

Brading CE (Controlled) Primary School



We are a Team that Trust each other to unlock potential.

Tel: 01983 407217

News from Brading CE Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs. B Gilbert

Friday 13th December 2024

Our Christian Values: Trust

Truth, Respect, Unity, Sincerity, Tolerance

This week our focus has been on TRUST.



Dear Parents/Carers,

What a week! I have attended both the Local Council's scrutiny committee meeting on Tuesday night and again last night at the Full cabinet meeting for the Council where they discussed for many many hours the possible closure of Brading. Last night was a very very interesting meeting. They have issued a consultation notice for possible closure however many of the Councillors wanted further investigation and discussion to take place around Brading specifically. They have recommended that Brading will be looked at in great detail at the next full Council meeting in January as they felt more points needed looking at for further clarity. It was so lovely to hear last night how councillors were praising us for the support we provide for the children and especially for those that have Special Educational Needs as well as how we manage our budget. We will continue to fight to save Brading. I just want to thank everyone for all their support from the children, to staff, to Governors and finally everyone in the community who is still fighting so hard. I know we continue to be TEAM that TRUST each other.

Christmas Celebrations

This year, we are looking at Christmas differently. We are inviting you to join us on Friday 20th December from 9.30. We will start the morning with our Christingle service where each class will stay in their classrooms. This will be led by the Rev Bev and the PCC. After that we will then show our Christmas Play which is called 'Whoops-a-daisy Angel'. This is a whole school production. This will be the only time that we will be showing our production. Following that there will be party games and finally party lunch. If you would like to take your children home after lunch, you are more than welcome

As the weather is now getting colder, can I remind you that the children need to bring a coat in to keep them warm at lunch and playtimes.

Have a fabulous weekend and remember my door is always open.

Mrs Gilbert
Headteacher

Collective Worship this week...

We have been continuing to focus on Compassion.

Bible reflection

'When they saw the star,
they rejoiced
with great joy'
Matthew 2:10

SCHOOL MENU WEEK COMMENCING 16th December 2024:



We also offer tomato pasta as well as jacket potatoes and sandwiches with selection of fillings each day.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Macaroni Cheese Flapjack with fruit	Fish and Chips Apple Crumble	Christmas Lunch	BBQ Chicken Pizza Raspberry Jelly	Party Menu

Christmas Lunch

MAINS
Roast Turkey
Roasted Vegetable and Cranberry Slice

SIDES
Roast Potatoes,
Carrots, Peas, Brussel Sprouts
Pigs in Blankets
Stuffing and Gravy

DESSERTS
Festive Chocolate and Ginger Cake
Festive Shortbread

*Menus maybe subject to change

Merry Christmas

PARTY MENU
½ Ham Sandwich
or
½ Cheese Sandwich
Mini Quorn Sausage Roll
Pizza Finger
Carrot Sticks
Cucumber Sticks

TRIO OF DESSERTS
Festive Chocolate and Ginger Cake
Flapjack Bite
Shortbread Slice

Dates for your diary:	
December	18 th – Christmas Dinner 20 th – Christmas Family Activity Day, Christmas Play and Christmas Party (Adults welcome) 20 th – Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Mountbatten Hospice (Small donation, please!) 20 th – End of Autumn Term
January	13 th – Malta and Galapagos begin 10 Weeks of Swimming Lessons

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme

The scheme returns this winter. An ideal opportunity for the older siblings of the children at our school to potentially access fun activities over the Christmas holidays.

Free places are available for children who receive benefits-related free school meals. A small number of places are also available on HAF schemes for other vulnerable families. [Visit the council's website to check eligibility criteria.](#)

We will have 11 providers running a variety of activities across 18 sites including: arts & crafts, horse riding, animal care, football, skateboarding, musical theatre, and so much more. Every programme offers a free nutritious meal each day.

To find out more about local HAF schemes, please visit the [IOW Family Information Hub | Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) \(iow.gov.uk\)](#), here you can search for activities and the contact details for all local providers on the scheme.

