



NEWSLETTER

November 2019

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Headmistress's Message

I hope you and your families had a enjoyable half-term break and are looking forward to the next few weeks leading up to Christmas. As you read this newsletter, you will have a flavour of some of the wide range of experiences that make up school life here at Braeside.

We have a number of special activities leading up to Christmas including the annual House Drama competition on Friday 22 November, a non-uniform day in exchange for sweets for the tombola at the Christmas Activity Afternoon and our Nativity and Carol service.

I hope to see you at one or more of these events!

Best Wishes,

Chloe Moon

Headmistress

Getting Together for Friendship Friday

The Early Years children got together to celebrate Friendship Friday last week. They listened to a story about how Elmer the Elephant was a good friend to everyone and then talked about how to be a good friend. They also talked about the importance of sharing and being kind to each other.

The children then coloured pictures of Elmer and had a great time role-playing with Elmer masks.



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Madrid Football and Cultural Tour 2019

What an adventure! Pupils from both Braeside and Normanhurst had the trip of a lifetime over the half term as they enjoyed a football and cultural tour of the bustling Spanish city of Madrid.

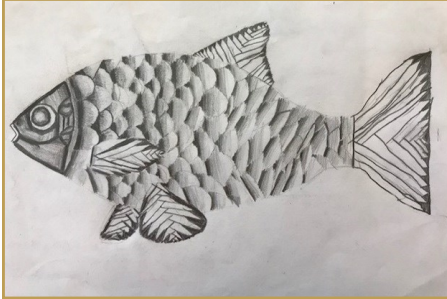
Every day was packed with activities including football matches against local Spanish opposition, a training session by academy Real Madrid coaches, day trips to the Prado Museum, the Royal Palace and El Retiro Park, a fascinating tour of the Bernabeu Stadium, watching Getafe vs Basel in a Europa League match and to top it all off, a full day at Warner Bros Theme Park.

Everyone had a brilliant time, and it was great to see pupils from the two schools getting along so well together. The hotel was excellent and although the weather was mixed, it didn't stop our pupils from making the most of all the activities on offer!



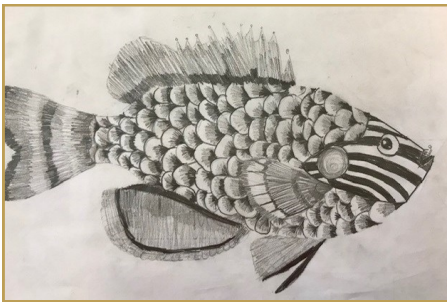
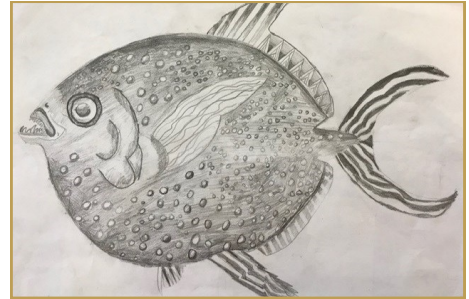
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Year 6 Fantastic Fish



Year 6 have been exploring how to draw fish this half term. They have focused on their observation skills. Pupils have learnt how to use space and proportions.

They are able to identify light, mid and dark tones and have created their own patterns to make their fish interesting and quite dramatic. Well done to everyone.



Remembrance Assembly at the Seniors



Mr Shields (our on-site chef) took our annual Remembrance assembly this year. Mr Shields explained what food rationing looked like at home and many of the pupils were shocked to find out that sugar, butter and eggs were the foodstuffs that were very limited.

Mr Shields explained what sorts of food were encouraged to be eaten at the home front and what foods were eaten on the front line. Calorie intake was higher years ago as more people did a physical job and needed the energy. Mr Shields weighed out ingredients to show the pupils how much they could eat in a week – many of the pupils said that they would eat the amount allowed in a day!

He also cooked a corned beef stew that some of the pupils tried alongside their lunch. It was very interesting to learn about a different aspect of war through food.





