



Dear Children, Parents and Staff

Welcome back to school and a **Happy New Year** to all our children, parents and staff. I hope everyone had a fun filled Christmas holiday and enjoyed some family time together. The children and staff have made a prompt start back to the new term and we have luckily so far avoided potential disruption by the wintery weather.

The staff team worked hard during their inset training day on Monday, meeting across the YCAT schools group to review knowledge of safeguarding and a new whole YCAT Inclusion Vision which will be referred to as **STRIVE** (Support, Trust, Respect, Inspire, Value and Empower). YCAT schools will be developing this alongside Claire Ashton, our school SENDCo over the next term. Further details can be found at: <https://www.ycatschools.co.uk/inclusion/>



Our school has also been working on reviewing our approach to the important teaching and learning of spelling. Staff have spent monitoring time, staff meeting time and time during inset to look at thinking behind alternative approaches to teaching and practising spelling. Please see below further information about the changes we will be making at our school over the coming weeks.

### NEW Spelling Initiative at Bradleys Both School

Following work last term and our January inset day, the staff team have reviewed our approaches to teaching Spelling to ensure they are effective, evidence-based and support pupils in becoming confident writers.

As part of this review, and in line with our ongoing work on the school's writing framework, we will be introducing some new approaches to the teaching of spelling across school. These approaches will build upon the strong foundations we have implemented in Early Years and Key Stage 1 using the Little Wandle Systematic Synthetic Phonics approach.

We will be moving away from traditional weekly spelling tests. Research evidence shows that learning spellings for a short-term test does not always lead to long-term retention or the ability to apply spelling accurately in children's everyday writing. Instead, our new approach will place a stronger emphasis on:

- Teaching spelling patterns and rules in a meaningful context
- Applying spelling skills directly within writing
- Revisiting and practising spellings over time to support long-term learning
- Building children's confidence and independence as writers
- Developing practise through learning activities and tasks

Spelling will continue to be taught explicitly, but with a greater focus on understanding, application and consistency rather than memorisation for a test. We believe these changes will better support children's spelling development and help them use their skills more effectively across the curriculum. We will be introducing the Spelling Shed resource in school to support teaching and learning. This provides resources and consolidation activities which will be used to practise spelling both in school and

at home this half term. Further details will be shared as we work through the term. The children will receive spelling activities to complete at home from next week as an alternative to their previous list of spellings.

### **School Lunch Can we also please remind everyone ...**

**PLEASE** can we ask everyone to check that school lunches are booked and paid for in advance. We have an increasing number of times where children's meals are not being ordered. From time to time everyone can be forgetful, however it can be worrying for the children when they realise a lunch hasn't been ordered for them. In addition, it is unfair to expect Scott to cater food for children who have not had a meal ordered. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**We aim to be a NUT FREE school due to having children in school who have nut allergies.** **PLEASE** **do not** send snacks or items in packed lunch boxes that contain nuts and consider items. Thank you for helping to protect individuals within our school community.

### **Skipton Santa Fun Run**

Once again, thank you to everyone who took part in the Skipton Santa 5km Fun Run 2025. After checking the sponsorship returns, the Friends are delighted to announce that this event raised a huge

**£1802.09!** This includes a £500 donation from the Skipton Craven Rotary Club for entering early and for entering the largest team in the whole event. Well done everyone! Nieve in Class 5 won the prize for raising the most money individually having raised the grand total of £340.00. Well done Nieve and everyone else that raised or donated money. This has once again shown fantastic support for our school and strengthened our school community. We are extremely grateful to one of our parents, Michelle, for leading this event with all the organisation, entries and sharing of information. We will look forward to meeting with the Friends to identify how the fundraising will be used to further support opportunities for our children.

### **Parent Support - Online Safeguarding**

The safeguarding of your children is always paramount in this everchanging technological world we are all living in. Parenting today can sometimes feel overwhelming to us all — especially when childhood looks so different from what we grew up with. There's no manual, and it can be hard to keep up with the fast-changing digital world your child moves through every day. In addition, many children will be receiving gifts this Christmas that provide online opportunities. On the 18<sup>th</sup> December 2025, the Government's Children's Commissioner has published a guide to support parents in making conversations easier and help us all to support our children with confidence.

"What I wish my parents or carers knew ...": A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives can be found using the following link. The document looks helpful, supportive and informative for us all and there are resources that you can share and use with your children.

[\*\*'What I wish my parents or carers knew...': A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives | Children's Commissioner for England\*\*](#)

I hope that you will have a look at the link and consider any additional measures to help to support and safeguard your children when using their new and existing technology at home.

**I would like to wish you a happy and safe weekend.**

**Kind regards**

**Mr B Rogers**

# Bradleys Both Community School

## WOW Awards of the Week



Ocean Class 1	Cora
Rainforest Class 2	Cara
Polar Class 3	Grayson
Climate Class 4	Delphine
Eco Class 5	Ruby M

### Congratulations!

#### Important Dates for your diaries

12.1.2026 Year 4 Swimming curriculum programme starts and continues each Monday

16.1.2026 New University of Bradley starts

21.1.2026 Florence Nightingale visit to school for Ocean Class 1 (History curriculum link)

28.1.2026 Remembering Tommy WW1 visit to school for Eco Class 5 (History curriculum link)

29.1.2026 Remembering Tommy WW2 visit to school for Climate Class 4 (History curriculum link)

2.2.2026 LGB Governing Curriculum Meeting 6pm

5.2.2026 3.30-4.30pm Class 1 & 2 Disco & 4.45-6pm Classes 3, 4 & 5 Disco

10.2.2026 National Internet Safety Day

11.2.2026 Roman Workshop visit to school for Polar Class 3 (History curriculum link)

13.2.2026 Break up for Half Term

23.2.2026 Staff Inset Day 3 - YCAT whole staff inset training day

24.2.2026 Children return to school

2.3.2026 LGB Governors Meeting 6pm

3.3.2026 Parents Consultation Meetings (further details to book appointments will follow)

5.3.2026 World Book Day (details to follow)

11.3.2026 Parents Consultation Meetings (further details to book appointments will follow)

12.3.2026 Local Visit to village church for Rainforest Class 2 (curriculum link)

16.3.2026 LGB Governors Finance Meeting 6pm

17.3.2026 Eco Class visit to Crucial Crew (PSHE Curriculum link)

27.3.2026 Break up for Easter holidays

**Don't forget to complete your child's Primary School Admissions online form for an EYFS Reception place for September 2026.**

**Do you know someone looking for an Early Years Reception place for September 2026?**

**We would like to warmly invite you and your child to come and visit us at school.**

**Call 01535 633116 to book an appointment.**



[www.bradleysbothprimaryschool.org.uk](http://www.bradleysbothprimaryschool.org.uk)



**Every day is an open day at Bradleys Both Primary School**

Please arrange a convenient time to come and meet our children and staff to see them at work and play. Find out why we enjoy coming to school every day!

**Bradleys Both Primary School provides:**

- A small, rural, family orientated school
- Close proximity to Skipton, Stainforth & surrounding villages
- Large, spacious outdoor grounds including Woodland area and Sensory garden
- School based wrap around care with our school staff (7.30am - 6pm)
- A safe, happy and stimulating learning environment
- Excellent and positive teaching and learning opportunities
- A School family where everyone looks out for each other
- Opportunities for personal and social development
- A learning environment where every child is treated as an individual
- A supportive and positive atmosphere for all children
- Building blocks for a lifelong adventure in learning and achievement

Our Headteacher looks forward to meeting you and your child.

Is your child due to start Reception in September?

"Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the school" (Ofsted, November 2023)



Contact our School

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