

Weekly News

17th December 2020



Dates and key information

School Meals

Week Beginning 4th January - **BLUE**

Juniors ~ £2.35 Infants ~ free

December

- Fri 18th - **LAST DAY OF TERM**

January

- Tues 5th - **FIRST DAY OF SPRING TERM**

Dear Parents,

As I write this final newsletter for 2020 I am feeling very proud of Brayford Academy. The children have been fantastic this term and have made coming to work each day a real pleasure for all the staff. Each child always has a positive attitude to school which makes Brayford Academy a really special place for everyone.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your cooperation during this very different

term. Having families who understand the procedures and decisions we make to safeguard everyone is a real support.

I would also like to thank all of the staff for their interminable hard work to ensure that Brayford Academy is a productive and happy place for the children.

We hope that you enjoy watching the Christmas DVD. The children really enjoyed producing it and their performance is amazing. They worked extremely hard to learn their lines, with some help from you and were whole heartedly committed to making sure they did their very best. I'm sure you will find that you swell with pride and perhaps shed a happy tear when you watch it. Huge thanks goes to all the teachers for making this happen and especially to Miss Sheppard for editing the film in her own time.



The children enjoyed a delicious Christmas dinner yesterday - thank you Bev for making this really special for us. The children and staff really enjoy your cooking and we are very lucky to have you.

It has been very nice to receive cards and presents from some of you and I would like to thank you, on behalf of all the staff, for your kind gifts and messages.

As you know, Mrs Beattie will be taking her maternity leave earlier than expected following advice from her midwife and that Mrs Kate Dadswell will be teaching in the infant class from the start of the Spring term, straight after Christmas. Mrs Beattie will be working with Mrs Dadswell remotely during the Spring term ensuring a smooth transition for the children. We will all miss seeing Sophie's happy face each day but wish her all the best for the remainder of her pregnancy and the arrival of her baby. We all look forward to meeting baby Beattie.

I wish you all a very Merry (and safe) Christmas and look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday 5th January.

Best wishes

Corrinne Smith





SCHOOL MEAL PRICE INCREASE

From January 2021 the price of a school meal will increase from £2.30 to £2.35 to ensure we stay in line with food costs and inflation.

CURRICULUM NEWS

The infant children have been drawing their phonics and maths learning to a close. They have been making Christmas cards, decorating shortbread, singing Christmas songs and have been enjoying spending quality time with each other.



I just want to say a huge personal thank you to our children, families and staff at Brayford. Thank you for bringing me so much happiness, pride, and job satisfaction over the last few years - I shall thoroughly miss not seeing each and every single one of you each day! I shall look forward to hearing about the children's progress and little personalities develop even further after my return from my maternity cover. Merry Christmas everyone, stay safe and have a very Happy New Year!

Mrs Beattie

The Junior children have been rounding up their topic on Mountains this week by creating a poster of all the facts they have learnt over the term. They have enjoyed learning how mountains are formed, the location of some of the world's most famous mountains, how some animals have adapted to live on mountains as well as how mountain zonation impacts the vegetation and wildlife found there. In science, the children have learnt about the water cycle as well as how flooding occurs and how to prevent it. The children have informed me that they have really enjoyed this topic and are looking forward to our next topic in January.



CHRISTMAS PARTIES

On Friday 18th December, the PTFA are organising a Christmas Party. The Infants and Juniors will have separate parties in their own bubbles, there will be food and games, the children can wear party clothes or something Christmas themed!!

BREAKFAST CLUB

Runs daily when required from 7.45am with Mrs Ward and is available to Brumble Bee children as well as school children at the cost of £4.00 per child. Please pre-book sessions through the school office by email to admin@brayford.devon.sch.uk or alternatively phone 01598 710345.



PLEASE NOTE if your child is not booked in to Breakfast Club they will be unable to stay.





COVID 19 UPDATE

Please note that the school needs to be made aware of any positive Covid 19 cases where symptoms developed within 48 hours of being in school - this will include Saturday 19th and Sunday 20th December.

Please email the school office on: admin@brayford.devon.sch.uk as soon as possible following a positive result.

May we please remind you to maintain Social Distancing of 2m when dropping off or picking up your children from school, this includes when queuing up the drive.

Free School Meal Parents - Christmas Holidays

From Tuesday 8th December Devon County Council will be sending a unique code per child to all families known to them, that are currently in receipt of Free School Meals. Each code can be used once on a [website called 'Hawk Select'](#) to redeem vouchers to the value of £30 per child (£15 per week for the two weeks of school holidays) for Sainsbury's, Tesco, Morrison's, Asda, M&S Food and Waitrose.

If you think your child may now be eligible for free school meals due to a recent change in your family's circumstances, please apply online through the [Devon Citizen's Portal](#) to check if you are eligible as soon as possible. This is the quickest and easiest way for your eligibility to be assessed and you will get an instant decision. Alternatively, you can call the DCC education helpline on 0345 155 1019.

To ensure that you receive the free school meals holiday vouchers for this Christmas period you must apply by Friday 18 December 2020.

PRIMARY/INFANT APPLICATIONS

The Primary/Infant Application process closes on Friday 15th January. Any applications received after this date will be considered as late.

Please ensure you have applied for your child's school place for September 2021 by this date.

You can apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline or if you are unable to apply online please request an application form from the school office.



Well Done
for receiving a certificate of achievement this week



Certificate of Achievement

Juniors

Thomas - For working really hard and showing fantastic determination when reading complex books.

Aliyah - For writing a fantastic independent story and thinking carefully about the challenges set for her to show off her fantastic writing talent.

Infants

Duke - For putting great effort into singing the Christmas songs.



Merit Achievers

40 Merit achievers

- ★ Louis L
- ★ Millie

House Points totals

Middlecott=160 Molland=200
Longwood=160 Kedworthy=200



Brayford Academy Term Dates 2020 - 2021

Autumn Term

First day back	Monday 7 th September 2020
Half term	Monday 26 th October – Friday 30 th October 2020
Last day of term	Friday 18 th December 2020

Spring Term

First day back	Tuesday 5 th January 2021
Half term	Monday 15 th February – Friday 19 th February 2021
Last day of term	Thursday 1 st April 2021

Summer Term

First day back	Tuesday 20 th April 2021
Bank Holiday	Monday 3 rd May 2021
Half term	Monday 31 st May – Friday 4 th June 2021
Last day of term	Thursday 22 nd July 2021