

THE BROOK BROADCAST

LEST WE FORGET!

On Wednesday, it was very moving to hear the corridors and classrooms, that normally ring with laughter, to fall silent for two minutes whilst we all remembered all the people who have died in wars.

All of our community, from Nursery to Year Two, showed the utmost respect and demonstrated how important they thought remembering was.

There were also visual reminders everywhere from the Union Jack raised to the poppies that adorned many windows, display boards, flower beds and so on.

Our children have all understood the significance of the poppy within Remembrance.

Many of our children will be bringing home their own special poppy that has actual poppy seeds forming the middle. These poppies can be cut out and planted somewhere at home and with care and attention, should grow into poppies during the year.



CHILDREN IN NEED!

Thank you to all of our families for showing such amazing support for Children in Need. The children all looked amazing today and we can see that people have been very generous with their donations.

The money donated will be officially counted on Monday, having been left to fallow over the weekend, and we will then be able to give you the total we raised.

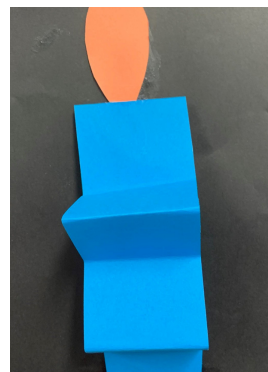
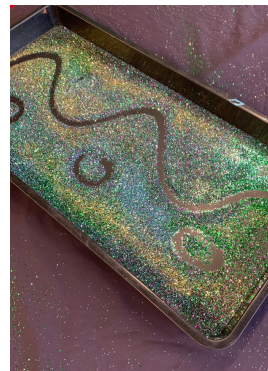
We are also proud that some of our Year One children applied their Makaton (sign language learning) to even wish their class and teacher a 'Happy Pudsey Day'. If you would like to see what we are talking about, simply look at our Facebook Page to see a couple of the children in action.



DIWALI

Today in the Nursery and in Reception there was even more colour and light than normal as the whole EYFS took a break from their woodland learning to learn about the festival of Diwali. The children really enjoyed finding out about this colourful festival and seemed to learn so much about it in such a short space of time.

It was a joy to hear the children talking about this special festival in a really confident way and many of our Owlets really enjoyed putting on the saris and traditional clothing.



OUR MARVELLOUS MUSICIANS!

Our Year One and Two children have been really enjoying their music sessions with our specialist music teacher from West Sussex. The children have been focusing on rhythm this term and have been very excited to be learning Djembe drumming.

Every Thursday the hall is alive with the sound of drumming and you can feel the joy oozing out of the room.

The West Sussex specialist music teacher was very keen for us to hear how impressed she was with all of the children and she even wanted to highlight to us how quickly she felt they are progressing. It is always so lovely when an outside professional comments on how impressed they are with our children. We also understand that our children are making such good progress because they are enjoying their music learning.

A huge thank you to the Year One and Two parents who support the school with funding this enriching musical experience throughout the year.



PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Thank you so much to everyone for making the parent consultations a success this week. As a school, we believe we work as a partnership with you, the first educators, and so to us it was really important to get these happening.

- Thank you to our families for following the instructions and being prepared for the meetings.
- Thank to all of the staff for being amazingly brave and prepared to conduct your consultations in a very different way, one that relied on technology all working as it should at a time when we were all using it.
- Thank you to our administration team who worked exceptionally hard to ensure that all invites were sent (no small job) and all technology was working as should in preparation for the two evenings.

Although it is not the same as having a face to face consultation, there were some real positives that we took from the experience. The main one being that in many incidences, both parents could attend, some even when at work, because they could find 10 minutes to jump on their technology even if in the workplace.

Together we are stronger!



CHRISTMAS!

Oh yes, we are mentioning Christmas again. As we have mentioned, we are having to re-imagine Christmas this year and because of this we have to start much earlier than normal because of the filming and editing that will be involved.

As you will be aware, we are unable to run our Christmas Productions in the normal way, but to us they are a central part of this time of year and our children's overall well-being and development, so it has been vital that we find another way round. Some families may think that these performance are highly enjoyable, but perhaps not essential. However, as educators, we have a different perspective and these performances are by no means trivial. They not only enable us to promote the Arts, which are central to our work at Brook Infant and Nursery, but they also add a huge amount to our little people's personal development. For example, we know that participating in the performing arts helps children to develop a stronger sense of individualism, self-reflection and self-esteem. It encourages children to speak clearly and exercise their memory, in terms of learning their lines and recalling the order of events.

During rehearsals and performances, we often directly witness the children grow in confidence which is vitally important because as a school we know that a lack of confidence can result in the children being reluctant to try new things due to a fear of failure. Therefore, throughout the year, we deliberately plan in many experiences in which children can grow their confidence and take their time to shine.

You will have either already received them, or will be receiving imminently letters from your child's teachers about the arrangements for costumes. Please do note that we have kept everything as simple as possible, because we recognise the short timescale we have given you and also the small fact of lockdown making everything harder.

The reason for the tight timescale is because filming will take place during the last week of November so that there is enough editing time before the big release! Watch this space for more information about how we will be sharing our production of 'A Bundle of Joy' with everyone.

Although we have our online permissions already set up, as a school we feel that the reinvention of how we do a Christmas Performance this year is so different that we need to gain permission from everyone specifically for this. Therefore, please complete the Microsoft Forms Permission by following the link below. Please note this link is also included in the email so that you have it as a live link.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=rmrcEDy7k0GYx5qZ-0TUUEAyICEaubZFjiM5I70ImAxUNjFaVDFCOTFEMIVQQIgxMUowQINZMk5FMiQIQCN0PWcu>

WITHOUT THIS PERMISSION, YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE FILMED AND THEREFORE WILL NOT BE IN THE FINAL CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION.



OUR BUSY ROADS AND BEHAVIOUR TO OTHERS!

Please can I ask all families to park and use the roads local to the school in a courteous manner. We regularly speak to and contact parents who have pulled up or parked on the yellow zig zags or double yellow lines. These lines are there to keep all families safe. Please do not even drop off on our zig zag lines as this causes a hazard and often a road blockage.

Thank you to all of our families who do park considerately, use our informal one way system to ease congestion and are courteous to our neighbours and other families.

Today we had a situation that arose between a driver and a cyclist which resulted in anti-social behaviour. Please can we remind everyone that anti-social behaviour is not acceptable and calm and polite understanding of others should be demonstrated at all times, even when you are feeling anything but calm.

Please remember that our neighbours come to us when there is a problem and anything like this can give the school a bad name.



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 16th November – ILP Writing Day

Thursday 19th November – ILP Writing Day

Friday 20th November – ILP Writing Day

Tuesday 24th November – Forest School Session for Badgers.

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Jumper ... Christmas Dinner ... Christmas Party ... and Father Christmas Visit Day

Thursday 17th December 2020 - School Closes at 13:00.

Friday 18th December 2020 - Inset Day

Monday 4th January 2021 - Back to School

Monday 22nd February 2021 - Inset Day

Monday 7th June 2021 - Inset Day