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Social Networking



Website

Go to the School Calendar page for upcoming events and our News page for all the latest news and lots more photos.



App

Keep up to date with the latest news, calendar dates, and much more by downloading the new Braeside School App.



Instagram

Follow us on Instagram for regular photo updates! Search for **braesidesch** to find us and then click follow.



Twitter

Follow us **@BraesideSch** on Twitter to get the latest updates.



YouTube

Subscribe to our YouTube account to watch some of pupils in action in class, during performances, at sports day and more.



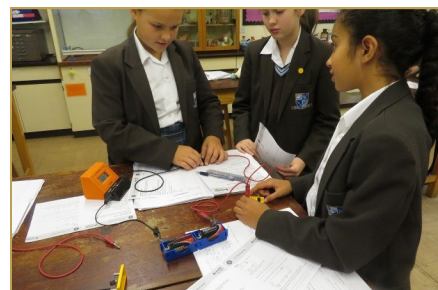
Facebook

Facebook is our newest form of Social Media. Like us on Facebook to get news, photos, events and updates posted straight to your newsfeed.

Year 7 Investigate Circuits

Year 7 have been learning about circuits in their Physics lessons. They are using ammeters to measure the current flowing through their circuits and comparing current flowing through different parts of series and parallel circuits.

This hands on approach to the lesson really helped the pupils to further their understanding of the topic.



Early Years Teddy Bears' Picnic

The Early Years children got together on the last Friday of half term for a Teddy Bears Picnic. As it was raining outside we had to have an indoor picnic but this didn't dampen anyone's spirits. Everyone had a great time listening to some teddy bear stories and singing along to the Teddy Bears' Picnic song.

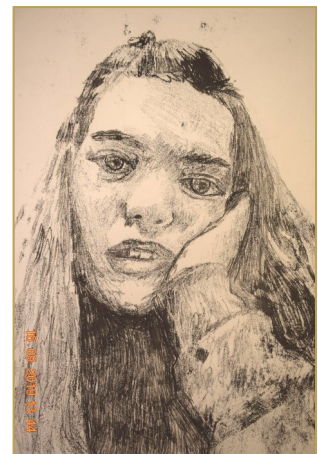
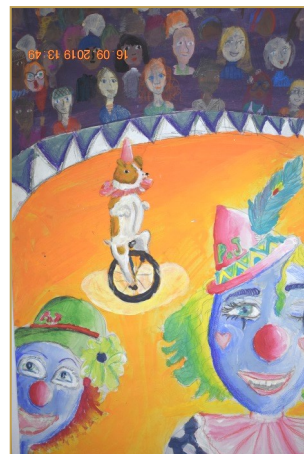
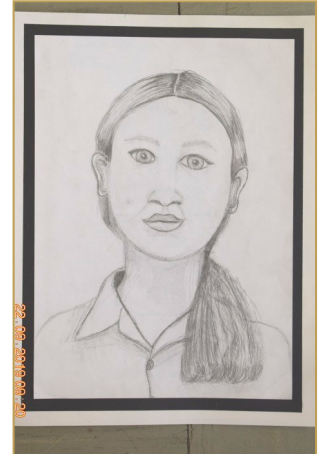
After dancing to the Hokey Cokey the pupils all had fun playing 'Sleeping Bears' and 'What's the time Mister Bear?'. They then all sat down to eat some delicious picnic food with everyone particularly enjoying the bear-shaped biscuits that the Reception children had made. What a lovely way to get ready for the half term holiday!



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ISI Art Competition

This year we have entered a range of work into the ISA Art Competition from Key Stage 2, 3 and 4. Pupils have explored a range of techniques and skills and the art-work was entered into categories including Drawing, 3D, textiles and group work.



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Year 8 Compare Compounds

Our Year 8 Chemistry class are learning about compounds. They are seen here comparing the properties of compounds such as iron sulfide with the elements that make them up. They are observing and comparing the electrical conductivity and magnetism, as well as colour and appearance of all the substances.



