

Inside Our Classrooms

Trailblazers: Science - investigating the 'Dunkability of a biscuit.' Lots of scientific language and very serious investigating going on

Innovators: have been reading "The Egyptian Cinderella" and have enjoyed comparing it with the traditional version. In maths they have been amazing at column addition adding some very large numbers! They also had a great afternoon in the woods building pyramids in their outdoor learning session.

Ground-breakers: have continued to travel back through the rulers of England to discover why King James was the first and sixth at the same time and why his reign nearly went with a bang. Following that, they thought about whether we really need Kings and Queens and what happened to Charles I when a lot of people decided that they didn't need him - a whole new meaning to the title 'Head of State'!

Warriors: have nearly all finished writing and publishing our own version of Stone Age Boy this week before starting on our new text: How to Wash a Woolly Mammoth where the children came up with different ways to wash a woolly mammoth as well as finding amazing vocabulary including notorious and gargantuan!

Explorers: Explorers have written wonderful letters from the Snail to the Whale thanking him for the amazing adven-

ture round the world. They used lots of adjectives, similes and verbs to describe what they saw. They then published their letters using beautiful handwriting and have presented them proudly on their class writing wall!

Inventors: have moved into our next 'once upon a time' fairy-tale, Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We started off by focusing on a grammar skills lesson of verbs and used these when identifying bossy verbs in different instructions. Today we followed instructions on how we can make the perfect bowl of porridge, and made our own delicious bowls! Children absolutely loved it!

Thinkers: This week the children read 'Owl Babies' - The children loved it! We used our first Tales Toolkit to identify the main characters, setting, problem and resolution. We have been blown away by their retelling of the story, using both pictures and props. Along this theme the children have also made nests for the owl babies in the garden, have thought about our own homes and families; and have even fed 'worms' to the owl babies with tweezers to strengthen our pincer grip. We have had lots of children successfully sharing on Seesaw from home as well - including Autumn scavenger hunts!

The children in **The Hive** have been working from the book 'Find Your Calm' to learn more about how to help ourselves get back in the 'Green' if we are feeling worried or anxious. We have also been weighing and measuring in Maths.

Friends Of Blackthorns

Amazon Wishlist

The Blackthorns staff have created a list of fantastic books that they think the children would love to read. If you would like to donate a book to our school libraries, the list is available here:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1UA44A0BDIZ1Q?ref_=wl_share
Amazon.co.uk

Local Board

A huge thank you from all of us to everyone who attended the Project Enrichment Community Circle events yesterday and last week. It was great to see so many of our Blackthorns community in our playground speaking to representatives from the Trust about the project. We appreciate that this wasn't an ideal time for many of you, so thank you for rearranging your diaries to make it work. If you weren't able to attend, then there are still ways you can feed into the project. Go online at <https://www.brightonacademiestrust.org.uk/enrichment> to ask questions, suggest ideas, raise any concerns or fill in the Parents and Carers questionnaire.

Head Teacher's Award

Well done to the following children, who have received a Head Teacher's Award: Amelia Heavens, Cora Gleeson and Ana-Maria Gladstone [Innovators] Toby Nichols, Layla Ba, Jacob Husbands and Jasmine Topp [Explorers]

Dates for your diary:

7th October: 2-4pm UoBAT Project Enrichment Community event

13th - 15th October: Y6 to Bowles

19th October: Parents Evening via School cloud

20th October: Parents Evening via School Cloud

21st October: Harvest: One Tree Day

22nd October: INSET

25th– 29th October: Half Term

5th November: Learning Look– Open classrooms [details to follow]

9th November: Tempest Individual/family photos

7th December: EYFS/KS1 Nativity 9:30am

8th December: EYFS/KS1 Nativity 9:30am [details to follow]

9th December: Non School Uniform Day: FoBs Christmas Hamper Doantions

14th December: Pantomime [details to follow]

17th Dec: Last Day of Term—break up for Christmas Christmas Jumper Day

14:00pm Mulled Wine and Raffle

20th—31st December: Christmas Holiday

3rd January: Bank Holiday Monday [Academy Closed]

4th January INSET [Academy closed]

5th –7th January 50th Birthday celebrations [details

Harvest Celebrations

As you may have seen from today's parentmail, on **Thursday 21st October** we will be celebrating harvest in school. Our celebrations are linked to **One Tree Day**, and are in support of the UN Sustainable Development Goal No 15: Life On Land

<https://www.globalgoals.org/15-life-on-land>

Children are invited to wear something green and bring £1 donation, which will plant one tree

<https://www.justonetree.life/>

Important Updates

- There have been some queries around gate opening times. Following the lifting of Covid restrictions the gates open at **08:45** and close at **09:00**. Pick up is EYFS: 15:00, KS1 15:05, KS2 15:15. I have asked the web team to update our website to reflect this information.
- Please can you leave site swiftly to enable Treetops to access playground. Please can I remind you to NOT let children play on the climbing frame.
- With the one way system still in place can I remind parents in the interest of safety to not drive up Blackthorns Close to drop off/ pick up at the top of the hill.
- **Parents Evening** appointments went live at 11:00 today. Please see Parentmail sent today.