



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome back to Autumn (ii)...a term with lots of fantastic learning and opportunities awaits!

This week has kicked us off in style. The children had an incredibly unique experience of working with some established artists to produce art in the style of William Mitchell, whose mural has found its new home in our very own hall! On Thursday, we had an official welcoming ceremony for the art piece where everyone involved in bringing this piece of local history to Brooklands. We would like to thank Katie Bould, our Community Ambassador for all of her hard work and dedication in securing this for the school and our community. We look forward to sharing this beautiful artwork with our Brooklands community for many years to come.

On Saturday 8th November, we have our second Early Years Stay and Play session from 9:30am to 11:30am. We look forward to welcoming as many of you and your friends as possible to our Early Years spaces for some lovely craft and activities. We will also be officially opening our beautiful new two-year-old provision, Little Bluebells. As many of you know, we had a soft opening earlier this year but we are so proud to say that the space has had a revamp and we look forward to sharing it with you all!

We would like to thank you all for your continued support and hope you all have a lovely weekend

Best wishes,

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Stay and Play & Little Bluebells

nursery official Launch - Saturday
8th November 9:30-11:30

Growth Mindset workshop- Year 5-
Wednesday 12th November

Road Safety workshops 14th
November

School Tour 9:30am- 18th November
**Oxleas NHS Rec & Y6 Height &
Weight checks** - Wednesday 19th
November

School Tour 9:30am- 2nd December
Winter fair- 5th December

School Tour 9:30am- 9th December
Piano concert- 2pm 11th December
Rocksteady Concert 2:30pm 12th
December

Winter performances 16th and 17th
December- timings TBC

**Shared Stories 8:45am followed by
coffee** until 10am- Friday 19th
December

Last day of term Friday 19th
December

Spring term begins Monday 5th
January 2026

We have had a few parents asking about parents evenings. At the start of the year, we provided opportunities to meet with your child's class teacher to share important information, which is what the first parents evening has historically been for. Towards the end of this term the children will complete assessments to identify next steps for them. We will share this progress with you in parents evening sessions in the Spring term. If you have any queries or concerns about your child in the meantime, please feel free to make an appointment to meet with their class teacher.

Office

Reminders



- **Absence/ Appointments** - 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. Medical evidence must be provided - info@brooklands-maritime
- Please ensure all contacts at least two), numbers, addresses, medical conditions and medication is up-to-date.
- All outstanding payments must be paid by Friday 24th October
- Bat Club
- Nursery
- Clubs / trips
- **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



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

100

Reception	98.64%
Year 1	96.55%
 Year 2 	99.26%
Year 3	93.84%
Year 4	97.60%
Year 5	86.35%
Year 6	97.41%

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

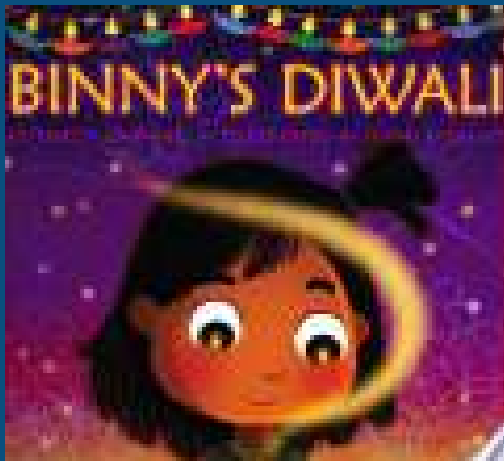
We have a wonderful reading culture at Brooklands and celebrate this in lots of ways!



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!



Binny woke up happy but nervous. It was her day to share about Diwali, the Festival of Lights! Binny is excited to talk to her class about her favorite holiday. But she struggles to find the words. Taking a deep breath, she tells her classmates about the fireworks that burst like stars in the night sky, leaving streaks of gold and red and green. She shares with them delicious pedas and jalebis. And she shows them clay lamps, called diyas, which look so pretty all the children ooh and aah. Featuring a heartwarming story by Thrity Umrigar, enchanting illustrations by Nidhi Chanani, and detailed information about the Hindu festival of lights, Binny's Diwali is a holiday treat.

