



MARCH 2026 Edition 27

BROUGH PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Welcome to the March edition of our school newsletter.

I do hope that this newsletter finds you all well and you, like all of us at school, are starting to sense the changing of the seasons and the warmer days approaching. From this point in the school year, time seems to 'speed up' as we approach the Summer term and all the events that take place.

Please make sure you check the list of dates at the end of the newsletter as these now contain dates for the Summer term, including those for Sports Day.

Our Y6 pupils found out about their secondary school places last week which was a source of great discussion and excitement. Somehow this makes it all seem 'real' to them and their transition visits to South Hunsley (where the vast majority are going) are underway. Although change can be a scary thing, and many of our Y6 pupils are starting to feel a little worried, it is a change that we all go through, moving from primary to secondary school. We do all that we can to prepare the children in the run up to July and understand their nervousness as the transition approaches, but we do ask that you let us know if your child is feeling particularly anxious as we can offer additional support over the coming weeks/months.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome 2 new members of staff to our team – Miss Drakeley and Miss Clegg. Miss Drakeley and Miss Clegg have joined our team in The Bridge and are learning all about the school. Welcome to Brough Primary School Miss Drakeley and Miss Clegg.

As ever, if you have any concerns, questions or suggestions then please don't hesitate to get in touch, either via the school office or to me directly if it is after the office has closed.

Thank you

H Shepherdson

Headteacher

hshepherdson@broughprimaryschool.co.uk

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE ON THEIR PHONES AND ONLINE

As you know, we have a group of parents who are working with us to support children in staying safe online. This is something that schools have worked on for many years but it seems that, despite so much work, publicity and support, children are still at risk when using their phones/tablets/laptop.

You will have seen in the news that there seems to be more support for limiting smartphone usage by young people and that many social media platforms and/or sites are increasing age restrictions to keep children safe. Like anything, there has to be an educational element running alongside increased restrictions and we ensure that our curriculum reflects this, helping children to understand the risks (in an age appropriate way) as well as teaching them what to do if something does go wrong.

We understand that for many parents, some of the risks are unclear and knowing how best to support children can be challenging. No one wants their child to be 'the only one without a phone' or for their child to feel 'left out' if they aren't accessing certain sites/platforms etc. yet many parents feel that they want to do more, they're just not too sure how to go about it.

We are having an open forum/workshop session on Monday 20th April between 5:30 and 6:30pm which we invite all parents to. This session is planned to look at how we can support children, including some practical 'how to' guides as well as give parents/carers the opportunity to talk about their concerns and what has already worked well.

If you are able to attend, then please make your way to the school hall from 5:30pm on Monday 20th April.

In addition to this, Primary Tech (who are our technical and advisory support for computing and online safety) are coming into school to deliver some training for parents about online safety and the use of AI.

Hopefully many of you will be able to attend this and will find the session useful. We live in an ever-changing world and keeping up to speed with technology can be a challenge for us all.

This session is intended to support parents in knowing the risks and benefits of AI technology and how best to support their children. This session is from 5pm until 6pm on Thursday 16th April in the school hall.





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PUPIL PREMIUM AND FREE SCHOOL MEALS

As you will know, all children are entitled to a free school meal until the end of Y2. What you may not all know, is that for those children who are entitled to a free school meal, money is allocated to the school to support their educational provision. Therefore, we do urge any parents with children in EYFS and KS1, who feel that they meet the eligibility criteria for free school meals, to make an application as this can result in an additional £1515 per child which is paid to the school. This money is used to support educational provision.

Please see the information below regarding entitlement to free school meals.

Your child(ren) will be entitled to free school meals if you as the parent are in receipt of any of the following benefits:

- *Job Seeker's Allowance (income-based)*
- *Income Support*
- *Universal Credit - Your annual income assessed by the Department for Work and Pension must be less than £7,400. Any pupil eligible for free school meals before 1 April 2018 when the earned income threshold is introduced will retain their eligibility until the end of universal credit roll-out which is August 2026*
- *Child Tax Credit (but NOT receiving Working Tax Credit) – provided your annual income, assessed by the Inland Revenue, does not exceed £16,190 (please note: this amount is subject to change in April every year)*
- *Employment Support Allowance (income-related)*
- *Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit*
- *Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999*
- *Working Tax Credit run on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.*

Entitlement to free school meals is kept as confidential as possible. Many schools now have systems in place such as swipe cards or fingerprint identification systems, which do not identify to other pupils the fact that a child is receiving a free school meal.

