

Weekly Newsletter

7th November

Senior Leadership Message -

It's been a fantastic first week back at Bramley! The children have returned full of stories from their holidays and have settled in beautifully. This half term is always special as we begin to approach the festive season.

Thank you to all the families who joined us on Tuesday to see their child's learning, it's a great way to take a look at your child's learning ahead of next week's parent consultations. If you haven't booked your slot yet, please do so soon as they're filling up quickly!

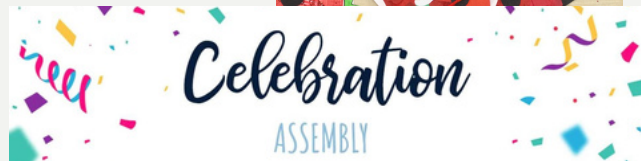
We were delighted to welcome Jonathan Roddick, the new Chief of Education at The Good Shepherd Trust, on Thursday. It was a pleasure to showcase our wonderful school and share the children's learning with him. Next Thursday, we look forward to welcoming Bishop Paul, the Bishop of Dorking, to the school. He will be on the playground at pick-up time to meet families.

Friday saw us take part in our first Pause Day of the year. A pause day is when we take a pause from the curriculum for a short time to learn about something in more depth. The children took a pause to learn more about Remembrance Day and what this day means and represents. Nursery made a wreath, pre-school made big class poppy. For their fine motor Friday Reception will be using their scissor skills to make a wreath. Year 1 have extended their learning by listing to music that helps us to reflect on Remembrance day. They have also been making Poppy cards and learning more about why we have Remembrance day. Year 2 have recreated the poppy display at the Tower of London learning more about this and why it was created. Many of the classes watched this video which is a child friendly way of explaining Remembrance:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/watch/poppies>

A reminder that Monday is odd socks day for anti-bullying week (not a mufti day) and Friday 14th is Children in Need where children can wear mufti.

Have a lovely weekend,
Mrs. Strickland
Head of School



Headteacher
AWARD

Value
AWARD

(YR) Rory
(YR) Eve
(Y1) Georgie
(Y1) Atticus
(Y2) Amelia
(Y2) Scarlett

(YR) Isla
(Y1) Ben
(Y2) Finn C

Class Gem Jar
AWARD



Year 1



Well done everyone!



Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for the brave people who gave their lives to help others.
Help us remember them with love and respect.
Please bring peace to the world and help us be kind to one another.

Amen.



Notices

Are there any parents who would be interested in helping out with Reception Class Outdoor Learning on Thursday afternoons? It is a fun afternoon up on the field. All you would need to do is bring your wellies and help out with the lovely activities that the Class do for the afternoon. If you are interested, please let Mrs Voice know.

Hair Accessories -

A reminder that all hair accessories are to be **plain and simple**, such as these examples, so not to be a distraction from their learning.



Keyrings -

We request your support in limiting the number of keyrings on bookbags to **one small keyring** please.

Children aren't able to fit their bags into their trays when there are a large amount or bulky ones, thank you.



We've become aware that some children have been discussing content they've encountered on the game **Roblox** that is not suitable for young audiences.

Due to the vast number of games and experiences available on Roblox, it can be difficult to monitor and manage what children are exposed to. While Roblox does offer parental controls and age guidelines, some games may still contain inappropriate material.

We encourage all families to take an active role in understanding what their children are playing at home. Please ensure that the games and experiences accessed are age-appropriate and safe. To support you in this, we are reattaching the **Parent Guide to Roblox** for your reference. This guide includes helpful tips on setting parental controls, monitoring activity, and understanding the platform.

Thank you for helping us keep our children safe online.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

ROBLOX



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the USA's children had played it. As a 'sandbox' title, the game lets players create their own gaming experiences with Roblox Studio to build custom levels, which can then be shared online.

ONLINE PLAY RISKS

Because Roblox connects random players across the world, it can put younger players into an environment with anonymous users who could use the platform for nefarious reasons. For example, some role-play games are used for online dates and mature role play, which could expose youngsters to inappropriate messages in the public chat box.

MATURE CONTENT

Content is difficult to moderate throughout Roblox, due to the number of games available. This is particularly notable in smaller games and experiences, but in summary, some of the games and experiences offered on the platform contain age-inappropriate content that could easily be seen by young players.