If you have any questions about the HAF programme please do not hesitate in contacting them by emailing holidayactivities@iow.gov.uk

WHAT WE HAVE BEEN LEARNING ABOUT THIS WEEK

BAHAMAS	This week in Cuba and Bahamas we have enjoyed our Christmas topic. We have explored snow globes and made some snow of our own. We have especially enjoyed making pictures using glitter. The children have explored the nativity scene made with Weetabix and farm animals, after reading the nativity story.
CUBA	
HAWAII	This week in Hawaii Class, the children have been finishing off the topics for this half term. In topic, the children learnt about Viking law and punishment and we created our own courtroom. The children heard the crime and decided on what punishment the person should get. The jury discussed then delivered their decision. We also started making our papier mâché Viking helmets. In science, the children found out how food chains were different in different habitats but they always started with a producer.
ANTIGUA	This week in Antigua, we have continued to get very excited for Christmas! We've been joined by a cheeky elf on the shelf who has been bringing magic, giggles and mischief to the classroom. We have been colour matching the snowman's mittens, decorating biscuits and exploring festive sensory trays!
ST LUCIA	This week in St Lucia we have continued our Christmas theme. Our book of the week this week has been The Night Before Christmas. We talked about different traditions of what the children leave out for Santa and the reindeers, and if he comes down the chimney or he has a magic key! We made reindeer food for the children to explore in and take home. We made green playdough to make their very own Grinch! We have written our lists to Santa, they really impressed me with their writing! Finally, we have been keeping up with the elf's adventures too!
MALDIVES	This week in year 1 and 2 we have been doing lots of PE based around our attack and defend topic. We practiced our aim at targets throwing balls and practiced our knights defence skills climbing, balancing and jumping. We decided we would all make brilliant knights in a castle.
NEW ZEALAND	
MALTA	What a busy week Malta class has had! We have learnt our 8 times tables, written a Viking narrative and even created our own digestive systems! We have also had an RE day looking at Hanukkah and designed our own candles to remember loved ones, as well as our own menorah. The children have worked so hard this half term and should be very proud of themselves! Well done Malta class!
GALAPAGOS	What an exciting week Galapagos class had this week! We completed our RE day on Tuesday with Mrs Cooney exploring and learning about Hannukah. On Wednesday we became Viking chefs and made our own Viking Soda bread and a split pea lentil soup. Most agreed they liked the bread but were not keen on the soup. We are glad we don't eat like Vikings now. On

	Thursday afternoon we explored the digestive system by replicating the process in Science. We had great fun!
ICELAND	We've had an amazing week. We've been finishing off our learning about the romans and space. We've also been practicing really hard for our Christmas performance with costumes, songs and dancing! We can't wait to show you!
JAMAICA	This week in Jamaica class, we played bench ball in P.E. In topic, we are learning about the Ancient Maya and looked at old ancient artefacts. On Wednesday, we started writing our final piece of writing for our English text driver- Tuesday. We wrote a formal complaint letter from the perspective of the residents living in the USA and argued that the crime had not been solved. Written by George (head boy)

This week in Pictures:



Christmas Card Letter Box

The Christmas card letter box will be in the foyer from **December 2nd**. Children are welcome to post their Christmas Cards for their friends from their and others' classes. The Year 6 elves will deliver them.

Foodbank Vouchers

Mrs Willshire is able to issue Foodbank Vouchers to anyone who may be struggling. Please email Mrs Willshire to request one if required. Jo.willshire@bradingcepri.iow.sch.uk

Attendance

Whole School Target: **95%**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Percentage Attendance last week</u>
Antigua	62
St Lucia	40
Bahamas	87
Cuba	85
Hawaii	83
Maldives	90
New Zealand	93
Malta	97
Galapagos	88
Iceland	84
Jamaica	90



Penalty Notice Fines for School Attendance are Changing.

As set down by the Department for Education, penalty notices can be issued for unauthorised absence. With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after 19th August 2024.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice Fines will now be issued to each parent, for each child that was absent.

For example:

3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

5 consecutive days of term time leave

Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days. INSET training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period.

