



Respect, Responsibility, Hope, Courage

Brabourne

CofE Primary School

12th January 2024

Happy New Year

A very Happy New Year to you all. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and some time off work to relax with family. I just wanted to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you for all the cards and presents for staff at Christmas. I know that everyone was so appreciative of your kind gestures.

Our Conker tree

It is with sadness that I announce the demise of our majestic conker tree.

The tree, believed to have been planted for the coronation of Queen Victoria, has been beloved by children over many generations at Brabourne.

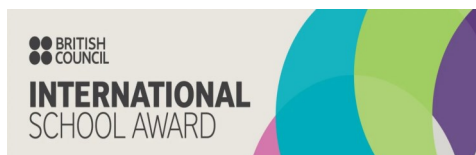
We give thanks for the enjoyment it has provided to thousands of children who have enjoyed its shade, collected conkers and played games around it.

The tree has been assessed by three tree experts and KCC who have identified disease spreading through the core of the tree. This is irreversible and, as you may have already noticed, the tree did not leaf this year for the first time, as its branches are being starved of nutrients.

The tree will be felled this weekend as it is no longer safe. We will be recycling all of its branches to use as benches and communal areas across the school grounds and for barking. The chickens will have a 'holiday' while this is done!

Alas, all is not lost! We have already collected hundreds of its conkers in the Autumn, which the children are growing to plant new trees in various locations, including in 'Wobbly Wood', to give continuation for future generations of children to enjoy. Our predecessors also had the hindsight (or by self-seeding?) to plant a 'back-up' tree at the front of the current school garden, so this will be the new focal point for our school emblem.

In the meantime, we give thanks for the life of our tree, which we celebrated today in collective worship and look ahead also to watching the new off-spring saplings grow.



Pupil Prayer of the week:

This week, Rev Susan and the Open the book team re-enacted the story of 'The Widow's Offering'.

Dear Lord

Let us remember to be generous, not just in what we give in money, but also with our hearts and kindness.

Amen

Clubs

There are some places still available at the various clubs running this term. Please email Mrs Parry, office@brabourne.kent.sch.uk, if you would like your child to be included in any clubs.

Siblings - 2024 intake A reminder to those who have a sibling starting in school in September 2024. Please ensure you have completed the online admissions application. This closes next **Monday, 15th January**. The link for the application can be found [here](#).

Action on Homelessness in Folkestone

Some of our pupils have recently visited a homeless shelter in Folkestone, a charity which provides food and warm clothing to vulnerable people. The children visited as part of their 'stepping out the door' homework and recognised that the charity is in need of additional supplies to help people this winter. Calling our school community! If anyone can spare, or provide some of the items below, we would be most grateful and will ensure these get to those in need:

Socks/pants (for men s/m)

Gloves, scarves, hats

Wet wipes

Tins of tomatoes

Hygiene products e.g. toothpaste, tooth brushes, tissues



May we remind you that places must be booked and paid for in advance for both Early Morning Club and Wrap Around. **To ensure we always have appropriate staffing levels, we cannot accept bookings on the day.** Details can be found here: [Wrap around care - Brabourne Church of England Primary School](#). Please book in advance on [School Money](#).

COLLECTION FROM WRAP AROUND: Would you kindly collect your child(ren):

Please collect your children promptly at the end of the session. Late pick ups may be charged.

Dates for your diary:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Wednesday 17th January | Jupiter to Young Voices concert |
| Thursday 18th January | Fish & Chip Day |
| Friday 9th February | Term 3 Ends |

With best wishes,
Andrew Stapley
Headteacher

Website: www.brabourne.kent.sch.uk

Twitter: [@brabournecep](https://twitter.com/brabournecep)



Mid Year Reports

Mid year mini reports will be issued at the end of this term, with details of the pupils' progress to date and their next steps for learning. In the meantime, the teachers will be happy to discuss with you any queries you may have with regard to your child/ren's learning. Please have a word at the door, or for longer enquiries, please arrange a meeting via Mrs Parry.

Parking

Please could parents make their way as soon as possible after drop off to alleviate the flow of traffic.

E-Safety

We will be focussing on national E-Safety day this term. Please find below a link to further resources which may be of use to you at home. Please ensure that home internet systems are monitored and secure for the children to use.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Curriculum Workshop

We are extremely proud of our curriculum at Brabourne. I will be running a work shop on **Thursday 1st February at 3.30 pm**, when families are invited to come along and find out more about the exciting learning opportunities at Brabourne. Parents should enter via the Jupiter door.

Nut Allergies

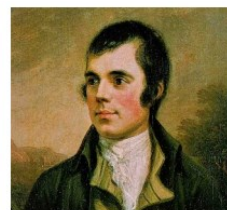
A reminder that, as we have children with nut allergies in school, we would request all parents not to allow any nuts in packed lunches or snacks (includes Nutella/Peanut butter). Thank you



A BURNS NIGHT CELEBRATION

Saturday 20th January 2024
from 6pm

In aid of St Mary's Church, Brabourne



Pipers and drummers from the East Kent Piping Society will be marching from The Five Bells, Brabourne at 6pm along The Street to St Mary's Church, where a Scottish Burns night party will be held!

Traditional Scottish soup, haggis, neeps & tatties and a wee dram!

Tea, coffee & shortbread

A Burns reading by Oliver Trowell

Scottish Dancing for those brave (or foolish) enough!!

