



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

How are we at the end of week 6 already?! This term is certainly flying by with so much wonderful learning happening! Our children have been completing their challenge grids this week where they show their knowledge recall from the whole of this half term. The teachers will be looking at their responses and identifying any gaps in knowledge or misconceptions next week. You will be receiving paper copies of next half term's knowledge organisers and theme letters next week so you can look over them with your child over the half term holiday. It would be lovely to see how they engage with their learning at home! Please share with us so we can share in the Bulletin.

This week has seen an author visit, class trip and new members of staff joining us in our wrap around care as well as outside building work beginning for our Little Bluebells...lots more detail below!

Please look carefully through this week's bulletin as there is lots of information about upcoming events and some important online safety notices that have been shared with us by the Greenwich Safeguarding Team. Please remember that you can always talk with us about any safeguarding concerns you have; Mrs. Armstrong is our Designated Safeguarding Lead and Mrs. McGrath is our Deputy Safeguarding Lead.

Don't forget that next week we have shared stories, coffee morning and discos all on Friday! What a lovely way to end the half term.

Best wishes,
Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Early Years Stay and Play- Saturday 11th October 2025 9:30-11:30am

Shared stories morning- 17th October 8:45- 9:15am- followed by **coffee in the school hall!**

Autumn discos 17th October

End of Autumn (i) 17th October

Secondary School application deadline- 31st October

Back to school: Monday 3rd November

Oxleas NHS Rec & Y6 Height & Weight checks - Wednesday 19th November



A reminder for children to send in their Brooklands Belonging Bunting in ASAP so we can get started on making them out of fabric!

Tomorrow, Saturday 11th October marks our first EYFS Stay and Play session in our Nursery space. We hope to see as many of you and your little ones there as possible- spread the word! See the flyer below for all the details!

Office Reminders



- **Absence** – Please ensure you call the office before 9am if your child will not be in school that day. Alternatively, you can report your child's absence on Studybugs.
- Please ensure all contacts, numbers, addresses, medical conditions and medication is up to date.
- All outstanding payment must be paid by Friday 24th October
- Bat Club
- Nursery
- Clubs
- **Punctuality** – Should a child's punctuality be identified as persistent (more than 10%) or a pattern (e.g. late on a particular day of the week), parents will be invited in to meet with leadership and/or the local authority attendance officer to discuss how the school can support the family to improve punctuality for the child.



Please get the **free Studybugs app** for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

<https://studybugs.com>



Please sign up to our attendance app which is how we now ask parents to inform us of absence; thank you to those who have already signed up. There is also a link to the page along the top of our home page on our website.

Attendance



	Reception		99.65%
	Year 1		93.79%
	Year 2		95.63%
	Year 3		95.50%
	Year 4		95.36%
	Year 5		89.61%
	Year 6		97.86%

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Reading at Brooklands

We have a wonderful reading culture at Brooklands and celebrate this in lots of ways!



What's your favourite book?

Let your teacher know!

We would love to hear what books and stories you enjoy at home- please email in to share your favourite books, or photos of you reading together at home!



Click [here](#) to listen to the story being read to you!

A brilliantly funny picture book about seasons, written by Alice Hemming and illustrated by Nicola Slater.

Join Squirrel on a mission to find who has stolen his leaves, and meet so many fun animals on the way, while you find out how the world takes on different colours as the months pass by.

A laugh-out-loud book about the changing seasons, with extra information in the back for especially curious minds. Perfect as a companion reader to children learning about seasons in school.

A brilliant picture book that explores feelings, moods and times where we feel out of control.

ONLINE SAFETY

For Parents – App Safety Settings

With the Online Safety Act now in force it's no surprise to see a lot of focus and scrutiny on tech companies, their features and safety settings being so prominent in the media, particularly safety settings failures. However, that shouldn't detract from the fact that safety settings are important; they're not perfect and never will be, but they are there for a reason. So this feels like a good time to either send a reminder out to parents or to take a look at the links on your school website to some of the more popular social apps which I've shared below, all from the Internet Matters website:

Discord app settings – [HERE](#).