Delving into Natural History



Year 3 had a fantastic trip to the Natural History Museum recently where they were able to explore a range of prehistoric giants. The children got to see what dinosaurs looked like, how they lived and just how big they grew. The pupils saw dinosaurs from the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous period and they read many theories of how they became extinct. The children also got a fright when seeing the roaring T-Rex.

Year 3 also got to experience the 6 meter model of the moon by UK artist Luke Jerram, explore the fossil marine reptiles, the minerals and the galleries top treasures. They travelled on the train beautifully and represented the school very well.



Year 4, 5 and 6 Visit the Lea Bridge Road Mosque

This term Year 4, 5 and 6 visited the Lea Bridge Road Mosque. They were given a tour of several parts of the mosque as well as having an opportunity to complete some interactive tasks linked to the washing procedure before prayer, and the different parts of a prayer room.



The pupils also got to ask any questions they had about the Islamic faith. The pupils all found the morning very interesting and it was a great opportunity for them to visit a religious building.



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Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur

The Senior pupils had an assembly from Miss Krist on Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, and Yom Kippur, the day of repentance. The pupils were told about the customs and traditions that surround both of these festivals – mainly the food!

On Rosh Hashanah it is traditional to eat sweet items in order to have a sweet and happy New Year and on Yom Kippur it is a fast day where the Jewish people repent for their sins of the previous year. At the end of the assembly the pupils were invited to have challah bread and honey to celebrate a sweet new school year.

“It was really nice and tasty, a great experience to try something that Jewish people eat.” [Humaira - Year 7](#)

“We learnt that the Jewish calendar is similar to the Muslim calendar as it follows the moon” [Laila - Year 7](#)



World Food Day - A Mexican Feast



Every third week is World Food Day, where pupils get to taste delicious foods from around the globe. A particular favourite country was Mexico, as the pupils were treated to a yummy Mexican themed dining experience. There was some delicious food on offer



and everyone got into the spirit of the day, donning their sombreros and enjoying the decorated hall.

Year 10 Investigate Bacterial Cultures

Year 10 have been working on one their GCSE Biology required practical investigations. They are currently investigating the effect of different antiseptics and disinfectants on the growth of bacterial cultures. This has involved practicing aseptic techniques using agar plates which the pupils found fascinating.



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All About the Ancient Greeks



Just before the half term Year 5 put on a fantastic assembly sharing the work they have completed on the Ancient Greeks. They told the rest of the Juniors some fascinating facts about the structure of this Ancient Civilisation, particularly the differences between Athenians and Spartans. Everyone spoke clearly and with confidence, well done!

Assembly on the Science of Learning

Mrs Jermutus gave an assembly on the science of learning (cognition). She talked about how learning happens and how pupils can control, monitor and evaluate their own learning (metacognition).

With help from “The Learning Scientists” (<https://www.learningscientists.org>), Mrs Jermutus is encouraging the pupils to investigate how we all learn using cognitive psychology’s application to education.

In this assembly they discussed some of the study strategies that have the most scientific evidence to suggest they have the greatest effect on long term memory and learning.



Braeside Senior Netball

All the pupils have worked incredibly hard this half term to improve their netball skills during PE lessons. It has been lovely to see such high numbers turning out for after school sports club to train and play matches. The younger half of the school have already learnt so much from playing with Year 9, 10 and 11 and it has been great to see the older girls taking on leadership roles and helping to umpire the matches. Keep up the hard work everyone!

The U14 and U16 teams have had a busy fixture calendar playing Davenant, Roding Valley and King Harold to name just a few. These matches have been tough but their determination and commitment to their teams has been excellent, and it has been great to see them improving week on week. Lily-Anne, Emily and Eva must be mentioned for their consistent improvement in the U14s. In the U16s Mackenzie and Ellie have worked hard to help organise the team and have both played a vital role in center court.



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Year 11 and the Squeaky Pop Teat

Year 11 are working towards the end of their GCSE course in Chemistry and are really using their initiatives in lessons. They worked in teams to create their own systems for making oxygen, hydrogen and carbon dioxide gases.

