



# NEWSLETTER **APR 2023**



# SPRING

## A message from our Headteacher...

This term Browney Academy has been a hive of activity! Not only have the children been working their socks off in maths and English, but they have also been learning more about the world in our theme days. To capture our children's interests even further, we have taken learning outside school by taking part in a whole host of trips.

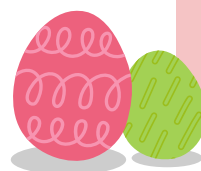
We also welcomed guests into school for a Mother's Day brunch. These much loved school events are a great opportunity to welcome families into school and celebrate as a school family. Behind the scenes, we are already preparing for the summer term, so we are looking forward to more community events in the coming months.

A huge well done to our pupils this term for trying so hard in all subjects but particularly with their writing. I was so impressed with the standard and presentation in our most recent writing moderation.

Thank you for your continued support this term. Have a wonderful Easter break. With very best wishes,

*C Harris*

**Catherine Harris, Headteacher**



## In this issue...



### Mother's Day brunch

To mark Mother's Day, our children invited all the ladies in their lives into school.



### Beamish trip

Reception children travelled out to Beamish Museum this term, visiting the houses and pit village section to learn about family lives in the past.



### Book worms

This term saw the return of the much-loved World Book Day.

# Global Easter traditions

In the UK, hot cross buns are eaten to represent the crucifixion of Jesus. We also see supermarkets packed with Easter eggs - did you know in 2021, we spend a whopping £299 million on them!?

Some North Western European communities kick off Easter celebrations by enjoying a bonfire while people from Ethiopia often celebrate 'Fasika' which is similar to lent, where people avoid meat and animal products for 55 days in the lead up to Easter Sunday.

Italian people often gather for firework displays which dates back over 350 years!

People from Antigua Guatemala mark Easter by creating colourful carpets and covering the streets in them to prepare for the Good Friday procession through the city.

# Mother's Day brunch

To mark Mother's Day, our children invited all the ladies in their lives into school for special Mother's Day brunches to thank them for everything they do.

After taking part in sports and craft activities, the hall was packed full of teary-eyed visitors who watched as the children performed a moving song before settling down to a lovely brunch together.

Everyone commented on how enjoyable the event was and how fantastic the children were - well done! A huge thank you to our ever supportive staff who helped organise the event and of course to everyone who came along.



# British Science Week

This month we celebrated British Science Week and this year's theme - CONNECTIONS. It was a fantastic opportunity to show our children the brilliance of science and how it connects to the rest of the curriculum.

Children enjoyed lots of activities and even planned and lead their own investigations, connecting as many skills and subjects as possible.



# Year of the Rabbit

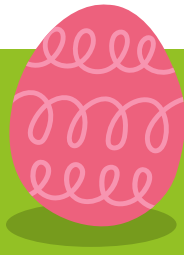
At the beginning of term, our pupils learned all about Chinese New Year. Reception invited Year 1 pupil Nathan and his dad into class to teach them about how Chinese people celebrate the festival.

Both Nathan and his dad gave the class lots of interesting information, like how important calendars are in China, Japan and Asia where they celebrate the Lunar New Year and how they use animals on a calendar instead of numbers. Nathan also taught the group that when reading Chinese writing they read down the page and not across the page like we do in England.

The class also learned all about the story of Chinese New Year and practiced their acting skills while preparing an assembly to show everyone what they had been learning. The dragon dance was a highlight for everyone!



## Spring time fun



The weather is getting warmer and the days are getting brighter, so why not head out into the fresh air with a grown up to explore nature.

How many things on our spring checklist will you see on your walk through nature?

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daffodils | <input type="checkbox"/> Blossom  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Birds     | <input type="checkbox"/> Trees    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clouds    | <input type="checkbox"/> A rabbit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Insects   | <input type="checkbox"/> Berries  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A snail   | <input type="checkbox"/> A worm   |

## Easter jokes

**What's an Easter bunny's favourite sport?**

*Basketball*

**Why don't rabbits get hot in the summer?**

*They have hare conditioning.*

**What do you call a transformer bunny?**

*Hop-timus Prime*

**Why does the rabbit bring toilet paper to the Easter party?**

*Because he is a party pooper*



## Eco warriors!

Our Eco Council have been hard at work this term thinking of things they could do to help support wildlife around school. The group worked to create some fruit garlands for the birds and hung them in the trees around the secret garden, hoping to catch a glance of the birds eating them!



