



Issue 13

25th January 2023

*“Dreams come
a size too big so
that we can
grow into
them.”*

Josie Bisset

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter.

Wishing a Happy Lunar New Year to all our families

祝我們所有的家庭農曆新年快樂

Form 3 Class Assembly

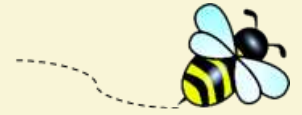
What a treat we had when Form 3 showcased their knowledge of Lunar New Year in their class assembly this week. I hope all the parents enjoyed it as much as we did, as we learnt all about the Chinese zodiac and how Lunar New Year is celebrated across the world. The children had made wonderful masks and we were also lucky enough to see some wonderful traditional dress. Well Done Form 3 you were amazing and we are all very proud of you.

Report by Mr Whittell



Form 2

This week Form 2 have been studying the book Owl Babies by Martin Waddell. They had lots of fun acting it out and at the same time learning about speech marks in their own writing.



Form 6

Form 6 have been looking at persuasive writing and as part of this decided to write letters to Mr Whittell to convince him to consider changing the school policy on wearing school uniform and allow pupils to wear their own clothes. We looked at arguments for and against and had some interesting discussions on the subject. We presented the finished articles to him but, although he said he was impressed with the points we had raised, he said he had not been converted to the idea yet. More work for us to do on that one!

In preparation for next week's National Storytelling Week, Form 6 have been coming up with their own stories and creating a booklet of them to share with some of the younger children. Some chose to base their stories on traditional fairy tales - but with a twist - while others came up with their very own tales from scratch.

Report by Mr Shepcock



Form 4 & 5

Form 4 and Form 5 were so excited on Friday, when they had the opportunity to take part in a special workshop to celebrate Lunar New Year!

It was wonderful to have members from the PTA lead the session and help the children to create rabbit themed paper folding and paper chains! Look at how brilliant they turned out!

The children also had the opportunity to try some Chinese calligraphy with special paintbrushes. Lucie gave the class a demonstration and showed us how to write her name in Chinese!



We wish everybody, who celebrated, a 新年快乐 and we would like to thank the parents who delivered the sessions to us!

Report by Miss Basger



KG1

KG1 have been celebrating Lunar New Year and produced a lovely display.

The children have learnt that in Chinese astrology, 2023 is the Year of the Rabbit. They painted rabbits and used their early writing skills to write rabbit facts.

KG1 have also been very busy finding out about night and day, the children made books ordering their day and night-time routines. They also discovered some interesting facts about nocturnal animals.

Report by Mrs Coffey & Mrs Speakman





KG2

This week KG2 have been learning all about Lunar New Year. They have read the story of the Zodiac, discussed traditions and learnt how Lunar New Year is celebrated by some of their friends.

The children enjoyed taking part in the Chinese Dragon dance during their music lesson so much, that they wanted to know more about dragons. They then read the story 'The Dragon with the blazing bottom by Beach. They also looked at different fictional dragons and chose one to label and then write about. What a busy week they have had!

Report by Mrs Boulton



Form 3

In Form 3 this week we have enjoyed learning all about Japan. In our Geography lessons, we have researched interesting facts about the culture of Japan and the four main islands. In our English lessons, we have been applying our knowledge of Japan to write a non-chronological report to inform people all about the country.

The class had a great time during our Lunar New Year celebrations on Friday, learning to write the work 'fortune' in Mandarin and creating a rabbit paper chain. On Sunday, Harriet will be part of the choir and dances in China Town.

Report by Miss Wilkinson





Form 1

As part of our Geography topic, The World around Us, we have been learning the names of the seven continents. Form 1 enjoyed singing along to the continents song and using Google Earth to explore the world. Scan the QR below to listen to the song with your child. This week we have delved into the countries that make up Europe. We discussed national flags and famous landmarks from around the world. This was followed by a game of 'Map Bingo' and then using Google Earth to search for and explore famous landmarks from around the world.

Report by Mrs Houseman



Extra- Curricular



Well done to Alyssa from KG2 who won Player of the Week at FootyTotz

Great work Rafferty - who got Player of the week at Football & Rugby!



Netballer of the week for excellent performance
Ella



PTA Lunar New Year Assembly

It was such a special treat on Friday, when the PTA delivered a special assembly to the whole school in celebration of Lunar New Year.

The children who celebrate took part in teaching the rest of the school a 'Happy New Year' song and everyone impressed the members of the PTA with their quick learning!

Thank you so much to Mrs. Lui and the other members of the PTA who gave up their time to deliver such a lovely experience to our pupils!



Reading Recommendation



Book:	The Princess and the Wizard
Age Range:	3-6 years
Author:	Julia Donaldson

The princess may try seven times to escape by changing her colour and changing her shape, but each time Princess Eliza changes – into a blue fish, a yellow chick, a red fox or a black cat – the wicked wizard finds her and sets her another horrible task. Will this plucky princess be able to outwit him and escape back to the palace in time to cut her birthday cake? The Princess and the Wizard is a magical adventure from the stellar picture book partnership of Julia Donaldson and Lydia Monks, creators of What the Ladybird Heard. With brilliant rhyming verse, bright and distinctive illustrations and a gorgeously glittery cover, this story is perfect for reading together.

Book Review by Alyssa – Form 1

Why did you choose this book?

'Because I have it at home and enjoy reading it'

What do you like about this book?

'It is sparkly on the front.'

Who is your favourite character?

'I like the princess because she has a birthday.'

How does this book make you feel?'

'It makes me feel good.'

Why do you think people should read it?

'Because it is a good book and it makes me laugh.'





Commendations

These are the commendations for last week.

KG1 – ☆Star of the week☆ - Phoebe

KG2 – Jack & Layla

Form 1 – Xavier & Caleb

Form 2 – Ajae & Beatrice

Eco-School

Eco-Tip of the Week

This week the energy saving tip from the eco-council is:

Invest in reusable cups. Use a reusable cup for your morning coffee, and one for the water you sip throughout the day. Every year 6.5 million trees are cut down to produce paper coffee cups. Coffee cups that end up in UK landfill sites produce an annual carbon footprint equivalent to over 152,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide (similar to 33,300 cars a year)

On-Line Safety

Here are some useful links for parents on online safety:

[National Online Safety | Keeping Children Safe Online in Education](https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers)
<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>
<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>
<https://www.common sense media.org/articles/social-media>
<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

Social Media

Please see more of what we are up to on social media

Twitter - twitter.com/branwoodschool?s=11&t=Q7kv7YPQmKl2GQtX563BSw
Instagram - <https://instagram.com/branwoodschool?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>
Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/BranwoodPreparatorySchool>