Each team made their gas using the equipment available in the science lab. They then went on to demonstrate their methods to the rest of the class and then test for the gas using known chemical tests. We had a lot of fun with the squeaky pop test which gave a very loud bang!



Habitat Discovery Day at Waltham Abbey Gardens



On Wednesday 9 October Year 1 and 2 paid a visit Waltham Abbey Gardens to participate in a Habitat Discovery Day. On the trip they collected mini beasts and used classification charts while exploring a variety of micro habitats.



They even had a go at pond dipping! Pupils explored the weird and wonderful world of minibeasts through collecting, identifying and classifying the invertebrates. It was a great day and the children all really enjoyed taking part in the activities and learning outside the classroom environment.



Black History Month Assembly



Year 10 GCSE History pupils gave an assembly on Black History Month to the Juniors this term. As part of their course, they explore the Civil Rights Movement and the key figures involved with the changes to society.

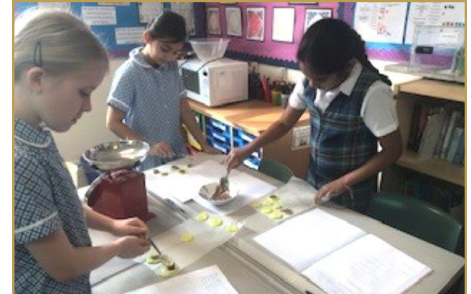
The Junior pupils asked lots of interesting questions and Year 10 were able to answer them and tell them about Martin Luther King and Maya Angelou.

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Exciting English in Year 5

Year 5 have been enjoying their recent lessons very much. One lesson involved creating some tasty treats and then, using their writing skills, wrote detailed instructions for other people to follow.

They have also been reading 'The Adventures of Odysseus' which is an adapted version of Homer's Odyssey. They dramatised some of the scenes where Odysseus returns home and fights the suitors, who have been trying to persuade his wife, Penelope, to marry them. The pupils are really enjoying the book and can't wait to see how it ends!



Year 10 Learn about Diseases and Micro Organisms

Year 10 Biology pupils have been learning about diseases and microorganisms. They used aseptic technique to prepare uncontaminated cultures of bacteria on agar plates, and then went on to use their bacterial plates to investigate the effectiveness of different disinfectants and antiseptics found around the home.

Interestingly they found that Savlon antiseptic cream was the best at killing their bacteria. Year 10 were pragmatic and sensible measuring their zones of inhibition (areas where bacteria had been killed), and used common sense judgments and evaluations alongside careful calculations.



PGL Netball Residential Weekend

A small group of pupils enjoyed a very highly contested netball weekend away at PGL in October. Although the weather was not on our side the pupils made the most of their weekend and participated in a number of out of bounds activities as well as playing 8 netball matches. The Year 11 team came third overall and were awarded bronze medals for their achievement. Mackenzie was awarded Braeside's player of the tournament for this age group and Nell deservedly gained this award in the Year 9/10 tournament.



All of the pupils' netball knowledge and skills improved massively during the weekend and it was great to see them supporting each other throughout the whole trip.



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A Very Expensive Poison GCSE Drama Theatre Visit

On the Friday 4 October, GCSE Drama pupils visited the Old Vic Theatre in Waterloo to see the highly acclaimed play of 'A Very Expensive Poison' based on the book written by Gaurdian journalist Luke Harding, adapted for stage by Lucy Prebble and directed by John Crowley.

Lucy Prebble's fascinating new play is about the murder of Alexander Litvinenko, an ex-FSB agent, on British soil. Prebble bases her play on fact, tells a complex story with great clarity and adopts a variety of techniques, including direct address, puppetry and song to create a uniquely theatrical spectacle.

Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were fascinated at how such a serious tragedy was portrayed in a surreal way with dark humour, but then brought the audience back to reality reminding us that this story is real and a life was taken. This was a highly successful theatre visit as pupils gained lots of new ideas for their own GCSE work and felt inspired by the convincing acting.



