

BRADDAN

PRIMARY SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER



10th March '25

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Bronwyn Ward

braddan.sch.im

DEAR PUPILS, PARENTS, CARERS AND FRIENDS...

Showing Respect

This half term's focus will be **SHOWING RESPECT**. Being respectful means you act in a way that shows care about how your actions may impact others. We can show respect for people, places, and things. For example: using please and thank you to show appreciation; using kind or polite words even when you're upset; sharing; waiting your turn, and walking through corridors. At Braddan we are polite and listen to others, respecting differences in beliefs and opinions.

In this newsletter we wanted to share some fabulous learning opportunities that our pupils have had this half term. There are also some reminders of upcoming events and some moments to celebrate with our Braddan school community.

Visits from PC Lou!

We have welcomed PC Lou into school this half term. She spoke to each class about her role and how the police can support the community. Reception enjoyed a visit by the police car and tried on some of the uniform!



Staff Celebrations

We know our Braddan community will join us all in wishing Mrs and Mr Kelly our congratulations because Mrs Kelly is pregnant! They are expecting their new bundle of joy in September and we couldn't be happier for them both.

Another member of staff who has exciting things happening is Miss Saunders. She completed her training to gain her Qualified Teacher Status during 2024 and has now left her role with us as a support staff member so she can work as a supply teacher. Miss Saunders has secured a long-term position after Easter in another island school, so we wish her well in this new adventure.

Show Respect – Try Your Best – Learn Together

Braddan School, Braddan, Douglas, Isle of Man, IM4 4TQ

Tel: 661087 email: braddanenquiries@sch.im

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MEET SOME NEW FACES!



Around school we have three new staff:

Miss Carey is joining us for 8 weeks in Ladybirds (Reception). She is on her third and final placement from Edge Hill University and is specialising in Early Childhood Education, with a particular interest in outdoor education. We are really enjoying her contribution in school. If you see Miss Carey around school, please do say hello.

Mr Griffin and **Mr Monk** are working as Education Support Officers in our school regularly. They are settling in so well that it feels like they have always been here! Again, please make them feel welcome when you see them at the beginning or end of the day.

Quick Notes:

Clubs: This half term we have lots of clubs running, thanks to our dedicated staff team. We have choir, Manx speaking, Cross Country, Athletics, Baking and Putty Club, as well as two MSR sports clubs. We have had two parents kindly offer to run a Football club to help us prepare for the Millennium Football Tournament in late June. We will share more information about that club before Easter.

Parking: Please can we ask parents / carers to park considerately when dropping off and collecting children. We can improve the flow for everyone by avoiding blocking others and pulling into empty spaces so others can move their vehicles. Thank you.

Venture Centre: Our Year 6 pupils have a residential trip to the Venture Centre in the last week of this term. As you can imagine, excitement is high, with the Wolf Spiders beginning to plan now. The trip will be supported by the following staff (who will be on rota at the camp) and we would like to thank them for offering to stay some nights as well! ~ Mrs Kelly, Mrs Ward, Miss Allison, Miss Ward, Mrs Cassidy and Miss Fargher

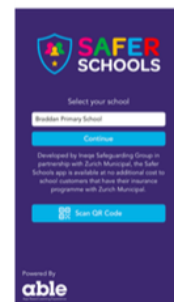
Lost property: Our lost property box is looking very full. We do try to ensure named items are handed out, but if your child has misplaced their clothing, please pop into the office and check to see if it is there.

Safer Internet Day

On the 11th of February, it was Safer Internet Day and our focus at Braddan School was on protecting ourselves when we are online. For our younger pupils, we focused on what to do if we found something that made us feel uncomfortable. Children spoke about telling a trusted adult, shutting the device and giving it to that adult, so they could help. In the older years, we discussed scams and what we can check to ensure we do not get caught by those wanting to do harmful actions. We also spoke about being honest if we are worried so any problems can be fixed.

E-safety is more about communication skills than technology, as it isn't enough to protect our children from online harms by simply banning sites or installing firewalls and filters. It's important to maintain an open and ongoing discussion about online safety at home, as a family. With this in mind, we would like to point to the NSPCC website which has valuable information for parents and carers <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

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Launch the app and select our school:
Braddan School
Then enter the pupil code:

9342



The Colour Monsters:

You will hear your children talking about colour monsters in Braddan School. This is part of our Social and Emotional Learning programme and begins in Reception.

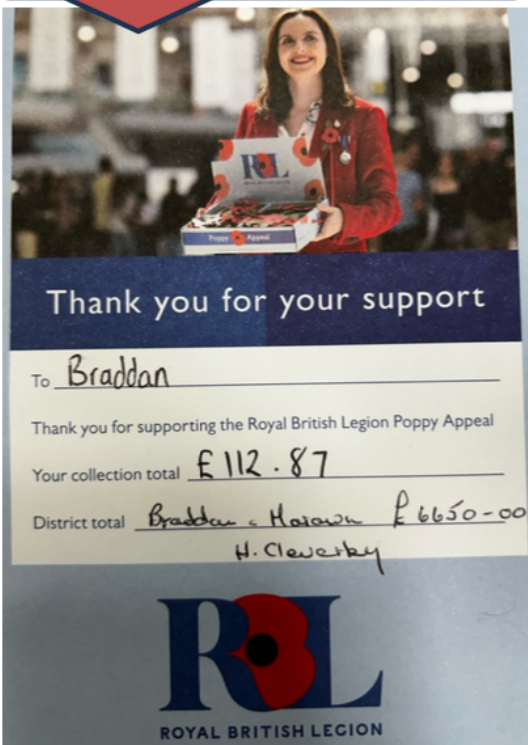
The colours represent 6 states of emotion: Happiness, sadness, anger, fear, care and calm. As adults, we understand these emotions – but in the mind of a child these can be confusing or hard to explain; not to mention, awkward or difficult to talk about.

