



Playground Opens

After a long wait, our new playground finally opened on Tuesday 14th Nov. The children were understandably thrilled and took full advantage of the new facilities. Table tennis proved especially popular, with many children having a go on our four brand new outdoor tables. The playground also hosts a MUGA (multi use games area) with markings for a wide variety of sports and games. The constructors BAM have kindly donated some basketball stands which are also very popular. The orchard area is a space for more peaceful activity and hosts stools, benches and planters where we will soon be growing our own vegetables. When you get a chance, come and have a look – we're sure you'll be impressed.

No Pens Day – The Communications Trust

On Wed 15th Nov, we held a No Pens Day to promote speaking and listening. Children worked on a huge range of activities, including public speaking, shape making, problem-solving and lots more. It was great to see that children can learn in so many different ways. While we will always need to write well and perform maths calculations using pencil and paper, we hope the children realised that opportunities for learning are all around us, all of the time. Huge thanks to Miss Larkin and Miss Gibson who organised the day. Check our Twitter feed at @ARKBrunel to see pictures of the day.

Who Needs Spiderman?

The children were thrilled to meet some unusual creatures on Thursday 16th Oct. Spiders, lizards and other wild and exciting creatures paid us a visit. The children were very calm and respectful when holding the creatures and enjoyed finding out more about the creatures with whom we share our planet. Bravo!



Girl meets spider. Makes friends.

Parents Science Workshop

We recently held a workshop for parents looking at some of the learning we do in Science at Brunel. There was great turn-out and those who attended reported thoroughly enjoying the session. It's great when parents come into school, get involved and see what Brunel is all about. Keep an eye out for future events for parents. It's one of our improvement focuses this year and we hope you're

enjoying some of the events we're organising. If you have any ideas and suggestions to help us work better with parents, please speak to us – we'd love to work with you to make Brunel the best it can possibly be for your children. Further planned events in coming weeks for parents are as follows:

- 17th Oct Imperial Class Assembly
- 24th Oct Lancaster Class Assembly
- 7th Nov Parent Workshop: Maths Mastery
- 14th Nov Oxford Class Assembly
- 21st Nov Parent Workshop: Handwriting
- 26th Nov Open Class Morning

Open Class Morning

Many of you took the opportunity to attend our Open Class Morning on Oct 2nd. Some parents asked whether we could repeat this as they were unable to attend due to other commitments. Others asked whether we could repeat this because they enjoyed it so much. We are delighted to let you know that another morning has been scheduled for 26th November. Again, parents will be welcomed into school from 9:00-10:30 to walk around, see learning taking place and (where possible) talk to teachers about what's going on. We're thrilled that so many parents are taking an interest in what we're doing at Brunel. It's by working together in partnership that we can achieve the very best and more for the children.



Maths games reinforcing learning about negative numbers in York Class

Handwriting

Our drive to improve the handwriting at Brunel is continuing. We want all our pupils to use a neat cursive script by the time they leave for secondary school. Ask your child how their handwriting is improving or even better – come to the Parent Workshop on 21st November to find out more.

End of half-term

It's the end of a very successful half-term next Friday Oct 24th. School will finish at the usual time of 3:30pm. Have a lovely break!