

Foundation Stage Newsletter

Friday 13th March 2026



RECEPTION

What a busy week we've had! Our topic this week and over the coming couple of weeks is about Spring and growing. Our Drawing Club story has been Jasper's Beanstalk, about a cat who was willing his bean seed to grow but growing a bit impatient only to find that it grew into a giant beanstalk, just like in the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. Having wondered what might be at the top of a beanstalk, we will plant our own bean and/or pea seeds next week! In Maths we have been finding out about the number 7, learning what numbers can 'hide' inside, particularly thinking about 5+2, using the phrase '7 is made of 5 and 2, 5 and 2 make 7'. Our RE learning has been about how special our planet is and how we can take care of it. In Geography we thought about what buildings and scenery we might find close to home – the park, a school, the roads, shops; and those which are far away – the beach, snowy mountains, the desert! Next week we will be looking at how places around the UK are different to our local environment. If you have been on a holiday in the UK, please show the children some photos and even show them on a map where they went in relation where they live – is it close by or did it take ages to reach! Does it look the same as at home? What was the same? What was different?

We are really enjoying listening to music and this week we had to listen and say whether a piece of music had a fast, slow or 'in the middle' beat – lots of the children have a great ear for listening in to this.

With Mother's Day on Sunday, the children have worked hard on a little surprise which should be being kept safe in their bookbag or school bag! It's been lovely to hear the children talk so fondly about their Mums, Nans, Aunties...all the grown up ladies who help to look after them! Whatever you're doing on Sunday, we hope you enjoy your day!

FOREST SCHOOL

We had lots of fun in our Forest School session this week. We reminded the children of the rules – 'no picking, no licking', we reminded them about how to carry sticks around and the importance of not running. Some children climbed trees, some used the mud kitchen, some built their own fire and some children did some painting using not a paintbrush, but things we find in nature – sticks, feathers or even old branches from a Christmas tree! It was very windy so it was quite tricky to keep hold of the paper!

NEXT THURSDAY WILL BE PE – . uniform as normal. There are some children who are missing entire kits or part of kits, please make sure shorts and T-shirts are in school as well as pumps. We will send kits home next week so they can be washed and checked for sizing too!

VISIT TO WILD

Over the next couple of weeks, we will have a class list available at drop off and home time collection for you to indicate whether you want to provide a packed lunch for your child on the day of our visit to WILD, or whether you would like the school kitchen to provide lunch. If your child is in either Breakfast or After School Club, you can let us know by email, or send a message with Mrs Burden, Miss Webb, Miss Lloyd or Mrs Payne. The children will need a filled drinks bottle to take with them.

LENDING LIBRARY

Library will be open again next Friday. We love to see how many of you come in and get involved!

READING BOOKS

We have sent home phonics reading books which should be returned on a Friday. If last week's book has been returned today, your child will be bringing home a different book, along with a certificate to say Well Done for practising reading at home! Spending just a few minutes a day practising segmenting and blending makes a huge difference to the children's confidence in our phonics sessions – keep up the great work you're doing at home!

EVIDENCE ME/ HOMEWORK CHALLENGE – reading books have been made available on Collins Hub – please log on to access these. Mrs Burns has sent her phonics group a message on EvidenceMe.

REMINDERS

Tuesday 17th March – Parents meetings

Thursday 19th March – Parent meetings

Red nose day – Friday 20th March – Please see main newsletter

Friday 27th March – PRAISE ASSEMBLY @ 2.45pm – all welcome!

Friday 27th March - end of term

TUESDAY 14th April – Summer term begins (INSET day on 13th April – school is closed to pupils)

Contact us If you have any questions, please ask or you can email us: kburns@bramhills.dudley.sch.uk rlewis@bramhills.dudley.sch.uk
ellayd@bramhills.dudley.sch.uk (Mrs Smallman's email) **Please see the last page for important information**

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Pre-School

This week we continued our topic of 'Minibeasts'. The children used their scissor skills to create their own bug scene. They chose what minibeasts they wanted, they then had to cut around them and stick them onto their paper! I have said this before but please encourage your children to cut with scissors (child scissors) as they really need this skill for Reception and to strengthen their fingers muscles which then helps them to write.

In the tuff tray, we had to dig for worms! Children had tweezers and fine motor tools to find the worms in the dirt. This went well with our Maths as the worms were all different sizes! Some were long/longer and short/shorter. Children also had the opportunity to make different size worms outside with the playdough!

