

A vibrant, colorful border surrounds the text, featuring various Easter-themed illustrations such as pink and yellow flowers, green leaves, and several decorated Easter eggs in shades of purple, yellow, blue, and green. The eggs have different patterns like zig-zags, polka dots, and stripes.

Bracken Hill School

NEWSLETTER MARCH 2026

Message from Mr Jackson

Although this has been a shorter half-term, we have certainly crammed a lot into it. We held our first ever Art Exhibition, where Sherwood and Rufford showcased fantastic artwork linked to their personal interests. We also welcomed back more than 40 former students for a reunion event. It was wonderful to hear about the successes they have gone on to achieve since leaving Bracken Hill School.

In these final weeks, we have also hosted our Macmillan Coffee Mornings, which have raised an incredible amount for such a worthy cause. I would like to thank all the staff for their efforts in arranging these events and many more, the students for their amazing work and enthusiasm, and our parents and carers who have taken the time to attend and donate. Your support has helped make these events truly special.

I wish you all a relaxing and restful Easter—with plenty of chocolate!



Dates for your diary

Monday, 13th April - The school reopens to all students

Monday, 4th May - Bank Holiday, the school is closed

Tuesday 5th May - Inset day, The school is closed to all students

Wednesday, 6th May - The school reopens to all students

Thursday, 14th May - Individual school photos being taken

Friday, 22nd May - The last day of half term

Monday, 1st June - The school reopens to all students

Thursday, 25th June - Summer Fayre 10am-12pm

Friday, 26th June - Inset day, the school is closed to all students

Friday, 24th July - The last day of term

Class Updates

Caterpillars

Science Week in Caterpillars has been full of excitement and discovery! We've had such a fantastic time exploring our solar toys, especially when we added water and had the sunshine on our side—it made everything even more magical. The lights were, as always, a firm favourite, and we made the classroom nice and dark so they could shine as brightly as possible.

It's safe to say we absolutely loved every minute of it!



Ants

This term in Ants class has been full of fun and learning! We have loved becoming busy postmen through our role play, writing and delivering letters to our friends .



The children have been working hard on counting their numbers to 10, growing in confidence each day . A highlight of the term was our trip to Tiny Town Soft Play, where everyone had a fantastic time exploring and playing together



Ants

During Science Week, we investigated toys that work in the light and the dark, sparking lots of curiosity and excitement. We've also enjoyed our outdoor adventures at Forest School, developing our confidence and teamwork skills.



In PSHE, we have been focusing on the importance of brushing our teeth, learning how to keep them clean and healthy through daily routines. We are all looking forward to the new term, especially starting swimming – it's going to be another exciting chapter for Ants class!

Bumblebees

We have had the best time at Tiny Town on Monday. This term we have been exploring the book the Jolly Postman. We have used roleplay to extend our language and communication skills.

At Tiny Town we loved the roleplay areas and using our aided language boards to exchange in communication - though we loved the soft play too! Both adults and students!



Grasshoppers

Grasshoppers have had a wonderful spring term! It has been lovely to finally see some sunshine! We have loved finding out about the very chilly Ice age! We have explored how people lived during the Ice age, what they wore and what they ate. We also created some wonderful woolly mammoths!

We have enjoyed exploring the book 'Cave baby' and linking it to our Ice age topic, we met lots of Ice Age characters! In maths we have been going on shape hunts and continuing and copying patterns and using lots of different resources to make them.

We have been taking part in our NSPCC topic in PSHE and learning how to stay safe and who we can talk to if we are sad or worried.

Have a lovely Easter break and enjoy your Easter eggs!



A vibrant, colorful border surrounds the page, featuring various Easter-themed illustrations such as pink and yellow flowers, green leaves, and several decorated Easter eggs in purple, orange, green, and blue. The border is positioned at the top, bottom, and sides of the page.

Butterflies

Butterflies have had a fantastic and busy time in class recently, filled with exciting learning and lots of opportunities to be active and creative!

History – The Ice Age

In History, we have been exploring the fascinating world of the Ice Age. The children have loved learning about how people lived during this time, the animals that roamed the Earth, and how early humans survived in such cold conditions. We've had some great discussions and the children have shown real curiosity and enthusiasm for this topic.