The free school meal will remain in place for as long as your child continues to attend an East Riding of Yorkshire school and you continue to be entitled to one of the above qualifying benefits.

If you think you are entitled to free school meals for your child/children then please follow the link below to apply. Although children in EYFS and KS1 receive a free meal automatically, those in older years do not so it is vital that an application is made to ensure you continue to receive free meals.

<https://www.eastriding.gov.uk/learning/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-meals/free-school-meals/>

FOBS EGG DECORATING

FOBS are running their annual decorate/draw/colour or create your own easter egg competition. This can be in a picture format or an actual egg!

Paper copies of the entry forms have been sent home with children and further copies are available from the school office.

Entry is £1 and there will be a KS1 and a KS2 winner. All entries can be brought into school by Wednesday 25th March. Get creative and good luck!



Sticky tape your £1 here

Design an Easter Egg Colouring Competition

Be as creative as you like and design your own Easter Egg – it can be covered in glitter, paint, feathers or whatever you can think of to create your own unique design! The egg can be a standalone design or be part of an Easter scene!!

The most creative and overall best design will win a prize!!

Sooooooooo everyone get entering!

Follow these simple instructions to take part:

1. Got designing! Use the back of this sheet to make your egg design. You can use anything you want to create your masterpiece (pencil, crayon, paints, crafts and glue, glitter etc)
2. Sticky tape E1 to the top corner of this entry and write your name, year group, and teacher's name on this sheet.
3. Hand the completed form into your teacher no later than **WEDNESDAY 25th MARCH 2026**. The entries will then be judged and the winners will be presented with their prize during the Thursday celebration assembly.



Good Luck!



NUTS AND ALLERGIES

We have been a nut-free school for many years now as we have had, and continue to have, children in the school with severe nut allergies. I ask that all parents are vigilant around any packed lunch items containing nuts and ensure that these are not sent into school. Some children can have an airborne allergic reaction, so it is essential that there are no nuts, or nut products, in our school.

CONFLICT IN THE MIDDLE EAST

You will all be fully aware of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and the significant news reporting of this concerning situation.

Whilst we endeavour to make our school a 'sanctuary' for the children, away from the worries and stresses of the world, we do recognize that they hear and see the news and are aware of what is happening. We do our best to address this with the children, ensuring all that we say and do is age appropriate and factual. We do not offer our opinions, thoughts or viewpoints, rather we challenge the children to see the viewpoints of others and begin to form their own opinions and thoughts.

Conflict, which seems so far away, is seen by the children and they are naturally curious about the 'whys' and 'what will happen ifs...'. If any of you are concerned about the escalating situation in the Middle East and how your child is feeling about this, please do let us know.



We are on Facebook!!
Please 'follow us' – Brough
Primary School

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COMMUNICATIONS WITH STAFF

Thank you to parents who have taken on board my previous request not to contact staff over evenings/weekends unless this is an emergency or previously agreed, but to contact me instead. As previously mentioned, we have a whole school 'cut off' of contact between 6pm and 7:30am and over weekends.

I ask that parents/carers continue to respect the above hours so that teaching staff can have a well-deserved break over evenings/weekends.

In the event of an emergency, or if something really cannot wait until the next day, then please send emails to me directly and I will make sure the relevant staff receive these.

hshepherdson@broughprimaryschool.co.uk

We care very much about our jobs and work very hard to provide the best possible education and care for your children, but teachers also have families and lives outside of work and part of my job is to support them in ensuring they have quality time away from work.

EASTER SPECIAL MENU

We are holding a special lunch menu on Thursday 26th March in recognition of the upcoming Easter celebrations.

Children can choose from the special Beatrix Potter inspired menu or alternatively enjoy a jacket potato or ham sandwich option.

No need to pre-order as children will be able to decide on the day.



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WORLD BOOK DAY

We celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 5th March and it was lovely to see all of the children taking part in their own special ways. Each child came home with a free book token, which we hope they have been able to use to purchase a new book!



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PUPIL ACHIEVEMENTS ★

We would like to recognise the achievements our pupils make outside of school and celebrate their hard work and success. Please forward any achievements that you would like to see featured in future newsletters to the school office at brough.primary@eastriding.gov.uk



Just over a year ago, George and Dylan in Year 5 took up ice hockey and have shown incredible commitment and determination ever since. They have trained consistently every Sunday, as well as putting in extra effort during their spare time to improve their skills.

