



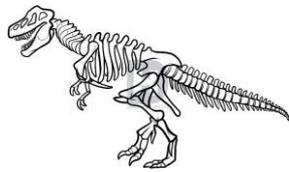
'A lifelong love of learning;
a love of life.'

Dear Parent/Carer,

What a very busy half term, we all cannot believe how quickly it has passed and that is a certain sign of how much we enjoy being here!

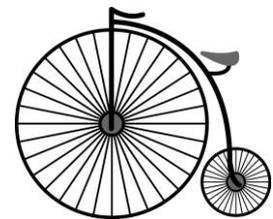
Our Year 6 families are currently in the process of visiting and selecting secondary schools as we begin our open days for parents of the new four year olds we will welcome in September 2018.

Exciting learning and experiences



The children in Reception received a video message from a friendly palaeontologist and went on a dinosaur bones and fossil hunt. Interestingly, they found lots in their sand pit of all places!

Year 1 have had a magical bicycle visiting them and it then went missing. They are desperately trying to find it and have tried putting missing posters all over the school. Also, a special guest came and rode a penny farthing around the playground, which was very tricky indeed.



The trip to Woods Mill for the children in Year 2 was a great success as always, as was the Year 3 trip to Seeley Copse where the children explored life in the wild.

The challenges posed for the Year 4 children on their residential trip to Lodge Hill helped them to develop self-confidence and we were very proud of how they conducted themselves throughout their stay. Thank you to Miss Dale, Miss Tucker, Mrs Poole and Miss LoPriore for giving up their weekend.

Year 4 children had a Roman workshop courtesy of Worthing Museum which included handling artefacts, mosaic making and dressing up – always a winner!



The children in Year 5 were in a state of shock after spotting someone in a Viking helmet making a quick getaway from their ransacked classrooms. Deciphering the message left in runes gave them clues about what may have happened.

A visit to Newhaven Fort for the Year 6 children and the bomb shelter experience there as well as the evacuation role play at school has really enhanced their writing and their empathy for those involved in war.

Please look on year group pages on our website

http://www.bramberprimary.com/website/year_groups/144828 for learning overviews and, in some cases, some photos.



Harvest Festival

This year, we had a small celebration in the hall with our local vicar, Erika Howard. We did not manage to go to the church this year due to Erika's retirement and it being too early in the term to clear the path. Thank you for the donations which were taken by Oscar Davis's mum to Worthing Homeless on our behalf so thank you to her too.

Bramber Primary School

We are very proud to say that we are now a Primary School, having developed from the first school that we once were. This has meant many developments and changes over the last 3 years and we have tried to communicate these in good time, involving parents and children as much as possible in the process. Sometimes, we have made decisions as a staff team, considering logistics and resources, and this year this has included looking at whole school extra-curricular events. Following parents' suggestions at forum, we have tried to balance the different events so that they are spread over the calendar year and across the year groups in a developmentally appropriate way. We are sorry that we did not communicate this earlier as this may have prevented some anxiety among parents.



Attached is our overview for the year which we hope will give you an idea of what we plan for this academic year. Although these are our current plans, please understand that all best laid plans are subject to change! Also, please note that the 'Leavers Production' that was a Year 3 event has moved to Year 6 as we now have Year 6 children and they are our leavers. We have endeavoured to give every child an opportunity to shine in many ways during their time with us whilst still managing the time for all curriculum learning and giving work-life balance for teachers. We hope you will support the children in these events as much as you always do.

Staff Updates



Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Miss Foggett who has decided to explore other opportunities and will be leaving Bramber at Christmas. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and commitment to the school, children and her colleagues. She will be very much missed and we wish her every success in her new ventures.

The children in Dove class will be taught for the rest of the year by Miss Amber Perkin who has previously taught in Gillingham and has most experience in Year 3. She has already met with Miss Foggett and the other teachers and will be spending time in school getting to know the children and the school before she starts with us in January.

Volunteers

We have many volunteers connected to our school and could not function without them. Helping in school is a very worthwhile way to contribute to our community. In class, the children really benefit from having an extra person to read with, do art or practise their numbers through games. If you have part of a day to spare, would like to stay for half an hour in the mornings to read with children or would like to help on school outings it would be *greatly* appreciated. We are committed to safeguarding our children and therefore will make the relevant DBS checks before any adult works with our children. If you are an existing or a potential new volunteer please join me in Branch Room (opposite the main entrance) on **Wednesday 15th November at 2.30pm** for a chat. I look forward to seeing you.



Mud kitchen

Many of you have commented on this addition to our reception outside classroom and we want to say a BIG THANK YOU to Ritchie Andrews (Austyn and Ryley's Dad, partner to Nikki Phillips - our bursar). Ritchie gave much of his summer and time for free to build this for the children. He did a fab job and the children love it!