Year 10 Use Titration Techniques

As part of the Chemistry GCSE curriculum, Year 10 take part in a series of required practical investigations over course of the year. This term Year 10 have been practicing their chemical calculations and one of these involves working out the concentration of an unknown acid or alkali.

The pupils used titration techniques to investigate the volumes of acids needed to neutralise an alkali. From this they then go on to deduce the concentration of the solution by rearranging equations. Year 10 found the equipment and colour changes really exciting and they worked with care and keen attention to detail.



A Positive Start to GCSE Chemistry

Year 9 have made a positive start to their GCSE Chemistry course this year. They have been finding out about atomic structure and how the model of the atom has developed over the years. Some beautifully annotated models of atoms have been created and mounted onto scientific posters for our lab wall.



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Year 9 Investigate Atomic Structure

This term Year 9 have been investigating atomic structure and as part of this unit they have been looking at all the different methods available for separating mixtures of elements and compounds.

They have used filtration, evaporation, distillation and crystallisation. Year 9 have looked at the properties of the elements and compounds that make up a mixture and they have been investigating the history of the atomic model.



GCSE Presentation Evening

The Year 11 pupils of 2019 (now in Year 12) were invited back to Braeside for their GCSE presentation evening on Friday 18 October. Pupils were presented with their certificates and had a photo taken with Ms Moon and their friends.

It was lovely to see how the pupils have been developing and maturing now that they are at their chosen sixth forms, and to hear about how they are getting on.



ISA Art Competition Results

Braeside have had some fantastic results for both the Regional and National ISA Art Competition. Regional placings include Jessica-Year 11, Katie-Year 11, Ayra-Year 9, Rebecca-Year 8, Eva-Year 8, Freya-Year 7, Year 6 class, Karishma and Megan who left last July after completing their GCSEs.

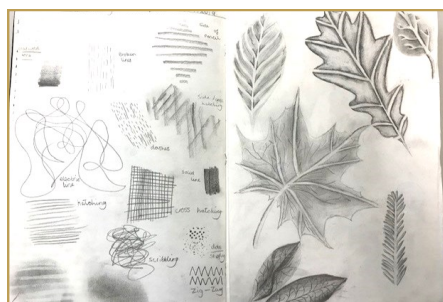
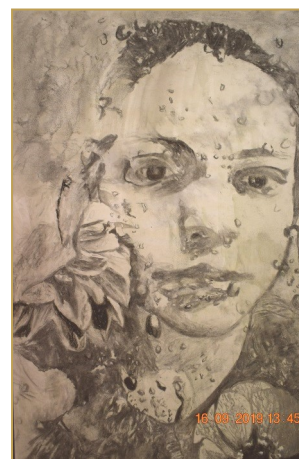
National Results as follows:-

1st - Meghan - Drawing category - Charcoal Self Portrait - Rainy Days

2nd - Katie - Sculpture - Fancy a dough-nut

2nd - Freya - Sketch book KS3

Highly commended - 2D group KS2 - Mixed Media - Hundertwasser City



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Mystery of the Egyptian Mummy

Pupils in Year 4 have been integrating drama in some of their English work. They were recreating part of their reading book, 'Mystery of the Egyptian Mummy', pretending to be the main character Zet and reacting to seeing Anubis the God of Death and hearing about the mummification process.

This was a great, interactive way to learn more about the book which all of the pupils really enjoyed.



Year 10 Chemistry Practical Lessons

Year 10 continue their practical lessons in Chemistry. In this lesson they planned their own investigations to determine the order of reactivity of a group of metals. They reacted their metals with acids and tested the gases produced.



Oak-Tree Fireworks



The Oak-Tree Parents' Association Fireworks Display went off with a bang last weekend, with around 1000 people in attendance. There were numerous stalls and activities to keep the children entertained such as biscuit



and mask decorating in the new Science room at Oaklands, lucky dip and hundreds of glowing toys. The hot mulled wine went down a treat with all the adults and the hot dogs and hot chocolate were loved by the children! Everyone also got to enjoy listening to some live music from the Normanhurst Band. The fireworks themselves were spectacular as always, and overall it was such a successful evening.