Their hard work has paid off, and they are now training with Kingston Sharks! Well done boys for your hard work and dedication!

Alex worked so hard on completing this age 18+ Lego set all by himself. The school is a big fan of The Lion King - Well done Alex!



Henry in Year 4 recently celebrated another winning squash match to become the U11 Blackburn Leisure Squash Club Champion!

What an amazing achievement, Henry, well done!

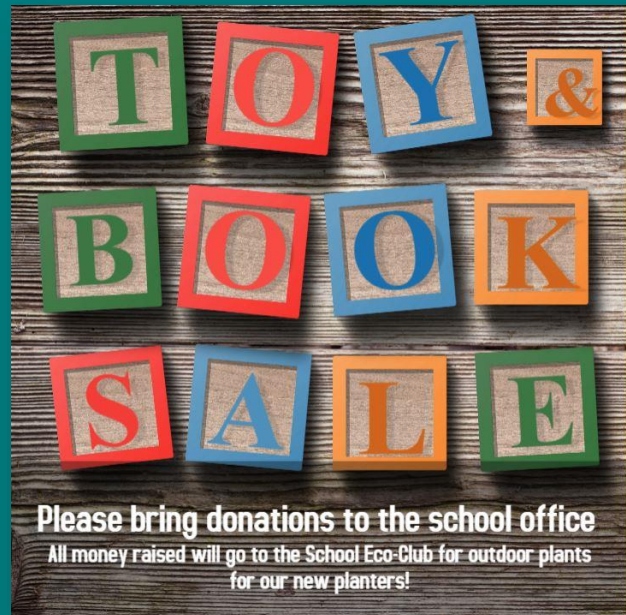


TOY AND BOOK SALE DONATIONS

Please can you bring in any unwanted children's toys, books or comics please. They must be complete and in good condition.

The new Environment Club is raising money for outdoor plants for our new planters (thanks to our bottle top collection scheme). Please drop them off at the office by Friday 17th of April.

So get bagging up your toys, books and make room for new ones! We will hold a Toy and Book Sale after Easter.



YEAR 3/4 SHARE DAYS

We will be inviting parents into school on the following dates to take part in an Art project with our Year 3/4 children:

- Tuesday 28th April – pm
- Thursday 30th April – am
- Friday 1st May – am

A letter with further details will come home with children next week.

MARCH

Thur 26th: Break up for Easter

APRIL

Mon 13th: Back to school

Tues 14th: Family Help Drop in - 9.15 to 11.15am
Theatre Club Parents Meeting - 6pm

Thur 16th: Keeping Kids Safe Evening – 5pm

Mon 20th: Keeping Children Safe Online & Phones
Forum – 5.30pm

Tues 28th: Year 3/4 Share day (pm)

Thur 30th: Year 3/4 Share day (am)
Y6 SHS Musical Showcase

MAY

Fri 1st: Year 3/4 Share day (am)

Mon 4th: Bank Holiday

Tues 5th: Year 2 Performance @ 2pm

W/c 11th: Y6 SATs Week

Tues 19th: Class Photographs & Y6 Leavers

Weds 20th: Y5 Drifffield Food & Farming Day

Fri 22nd: House Day
Break up for Half Term

JUNE

Mon 1st: Back to school

W/c 1st: Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check

Thur 4th: EYFS Visit – East Hull Community Farm

w/c 8th: Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Weds 10th: Y3/4 Sleepover at the Deep

22nd to 30th: Year 4 Swimming Programme

Thur 25th: Year 6 Transition Day @ S.Hunsley

26th – 28th: Y5/6 High Adventure Visit

JULY

1st to 3rd: Year 4 Swimming Programme

Wed 1st: Theatre Group Matilda Night 1

Thurs 2nd: Theatre Group Matilda Night 2

Mon 6th: KS1 Sports Day

Tues 7th: EYFS and Nursery Sports Day

Wed 8th: KS2 Sports Day

Fri 10th: Summer Soiree

Mon 13th: KS1 Reserve Sports Day

Tues 14th: EYFS and Nursery Reserve Sports Day

Wed 15th: KS2 Reserve Sports Day

Fri 17th: Year 6 Leavers Events

Break up for Summer