Assembly themes

Our assemblies in November are on the theme of Getting On and Falling Out and we will explore the values of RESPECT and RESPONSIBILITY. We will also include Remembrance, Armistice Day and Anti-bullying Week 2017 which is being held between the 13th and 17th November.

Celebration assemblies have included Rosh Hashanah Jewish New Year and Diwali, the Hindu Festival of light.

Attendance Trophy for September



We are so grateful to all the parents and carers who help their children to attend school as often as possible. Our attendance at Bramber is usually very high and we are celebrating achievement each month with a trophy presentation. (NB – we will adjust this for classes where there are exceptional circumstances). We are hoping that the annual whole school attendance will be 97% this year to earn a whole school prize to top our film treat for 96% which we have achieved for the last two years.

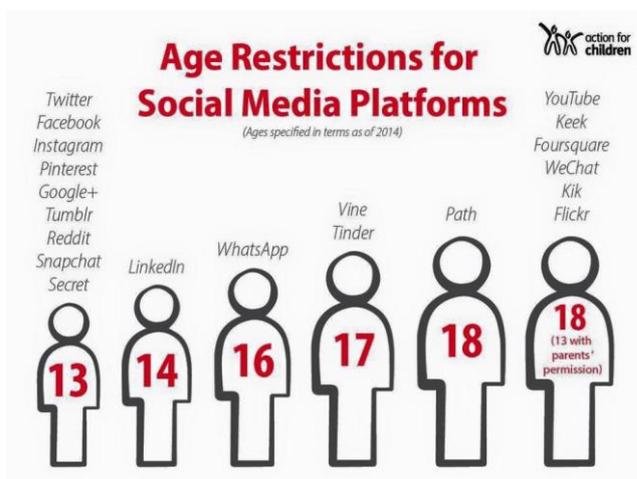
Seagull Class is September’s winner with attendance of 99.5%. Congratulations!

Online safety

When talking with quite a few of our children, it has become apparent that many of the issues we are tackling in school around safeguarding, child protection and behaviour can be attributed to children having unsupervised access to the internet, including via phones and gaming. It seems some parents are not aware of age restrictions on social media sites. As all of our children are under 13, they should not have access to the platforms listed right and below.

Also, there appears to be some difficulty among our families in restricting children’s access to

inappropriate software. As this is a serious area in terms of preventing abuse and mental health issues developing, we will offer to support you in any way we can as we can see the damage this can cause.



School Council

The hustings and elections have taken place and we now have a democratically elected school council to represent the views of each class and its pupils. Our successful candidates are listed below:

Robin Class	Yelena Osbahr – Scott	Ollie Geal
Chaffinch Class	Poppy Goldman	Nico Broughton
Woodpecker Class	Clara Lacey	Riley Berry
Dove Class	Robin Mitchell	William Pederson Raoul Hunnisett
Kestrel Class	Heidi Foy	Joseph Killey
Seagull Class	Sophia Caswell	Jack Hallard
Kingfisher Class	Lexie Beardsworth	Max Humphrey
Starling Class	Toby Le Fevre	Maisie North
Heron Class	Olivia Stevenson	Taylon Cozzi

Many of the issues we discuss will be those raised by the children in the classes and also those raised by the parents at their forum.

Parents’ Forum

It is so supportive of many parents to engage in these open sessions to discuss ideas and suggestions to further develop and enhance our school. They are always well attended and are different from the fund-raising and event planning sessions we hold. It is an open invitation to all parents and agenda items can be submitted beforehand via the parents’ post-box, by emailing the office or putting something on our

Friends of Bramber Facebook page. Our next parents' forum meeting is on **Friday 8th December at 2.00 pm.**

Admissions – Reception school places September 2018/Open days

If you have a child born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 then they will be due to start school next September 2018. Our Open Days are **Tuesday 7th and Wednesday 8th November.** Please book a place via the school office and tell friends too. Also, you **will not** receive a letter from West Sussex County Council now to invite you to apply and all applications for reception school places must be made online by Friday 15th January 2018. Please visit our website under Information and Admissions to find the link or visit <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/primary-infant-and-junior-school-places/>

Uniform reminders

The children are all looking VERY smart in new uniform and shiny new black shoes. Thank you to all the parents and carers for helping the children to be ready for their learning. All other additions do really just serve as a distraction.

- There is a no jewellery policy at Bramber. The only exception to this are earrings (simple studs) and these need to be removed on PE days unless they are recently pierced ears and these need to be covered with tape provided by home prior to the PE session. This is also West Sussex County Policy.
- As the expectation for maths is that all Year 3 can accurately tell the time, a simple analogue watch can be worn from Y3 onwards (not digital or with alarms, torches or toys in them and with numbers not Roman Numerals).
- No nail varnish, hair dye or huge hair accessories and styles (including Jo-Jo bows).
- Book bags are more suitable for Reception Y1, Y2 and Y3.
- Rucksacks are more suitable for Y4, Y5 and Y6 (as the younger children struggle with these and they take up so much space).