TikTok parental controls – [HERE](#).

Snapchat parental controls – [HERE](#).

Instagram parental controls – [HERE](#).

Pinterest privacy and safety settings – [HERE](#).

FaceTime privacy and safety settings – [HERE](#).

WhatsApp privacy guide – [HERE](#).

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

DEALING WITH TRAUMATIC & CHALLENGING EVENTS

Children and young people may face a wide range of traumatic or challenging events – from bereavement and illness to bullying, family breakdowns, or witnessing violence. These experiences can affect their mental health, behaviour, relationships, and academic progress. With the right support from trusted adults, children can begin to feel safe, rebuild resilience, and develop healthy coping strategies. This guide offers practical and empathetic ways to provide support and promote positive outcomes.

1 A PREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENT

Children who have experienced trauma often feel unsafe or uncertain. Creating routines, setting clear expectations, and maintaining consistency can help restore a sense of security. This structure offers reassurance and helps children feel more in control of their surroundings.

2 USE LANGUAGE THAT MATCHES THEIR AGE

Speak clearly and sensitively, choosing words that are appropriate for the child's age. Avoid overwhelming them with too much information at once. Offer gentle, honest explanations and focus on reassurance, especially when talking about difficult or sensitive subjects.

3 TRAUMA AND THE BODY

Mention briefly that trauma can show up in physical ways, such as changes in sleep, appetite, concentration, or as physical aches and pains. Consider this before labelling behaviour as 'difficult' or 'lazy'. Some children may become withdrawn, while others may be more outwardly challenging. Highlight that there's no 'one way' children respond.

4 AVOID RETELLING OR RELIVING TRAUMA

Children sometimes get asked to explain or repeat their experience multiple times. Striking a balance of when to listen and when to gently redirect can help to avoid unnecessary re-traumatisation. Acknowledge, but don't probe for detail unless safeguarding procedures require it.

5 AVOID DISMISSING OR MINIMISING FEELINGS

Seemingly well-meaning comments like "It's not that bad" or "You're okay" may shut down children's emotional expression and are often not helpful. Instead, acknowledge what they're feeling, even if it seems small. Validating a child's emotions helps them feel seen and encourages open communication in future.

6 UNDERSTAND HOW THEY'RE FEELING

Many children don't have the words to express their emotions, especially during distress. Supporting them to name what they're feeling – such as angry, scared or sad – builds emotional literacy. Tools like emotion charts, drawing, or storytelling can help externalise feelings in a safe, manageable way.

7 BE AWARE OF YOUR OWN RESPONSES

Children pick up on adult emotions and reactions, often mirroring them. Staying calm, even in challenging situations, helps children feel more secure. Practising your own self-regulation is an important way to model healthy stress management and encourages children to do the same.

8 SEEK PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

While many children benefit from everyday emotional support, some will need more specialised help. If symptoms persist, worsen, or disrupt their daily life, consult with school safeguarding leads, a GP, or a mental health professional. Early intervention can prevent long-term difficulties and support healthy recovery.

9 MAINTAIN CONNECTION

Isolation can worsen the impact of trauma. Encourage involvement in group activities, praise their efforts, and ensure they feel like a valued part of the school or family community. Meaningful connection with trusted adults and peers builds resilience and a sense of belonging.

10 BE PATIENT – HEALING TAKES TIME

There's no quick fix for emotional recovery. Children may have good days and setbacks, and progress may not always be visible or linear. Your ongoing support, patience, and presence can help them move forward at their own pace, knowing they are not alone.

Meet Our Expert

This guide has been written by Anna Bateman. Anna is passionate about placing prevention at the heart of every school by integrating mental wellbeing within the curriculum, school culture, and systems. She has been a member of the advisory group for the Department for Education, advising them on their mental health green paper.