Of course, with it being Mother's Day on Sunday the children worked hard to make of you a lovely Mother's Day card. We talked about what Moms, Aunties, Nannies and carers do to help us and how we needed to say thank you! So, I do hope you all have a lovely day!

Maths – This week we have looked at mass in Maths - heavy and light items. I explained to the children how weighing scales work! We used the scales to weigh objects around Pre-School. First, we guessed which item may be heavy or lighter and then put it to the test! We knew the side of the scale that went closer to the floor was the heaviest object.

Phonics – In Phonics, we have continued looking at rhyming which we will keep repeating - Words that sound the same. We played rhyming bingo, so the teacher held up a word (for example hat) and the children had to shout out if they had the matching rhyming word (bat or cat!)

Forest School – We weren't too bad with the weather this morning but definitely a wet one this afternoon. This was another lovely muddy one. Children made their own faces using whatever natural resources they could find. We had found leaves, flowers and even some conkers buried etc. Please encourage the children at home to get dressed themselves/shoes on and off etc- this gets them more independent and gets them ready for Forest School and P.E in Reception! Next week we will be having a little fire to warm up our some hot chocolate! Please note that next week will be our last Forest School session before Easter!

EvidenceMe Challenge – For the last 2 weeks of term, we are looking at Spring and Easter so could you go on a little Spring hunt/walk, either in the garden or on a local walk. See if your child can find something that happens in Springtime.

Daffodils growing, buds appearing, sun shining, daisies in the grass etc. Have a go. Have a lovely weekend! 😊

FAVOUR TO ASK – Has anyone got a water butt with a tap they no longer need or use? We desperately need one for Forest School so the children can access their own water. If you have, please let a member of staff know. Thanks so much in advance.

REMINDERS –

- Red nose day – Friday 20th March – Please see main newsletter
- Break up for Easter – 27th March – Children come back to school on **TUESDAY 14th APRIL** (inset day on Monday 13th April)
- Please make sure you read the school newsletter from Mr Stevens as there is important information on there too.
- There are spaces available for Pre-School starting September 2026! If you have any family members or friends who's child is 3 years old and would like to start Preschool in September please let them know to click on the link to [Bromley Hills Primary School - Pre-School - Register Your Interest](#)
- **Please see the last few pages for important information** Any questions or if you need support please just ask or email me on epowis@bromhills.dudley.sch.uk

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Important Information

- Please read the attached information about the consumption of slush ice drinks and the effect that they can have on younger children under 7 years and the limit for children under 10 years <https://www.food.gov.uk/safety-hygiene/glycerol>
- **From Public Health** – Please click on the link for nutrition guidance for healthy lunchboxes <https://www.dudleyhealthylunchbox.org.uk/>
- **From Public Health** – MMR / MMRV vaccination is vital because measles is highly infectious and can lead to serious complications, including pneumonia, meningitis and, in rare cases, long-term disability. Both vaccines are safe and the MMR provides effective protection against measles, mumps and rubella, and the MMRV vaccine also includes protection against chickenpox (varicella), helping to keep children, staff and the wider community safe.

Don't forget your child's next appointments to help give them the best protection as they begin to explore the world and mix with more children and people.

Schedule from one year of age to 5 years of age

Age of child	Vaccine given	Diseases the vaccines protect against
One year	PCV MMRV MenB	Pneumococcal Measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox MenB
18 months	MMRV (dose 2)	Measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox
	DTaP/IPV/Hib/HepB (6 in 1 vaccine)	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, Hib and hepatitis
3 years and 4 months	dTaP/IPV (pre-school booster)	Diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis and polio
	MMRV if a dose was missed	Measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox



Types of MMRV vaccine

The MMRV vaccine contains weakened versions of living measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox viruses. Because these viruses are weakened, they do not spread easily to other people.

There are 2 MMRV vaccines which work equally well: **ProQuad** and **Priorix Tetra**. ProQuad contains porcine gelatine (gelatine from pigs) and Priorix Tetra does not. If you want your child to have the vaccine without gelatine, talk to your practice nurse or GP.

Further information is available in the patient information leaflets.

ProQuad

www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101444/pil

Priorix Tetra

www.medicines.org.uk/emc/product/101321/pil

More information on vaccines and porcine gelatine is available on GOV.UK.



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