We shared the festival of Diwali with our children in assembly this week, if you and your loved ones celebrated, we hope you all had a wonderful time!

ONLINE SAFETY

For Parents – Should I Use Screen time as a Reward?
It's such a difficult one for parents, we're living in a time where screen use starts at a very early age. But should we use screen time to support positive behaviours or even take away screens as a punishment? The answer is that there is no single answer, it very much depends on individual circumstances, but it was a question posed to some experts on Internet Matters which will hopefully give parents some food for thought.

The article from the Internet Matters website is [HERE](#).

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about POKÉMON TCG POCKET



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

ADDICTIVE PACK OPENING

Booster packs rely on probability to provide rare or powerful cards. The excitement of opening them – and the dopamine rush when finding a sought-after card – can become addictive. Unlike purely cosmetic loot boxes, the cards here are integral to competitive gameplay, adding extra pressure for serious gamers to collect more.

QUICK BUT ABSORBING

Card battles last around five to six minutes, making it easy to fit in “just one more game”. This quick format, combined with the drive to win, can lead to prolonged play sessions and increased screen time without noticing. With limited-time Ranked Match seasons constantly being refreshed – an opportunity to accumulate points and earn profile emblems – players may find themselves drawn into this game mechanic repeatedly.

PREMIUM PASS PRESSURE

A monthly subscription gives players access to exclusive missions, rewards, and an extra daily booster pack. Missions and rewards are replaced each month, providing an incentive to stay subscribed. While some premium rewards are exclusive, others are available through free play – making the pass more about faster progression and obtaining cosmetic items than true necessity.

ENDLESS PACK LOOPS

New themed sets of cards are released each month, ranging from around 85 to over 370 cards per expansion. This constant cycle encourages players to keep opening packs in an effort to complete collections or improve their battle decks, potentially promoting unhealthy spending habits. With the introduction of limited-time booster packs, some players may feel increased pressure to collect these cards while they're still available.

COST OF BOOSTER PACKS

Although free to play, with set rewards and two free booster packs given daily, players can exchange Poké Gold if they wish to open more, and a small amount of Poké Gold is rewarded for free as the player levels up. Poké Gold is also sold in bundles that are often just short of what players need to open extra packs, encouraging them to buy additional bundles.

COMPETITIVE ONLINE PLAY

Interactions in Pokémon TCG Pocket are relatively safe – there's no messaging between players, friend requests require player approval, no real names are used, and card trading is restricted to fair trades between friends. On the other hand, the competitive nature of online play can still cause frustration, over-investment, and isolation if children spend too much time focused on the game.

Advice for Parents & Educators

MONITOR SPENDING HABITS

Set clear boundaries around in-game purchases. Treat Poké Gold as an occasional rather than routine reward, helping children develop healthier attitudes towards digital spend.

SET REALISTIC EXPECTATIONS

Talk about the unpredictable nature of booster packs and prepare children for disappointment when duplicates appear or rare cards don't surface. Understanding probability can help minimise disappointment – use the game's built-in offering rates guides to find out more about it.

PLAY TOGETHER

Card battles can help children learn tactics, problem-solving, and rule-following, as well as numeracy skills. Playing alongside them is a great way to share in their enjoyment, while also modelling balanced play and keeping an eye on how much they're investing in the game.

TEACH FAIRNESS

Losing a battle can be discouraging, especially when money has been spent on collecting the cards to build a deck. Support children in recognising the importance of fairness, learning from both wins and losses, and making considered choices when trading cards.

Meet Our Expert

Dan Lipscombe is a videogame journalist and children's book author with over 15 years of experience. Specialising in technology and gaming, he has written extensively on how digital platforms affect young people and has been playing games for more than three decades.