IN-GAME SPENDING

ANONYMOUS PLAYERS

The anonymity of users can leave players vulnerable to bullying, harassment, and predatory behaviour. Without the right parental controls or monitoring, users can connect with each other via personal messages or friend requests, and it is very difficult to know who's behind a username in this vast online world.

RISK OF ADDICTION

Roblox games can feature rewarding or satisfying mechanics that keep players coming back – or persuade them to stay logged-in for much longer. Like most games, they focus on interactivity, with constant rewards via in-game unlocks and currencies, which can sometimes lead to an addictive need to remain online for long periods of time.

SCAMS

Many of the games on Roblox feature collectible items, pets, or characters. These objects, while digital, are worth a lot of real money on certain online markets. Scammers will attempt to trade with younger users in the hopes of getting rare items that can be sold for real money, manipulating the child into handing them over, usually via misleading information.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR THE CONTENT

While Roblox does implement plenty of moderation tools and parental controls, it's up to parents and guardians to monitor the types of games a child or impressionable player is experiencing. If a youngster wants to play Roblox, be sure to check out which specific games they want to play within it, and get a good idea of their content.

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF TOOLS

Use the parental controls within the game itself and teach youngsters how to report and block other players. Knowing the powers within their reach will make Roblox a safer, happier experience. You can set age ranges for who's allowed to contact you, close public chat boxes, block spending, and even make your Roblox profile completely private. All these options are helpful in cutting off bad actors from engaging with children.

PLAY TOGETHER

Consider playing Roblox with the children in your care. There are few more effective ways to see how monetisation works, gauge whether the game could lead to addictive behaviours, or even witness how interaction between players works, than sitting down and trying the game for yourself. This should help you figure out whether it's suitable for particular children.

TEACH ONLINE BEHAVIOURS

Have an open conversation about the risks of online play and how to spend money wisely. By being honest and giving tips on how a younger user can protect themselves, you can empower them to not only take care of themselves, but others too. Any user can be reported to Roblox moderators by other players for behaving inappropriately. With this knowledge, younger players can be aware of what to look for and help prevent it.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and author of over 20 books on gaming, including books on Minecraft, Fortnite, Roblox, and more. For 15 years he has been writing about his passion for gaming. When he's not playing games, he's talking about them at GAMINGbible.



The National College

Classroom Focus

RECEPTION

In Reception we have immersed ourselves in our new topic- Light and Dark.

The children have been particularly excited to explore some new roleplay areas- a vets for wild animals, a space shuttle (created by the children) and Bonfire Night as well as our 'dark tent'. These areas have sparked lots of discussion and collaboration between the children and it has been lovely to see how their ability to work within teams grow. The challenges of turn taking and sharing always come hand in hand with the introduction of exciting new things of course- we have been joining the children in their play helping them to negotiate and introducing tools such as the use of a sand-timer.

In phonics we have been focussing on recognising letter sounds at speed, hearing how sounds blend together to make words (e.g c-a-t....cat!) and blending known sounds together to read short words. We have also been learning how to write the sounds and how to use our 'Fred Fingers' to write words. Starting to write words has been so exciting and we are beginning to see the children apply their new learning in their independent play too. Do have a go at reading our 'password' on the small blackboard as you arrive in the mornings- we love to hear it!

In Maths we have revisited important counting skills- saying one number per object, saying numbers in order and knowing that the last number that you say is the total. We have also revisited the concepts of 'more' and 'fewer' as well as exploring 'equal' when setting a picnic up for our toy elephants.



Upcoming Events

Please note that dates in bold may have been added or changed since our last weekly newsletter.

November

10th Anti Bullying week & World Nursery Rhyme week
10th Odd socks day - Children to wear odd socks to school with normal uniform
10th World Science day
10th Parent Consultations - Rec, Year 1 & Year 2 @ 1.10pm - 3.30pm
11th Remembrance Day
12th Parent Consultations - Year 1 @ 3.10pm - 6.00pm
13th Parent Consultations - Rec & Year 2 @ 3.10pm - 6.00pm
14th Children in Need
17th Road safety week
20th Mufti Day - Children to come wearing Pyjamas
24th Parliament week
27th Bramley Christmas lights switch on
27th No pens day

December

4th Phyllis Tuckwell's Christmas Elf Run
5th PTFA Christmas Fair
8th Computer science education week
10th Nursery & Pre-School Christmas Performance @ 9.30am
10th Main School Nativity @ 1.30pm
11th Main School Nativity @9.30am
11th Christmas Jumper Day
17th Christmas Lunch
18th Carols Round the Tree @ Holly Trinity Church, Bramley @2pm
19th Last Day of Term - 1.15pm pick up



Notices

To Do

We're getting ready for the **Christmas Fair** and need your help to make it sparkle!