The Colour Monster, a children’s book by Anna Llenas, was written to try and tackle this tricky area in an interactive way. It’s the story of a little girl finding the Colour Monster, which has its emotions all mixed up – and so she sets out to try and help it through all the confusion. All the monster has to do is identify each feeling (each represented by a colour) and separate them, by understanding how they make it feel.

By using this in our school, we are helping build our children’s understanding of emotions and how they respond to different situations. When children understand these, they can then start making choices on how they react and how they can regulate those emotions.



Thank you for supporting our Poppy Day fundraising!



DATES FOR THE DIARY	
Monday 3rd March - Thursday 6th March	Cycling Proficiency
Monday 3rd March (over two weeks)	Classroom visits with PC Lou
Monday 10th and Tuesday 11th March	Parents' Meetings (book on ARBOR)
Thursday 13th March	Year 5 & 6 Cricket coaching
Friday 14th March	Cross Country team
Wednesday 19th March	Sports Hall Athletics (TBC)
Thursday 20th March and Tuesday 25th March	Manx Folk Awards
Wednesday 26th March & Thursday 27th March	Lambing Live Farm Visits Ladybirds & Bumblebees (W) Butterflies & all Y3's (Th)
Thursday 27th March	Dragonflies at STEM Fest
Monday 31st March- Friday 4th April	Venture Centre for Year 6
Fri 4th April	EASTER! Last day of Spring Term

World Book Day

We have had some wonderful stories linked to our World Book Day at Braddan. We loved seeing Dads writing with their children! Taylor and Arthur (in KS2) gave credit to their dads for helping create stories that let them dress up as themselves and they both enjoyed sharing their work for others to read during our assembly. Oliver (Reception) wrote this great story too and look at that illustrating!



THE DUCK POND

One day, Arthur set out to feed the ducks at the pond. He grabbed a bag of birdseed, got into his car, and drove off. But as soon as he arrived, an eerie feeling washed over him—something was watching him.

Cautiously, he peeked around the corner, and what he saw sent shivers down his spine. A towering seven-foot creature stood before him, its glowing white eyes locked onto him. A sinister red smile stretched across its face—far from friendly.

Arthur's heart pounded, but he wasn't completely unarmed. He reached into his pocket, gripping the fishing knife he always carried. Just as he turned to flee, the creature lunged. Arthur sprinted to his car, but the brakes failed, sending him rolling down the hill. The car slammed into the monstrous figure, knocking it to the ground.

Relief was short-lived. From the shadows of the bushes, another creature emerged. Without hesitation, Arthur floored the accelerator and rammed into it as well. Wasting no time, he sped away, his hands shaking on the wheel.

The next day, curiosity got the better of him. He returned to the pond, only to find the area swarming with people—figures in hazmat suits carrying guns and test tubes. A black armoured truck idled nearby, its doors open. The creatures were being loaded inside.

Arthur rushed home and turned on the news. The broadcast was urgent:

"Breaking News! Two unidentified creatures have been spotted. Residents are advised to stay indoors."

Just then, a noise echoed from his front door. His breath hitched. Slowly, he reached for the handle and opened it—only to come face to face with another monster.

Panic surged through him. He bolted to his bedroom, slamming the door shut and locking it. His hands trembled as he grabbed his self-defence gun. The moment the creature burst through, he fired—hitting it square in the chest.

But pain flared in his back. His vision blurred. Blood pooled beneath him. He was bleeding out.

Desperately, he reached for a tourniquet nearby. His fingers stretched... but it was just out of reach.

By Arthur Irving

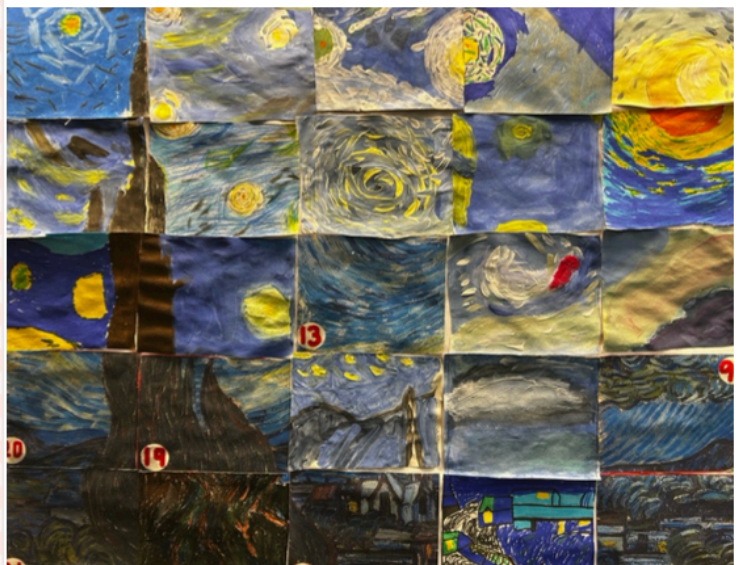


Lambing Live

This half term, Ladybirds, Bumblebees, Butterflies and all of Year 3 will have the opportunity of going to Lambing Live at Knockaloe Farm in March. We are of course very excited and are grateful that the Anderson's are organising these days for primary schools on the island.

Shout out from the Dragonfly class!

- Here is what we have been enjoying in school this month:
- Challenge Time: challenging ourselves with our own activities
- Maths: Learning how to divide quickly using the bus stop method
- Swimming: we have lots of fun at the pool
- Writing: we are learning to write better stories and with neater handwriting
- ICT: Fun games to help us learn
- Art: We love learning about artists and practising our skills!



Y5 Dragonflies collaborative Van Gogh work