

BRADDAN

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



4th April '25

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Bronwyn Ward

Acting Deputy: Mrs Sorcha Cowin

Senior Leader: Mrs Lucy Kelly

braddan.sch.im

DEAR PUPILS, PARENTS, CARERS AND FRIENDS...

Showing Respect

This half term's focus was **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.

This term has flown by and everyone is very ready for a nice Easter break. The School Council have been very busy organising activities this week and we know your children have been really looking forward to the dress down day today. This marks the end of a term full of extra-curricular activities including: sports-hall athletics; cross country; Manx Folk Awards, and lots of class trips to extend our learning provision.

Meet the Team

Reading is a very important area of learning in Braddan School and we are passionate about providing great role models for our pupils to work with. We are so very fortunate to have amazing support from our Reading Volunteers, Sue Moffitt, Sue Partington and Gill Kissack-Grundey. These amazing ladies are welcomed in by the children who love to read with them and particularly love the array of stickers they bring with them to reward great reading attitudes. They ensure they read with every child in Ladybirds (Reception), Bumblebees (Year 1) and most of those in Butterflies (Year 2/3). **Thank you Sue, Sue and Gill for all you do and for bringing in smiles for all of us every week!**



Staff Updates

Over the last term Mrs Ward has taken on the position of Acting Headteacher during Mr Chapple's absence. Mrs Cowin has been appointed as Acting Deputy and Mrs Kelly is supporting in the Senior Leadership team. If you need to speak to one of our senior leaders, please contact us through the office or ask for an appointment when you see us on duty before and after school.

If you would like to support school by offering to volunteer, please email us and we will send you out information about getting your DBS check and discuss your areas of interest.

Show Respect – Try Your Best – Learn Together

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

Tel: 661087 email: braddanenquiries@sch.im

Acting Headteacher: Bronwyn Ward

Meet some new faces!



Mrs Dimitrova is joining us for in Bumblebees (Year 1). She will be working alongside Mrs Howard and we know the children are going to enjoy their mathematics lessons with her!

Mrs Whittaker is joining us in Ladybirds (Reception). She will be supporting Mrs Cowin, who is also taking on the SENCO role until Mr Chapple's return.

Both teachers are well known to the pupils in their classes and will help to ensure consistency for our school. They are highly experienced and we are very excited about welcoming them onto the team!

Miss Carey, our student teacher from Edge Hill University, is also with us for another 4 weeks after the holidays. We know the children are loving having her in Ladybirds!

Quick Notes:

Football Club: The Millennium Football Tournament takes place in late June and we have two dedicated dads (Rob Irving and Johnny Kheir) taking football club at school. If your child is in Year 4, 5 or 6 and would like to join after school on a Thursday, 3.30pm – 4.30 pm, please email the office to give permission for them to stay for the club.

New Starters in September 2025: If you know of any children who are due to start school in September, please ask their parents to contact Mrs Brookman in the office to get our enrolment information.

Venture Centre: Can we say a huge thanks to all the staff that supported Venture Centre for the Wolf Spiders this past week. Mrs Kelly, Mrs Speller, Miss Ward, Mrs Cassidy, Mrs Davies, Mrs Allison, Mrs Fargher and Mrs Ward – all gave up their personal time to ensure the children were safe, supported and could enjoy an amazing adventure. Thank you!

Lost property: As always, our lost property baskets are 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. The baskets are in foyer area.

Braddan School's mission, vision and values

Braddan staff have been building our new mission, vision and values this half term.

Our mission: **"Nurturing Potential, Inspiring Futures"**

A school vision - what we want the school to be in the future

School values - the attitudes and behaviours that are most important to us all as a school community

At Braddan our pupils know our vision statements well (Show Respect, Try Your Best, Learn Together). By developing this further, our staff can focus all our efforts and expertise to ensure we build on current successes of Braddan School. It will also support us as we plan our school's future direction.

The vision and our school values will be shared with parents in the new term so keep an eye out for this important school development.