1 First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2 Second Offence

Within 3 years

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be: £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days.

3 Third Offence

And Any Further Offence (Within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates' fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child.

Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate, due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.



Wildheart Wonderland

**Join us for a magical experience
this December!**

Santa needs your help with an urgent mission... Come and join his team of Elves this Christmas at the Sanctuary to help to save Christmas!

Selected dates

14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd and 23rd December 2024

Daily start times

10:30, 11:00, 11:30, 12:00, 13:00, 13:30, 14:00, 14:30

Each Wildheart Wonderland experience is approximately 1 hour long, and the price also includes entry into the Sanctuary for the rest of the day.

This event is suitable for children aged 3+

Tickets

**Children £20 | £15 each for accompanying adults.
Members: Children £16 | £11 for accompanying adults.**



Book your tickets today!
wildheartanimalsanctuary.org

In collaboration with Enchanted Isle





CHRISTMAS BARN

14th, 15th, 19th, 21st,
22th Dec'

Adult entry
£5 - includes
mulled apple
juice and mince
pie

Gifts and
cards and
art
flapjacks

19th - Mulled apple
juice, mince pies and
Carols

KIDZONE

Track down the 10 snowmen to
claim your chocolate

Make a tree decoration £5

Please book this activity on our website
before 8.30am of the day



MORE INFO'
www.naturezones.org.uk
BLACKWATER

St Catherine's School Christmas Market

10:30am
till 4pm

14th December
2024



Colouring
Competition
Free to Enter before Event



St Catherine's

*Specialists in Speech, Language and
Communication Needs*

School - College - Post 19



Treasure Hunt
Free to do!



Free
Entry



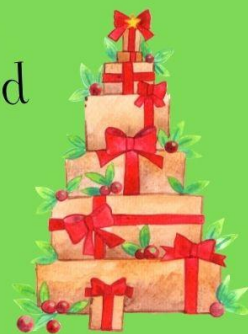
St Catherine's Church Church Street Ventnor



Join us for surprise guests throughout.
Christmas gifts market stalls.
Don't forget to post your letter to
Santa! Live music, church choir and
local artists.

Chance to visit Grinch's Grotto!

