

Welcome Back for the Spring Term

We are delighted to welcome back the children to their online classrooms and in-school provision this week. Spring is on its way, with the daffodils opening up in the playground and the trees are about to blossom in the Early Years. All ready to be enjoyed by all of the children on the 8th March! **The Brecknock team are so very happy to welcome the children back.** On Wednesday I sent you a letter detailing the re-opening. **Please ensure you read this letter carefully.**

Further information regarding the return of school technology will be forthcoming.

Please note that the in school provision will close at 12:30pm next Friday 5th March, to allow for the staff to prepare the classrooms for full re-opening. Nursery will remain open until 3:20pm.



COVID Update

There continues to be a very encouraging trend across London, with rates of infection continuing to decline. Camden is the fourth lowest borough in London. Please continue to be vigilant in following the government guidance and continue to drive the numbers down.

You will find the Camden COVID update attached to this newsletter, with information about access to Lateral Flow Testing in the community and vaccination. **All school staff are able to access Lateral Flow Home Tests twice a week, which will support reducing risk of infection in school.**



Go Wild for World Book Day

We have already been reading galore, getting ready for **World Book Day** next **Thursday 4th March** when we will all be going wild. The **costume parade will take place online**, so hopefully the children have started planning their really wild character costumes.

Remember we want home-made, recycled costumes!



Every class is already entangled in their nature inspired class books, with some fantastic work taking place at home and online.

Author virtual visits have already zoomed into both Reception and Nursery. Claire Freedman, author of the much loved '**Aliens Love Underpants**' kicked off proceedings with the children listening to her read the story and using their oracy skills to ask questions. They were amazed to learn that she has written 120 books! Real inspiration for our budding readers and writers. There is lots more to come next week!



Tree Guardians!

In the spirit of rewilding, this week we received **18 'baby' trees to plant around school!** In assembly Henny taught us about the trees and invited the children to be 'tree guardians', taking a prominent role in caring for the trees. **Children in year 1 have been babysitters for the new arrivals!** See [page 9](#) for more information about this project. A big thank you to Camden Council, who yesterday, planted some new **trees on Cliff Villas**.



Parents Evening

In early March we will focus on settling the children into school, assessing how much progress they have made during online learning and any gaps or concepts that need to be revisited. We will be planning different ways to support children to catch up if required, whilst continuing with the full rigorous and exciting curriculum. **Parents' Evening is on 23rd and 24th March** and will take place virtually. You will be able to book your time via our **Parent Evening System**. Bookings will commence on **Monday 15th March** and you will be notified when this is live. **This will be an important meeting to discuss your child's learning and well-being following this term of home learning and their return to school.**



Thank you for your incredible efforts during school closure. Your time and support for the children and their learning has made such a difference. We appreciate that the 'juggle' has been very challenging and are incredibly grateful for your efforts. Just one more week to go!

Take care and have a lovely weekend.

Helen

Thursday 4th March 2021

World Book Day

Friday 5th March 2021

KS1 & KS2 Children to leave school provision at 12.30 and school work to continue at home

Monday 8th March 2021

School to welcome back ALL children

Tuesday 23rd & Wednesday 24th March 2021

Virtual Parents Evening

Thursday 1st April - Friday 16th April 2021

EASTER HOLIDAYS - SCHOOL IS CLOSED TO ALL CHILDREN

Monday 19th April 2021

School reopens - first day of the Summer Term

Training session for Parents and Carers with the Black Curriculum!

As part of our **Anti-Racism Working Group** programme, we are hosting a training session with the black curriculum for parents and carers on

Monday 1st March at 6pm.

This meeting will take place on zoom.

If you are interested in attending, please email admin@brecknock.camden.sch.uk to receive the zoom link. **The leaflet is attached to this newsletter.**

Wellbeing Tip of the Week -

This Is Only Temporary

Sometimes it's helpful to remind ourselves that the situation we're in is only temporary. When faced with a challenging situation, such as the pandemic, or when experiencing a difficult feeling, which can feel intense and long-lasting, it can be hard to think about anything else.

Instead of letting it consume us, if we focus on the fact that it's temporary and will end at some point, this can help us to shake it off and feel a little less overwhelmed. Actively saying to ourselves: "This feeling/situation is temporary and it will pass!", can help reframe our mind-set and enable us to take a step back and see things from a different perspective.