# Budding geographers



# DATES

for your diary

31 MAR - Break up for Easter

18 APR - Back to school

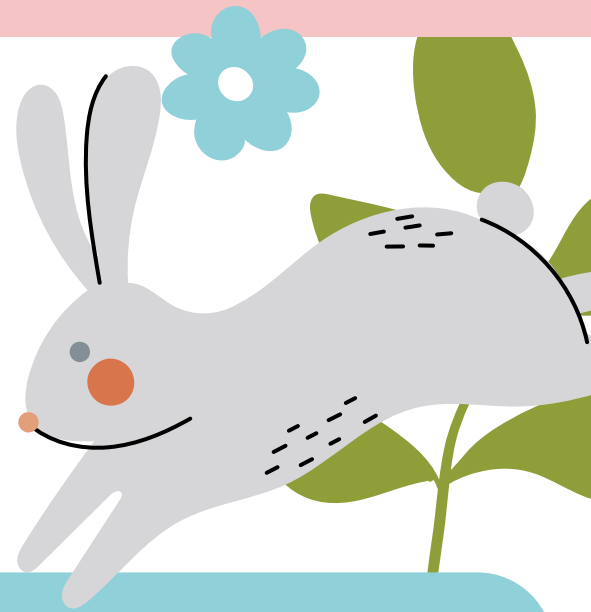
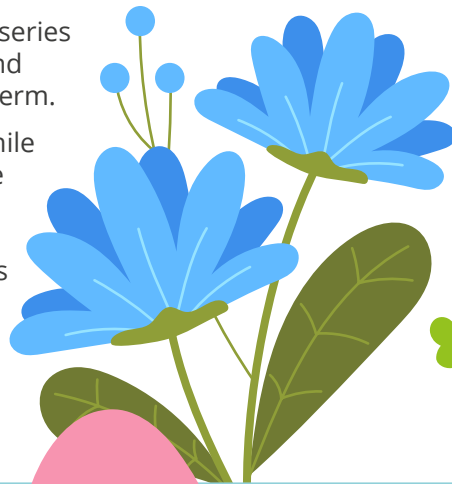
01 MAY - Bank holiday

08 MAY - Bank holiday



Year 4 and 5 completed a mini series of lessons together on rivers and settlements in geography this term.

Year 5 explored settlements while Year 4 researched rivers before coming together in the hall to combine their knowledge and create exciting, detailed posters about the importance of rivers to the communities in settlements.



# World Book Day

This term saw the return of the much-loved World Book Day. We had a magical day celebrating our love of books and the theme 'You are a Reader - Far and Wide'. As always we were blown away with everyone's costume efforts - you all looked amazing!



# Spring time faith



As a predominantly Christian country, most people in the UK celebrate **Easter** during the spring time to mark the resurrection of Jesus after his crucifixion. Each year, Easter Sunday takes place on a different date - the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or after the spring equinox.

**Passover**, a spring holiday in the Jewish calendar, also takes place in spring. Passover celebrates the Biblical story of the Israelites' escape from slavery in Egypt. It is tradition to eat a special bread that does not contain yeast (unleavened bread) called matzo. You must have speed on your side when making matzo as the bread begins to rise after 18 minutes!

**Ramadan** is celebrated by those who follow Islam and this year it's from the end of March to the end of April. Those who celebrate Ramadan practice fasting, prayer, reflection and celebrating community. Food can only be eaten after sunset or just before dawn, meaning many families create plentiful feasts to enjoy after daylight hours.

# Zumba fun!

This month, Year 2 and 4 children had a sweaty morning putting their Zumba moves to the test!

The upbeat music really got them moving and it was a great way to start a cold and grey Wednesday. Gemma kindly led the sessions where each class learned some basic moves, practised their coordination and most importantly, had lots of fun!



# Going back in time at Beamish

Reception children travelled out to Beamish Museum this term, visiting the houses and pit village section to learn about family lives in the past. Our children explored how houses have evolved over the decades and even got the visit the old school building to see how different it is to our school now.





# WHAT WOULD DAVID DO?

Is your child an eco champion? We're launching a new eco-campaign in school to encourage all students to join our exclusive What Would David Do? (WWDD) club, where membership is reserved for our most eager energy experts, resolute recyclers and superior species savers.



←  
**MERCH!**

Your child is in with a chance of bagging this year's must-have uniform embellishment if they can prove that they have worked hard to save energy, reduce waste and improve the environment around school and at home.

Students (even sixth formers!) across the North East Learning Trust will be sent one of our limited edition pins and certificates at the end of each term if they can prove that they are an eco champion.

Is there anything you can do at home to help them bag one of our recycled wooden David Attenborough pins?

## HOW TO WIN A BADGE:

START AN ECO INITIATIVE

SHOW PROOF OF YOUR ENERGY SAVING

SHARE ECO IDEAS OR PROJECTS + MORE

### How to apply:

Your child will need to download an application form and fill it in (including a signature from their teacher) before sending it to NELT Head Office. At the end of term our eco champions will be decided and their place in the WWDD club confirmed with the delivery of their certificate and pin.

Visit: [nelt.co.uk/WWDD](http://nelt.co.uk/WWDD)



North East  
Learning Trust