#WakeUpWednesday®

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Well done to Myla, who has shown fantastic effort this week in sharing with her friends and taking turns. She has also been working hard to listen to adults and follow instructions.
Reception	Uma for trying your best in all your learning this week. Elvis - for being so brave and having a settled week.
Year 1	Constantin - because you have a great attitude and a real enthusiasm to all your learning. You have been working very hard. Si Si- because you have been joining in and working hard. We are all very proud of your great start in Year 1.
Year 2	Isolde - For always being kind and respectful to her peers Zavier - For settling in so well and persisting with all of the work that he does
Year 3	Tobie - for producing amazing independent writing and confidently using all of his success criteria to create a detailed and thoughtful piece. Rafi - for showing fantastic effort in his writing and challenging himself to go above and beyond expectations.
Year 4	Lena - For showing great resilience in her work and not being afraid to make mistakes Roman - For completing great work in Maths and showing great attention during class
Year 5	Andrei- for a superb explanation text on the Hindu stages of life Letarni- always giving 100% to her learning
Year 6	Beau - for her resilience and effort towards all learning. Daniil - for always putting effort into his learning both at school and at home.



We are excited to announce that we have been successful in a bid for funding to replace our climbing frame system on the grass area between the Key Stage 1 and 2 playgrounds. We know the children all love this equipment and have been very disappointed that we have had to cordon off the area as parts of the existing structure has begun to fail. We are delighted to have been successful in this bid and that we can have an exciting new space for the children to play in and around.

GENTLE REMINDERS

A reminder that the gate opens for children and families at 8:30am. This is for families and children to socialise and network as well as giving children plenty of time to be on site in time. The classroom doors and main KS2 door opens at 8:40am and children need to be on site by 8:45am.

Parents on site at the start of the day

Parents are expected to remain on site, with their children, until the classroom doors open. This is for health and safety and safeguarding reasons. If children come to school alone (Years 5 and 6), they are to remain in the Early Years playground to ensure they are in sight of the school staff.

Mobile phones and smart watches

Children who walk to and from school are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school so they are able to inform parents they have arrived safely. However, mobile phones should not be used on site and so children are to take phones and smart watches to the office so they can be kept secure until they can be collected at the end of the day. Having these devices on and accessible during the school day poses a safeguarding risk, which we take very seriously. Please support the school in reminding children to only use their phones once they are off-site. Thank you.

Appropriate clothing for school

We have had a few children coming to school recently in clothing that has not been appropriate for school e.g. costumes, restrictive clothing and loose footwear. We know that being a non-uniform school is a unique feature of Brooklands and we do not wish to prevent children from expressing their individuality. However, please ensure children are dressed in clothing that does not restrict movement and footwear that is secure. We have had a few accidents at playtime recently and this is something we are closely monitoring. We thank you for your support in this matter.



For 2-5
year-olds

Join us at our next

Stay-and-Play!

If you're looking for a Nursery place for your little one
or your child is starting Reception in 2026,
we'd love to see you there.



Saturday, 11th October
9:30am-11:30am



We'll be enjoying a range of fun activities
linked to much-loved stories and adventures!

*Please note that parents/carers must stay
and be responsible for their child.*



Brooklands Primary School,
Medebourne Close, Blackheath SE3 9AB



Great excitement
with the diggers
preparing the
lovely new Little
Bluebells outside
area!



Year 5 and 6 had a
wonderful visit from a
fantastic author, Jacob
North!

This week at Brooklands...