A huge thank you to the four Parents' Associations for arranging and running such a popular event.

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Harvest Festival

Friends and family enjoyed a lovely Harvest celebration this term in the United Reformed Church, performed by our Junior pupils.

The children loved showing off their dance moves to a range of songs including 'The Owl Song' and 'Savez-vous Planter les choux'. There were some great solos to the 'Harvest Hymn' and 'Harvest Samba', and the Junior Band accompanied 'Big Red Combine Harvester' beautifully.

It was a great afternoon and a fantastic way to celebrate the Harvest season. Well done to all of our performers, you should be very proud of yourselves!

Thank you to everyone who donated, it is sure to make a huge difference.



Netball Skills

As the weather gets colder, pupils have been working on their netball skills during PE lessons. In each session the pupils have been working on developing new techniques which they can then use when playing in the local league or during school events such as House Netball.



It is great to see the improvement the pupils are making each week in terms of spacing, teamwork, passing and understanding their position. Keep up the good work!



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Year 8, 9 and 10 Visit the Epping Forest Field Study Centre

Wednesday 9 October was a lovely, sunny and mild Autumn day – a great day for Geography fieldwork. Years 8, 9 and Year 10 GCSE pupils visited the Epping Forest Field Study Centre to complete some river fieldwork.

In the morning they were out in the forest taking soil samples gaining knowledge of the geology and rock types in the area. In the afternoon they visited three different sites along Loughton Brook and worked collaboratively in groups taking measurements of the river's width, depth, bed load and measured the velocity using a cork, ruler and stop watch. Year 10 found the day valuable as a supplement to the rivers component of their GCSE course and Years 8 and 9 as an introduction/summary to their river studies.



Year 7 Autumn Leaves

It is that time of year again where all the leaves go amazing colours and the seasons are changing from autumn to winter is upon us. Year 7 have produced some amazing large scale leaves using oil pastels. They have explored how to mix and blend colours and they are able to identify the difference between warm and cool colours and how they can be used in our art-work. Well done Year 7, great work!



We're Going on a Bear Hunt!



Reception class had a very exciting time acting out the story of 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt.' They had great fun splashing through the river, walking through squelchy mud and the swirling snow storm before finding the bear in his cave! They all did an excellent job of retelling the story too!





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FOBS Update

Hello fellow parents,

Welcome back to school and the countdown to Christmas. We hope you enjoyed half term - if you can remember that far back.

Fireworks

On Sunday 10 November we had the Oak Tree fireworks display. It was a spectacular half hour - whoops and cheers all round. Braeside was able to send a few volunteers to look after a stall and many glow items were sold and refreshments handed out. Fortunately for us Normanhurst School had a lot of parent volunteers and they were able to come to our aid as we might have been a bit overwhelmed by the demand otherwise. Good inter school collaboration.



Survey Monkey

Before half term we sent out an email via the School which asked you to fill in a Survey Monkey questionnaire. It is a really short questionnaire seeking your views on helping out and the kinds of activities you would like us to arrange. We have had about 20 replies and we could really do with receiving some more. Please look out for the email - a second reminder email is being sent out as well. We would appreciate your input - we hope you can spare us a minute.

Volunteers

We have class reps for each year group so that they can pass messages on from the FOBS Committee and visa versa. We currently have vacancies in Reception, Year 5 and Year 7. If you would like to help out the School by taking on that role then it would really help us keep in touch with everyone. It would be a good job for someone who likes to help a little bit and wants to be part of the wider School community. Please get in touch via the School and they will pass the message on.

Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre is being organised much more by the School this year and will be held on Friday 29 November 3.15pm - 5pm at the Junior Site. Teachers and pupils are much more in charge but we still have a role to play. Have you got creative fingers and would you like to help put together a Grotto for Santa to occupy? If you have got time in the afternoon then we would really love to hear from you. We could also do with a few helpers to put tables out in preparation for the Fayre. If you could volunteer then please get in touch either through your class rep or the school.

We hope you have a happy November!