



# Bradwell Village School

## Meadows Newsletter

### Spring Term 2026

We are looking forward to a busy and engaging Spring Term as we explore our topic “**Our School.**” This topic will help the children learn more about their immediate surroundings and develop their understanding of their place within our school and local community.

**Our Key Enquiry Question this term will be: “What is in my local environment?”**

Much of our learning will connect to this theme, with some subjects taught through the topic and others taught discretely.

Key vocabulary we will cover includes:

Places in the classroom • Places in school • Places in the community • Positional language • People in school  
• Items we use in school

### Subject Overviews

#### English

In writing, we will be exploring two lovely texts: ‘*This is my school*’ by Jordan Garratt and ‘*Martha Maps It Out*’ by Leigh Hodgkinson. These books will support our learning around school environments, mapping, and identifying places. We will also continue to support the development of fine motor skills and letter formation, providing regular opportunities for children to practise hand-strengthening activities, pencil grip, mark-making, and early writing skills. This will help build confidence and independence in writing, drawing, and everyday classroom tasks.



**How you can help:** Encourage your child to listen to a story with you; try to ask your child to point out simple things within the text. For example, Can you show me the girl? Where is the red apple? Read your child a range of stories to support them in becoming better writers and readers. Work on fine motor activities, mark-making and handwriting.

#### Maths

In Maths, our focus will be on geometry (position and direction), measure, fractions, and the ongoing reinforcement of number and counting skills. We will also continue to develop our counting skills, including one-to-one correspondence, understanding more or less, and representing numbers in different ways to build secure early mathematical understanding.

**How you can help:** Please help by encouraging your children by pointing out numbers everywhere you go. Also, think about the language you use around numbers (more, less). We will be building on our vocabulary in these areas specifically.

#### Science

In Science, we will explore sorting and using materials, giving children opportunities for hands-on investigation and categorisation. We will also explore different textures and the suitability of materials for particular uses, encouraging the children to handle and describe them. Alongside this, we will focus on developing vocabulary associated with materials and textures, helping children use words such as *soft*, *rough*, *smooth*, *bendy*, *hard*, and *waterproof* to describe their findings.

**How you can help:**

Provide opportunities for sensory exploration of materials – let your child feel items safely (e.g., soft sponge, smooth stone, bendy straw, fluffy cotton). Model simple descriptive words or short phrases such as “soft,” “hard,” “rough,” “smooth,” while your child handles the objects. Even if they don’t verbalise back, they are still absorbing language.

**Wider Curriculum:**

Across the wider curriculum, our learning will include:

- **Art** – working creatively with paper
- **Humanities** – exploring position and direction
- **RE and PSHE** – learning about special people and places
- **PE** – practising games and movement skills

Throughout our teaching, we will continue to embed the Attention Autism approach to capture and maintain interest, encourage joint attention, and support engagement. We will also continue to promote independence and self-care routines, as well as using speech and language strategies to develop vocabulary, communication, and turn-taking.

In addition to all this, we are excited to let you know that the children will be attending a visit to Riverside Hub in Northampton this term, giving them a hands-on opportunity to explore and connect with their local community.

**How you can help:**

Let your child explore paper in different ways — tearing, folding, scrunching, sticking, and cutting (if safe). This helps with both creativity and hand strength. Enjoy the sensory experience together. Use everyday instructions like “on, under, next to, behind, in front.” Look together at photos of family members and familiar places. Do easy movement activities such as catching or rolling a ball, jumping on the spot, or stretching tall. Give your child small opportunities to do things themselves.

Mrs Ongai and Miss Jones love to see what you get up to, so please take pictures of your child’s learning journey at home.

Please ensure you are checking your child’s home-school link book daily; for updates on trips around the community and other ways in which you can support your child’s learning.

If you would like extra things for your child to do to support your child’s learning, please visit:

Visit [www.j2e.com](http://www.j2e.com) or [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

**Meadows Teaching Staff****Cornflowers Team**

Class Teacher – Miss Jones

Learning Support Assistants – Miss Ahmed and Mrs Conchillo

**Bluebells Team**

Class Teacher – Mrs Ongai

Learning Support Assistants – Mrs Joy and Mrs Robinson

**We are looking forward to continuing our hard work and would like to thank you for your ongoing support.**

**If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.**

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