm**

More details to follow. Sign up not open yet.

MON  
23<sup>RD</sup>  
MARCH

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