Sign Of The Week:

CHANGE

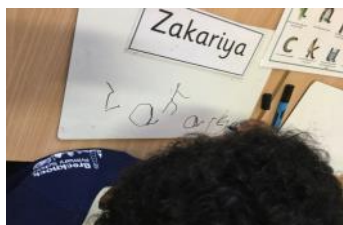
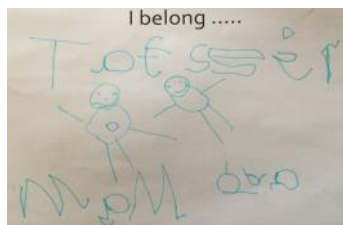


Fists circle backwards around each other



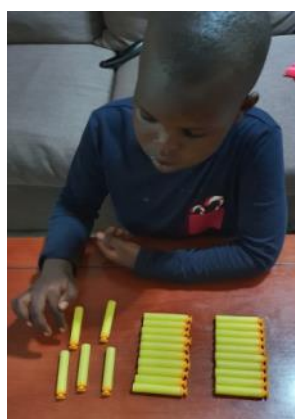


This week Nursery have been exploring the book, 'You belong here.' They began exploring how they belong and who they belong to, representing this in their drawings. They enjoyed going on a habitat hunt in outdoor areas. The children enjoyed making bird feeders to attract the birds and then also enjoyed creating their own nests. They have also continued to work hard on their number recognition and the children loved using the water pistols to support them in recognising their numbers.



Year 1

Year one have been learning about place value. They searched their houses to find objects to put into groups of tens and ones.



Reception

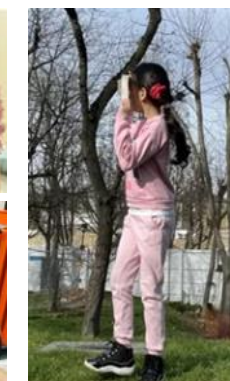
Reception have had such an exciting week. They began by reading 'You belong here' by M.H. Clarke and found out about the habitats of all of the beautiful animals and plants around us. They then went on our own nature walks to observe the sounds, plants and wildlife, taking lots of photos and wrote about what they saw. They were also so lucky have a very special visit from author Claire Freedman who read her story 'Aliens love Underpants'. She gave loads of tips on writing for Reception's budding authors in Reception and we can't wait to use them!



Year 2

Yesterday 2B went on a nature walk to different parks, garden and outdoor areas. The children had to create either binoculars or a camera to take out with them when they were spotting different animals.

Gracie-May said she saw 5 birds on her nature walk.



Lexie saw a squirrel on her nature walk.



Harry's awesome binoculars



Lewis saw a spider and a cat on his walk too.



Year 3

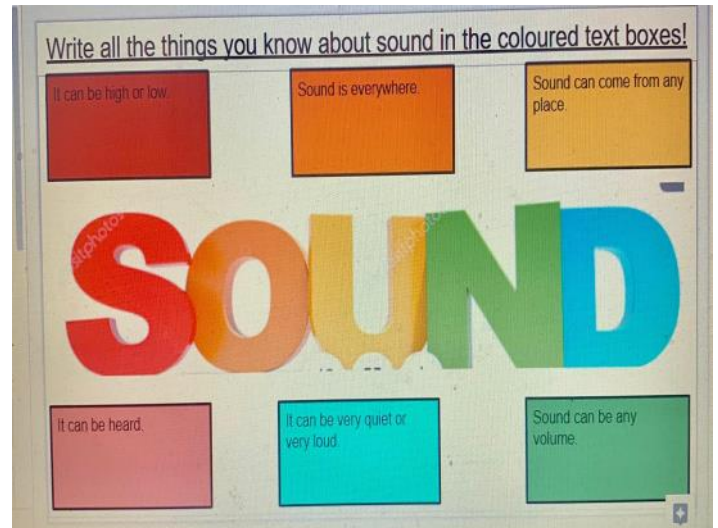
Edward made a model arm to show that muscles contract to aid the arm to move!

This was the perfect conclusion to our Bones, Skeletons and Muscles unit.



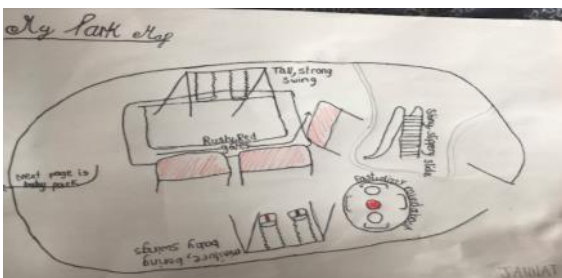
Year 4

In Year 4 this week, they have started learning about Sound in our science lessons! They have so far understood that sound travels in sound waves and vibrations carry sound. They also made comparisons between how light and sound travel. They were surprised to learn that sound travels approximately a million times slower than light!



Year 5

This week, Year 5 started reading The Wild Folk, a story about a city boy named Tin and country girl named Comfrey. In the story, they go on an adventure, so Year 5 also decided to go on their own adventure. They went on a Nature Walk, describing what they could see along the way, and then made a map of their journeys.



Year 6

This week 6Y started their new book, 'The Wild Folk' which they are exploring for World Book day. They went on a nature walk on Wednesday afternoon and collected things that they found, such as leaves and twigs. They then created their own art work based on the work by Andy Goldsworthy.





Here are our stars of the week!





The last week before half term was the final week of The Daily Mile Challenge between Brecknock and Torriano school. It was a tight competition and in week 4 we had over 300 entries, clocking up a total of 1645 miles! **Congratulations to Torriano** for winning Week 4 of the challenge and for being the overall winners.