Design & Technology – Healthy Wraps

As part of our learning about healthy eating, we have been designing and making our own delicious wraps. The children have explored different ingredients, discussed balanced diets, and practised important food preparation skills. Best of all, they got to enjoy eating their creations!

Physical Activity & Outdoor Learning

We have really made the most of the improving weather! The children have enjoyed swimming sessions and have also been taking part in simple team games outside. It's been wonderful to see their teamwork, communication, and energy shine through during these activities.

PSHE – Staying Safe

In PSHE, we have been learning about the importance of speaking out to stay safe. The children have been discussing who they can talk to if they feel worried and how to recognise situations where they might need help. This is such an important life skill, and we are proud of how thoughtfully the children have engaged with this topic.

Beetles

We've had a fantastic half term in Beetles class exploring shapes in lots of fun and creative ways!

From messy painting and crafts to hands-on play, the children have been learning all about different shapes through exciting activities.

Engaging and showing interest in our AA bucket time!

Our new Magna-Tiles have been a huge hit! The children have loved building, creating, and matching shapes.

Well done, Beetles class—what super shape work!



Ladybirds

We have loved the topic this half term, 'The Ice Age.' We have been learning about Mammoths, Megalodons and Sabre-Toothed Tigers.

In Design and Technology, we have been exploring different sliders and created our own too! We enjoyed playing on the Top Yard and the trim trail when the sun finally made an appearance.

The children loved dressing up on World Book Day and they looked amazing!!

Ladybirds were great at exploring 3D shapes, finding them in the environment and having a go at naming them. We can't wait for another fantastic half term!

The Ladybirds' Team



Dragonflies

It's been a busy and exciting half term as we head towards Easter!

We've loved learning about the Ice Age and discovering how people and animals lived during that time.

In English, we've really enjoyed sharing the story 'Cave Baby', which has inspired lots of imaginative ideas and discussions.

In Science, we've been learning about healthy and unhealthy foods, including thinking about snacks and treats and how to make balanced choices.

In PSHE, we've been learning about the NSPCC and the important work they do to help children, as well as listening to stories about different experiences and how we can support one another.

We had great fun celebrating World Book Day, and we're now getting ready for our Macmillan Coffee Morning by planning some delicious cake recipes!

It's been a lovely half term and the children have worked really hard.



Newstead

Newstead class have had a wonderful Spring term learning about sound in Science, work around the hungry caterpillar in English and Fine motor skills such as cutting and mark making in DT.

Very recently Newstead hosted a fantastic Macmillan Coffee Morning, welcoming parents and grandparents into school to raise money for this important charity. Everyone worked together to make delicious mini strawberry cheesecakes, carefully following step-by-step instructions before adults enjoyed a tea or coffee, and plenty of conversation. It was a truly lovely community event, and we're grateful for all the support shown.



Newstead

Newstead have loved this term at forest school! We have enjoyed exploring the woods, swinging in the hammock, finding easter eggs and collecting items. Newstead have planted sunflower seeds and have most of all enjoyed the space to move, regulate and enjoy the great outdoors it makes us happy!



Welbeck

We have been learning all about different places in Africa , exploring the animals , weather and landscapes . The children have really enjoyed discovering new facts about the world around them.

During Science Week we learnt all about electricity and carried out experiments making fruit batteries . We tested different fruits to see which worked best – and found that lemons and potatoes were the winners!



making s'mores

We have loved taking part in Forest School this half term , enjoying time outdoors and developing new skills. Toasting marshmallows and was definitely a highlight!

Welbeck

It was fantastic to welcome parents for our Easter crafts and Macmillan coffee afternoon

We enjoyed spending time together playing games and sharing some delicious cake

Wishing everyone a very Happy Easter!



Clumber

Clumber have been learning all about sound during science lessons. They have learned how sound travels, how louder and quieter sounds are made and how higher and lower sounds are made. They have created paper cup telephones, rainmakers with different fillings and explored vibrations made by sound in different investigations and experiments!