Charity Number: 288148



Free School Meal Sessions at Island Riding Centre

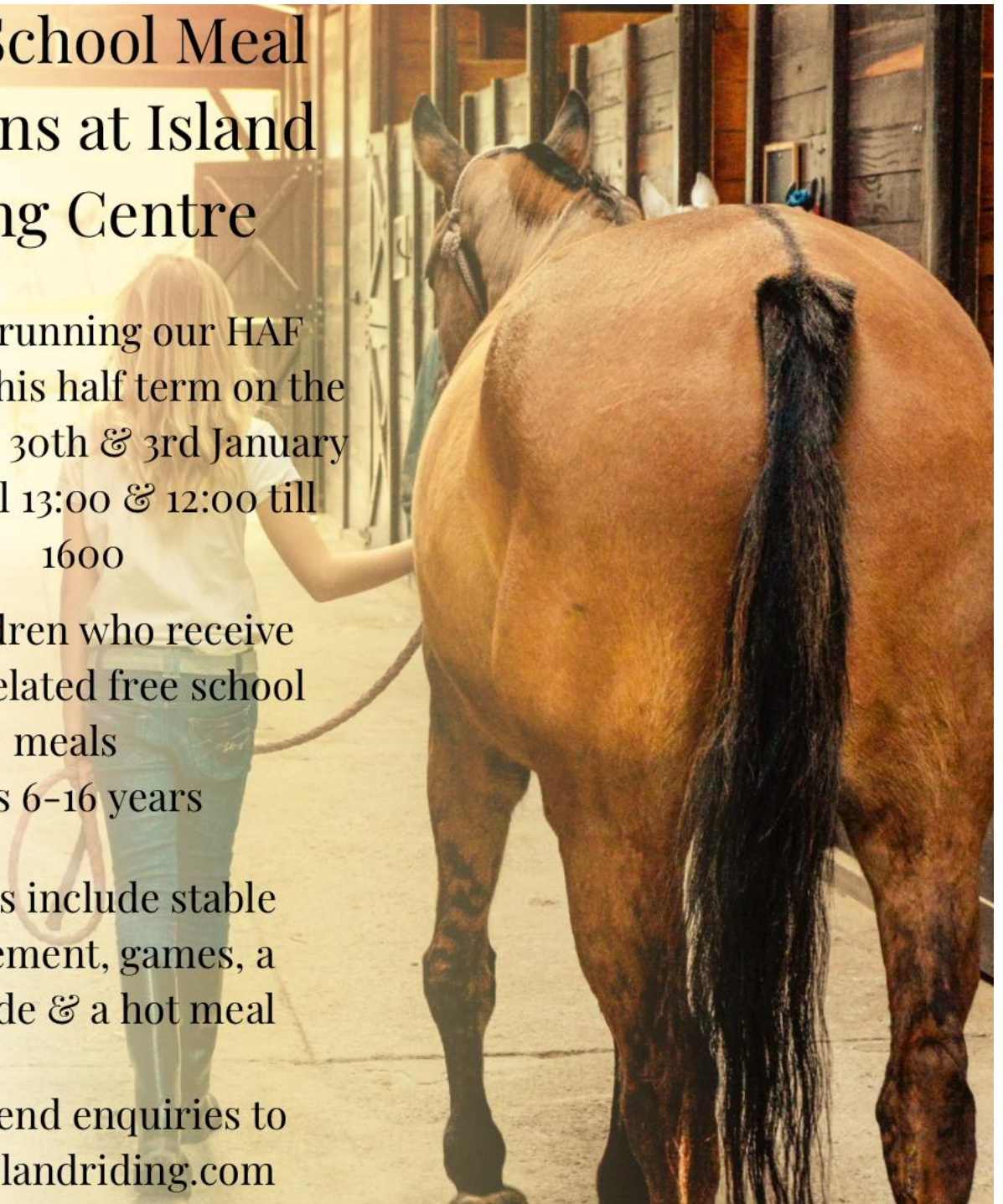
We are running our HAF
sessions this half term on the
23rd, 27th, 30th & 3rd January
09:00 till 13:00 & 12:00 till
1600

For children who receive
benefit related free school
meals

Ages 6-16 years

Sessions include stable
management, games, a
pony ride & a hot meal

Please send enquiries to
info@islandriding.com





ACEs RECOVERY

The Adult Adverse Childhood Experiences

Toolkit

**A 10-week program to help you
make sense of difficult childhood
experiences and plan a positive
path forward**

What to Expect

- A safe, supportive environment where you won't be asked to share painful memories.
- Tools to help you heal and take back control of your life.

During the Programme, You Will:



Understand ACEs and Build Resilience

Learn about Adverse Childhood Experiences, their effects, and how to strengthen personal and parental resilience.



Manage Stress and Emotions

Explore strategies to handle toxic stress and develop healthy ways to regulate emotions.



Enhance Communication Skills

Improve communication styles, assertiveness, and interpersonal relationships.



Support a Positive Future

Create strategies to reduce the impact of ACEs on children and build a brighter path forward.

Contact: Liz@ryde.church 07863385633

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SAFETY OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

The holiday season, marked by Christmas and New Year, brings joy and togetherness but also presents unique safety challenges for children, families and educators. From busy holiday shopping, traveling and family gatherings to managing digital activity during school breaks, staying safe during this period requires heightened awareness. This guide offers practical tips to help families and educators maintain a more secure and fulfilling festive period.

1 MONITOR DIGITAL ACTIVITY

Children spend more time online during school holidays, increasing exposure to potential dangers such as cyberbullying, inappropriate content and online predators. Balancing screen time, avoiding harmful websites and ensuring children engage positively online can be difficult without proper monitoring tools. Set clear boundaries, encourage open discussions about online safety and use parental controls to manage content exposure and screen time effectively. Regular check-ins and positive reinforcement around digital habits encourage safe online behaviour.