Nursery	This week in nursery, the children have been starting to think about the changing seasons, with a special focus on Autumn. We explored the colours of Autumn by mixing paints to create warm, earthy tones, which the children used to make some beautiful seasonal art pieces. The rainy weather also gave us the perfect opportunity to talk about how different seasons affect what we wear. The children enjoyed learning about waterproof clothing and why it's important to dress appropriately for the weather.
Reception	What a busy and exciting week it's been! The children have been full of energy and focus, showing great determination in their learning. They have enjoyed revisiting learnt phonics sounds and are becoming more confident sound blenders each day! In maths, they explored capacity through a variety of fun, hands-on activities that helped to deepen their understanding. Our focus book this week was <i>The Leaf Thief</i> by Alice Hemming. This delightful story follows a worried squirrel who thinks his leaves are being stolen each autumn. It was a perfect choice, as they've been busy investigating and exploring the changes happening around them during the autumn season.
Year 1	Year 1 have been finding out about homes and houses around the world through the information book 'A place called Home'. We wrote lists and captions about different houses and we also labelled them in our English sessions. In Geography we located the school using Google Earth and looked at different physical/ human features on aerial photographs. For our Design and Technology learning we have begun to make our own toy puppets using our designs. In maths this week we have compared numbers using the language and symbols for greater than, less than and equal to. We have also been ordering groups of objects by their total amounts. During our RE session this week we looked at and discussed different symbols that represent different faiths. As usual we had fun and enjoyed outdoor activities at Forest School and we did our PE lesson outside too. Well done Year 1, you have nearly completed a full half term!
Year 2	Year 2 have had another wonderful week. They have started a new book in English 'The Tiny Seed' and have been exploring the key elements of an explanation text. Learning how to use 'and' and 'because' in their sentences. They have continued working very hard and securing their knowledge in addition and subtraction in maths using tens frames to help them. They have had another lovely week in forest school getting the chance to explore the outdoors. In PE they have continued practising their skills in dance and have been learning to control a ball when passing to someone else. In RE they have had the chance to consolidate their knowledge and look at what they have been learning. In geography they had the opportunity to discuss the heritage of everyone in the class. We are very proud of Year 2 this week.
Year 3	It has been another amazing week in Year 3, filled with creativity, focus, and fantastic learning! In English, we have been practising how to write a newspaper report about Mary Anning and her incredible fossil discoveries. The children worked hard to learn the features of a report and practised using direct speech with inverted commas, prepositions, and subordinating conjunctions to make their writing exciting and detailed. Next week, we will be putting all our skills together to write our final newspaper report outcome! In Maths, the class enjoyed exploring addition and subtraction within 1s, 10s, and 100s, while spotting patterns in place value and explaining their reasoning clearly. Their enthusiasm and teamwork during problem-solving tasks have been wonderful to see. In Art, we added the finishing touches to our fossil creations by varnishing them, bringing our artwork to life with texture and shine. It has truly been an amazing week in Year 3 — full of curiosity, creativity, and pride in everything we've achieved!



This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	In Geography, we have completed our unit of work on Europe, and the children are now true Geographical Superstars! They have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity in learning about the different countries across the continent. In Maths, we've been working extremely hard on subtraction, focusing especially on exchanging. Although it can be a little tricky at first, it's been wonderful to see the children's confidence grow as they tackle more challenging problems. Their dedication on IXL has been fantastic too, well done, everyone! In PE, we've continued to develop our hand-eye coordination through throwing and catching activities, with games of basketball and handball proving to be great fun! It's also been brilliant to see so many children moving up in their swimming groups each week. Their increasing confidence in the water and improvement in technique have been a joy to watch. In English, we've been preparing to write our very own non-fiction reports about the water cycle, linking beautifully with our Science topic. We've been focusing on using fronted adverbials, time connectives, and prepositional phrases to make our writing clear, engaging, and informative. It's been another busy and rewarding week – well done, Year 4!
Year 5	This week in Year 5 has been a blast! We continued our learning on addition and subtraction in maths. We have solved problems and learned about the inverse, and how this can be used to check our answers. In English, we have been writing explanation texts about Hinduism and their stages of life. In history, we have learned about crime and punishment during the Mayan era. Our learning in Geography has taught us about time zones, and why different points on the globe have different times. Today, we went on a trip to Greenacres where we took a trip through space in a mobile planetarium! We were in awe of the size and learned lots of new facts about our Solar System! We have also started filling in our challenge grids for our end-of-topic assessments. This has given us a chance to reflect on our learning from this term.
Year 6	This week in Year 6, the children have continued to look at 'Journey to the River Sea', focusing on the features of a narrative. Inspired by the story, they have worked hard to create their own setting descriptions of Manaus, bringing the vibrant Brazilian city to life through their writing. In Maths, we've been developing our skills in long multiplication, tackling problems involving 4-digit by 2-digit numbers. During the week, we moved on to short division, applying our knowledge to new challenges. Across our wider curriculum, the children have completed their challenge grids – a fantastic way to reflect on and recall all the key learning from this half term. A highlight of the week was a visit from author Jacob North, who introduced the children to his book 'Ice Apprentices'. The children really enjoyed his workshop and had the chance to design their own characters and discover whether they would be fit to survive in the harsh, frozen Tundra.