Tickets: £25 per adult, under 16's free

Contact: Alastair Gibson

Tel: 07831 645468

Email: steph@gibsonantiques.com



Website: www.brabourne.kent.sch.uk

Twitter: [@brabournecep](https://twitter.com/brabournecep)



Class News



Venus class have started their new topic 'A Ticket to Ride' by enjoying the story 'Naughty Bus' by Jan and Jerry Oke. Venus had a surprise parcel delivered which contained a red bus, similar to the one in the story. We discussed our experiences of going on a bus and other types of transport. Please be on the look out for a little red bus... it turned up in Mr Stapley's office!



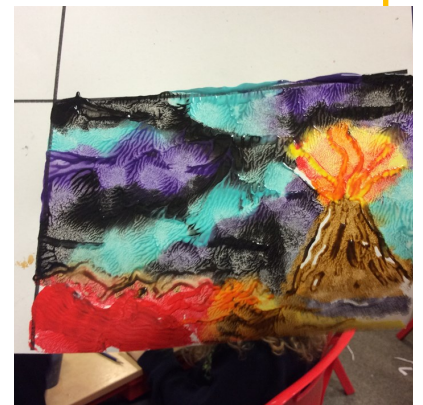
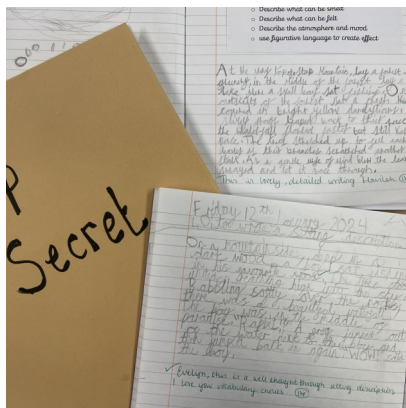
This week Mars class have been learning about the poem The Owl and the Pussycat in their English lessons. They have created their own version of the poem by replacing some nouns and adjectives. Our new poem is called The Fox and the Flamingo! We made these characters and settings out of Plasticine and junk modelling to help retell the tale.



This term, Jupiter have started learning about our new topic 'Extreme Earth.' We are finding out about plate tectonics and how the movement of these can create volcanoes. As part of our art, we looked at the work of Andy Warhol and created volcano prints in a similar style to his iconic 'Marilyn' prints.



Neptune class have started reading a book by Grahame Baker-Smith. We don't know the title yet but we have written some amazing setting descriptions to go with what we've read so far.





SHEPWAY AUTISM SUPPORT GROUP MONTHLY COFFEE MORNINGS

For parents and carers of school-aged children on the autism spectrum.

Come along for a coffee and a chat, whether you have a child with a diagnosis, are waiting for a diagnosis or if you would like to learn more about autistic spectrum condition.

Monday 8th January 2024
Emotional Wellbeing Team

Katherine Staveley
Senior Mental Health Practitioner, NEFLT

10.00am-12.00pm

Conference room, The Beacon, Park Farm Road,
Folkestone CT19 5DN

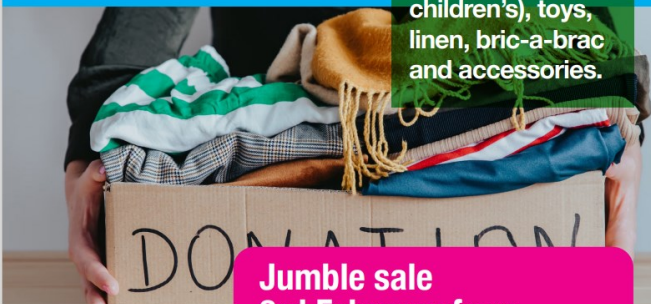
Future dates: Monday 5th February 2024, Monday 4th March 2024,
Monday 15th April 2024

Any questions? Please contact hello.sasg@outlook.com
or visit our Facebook page.



Donations needed

Good quality second hand items including clothes and shoes (ladies, men's and children's), toys, linen, bric-a-brac and accessories.



Jumble sale
3rd February from
10am-2pm at the Hythe.

These can be dropped off at the following hubs

Age UK Ashford, The Joe Fagg Community Centre, Stanhope Rd, Ashford, TN23 5RF.

Age UK Lyminge, 63 Station Rd, Lyminge, Folkestone, CT18 8HQ.

Age UK Hythe, Sanford House, Stade Street, Hythe, CT21 6BD.

From 2nd – 31st January 2024. 9am – 3pm Monday to Friday.

For further details please contact

01303 269602

vc@ageukhla.org.uk



Registered charity number 1125274. Company number 6589817. © Age UK Hythe and Lyminge 2024.

Explore MORE in 2024 FREE Prize Draw!

With spring ahead of us, now is the perfect time to start on plans for wonderful days out in 2024!

You've got to be in it to win it!

FIRST PRIZE: £50 Quiz Trail voucher to spend anywhere on our website. You can order Quiz Trails, books and gifts!

SECOND PRIZE: FIVE Quiz Trails of your choice!

THIRD PRIZE: THREE Quiz Trails of your choice!

Easy to enter: Simply visit our website to find the missing name and enter our FREE prize draw!

www.quiztrail.co.uk

Once you have the answer go to "Explore more in 2024 Competition" at the top of our home page – simple!



Quiz Trails are an 'Approved Activity' for the Kent Children's University™!

Quiz Trails are low-cost entertainment for ALL ages. Only £5.99 for the whole family to enjoy an adventure together. Mums, Dads, Grandma's, Granddad's, Aunties, Uncles and all care-givers can all share one copy.

Explore MORE in 2024!
FREE PRIZE DRAW - Enter Now!

1st Prize: £50 voucher to spend on our website - choose from Quiz Trails, books and gifts!

To enter ... Simply find the name of our NEW East Sussex Quiz Trail on our website & enter your answer at www.QuizTrail.co.uk

*Closes Wednesday 31st January 2024

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