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Launch the app and select our school:

Braddan School

Then enter the pupil code:

9342



School Council News:

Our school council have been very busy this half term. Ably supported by Miss Kearsley, our School Council Lead teacher, they have budgeted for Easter activities for every classroom. They chose games and competitions for the school (pin the beak on the chick; best decoration of a 2D egg; egg rolling, and Easter bonnets, to name a few). They worked tirelessly to purchase resources, negotiated a non-uniform day and then distributed the necessary resources. They developed posters and wrote emails and the result was a very well-organised and eggciting Easter week. Thank you to our parents who supported the Easter bonnet parade! Here are a few photos from the Easter assembly the School Council ran today.



Lambing Live

This half term, Ladybirds, Bumblebees, Butterflies and all of Year 3 went to Lambing Live at Knockaloe Farm. The students loved learning more about the animals and learning what it means to be a farmer on the Isle of Man.



Cross Country

We had a large team of pupils take part in the IOM Primary School's Cross Country event. Miss Kearsley and Miss Allison ran the club and then off they dashed to Noble's Park. There were a lot of parents to cheer the team on and they all put in a top effort! What the teachers were most impressed by was how supportive and kind the team was.



Sports Hall Athletics

After a weekly club that Miss Ward organised, she took 20 of our students to the MSR festival in the NSC. Mrs Cassidy and Mrs Davies supported this large group and they all loved participating in the many events. Again, Braddan School showed their positivity and kindness, as well as a good dose of competitiveness.

Baking at Braddan

In Braddan School, we have a great cooking area that is well used by classes and by Miss Allison's clubs. The smells are always amazing and make tummies rumble. Baking is great for communication development, following instructions and reading skills. It also builds teamwork and peer relationships.



Chocolate Surveys!

Year 4 had a visit to Douglas Town Centre to survey the public with a survey about chocolate. This is an excellent way for our students to gather data and present it and helps them to learn social interaction skills too. Mrs Mowle also planned a visit to Leonidas where Laura, the manager, kindly gave each pupil 3 different chocolates to sample! The Grasshoppers have been busy with their own chocolate making too! They have loved the history element of this topic.



Rept-Isle

Reception and Year 1 had a visit from Reptiles and Reptilians in March to help them to understand the different kinds of animals for their science topics. Thank you Mrs Howard for organising our fascinating visitors! Mrs Looney couldn't resist a cuddle too!

What was a little worrying was that they arrived at the same time as the 2 week old chicks that Mrs Ward brought in for the School Council's Easter teaser...



Manx Folk Awards

In March, the Manx Folk Awards showcased our Braddan School choir, musicians and pupils who challenged themselves to be Manx speakers. Mrs Davies organised all the groups and Mrs Trimble supported with her musical knowledge. Grayse, Abigail, Willow, Lacey-Mae, Shasha, Alex, Paige, Clodagh, Macy, Ellie, Harriet, Sebastian, Angus, Kyra, Ben, Imogen, Anika, and Gracie sang in the choir and were placed third overall. Others were so impressed by their efforts, that the choir has been invited to join more events in the future.

Gracie, Anika, Willow, Macy, Imogen, Lacey-Mae, Paige then took part in the Poetry recitation competitions! Some of these amazing children recited poems in Manx too. This took a huge amount of practice and bravery to speak alone on stage, projecting their voices and creating theatre using pace and tone. We are so proud of them!

Imogen and Gracie took their instruments and played '*Smugglers Lullaby*' and '*Hi Juan Jiggison*' in the woodwind competition and came first and second respectively.

This is an amazing result for our school. Well done to all these students – you always **Try Your Best!**



Search and Rescue Dogs

As part of 'Animals including Humans' science learning in Year One, Mrs Howard organised a visit from the Search and Rescue Dog Team. We don't know who enjoyed the visit more – the children or the dog!



African Drumming

Mrs Brookman organised a wonderful opportunity for every class in the school in March. The sound of drumming was amazing all day long and the dancing was impressive too...



4th April 2025

Venture Centre Residential for Year 6

In the final week of this term, the Year 6 children attended the Venture Centre for their weeklong residential. The weather was fantastic and the children enjoyed a huge range of activities from canoeing and kayaking to crate stacking and high ropes. The group showed they will try any challenge, no matter how nervous they may feel beforehand.

The group had boundless energy but slept like logs. It was a wonderful time for the whole group, including the many staff that gave up their personal time to spend it with this delightful class.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Venture Centre for once again providing a brilliant experience for our oldest pupils.



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