Tomas wrote a recount of the Year 5 trip today:

The Wonder Dome Trip

Today, on Friday 10th of October 2025, we went on our first school trip as Year 5. We left school at 9:15am and got on the B16 bus at 9:40am. It was a 20 minute journey to Wingfield bus stop and another 30 minutes on the 314 to Eltham High Street. From there it was a 5 minute walk to Greenacres Primary School. When we arrived at the school, we put down our bags in the hall and went into the playground for 5 minutes. Then, we entered an inflatable dome which was in the middle of the hall and we were given information about the solar system. We learned about the size of the universe and planets. Then we went on a virtual roller coaster which was really fun. When we came out of the dome we had our lunch with the Year 5s of that school. When we finished our lunch, we all went to the toilet and played a bit. Then we got the 314 bus which was really busy back to school. When we got back to school we typed our recounts of the day.

This week we said 'Thank you and good luck!' to Lou at BAT club; she has been a fantastic source of support for our children in our After School Club for over eight years.

We have also welcomed Lorraine into the BAT club supervisor role and she has already settled so well within our BAT club team! Welcome everyone!



LIVING

STREETS

LET'S
WALK TO
SCHOOL

2025/26

WOW the WALK TO SCHOOL challenge

WALK WITH JOY

livingstreets.org.uk/wowlaunch

IMPROVE YOUR HEALTH,
PROTECT THE PLANET,
WALK TO SCHOOL WITH WOW

X @LIVINGSTREETS



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LivingStreets(ThePedestrians' Association)isaRegisteredCharityNo.1108448(EnglandandWales)andSC039808(Scotland),
Company LimitedbyGuarantee(England&Wales),CompanyRegistrationNo.5368409.



This poster is produced with vegetable-based inks and made of material from well-managed FSC®-certified forests and from recycled materials.

SHAPE SUPPORT FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY IN GREENWICH

Big changes are coming to the way families are supported across the country – and here in Royal Greenwich too. Every young person has a story, and yours can help shape the future of support in Royal Greenwich.



The council is asking children and young people to take a short survey and to tell them:

- What's working well for you
- What feels like a struggle
- What kind of support would really make a difference

Your voice will help shape the council's local services through the Families First programme so that services truly support children, young people and families across the borough.



**SCAN THIS
QR CODE TO
HAVE YOUR SAY**
Deadline: 13 October 2025



Are you ready for some

BIG NEWS?

The Greenwich Maritime Skills Academy is moving to Hook Lane in October - and it's going to be better than ever!

It's a 10 week course of fun activities for children aged 7-11, every Saturday morning, from 10am-1pm.



We're talking sports, robotics, art and drama - oh, and we haven't told you the best bit yet...

It's completely **FREE!**



Look out for more details and information on how to sign up in September. We can't wait to get started!...

Engineering
Minds





@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 10th October 2025

(Brooklands School PTA)

Friends of Brooklands

Meet the Team



Laura
(Chair)



Jenny
(Treasurer)



Aisling
(Secretary)



Jet
(Comms)



Sally
(Comms)



Luba
(Social Media)



Katie
(Committee)



Rachael
(Emails)



Clive
(Committee)



Laura
(Committee)



Emma
(Committee)



Emily
(Co-head of school & Committee)

Everyone is welcome to join the committee, email friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com or speak to any current PTA member.

Win a £20 Amazon Voucher

Please fill out our survey about the summer and winter fair to be entered into the prize draw...