Jolly Jars

Collection date: Friday 14 November

Find a jar, fill it with goodies – chocolates, sweets, tiny toys – and decorate it however you like! These are always a crowd favourite.

 *Let's make them as jolly as possible!*

Chocolates for Pyjama Day

Bring chocolates and swap them for a **Pyjama Muffi Day** on **Thursday 20 November**.

 *PJs at school? Yes, please!*

Parents' Gifts

We'll also be collecting lovely gifts in exchange for another **Muffi Day** On **Thursday 27th November**.

 *A little something special goes a long way!*

Preloved Toys & Books

Doing a pre-Christmas clear-out? Perfect timing! We're collecting good-quality toys and books for our stall.

Collection dates: Coming soon – keep an eye out.

 *Your donations will make little faces light up!*

To Know

A huge cheer for **Year 2** – your bake sale raised an amazing **£126!**  Thank you to everyone who baked, sold, and (most importantly) ate cake.

Now it's **Year 1's turn** – details below.

 *Let's keep the sweet success rolling!*

BRAMLEY INFANT SCHOOL

BAKE SALE

Come support our school and enjoy some sweet treats!

BRING YOUR APPETITE AND YOUR SWEET TOOTH

MONDAY 10TH NOV
3PM

OUTSIDE YEAR 1 CLASSROOM

BRING £1 COINS

Bramley Infant School

CHRISTMAS FAIR



**Friday 12th
December 2025
3:00pm - 5:00pm**

Come celebrate Christmas and help raise funds for our wonderful school

Stalls • Festive Games • Prize Raffle • Food & Drinks • Plus more!



Adverts & Events

Christmas on the High Street

Join us for Bramley's Christmas lights countdown plus...

- Food & Drink
- Mulled wine
- Carol singing
- Live band
- Shops open late
- And much more...

THE LIBRARY GREEN, BRAMLEY
THURSDAY 27TH NOVEMBER
5:30PM - 8:30PM

discoverbramley.co.uk

DISCOVER
BRAMLEY

AN INITIATIVE BY
BBN
BRAMLEY BUSINESS NETWORK

St Catherine's Christmas Fair

St Catherine's Senior School
Sports Hall

22 November 2025
10am - 4pm

- ★ Entry £3, Under 18s FREE
- ★ Christmas gift stalls
- ★ Children's activities
- ★ Food & Refreshments available
- ★ Raffle

#stcatschristmasfair



St Catherine's Senior School
Station Road
Bramley GU5 0DF

Everyone welcome!



Parent Empowerment Group

A FREE Five Week Online Course for Effectively Supporting Children Who Are Experiencing Anxiety.



"Sarah advises in such a kind and empathetic manner. Her playful parenting, listening, and setting loving limits tools have been particularly helpful for us. We've broken frustrations and got to the bottom of issues with our child so quickly and whilst keeping calm ourselves because of them. We're going to bring these things into our every day, they are going to really add so much to our family life."



Understand How Children's Emotions Work

Learn the brain science behind your child's emotional outbursts and how you can support them effectively when they do happen. Receive support for the sometimes difficult work of parenting as well as celebrating the wins!

Learn five simple but effective anxiety busting tools

Build bite size connection moments. (A game changer for family life). Understand how to set loving limits that build co-operation and help your child thrive and grow resilience.

Understand the role of play and laughter in reducing anxiety

Bring the joy back into family life, build confidence in your parenting and receive reflection time and appreciation for you!

Book using QR Code or email below.
Monday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th Nov & 1st, 8th Dec 2025
10.30am till 12noon online



07383 517838

lou@learningspace.org.uk

FREE

Discovery Day

13th December 2025

@ St. Catherines School, Bramley

Get in touch to book



STAGE COACH

GODALMING