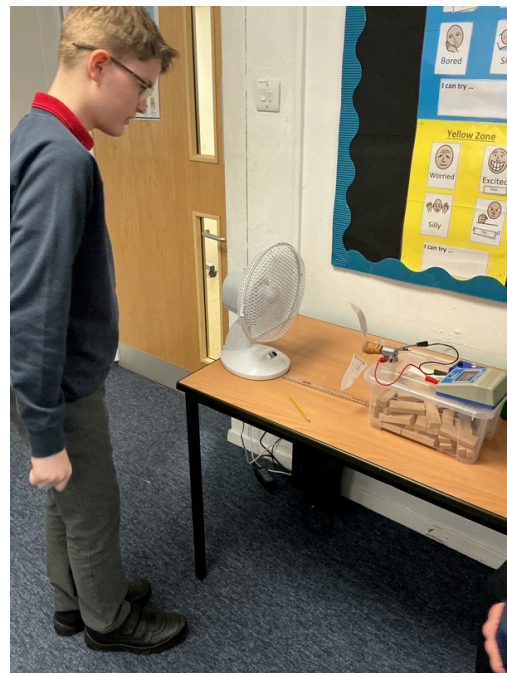
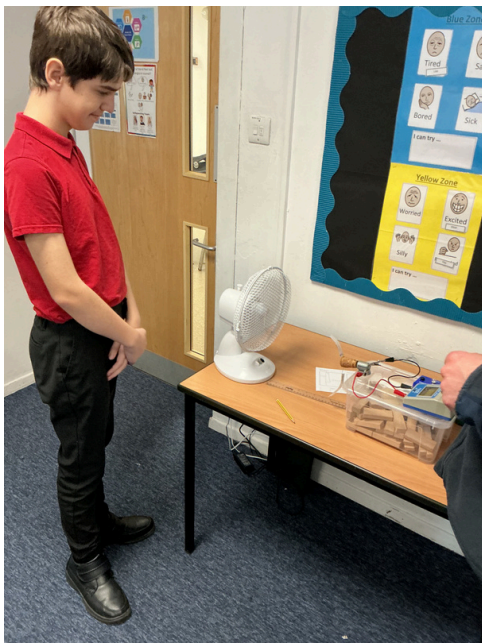


Bestwood

This term, Bestwood have been exploring the diverse countries of Africa, learning about their cultures, geography, and traditions.

We also enjoyed visits to the local library and Morrisons café, where the children engaged in reading activities and practised real-life social skills.

In the final week of term, we took part in Science Week. The children worked brilliantly together to design and build their own wind turbines, discovering how renewable energy can help shape a more sustainable future.



Creswell

This half term we have been very busy! In Maths we have been continuing to explore 'Number' some more, and doing lots of counting, matching the quantity to the numeral and have practising giving several objects when shown a numeral. We have also been matching and grouping objects, this has included colours, shapes and numbers and looking at the sizes of different objects and deciding if they are big or small or long and short.



In English we have enjoyed looking at and sharing the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', we have taken part in various activities linked to this by looking at, naming and tasting the fruits from the story, sequencing the story

looking at days of the week and what the caterpillar ate on each day. We have made a giant caterpillar and some very colourful butterflies using paints.

Creswell

In Cooking we have continued to use 'Mixing and Combing Ingredients', this has involved the children exploring ingredients; oats, dried fruits and seeds and making their own healthy snack bar. They have chosen their favourite ingredients and have mixed, poured and stirred the ingredients before pressing the ingredients into a mould to make a snack bar, we have enjoyed trying them and eating them.



We have also made some very yummy biscuits!



In Design and Technology, we have been continuing to look at 'Using Our Hands' and have been exploring a variety of materials, manipulating them in a variety of ways through, pushing and pulling and observing things that move

Creswell

In PSHE we have been looking at 'Healthy Lifestyles', this has involved looking at our wellbeing and we have looked at activities that make us feel calm, choosing our favourite ones. Physical exercise, where we have identified different kinds of physical activities and exercises, we tried some of these too and Healthy Eating, where we have looked at healthy foods and drinks and have chosen our favourite ones.



In Science we have explored 'Sound' this has involved the children exploring how sounds and vibrations are made and how these vibrations travel through different material to our ears. This has involved the children trying out a range of

different musical instruments. We did an experiment to find out that sounds become fainter as we move further away from the source.



Creswell

In PE we have enjoyed experiencing 'Striking and Fielding' this has involved us looking at and trying different ways of hitting a ball.

In Computing we have been focusing on identifying patterns and beginning to use problem solving.

In Music we have been using the 'Singing Hands' and have been choosing our favourite song and have been using a variety of musical instruments.

In Art we have been exploring 'Scissor Skills' by doing lots of cutting of different materials.

