



Dear Parent/Carer,

In the last two bulletins I mentioned the 'Digital Discovery Day' that was planned for Monday. It turned out to be a fantastic day.

In every classroom I visited that day, pupils were glued to the activities, with a very real 'buzz' of excitement that was almost tangible.

The four colleagues from OHCAT who came to run the day facilitated three main activities. One involved Virtual Reality (VR) headsets. Pupils took it in turn to wear the headsets which showed footage of various types – for example roller coasters or swimming with sharks, but all of this in a 360 degree effect. It was clear by the children's responses that it felt as if they were actually in the fairground or the sea!

Another activity was the 'Green Screen'. Pupils would take photos of themselves and then the photos would be put into a film and projected onto a sheet of green material in the classroom. Their individual photo was embedded into various footage and they enjoyed watching themselves in the film.

Building and programming a Lego car seemed very popular. Having created their own cars and programmed it to travel the way they wanted, pupils then raced their cars against the cars of the other children in their group. Again, as you can imagine, this was very engaging for the pupils.

Throughout the day the pupils were learning a range of skills which will be helpful to them in later life. The types of skills they were developing are at the heart of many IT based professions, and who knows, skills and professions that some of our pupils may be employed in one day.

Other notable things to occur this week was the educational visit which Mars and Jupiter classes went on to the 'Cline Museum' in London. The pupils and staff returned enthusiastically talking about the various things they had seen and done during the day.

We also had our Attendance Tea. This is a celebration tea for those who managed to attend Brantridge with a 100% attendance throughout September. We keep reminding our children of the importance of regular attendance as being foundational for their learning.

In addition there was the weekly visit to the gym for Neptune class and to the swimming pool for Titan class. It has been a good week.

I trust you have a good weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Principal

## Neptune:

Neptune had a great start to the week with the Digital Discovery day. The boys took part in various workshops including building a motion censored Lego car, creating images using a green screen, using VR headsets and playing a video game created by one of the teachers. We were joined by Mars class for the workshops and in the afternoon we saw some great teamwork between the two classes. In Forest School we played 'Capture the Flag' and we had some younger boys who were here on assessment who joined us. The boys were really welcoming and again showed some great teamwork. In science we have continued our learning on DNA and Inheritance and we looked at continuous and discontinuous variations, created a survey which we conducted around the school and which we are going to show as a graph. In computing the boys are working on online games for younger children with a Halloween theme.

## Titan:

This week has been incredibly positive for Titan. The boys have engaged very well in their lessons. They adored the Digital Literacy Day on Monday. They experienced programming, green screens and virtual reality headsets, among other things. In English, the boys have been correctly using apostrophes for possession and contractions. The boys all worked hard in the measures lessons for Maths. We have seen a huge number of credits accumulated for Titan this week, with an increasing amount of golds where boys are going above and beyond with class work and socially as well.

## Mars:

A really exciting week in Mars class! On Monday we took part in digital learning day where we got to take part in lots of exciting activities including using a green screen to create images of ourselves in exciting places! We also played with VCR headsets and programmable Lego.

On Wednesday we went to London to visit the Clink Museum with Jupiter class. It was really interesting and we got to see some of the instruments of torture that we have been learning about in our history lessons- some boys even got put in to the stock, but we didn't throw any rotten fruits at them!

Back in class we have been learning about personal and possessive pronouns and in Big Write we continued our super hero stories. In maths lessons we have been consolidating our investigations into rounding numbers.

In science we learned that the Earth spins on an axis around the sun and carried out fun experiments to prove this.



## Saturn/Mercury

The boys in Saturn and Mercury class have been learning about number bonds to 10 and 20 and solving word problems in Maths. In English they have had to write a description of a setting where they used describing words/adjectives, capital letters and full stops for their sentences. In Science, we have learnt about personal hygiene and how to keep our bodies clean, and what impact it has on our lives. Some of the boys have been tidying up the garden, getting ready for the leaves that will inevitably fall during autumn. We have seen some lovely team work this week and some friendships starting to embed. They boys loved the Digital Discovery day on Monday, and they displayed some outstanding team work to build the Lego cars.



**Jupiter:** Jupiter have had a very busy week. Lots of modified time tables, enrichment and support throughout the week, meant the boys enjoyed smaller class numbers than usual. We have been using ten pin bowling to help us learn about fractions, multiplying 3 digit numbers by 1 digit and how to count on from a number between 1 and 100. A huge thank you to Miss Lyons who invited us on the trip to the Clink in London, where we learned about crime and punishment hundreds of years ago. It was superb to see the boys engaged and "trying out" different forms of punishment such as the stocks and the ball and chain. Well done to those who showed wonderful resilience and manners throughout the day.

**Pluto:**

In Pluto this week they have been discussing what makes a good story by using the book 'Superworm' by Julia Donaldson. They then used this learning to plan their own stories and lastly they began writing them. In Maths they have been using their place value and number knowledge to solve number riddles. Resilience has been shown by all boys to stick with it and try different ways to answer maths questions. I am proud of them for this.

## Brantridge Weekly - Roll Of Honour!

### TOP OF THE LEAGUE

**1<sup>st</sup>** Felix, Taylor and Jayden



### TITAN

### MARS

King of the Credits

Jayden

King of the Credits

Felix/ Taylor

Star of the Week

Christopher

Star of the Week

Felix

### SATURN/MERCURY

### PLUTO

King of the Credits

Kaylum

King of the Credits

Star of the Week

Aaron

Star of the Week

### JUPITER

### NEPTUNE

King of the Credits

Tyler

King of the Credits

Joe

Star of the Week

Mrs. Fox!!

Star of the Week

Joe

## Therapies:

The whole school has been targeting '**Check It**' this week in the Social Communication Programme. I'm sure if you ask your child what this means they will tell you. This target aims to support pupils to develop independence skills and encourage them to take on responsibility for their own understanding and learning.

Using '**Check it**' at home:

- If you give your son an instruction and are not sure if they have understood it. Then say '**Check it**' and they will try to tell you what they did understand about your instruction.
- If your son says the phrase '**check it**' to you, they might want to check for an understanding of a word you have used or be telling you that they haven't understood what you have asked them to do.



Next week the Social Communication Programme target is: '**We Prefer Polite**' this target is to encourage pupils to improve their use of social language and appropriate manners. As adults we need to remember to model appropriate behaviours, use of words and provide opportunities for our students to learn and to practice using good manners. This target can be used to calmly discourage the use of bad language, swear words and or inappropriate tone of voice. We will tell you more next week.

# Forest School

On Thursday Marc Easton our new Forest School Leader began. He spent most of the day getting to know the Brantridge students either in the Forest or playing sport with them. So everything is all set up to continue to run the Forest Sessions next week.



Just a reminder that Forest School takes place in all weathers so please send in labelled Wellington Boots and Coats.

# Safeguarding

To all Parents/Carers

Brantridge School welcomes Local Youth and Crime Prevention Officer PC Theresa Broad into school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October. PC Broad will be discussing the topic of knife crime with all pupils. This is a topic that is regularly in the news at the moment, and we would like to take the opportunity to educate our pupils on the dangers and concerns around carrying knives in order to help them to make positive choices in the future and to keep them safe. Each class will engage in a 30 minute session with PC Broad. If you would prefer your child not to take part in the session provided, please call reception and ask to speak to Mr Robert Chowns (Regional Lead for Safeguarding.)