2 PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The incidence of house fires increases during Christmas due to greater use of candles, cookers and electrical decorations. Open flames, electrical overloads and the need for quick response plans can make fire safety challenging. Ensure smoke detectors are operational, keep fire extinguishers on hand and teach children how to respond in case of a fire emergency. Avoid leaving cooking unattended and use fire-safe candles to prevent mishaps.

3 CREATE TRAVEL SAFETY PLANS

More families tend to travel during the holidays, resulting in busier roads, increased traffic accidents and weather-related hazards. Weather conditions, road rage, fatigue and busy airports can all compromise travel safety. Pack emergency kits and adhere to seatbelt laws. Plan routes in advance and allow extra travel time to avoid rushing and mitigate risks on busy roads.

4 BEWARE OF ALLERGIES

Holiday meals often involve many foods that may contain allergens. Cross contamination, unclear labelling and lack of allergy-friendly options can lead to severe reactions. Communicate any allergy needs to hosts, provide safe food alternatives and carry necessary medications like antihistamines or EpiPens. Teaching children how to advocate for themselves and recognise dangerous foods also contributes to safer celebrations.

5 PREVENT THE SPREAD OF ILLNESS

Cold weather and seasonal socialising can increase the spread of viruses like flu and COVID-19. Crowded gatherings, schools out of session and frequent travel can lead to higher infection risks. Emphasise hygiene, encourage vaccination, disinfect surfaces and isolate symptomatic individuals. Communication with children about proper hygiene practices is essential to reduce the spread of illness.

6 STAY VIGILANT ON THE ROAD

Increased holiday traffic heightens the risk of accidents for both drivers and pedestrians. Distracted driving, pedestrian safety and inclement weather can complicate road safety. Encourage pedestrian safety practices, avoid distracted driving and never drive under the influence.

7 MAINTAIN SAFE DECORATIONS

Festive decorations such as Christmas lights and candles can pose electrical, fire and choking hazards if mishandled. Frayed wires, toppling Christmas trees, small ornaments and open flames can be difficult to control, especially in busy households with children. Inspect and maintain decorations, secure Christmas trees, place fragile or small items out of reach and ensure candles are never left unattended. Testing smoke alarms and using flame-retardant decorations can significantly reduce risks.

8 SET BOUNDARIES FOR GIFTS

Some toys and gadgets can present choking, sharp-edge or safety risks, particularly for young children. Ensuring that gifts meet safety standards and are age appropriate can be complex with so many options available. Inspect all toys carefully and ensure any tech devices have parental controls. Setting expectations around safe gift use and discarding packaging that poses a risk also helps to prevent accidents.

9 ADDRESS STRESS & FATIGUE

Holiday pressures can lead to burnout, which affects both physical and mental health. Overpacked schedules and a lack of downtime can cause stress and fatigue, leading to accidents or poor decision making. Incorporate rest, maintain regular routines and seek support to reduce stress. Encourage activities that promote relaxation to create a healthier, happier holiday experience for everyone.

10 DRINK RESPONSIBLY

Alcohol is commonly present at holiday events, raising concerns about safety and supervision. Excessive alcohol consumption can lead to accidents, impaired judgment and lack of supervision for children. Designate responsible adults, limit consumption and provide transportation alternatives for guests. Teaching moderation and modelling responsible behaviour in front of children ensures that celebrations remain positive and secure.

Meet Our Expert

James Whelan is a chartered health and safety consultant with 10 years of experience in promoting family and community safety. Specialising in risk assessment and preventative strategies, he has worked with educational institutions, public health agencies and community groups to deliver safety education and training.



The National College®

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/safety-over-the-festive-season>

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Christmas Story Trail

**Start at
Brading Methodist Church**



All you need is a mobile phone

Find 5 posters

**Scan the QR codes
Watch the videos**



Have fun !

Brading Methodist Church



**Do join
us for our**

Nativity Celebration

10.30am

Sunday 15 December

All welcome

Children, families
and adults
invited to join
in this nativity
Celebration !