Well, done Creswell Class!

Rufford and Sherwood

Rufford and Sherwood have had another fantastic half term. We visited the Future Fusion careers fair, where we had lots of hands-on experiences of STEM-related careers. Students tried virtual reality to move things in space, learned how to match poo to animals and designed a lubricant to move a metal bolt.



Rufford and Sherwood

Last week, we held our first ever Art Exhibition, where students presented their art works and performed to "This is me".



Thoresby

This term we have really enjoyed learning about measuring and seeing how we can compare different ways of finding big and small.

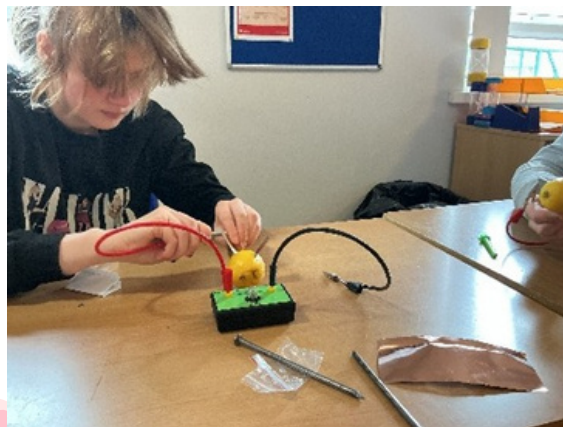
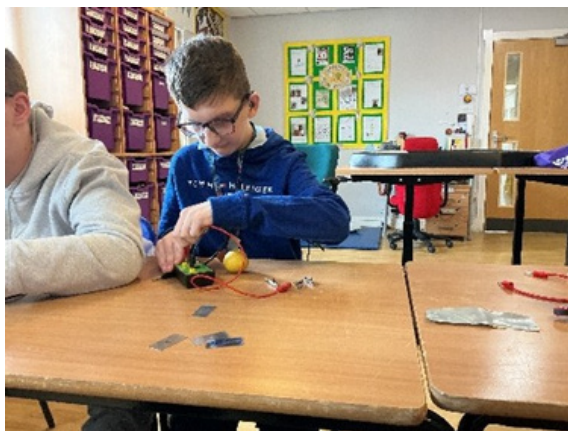
We had a blast at the careers fair learning about different job roles and what they entail, as well as having lots of fun trying these roles out for our selves.

Our work at the Acre has provided many delicious meals for those in need and relaxing with friends.



Wollaton

In our Big Bang science week we all enjoyed making a lemon battery. We used wires and crocodile clips to try to make a light bulb light.



The page is framed by a vibrant, colorful border featuring various Easter-themed illustrations. At the top, there are pink and yellow flowers, a purple egg with a geometric pattern, and a yellow egg with a zigzag pattern. On the right side, there are more flowers, a green egg with white spots, and a carrot. The bottom border includes a pink bunny wearing a blue floral headband, a yellow egg with white polka dots, a pink egg with a floral pattern, and several other colorful eggs and flowers. The background is white, and the text is centered in a black, sans-serif font.

Kelham

Another busy term for Kelham. We worked with the amazing Catherine and Annette from the Evolve Transitions Trust, looking at how to develop our CVs to make them stand out and how to answer questions in the best way possible for an interview.

The school has worked with Catherine and Annette for over ten years and their contribution to the success of our students has been huge. Sadly, this was the last time they will be working with us as they are both retiring, but the work of the trust continues, and we are looking forward to welcoming Keith Harrison back to work with us next year.

We also finally managed to get to visit Hardwick Hall as part of our PDP programme after two cancelled visits due to the weather.

Football

Another great match was played this term, this time against Dawn House.

Well done to all who played, special mention to our goalkeeper Josh Evans, you really did a fantastic job!



World Book Day 2026

World Book Day was a huge hit! Our pupils and teachers brought their favourite characters to life with fantastic costumes and a great deal of enthusiasm. What a wonderful celebration of reading!





Macmillan Coffee Morning

Thankyou to everyone who joined our coffee mornings and helped support such a wonderful cause. Together we raised **£414.50** for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Your kindness and involvement made the event truly special. The children had a fantastic time –especially the baking!

We're grateful for your continued support and community spirit.

We value your engagement. Join us on Facebook for ongoing updates and announcements.