Scan the QR Code below



Or type this URL into your browser:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdr2LstVxCNaID_Ahinkec0xKMPTk6wz65Su_v6_5uBHvXWTg/viewform?pli=1

Autumn Disco



Friday 17th October

Get your dancing shoes ready – it's time for our School Disco!

Nursery will enjoy their very own mini-disco in the classroom during the school day.

***KS1 (Years R-2): 3:30-4:30pm**

***KS2 (Years 3-6): 5:00-6:00pm**

Tickets: £6 each, available via MCAS next week.

Your child's ticket includes unlimited squash/water, a snack, and a small treat. Children should **not** bring money – everything is included! KS1 AND KS2 children will need an adult to pick them up after their disco.

For Parents:

While the children dance, a bar will be open in the BUFA for parents who'd like to socialise.

Please note, only volunteer helpers will be permitted inside the disco itself for health and safety reasons. Want to help? If you would like to volunteer for the event, please email FOB or speak to your REP.

All events for children are free for families receiving Pupil Premium.

Upcoming Events

A full list of events for 2025/2026 is on the **next page**, you can also keep up to date with all our events by following our Instagram page @brooklands_fob

Please note that all our events for children are free for families receiving Pupil Premium.

If you want to send us your views, questions or would like to join the committee, please drop us an email friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com or ask your class rep.



@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 10th October 2025

(Brooklands School PTA)

Friends of Brooklands

2025/26 Events Calendar

**We have an exciting year of events planned
to bring our school community together:**

Friday 17th October

Autumn Disco -School hall

*KS1 (Years R-2): 3:30-4:30pm

*KS2 (Years 3-6): 5:00-6:00pm

Friday 5th December

Winter Fair, including Santa's Grotto

School hall, 3:30-6:30pm

Saturday 31st January 2026

Yoga and Sound Bath

School hall, 2-4pm

Friday 6th February

Family Bingo Night

School hall (time TBC)

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day Bake Sale

School playground (time TBC)

Friday 24th April

Spring Disco

School Hall (time TBC)

Saturday 4th July

Summer Fair

At the School (time TBC)

Plus - Wreath Making Workshop

(date to be confirmed)

All events are opportunities for families to connect,
have fun, and support our school -
we'd love to see you there!

**Please note that all events for children are free for
families receiving Pupil Premium.**

If you want to send us your views, questions or would like to join the committee,
please drop us an email friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com or ask your class rep.

Apply for Free School Meal eligibility
You'll be helping the school with funding and
may qualify for money for the holidays for
your child too.



What have you got to lose?

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this then the school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. This is in addition to the funding we receive for your child towards meals. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school - which benefits your child's experience of school

Did you know that qualifying parents receive money
from Greenwich each school holiday - got to
be worth checking if you're eligible too, surely?

To check your eligibility using the
checker system linked to local
government go to this link:
Entrust
[https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/
o_fsm/link2ict](https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/o_fsm/link2ict)

How do I check
if my child is
eligible?

Alternatively click on the QR Code
which will take you to the website:



Or provide your NI Number and
your date of birth, along with your
child's details to the admin team
and we'll do it for you!





Greenwich has a critical shortage of foster carers, which is significantly impacting our children's well-being and stability. When local children cannot be placed with Foster Carers near their existing support networks, they face additional emotional challenges. We are reaching out to educational professionals who understand these children's complex needs.

By becoming a foster carer, you can provide a nurturing and safe environment that keeps children connected to their schools, friends, and communities. You can still work and be a foster carer.

Our comprehensive support package includes 24-hour support, excellent training, mentoring, council tax exemption, a generous, competitive financial allowance, support groups, counselling services, the innovative Mockingbird Family Model, The Fostering Network membership, and a calendar of engaging events. Your commitment can change a young person's life trajectory – helping them feel secure, supported, and empowered during critical developmental years.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in speaking with us about starting your fostering journey, please don't hesitate to contact us via:

Email: fostering-recruitment@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Phone: 0800 052 1499





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Brooklands Primary School



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