The National College®

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Miley, for always being such a wonderful friend to all of the nursery children. He is always ready to help if someone is sad and tries to cheer them up or invites them to play with him.
Reception	Evie, for always trying your best in all your learning. Jayden, for excellent phonics writing and focused learning.
Year 1	Frankie for a great week. You have been coming into school ready to learn, you have worked very hard in phonics and been a class superstar. Marianna- You have shown great behaviour for learning during carpet sessions. You have also done some wonderful writing and amazing reading this week
Year 2	Christian, For settling so well after the break and always being ready to learn. Iden, For always trying his best in his work and helping others in the class.
Year 3	Aila: For her dedication and hard work in class. Aila demonstrates excellent focus during lessons, supports her friends with kindness, and is a positive role model for others. Selim: For an amazing first week in Year 3! Selim has shown excellent engagement and has tried his hardest to adapt to his new school. A fantastic start — well done, Selim!
Year 4	Chinyere - for speaking beautifully during yesterday's grand opening of our wonderful new Mural. Victor - for making sure that he is on task and completing his work to a great standard.
Year 5	Letarni- For incredible skills on the hockey pitch Finnegan- For a phenomenal improvement in his handwriting
Year 6	Chinedu - for contributions to class discussions and confidence to ask questions. Jasmine - for always being a good role model to others within the class.

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.

This week at Brooklands...

Nursery	Nursery have had a lovely week full of fireworks, Diwali and outside learning! We had a great session in forest school where we spotted a newt, a big green frog and lots of wiggly worms. We learnt about Diwali and we loved using the glitter to create fireworks. We continue to listen to sounds in our environment and learnt 2 new songs that help us with our early phonics.
Reception	It's the first week of the Autumn two term, and the children have settled quickly back into their routine. The week has been jam-packed with a wide range of activities and learning experiences. They had an art workshop, which they thoroughly enjoyed, and designed their own class mural. In their Culture and Celebrations learning, the children explored the Hindu festival of Diwali and the story of Rama and Sita. Throughout the week, they loved using puppets to act out and retell the story in small groups. They also learnt about Bonfire Night and why it is celebrated each year, spending time creating their own firework displays in our craft area. In phonics, they continued practising sound blending and learning new sounds. In maths, the focus was on comparing object sizes using vocabulary such as big, large, small, medium, and tiny.
Year 1	What a super week back after half term for Year 1. Well done everyone! We have started all our new learning and the children have shown real enthusiasm and a positive attitude. In English we have read a story all about an abandoned Dolls House and we have been using adjectives to describe the Dolls House. Year 1 are going to be Authors and rewrite the story in their own words over the next few English sessions. In Maths we have worked on splitting a whole number into 2 parts, using a part, part whole model and then recording this as a number sentence using the correct symbols. During our Geography lesson we found out about the capital cities of all the countries in the United Kingdom. We made flags for each country too. Year 1 also participated with the rest of the school in the exciting Art workshops linked to the new school mural. We heard all about Guy Fawkes Day and completed activities linked to this in class. We also had our weekly Forest School session. What a busy week!
Year 2	Year 2 have had an amazing first week back after the break. They have come back ready and excited to learn. In English they have started exploring a new book 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' exploring the skills needed to write a diary. In maths they are further securing their knowledge on addition and subtraction. In History they have started learning about the factors that lead up to the Great Fire of London. In Science they have started exploring animals and the different habitats that they live in. They also had an amazing time this week in forest school exploring different habitats that they could find. In RE they have started learning about Judaism and the celebration of Hanukkah. They all seem very excited about the new learning and we are very proud of how they have come back after the well deserved break.
Year 3	Year 3 has had an amazing first week of the new half term! We have started our learning with great enthusiasm and curiosity across all subjects. In English, we have been exploring the story of The Lost Sheep. The children really enjoyed discussing the characters and worked hard to write thoughtful character descriptions of the shepherd. Everyone was fully engaged and showed great creativity in their writing! In Maths, our focus has been on addition and subtraction with exchanges. Although this has been a bit of a challenge, the children have shown great determination and will continue building on these skills next week. Our Science topic this half term is Plants. The children began by labelling the parts of a plant and discussing their functions, showing fantastic curiosity and understanding. In Geography, we have been learning about maps, using our Chromebooks to carry out research and label different countries and features. The class loved exploring maps digitally and sharing their discoveries. In RE, we are learning about Christianity, starting with a discussion about the Bible and why it is such an important book for Christians. The children shared thoughtful ideas and showed great respect during our discussions. We also had a wonderful time during our mural workshop this week! The children learned about the inspiration behind the project, explored patterns around the school, and worked together to design their own mural — demonstrating fantastic creativity and teamwork. It has been a brilliant start to the half term, and I am so proud of how well Year 3 has settled back into their learning!

