

Autumn Newsletter

Wow, what an exciting first half term we have had together at Brambles. As we come to the end of our half term, we have so much to celebrate. All of the children and staff have been working hard every single day and the learning environment is truly wonderful. We would especially like to give a warm welcome to all our new starters and their parents, we hope you thoroughly enjoy your time at our school. For your information all of our newsletters and other information about the school will be on the Brambles Academy website for parents to visit anytime they wish.

New Starters

We would like you to welcome, Mr Higgins, our new Deputy Head Teacher. Mr Higgins was previously at Pennyman Primary Academy, which is another academy in our Trust, and has a wealth of experience of Key Stage 2.



We would also like to take this opportunity to welcome more new staff. Miss Bourne (Y1), Miss Beadling (Y1), Miss Thomas (Y3) and Miss Harbron (Nursery). We are very excited to have you all in our team!

Reading Development

First of all we would like to say a big **Thank You** to all the parents who read at home with their children regularly. Research has found that shared reading experiences are very good for young people. Benefits of shared reading include fostering the development of listening skills, spelling, reading comprehension and vocabulary, and establishing essential foundational literacy skills. They are also valued as a shared social opportunity between parents and their children to foster positive attitudes toward reading.

We are also changing the way we approach reading in the academy and children from KS1 upwards will begin their school day with reading in class to develop their stamina and to support their writing.

We are hoping that promoting reading into writing will enable all of the children to develop their enjoyment of literature.



Halloween Disco

 On Tuesday 31st October we will be holding a Halloween Disco. Tickets cost £2 (which includes a hotdog and a drink) and are available from the office.

Reception and Key Stage One Disco will start at 1.45pm and finish at 3.10pm.

Key Stage Two Disco will start at 3.30pm and finish at 4.45pm.



Wednesday 1st November - any cakes or biscuits left over from the disco will be on sale to the pupils.

Polite Request—Office Demands

Whilst we accept there will always be small emergencies to take account of, the Office Team is struggling to cope with demands on their time. Each lost trip letter, forgotten PE kit, or medical appointment in school time, has a knock-on effect in the office and prevents the team from doing the job they are supposed to be doing.

Could we please ask that wherever possible, children do not get collected early and that PE kits are left in the academy for the week to avoid interruptions to the working day. Furthermore, could trip money and trip letters be given to the teaching staff instead of the office. This would reduce the amount of traffic in the office and allow them to concentrate on the job in hand.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation



Choir Festival

A huge well done has to go to all of the children who took part in the performance at St. Nicholas' Church in Guisborough on the 19th October. Our children sang beautifully and we are sure you will agree, made us all feel very proud. The children all were a credit to the academy and completely held their own; learning and singing some challenging music.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the family and friends for supporting us. A special thank you goes to Mrs Stogdale for her participation in what was a superb event and to Miss Beever and Mrs Mackay for working so hard with the choir.

Their time and effort is really appreciated by the staff and the children. We have lots planned for choir this year - so watch this space!!



Brambles Primary Academy Key Dates

2nd November- Coffee Morning. 9am all welcome
 13th November- Super Splash Northumbrian Water Pantomime.
 Year 6 to Inspire to Learn
 17th November- Children in Need. £1 donation for wearing spots.
 20th/21st November- Parents Evenings
 1st December- Tree decorating day
 4th December- Pantomime, Cinderella. PM
 7th December- Coffee morning. 9am all welcome.
 12th December- Y1/2 Christmas Performance
 13th December- Year 5 to Middlesbrough Town Hall
 Reception/Nursery Christmas Performances
 14th December- Christmas Fair
 15th December- Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper day
 18th December- Christmas Carols at the Cathedral
 19th/20th December- Christmas Parties
 Thursday 21st December- 'Toy Day'.
 Early Finish for Christmas from 1.30pm



Children's Flu Vaccination Programme



You may be aware from the news that the government have extended the flu vaccination programme to include Years 1, 2, 3 and 4.

The vaccination isn't an injection but is inhaled through the nose and does not cause the child any pain.

Our vaccinations take place on **Thursday 16th November**. The children in the above classes have received permission forms for you to sign. The letters will give you all the information on the vaccination itself as well.

Please return the forms to the academy by **Wednesday 1st November** for the Vaccination team to take away before they come back to school.

The form needs to be filled in even if you do not give consent.

A BIG THANK YOU

Thank you to all the parents who came to our coffee morning and made it such a huge success! We raised over £300 for this worth while cause, and this has now been donated. It was wonderful to see just how excited the children were to have their parents/families with them in class. It was a resounding success and we will be organising similar events in the future so that you can come into the academy to share with your children, what they have been learning.



Phonic Success

We have started working with the Year 1 children with their phonic skills in preparation for their testing in May. Well done to all adults and children - we are sure all of your hard work will pay off.

Pencil cases and precious things....

It has been noted that more and more children are bringing their own pencil cases and small toys into the academy. Unfortunately, there is then the chance of things getting lost or damaged. Whilst bringing stationary is a requirement in secondary school, we have the necessary equipment for all children to use in the academy. Can we therefore politely request that children keep these for their own use at home. Thank you.

Snack Reminder



For Health and Safety reasons and due to the dangers of choking, can we please ask that if you send grapes into school for snack at break time, you make sure they are cut in half length ways. Can we also ask that you avoid sugary snacks and chocolate in packed lunches wherever possible as part of our commitment to our Healthy Eating campaign.

And finally

If you have any worries or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Senior staff are visible on the gates mornings and evenings and are happy to help with any queries you may have.

There are also notice boards at either end of school which contain key dates and information. Feel free to contact us if you are unsure of anything.

We are always here to help you and your children.

Attendance prize

Congratulations to class 3T and 4F on having the best attendance this half term of 97.8%!!!

These classes will receive a special treat for their attendance. Well done- we wonder which class will win next half term?