WOW – Walk Once a Week Scheme

Mr Cross is leading our WOW scheme here at Bramber to encourage as many people as possible to leave their cars at home or to park further away and walk, cycle or scoot to school There are many health and social benefits of course, but the congestion around the school and added danger to pedestrians with so many cars around is something we are really trying to reduce. If you and your child manage this regularly (at least one a week) our pupils are given a badge each month to collect.

Walking to school



A number of parents have asked about children walking to school by themselves.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 – we expect children in these year groups to be dropped off to their class doors in the mornings by parents/carers and they watch them going into their classes to ensure their safety.

Year 3 – We would expect the majority to walk into the school grounds with their parents, but in exceptional cases, in discussion with me and with written permission

they can be dropped off at the school gate.

Year 4 and onwards - You know your children and we trust your judgement, so when you feel they are ready whether that is when your child is in Year 4 or older you can plan this with them.

Walking home – this is a different case especially as it starts to become dark earlier, so we will review this as the year progresses.



DRIVING AND PARKING

Sadly, we had a recent incident where one of our parents reversed knocking into one of our pupils and parents. Fortunately, they were not seriously hurt. However, this is really not something we want to repeat around our school. We are often told about the dangerous driving and parking around our school and I know many schools are the same. We have been advised to promote Operation Crackdown <https://webcontact.sussex.police.uk/ASDPRS/> as a very effective way to report this and below is some information from their website.

About the incident – the police will ask for:

- The vehicle registration number (licence plate)
- Make, model and colour of vehicle
- Details about when and where the incident happened – our online map will help you identify the area
- Any information that may help us identify the driver

About you - your contact details will be treated in confidence. See our [Privacy Policy](#). Leaving your email address will allow Operation Crackdown to make contact with you should the report need clarifying and you will receive details of other services that Sussex Police provide online.

What happens when you make a report?

Depending on how serious the incident, whether the vehicle has been reported before, and whether the driver falls into a high risk category, we might:

- Forward your report to the Sussex Police Road Policing Unit so local officers can take appropriate action.
- Send a warning letter to the registered keeper of the vehicle.
- Keep your report in the Crackdown database, providing a history of the vehicle and allegations.
- Identify and address regular 'hotspots' of anti-social driver behaviour.

So it's **ALWAYS** worth making a report, even if no immediate action is apparent. [More about the Crackdown process](#)

Out of hours provision

Our Early Birds and Night Owls out of school clubs are working very well and continues to be in demand. Thank you so much to Mrs Melanie Stenlake and her dedicated play team for making this such a success.

Finally....

As we now start our journey to one class in every year group, shrinking again after our bulge, there will be ever more changes for us all to manage. This is where the 'resilience' element of our school values come into play, helping our children to look on the positive opportunities change will bring. If you have any questions or concerns or just need more information, please talk to us and ask – we are always happy to discuss anything concerning the welfare of the children and really do have an open door policy for this reason.

Best wishes,

Tracy Taylor

FOLLOW YOUR INSTINCTS
BE CURIOUS. DREAM BIG.
LOVE WHAT YOU DO.
LOVE LEARNING.
KEEP AN OPEN HEART
& A STRONG SPIRIT
HAVE FUN.

will

Age Restrictions

FOR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

What is the minimum age for account holders on these social media sites and apps?

Age
13

-  **Ask.fm**
-  **Facebook**
-  **Google +**
US and all countries not mentioned under 14 and 16

-  **Instagram**
-  **ooVoo**
-  **Pinterest**

-  **Reddit**
-  **Snapchat**

-  **Tumblr**
-  **Twitter**

-  **LinkedIn**
all countries not mentioned under age 14, 16 and 18

-  **Swarm by Foursquare**

DATING / CHATTING APPS

-  **Meet Me**
-  **Tinder**
-  **Omegle**
-  **Skout**
communities for 13-17 and 18+

Age
14

-  **LinkedIn**
United States, Canada, Germany, Spain, Australia and South Korea

-  **Google**
Spain, South Korea

Age
15

-  **Burn note**
Common Sense Media rating

Age
16

-  **WhatsApp**
-  **LinkedIn**
Netherlands
-  **Google +**
Netherlands

Age
17

-  **Periscope**
Common Sense Media rating
-  **Vine**
-  **Whisper**

Age
18

-  **LinkedIn**
China
-  **Yik Yak**
-  **Kik**
-  **Flickr**
But kids 13-17 can sign-up with parental permission
-  **YouTube**
But kids 13-17 can sign-up with parental permission

As of June 2016

Disclaimer: For the safety of your child, check the terms of service regularly.

digitalparenting
COACH

www.digitalparentingcoach.com