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	Year 4 are back! I'm so pleased with how brilliantly the class has settled back into school life after the half term break. In Science this term, we're taking a deep dive into the world of sound. This week, we explored how sound is created through vibrations. We discussed how drums, cymbals, bells, and even our own vocal cords vibrate to produce sound. The children were genuinely fascinated, it was wonderful to see their curiosity spark. In Maths, we've been revisiting the area of shapes. The class have absolutely smashed it when finding the area of triangular shapes. They truly are Shape Superstars! It was also fantastic to see the children jump straight back into swimming on Wednesday, picking up right where they left off. I'm really looking forward to seeing everything this term has in store for us in Year 4!
Year 5	Year 5 have made a fantastic start to the term and have thrown themselves enthusiastically into all of their new learning. In Science, we have begun our topic on gravity, exploring what it is and investigating the ways it affects objects around us. The children have enjoyed practical activities that help them understand this powerful force. In History, we have taken a broad look at some of the world's main ancient civilisations, comparing their achievements and exploring what made each one significant. In Maths, we have continued our work on square and cube numbers, building confidence in recognising and calculating them through a variety of challenges. In English, the children have been busy writing detailed descriptions of Mayan hot chocolate. These descriptive pieces are preparing them for their next task: writing clear, step-by-step instructions on how to make it. In PE, we have started our hockey unit, focusing on basic skills such as dribbling, passing and keeping control of the ball. I am pleased to announce both our trip to the Science Museum on the 8th December and the launch of our 11+ club; Google Forms have been sent out to complete. It's been a productive and exciting start to the term, and we look forward to seeing Year 5 continue to grow in confidence and curiosity!
Year 6	Year 6 has had a great start to the new half term! We have begun our new topic on Queen Victoria, and the children have thoroughly enjoyed exploring biographies and fact files to learn all about her reign and the fascinating changes that took place during the Victorian era. In English, the children have been using the information they gathered to write their own fact files, focusing on applying their success criteria (relative clauses, passive voice, and adverbials). In Maths, our focus has been on problem-solving using multiplication and division, where they have been practising how to apply these skills to a range of reasoning problems. Our new Science topic on Evolution has also begun. We started by exploring fossils and how they provide evidence of how animals have changed and adapted over time. The children have shown great curiosity and asked some brilliant scientific questions! In R.E., we revisited our prior learning about Judaism before moving on to study the Shema, exploring its meaning and why this prayer is such an important part of Jewish faith and identity. We also really enjoyed our mural workshops this week. During these sessions, the children learned about the history and inspiration behind the mural project before exploring patterns and designs around the school. They then worked collaboratively to design their own class mural, drawing on their creativity and teamwork skills







We are so proud of all of the children who took part in this project, with the workshops earlier on in the week and presenting to the many visitors we had to the Mural 'opening' on Thursday. We look forward to displaying our own creations, inspired by William Mitchell, throughout the school.



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

Get involved on social media: #WALKTOSCHOOL

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

The Joy of Singing

ENGLISH CHOIR

Now
preparing
the Christmas
programme!

For Adults:

Date: *Every Saturday
starting 25th October*

Time: *12:30 – 14:00*

Location: *Kidbrooke village
Community Hub*

For Children:

Date: *January 2026*

To learn more:
complete the online form:





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

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

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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and you'll raise donations for
Brooklands Primary School



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