Well done to **5B** Brecknock for being the winning class, out of both schools, for each and every week during the whole challenge.



The weekly challenge results are as follows:

Week 1 Winners - Torriano **Week 2 Winners** - Brecknock

Week 3 Winners - Torriano **Week 4 Winners** - Torriano

| Class Ranking | | |
|---------------|---------|-------|
| Rank | Class | Miles |
| 1st | Parents | 123 |
| 2nd | 5B | 118 |
| 3rd | 6Y | 102 |
| 4th | Staff | 78 |
| 5th | 5Y | 74 |
| 6th | 4B | 56 |
| 7th | 3B | 50 |
| 8th | 4Y | 44 |
| 9th | 1B | 31 |
| 10th | 2Y | 30 |
| 11th | 2B | 11 |
| 12th | 1Y | 9 |
| 13th | 3Y | 0 |
| 14th | 6B | 0 |

| Class Ranking | | |
|---------------|---------|--------------|
| Rank | Class | Participants |
| 1st | Parents | 23 |
| 2nd | 5B | 21 |
| 3rd | 6Y | 21 |
| 4th | 5Y | 14 |
| 5th | 4B | 13 |
| 6th | Staff | 13 |
| 7th | 4Y | 11 |
| 8th | 3B | 10 |
| 9th | 1B | 7 |
| 10th | 2Y | 5 |
| 11th | 1Y | 2 |
| 12th | 2B | 2 |
| 13th | 3Y | 0 |
| 14th | 6B | 0 |



The climate crisis affects us all. Every week we will be offering a suggestion for a positive climate action you can take yourselves, as part of the bigger changes we need to make as a global community.

Action 11: Drink tap water rather than buying bottled water. Tap water in the UK is safe, clean and healthy to drink as well as being much cheaper than bottled water. Buy a refillable water bottle to use when you are out and about. If your bottle runs dry cafés will always refill it at no cost.



Bottled water creates 1000 times more carbon emissions than tap water. Manufacturing plastic bottles uses lots fossil fuels which contribute towards global warming. Save your pennies and save the planet, drink tap water!

Camden Forest

Brecknock are taking part in the Camden Forest project, which aims to plant 2025 trees by 2025. We have received 18 bareroot 'baby' trees this week and we are looking for some special tree guardians from every year group to help care for the trees and to tell people all about them.



We have received some Crab Apple trees (*Malus sylvestris*), Dogwood trees (*Cornus Sanguinea*) and Rowan trees (*Sorbus aucuparia*)

Tree guardian job description

- Name your tree, look after it, protect it and water it.
- Measure your tree and record it's growth.
- Make signs or information posters for your tree.
- Add your tree to the [Camden Forest Map](#).
- Tell people about your tree!



How to apply to become a tree guardian

Imagine your tree in 10 years time.....show us what it will look like and how it will be used by humans and nature! To show your future tree you can either:

- Make a model
- Draw or paint a picture or diagram
- Do a short piece of writing
- Or write a poem



Things to consider: *What will your tree look, feel, smell and sound like? What kinds of animals and plants will be living in, on and under your tree? How will children and adults be using or appreciating the tree? Will the fruit and wood be used for anything?*

Please hand in your creation by **Wednesday 3rd March**. Send a photo or file to Henny h.wedmore@brecknock.camden.sch.uk OR give it to your class teacher.

Inspiration and information

Watch this! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bH7YeXfdxmY&feature=emb_logo

Listen to this story: The Last Tree by Emily Haworth

<https://camdenforest2025.wordpress.com/poems-and-stories/>

Find information about the trees here:

[Dogwood tree](#)

[Crab apple tree](#)

[Rowan tree](#)

Nursery Open Evening

Brecknock Primary School is a happy and successful primary school that thrives within the borough of Camden. At Brecknock we share aspirations; to ensure that children achieve the highest standards academically and socially, that they are taught in a way which challenges their thinking, stimulates their interests and harnesses their ideas. We strive to develop confident, articulate, and resilient children who understand how to live a responsible, safe, and healthy life and are ready to embrace the opportunities and challenges they encounter at each stage of their lives.

Brecknock Primary School is a **Gold Rights Respecting School**, this means we are committed to placing the values and principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of our policies and practice. It is important to us that children recognise their rights but also acknowledge the rights of others. As well as this approach shaping the needs of our own pupils, and creating a Rights Respecting community, we aim to use this shared understanding to work for global justice and sustainable living.



Brecknock Primary School will be hosting **Virtual Nursery Open Evening Tours** for prospective parents on:

Thursday 4th March @ 4.45pm or 5.45pm



You will have a chance to meet the Executive Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team and find out more information regarding the teaching and learning that takes place at Brecknock. It will also be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about this important transition into the Early Years Foundation Stage of primary school.

To book onto a tour, please follow the link and complete this [form](#).

