



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

It has a very chilly week this week! Thank you for ensuring children have come to school appropriately dressed. We know naming items of clothing and accessories is time consuming but it really does make it easier to return lost items if they are named. We have a huge amount of lost property at the moment; we will have this in the playground after school next week for people to claim before another charity shop visit.

This week has seen another successful Bloom and Brew coffee morning; thank you to everyone who attended and the staff who organise these events. If you would like more information about these coffee mornings, please get in touch with the office and they will be able to help you with next dates.

We are in the process of carrying out a reading book check to ensure all children are coming home with a book that is at their reading level. Please encourage your child to read every evening and comment in their reading record book. This one thing can make a huge difference to your child's success in all areas of the curriculum. More information about reading can be found in this week's Bulletin.

We have shared a very important safeguarding update with you all in a separate letter today. Please do read it, sign it and send it back as soon as possible. If you have any questions about it, we are always happy to speak with you. Thank you

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

Year 1 visit to the St Michal and all Angels church - Monday 24th November

School Tour 9:30am- 2nd December

Winter fair- 5th December 3:30pm-6:30pm

Year 5 trip to Science Museum
Monday 8th December

School Tour 9:30am- 9th December

Performance of Cinderella- 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

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 and **proof of appointments** must be provided – info@brooklands-maritime.org

MCAS – Please provide at least two contact numbers and ensure addresses, Parental consents, medical conditions and medication is up-to-date.

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.

All outstanding payments must be **paid by Friday 27th November**
Bat Club
Nursery
Clubs / trips



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

<https://studybugs.com>



Report sickness, receive guidance, help improve children's health

See what illnesses are going around

Secure system, all communications encrypted

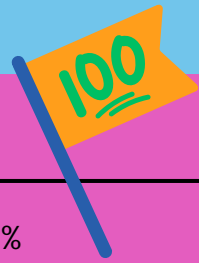


Working in partnership with:



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	96.24%
Year 1	95.83%
 Year 2 	96.43%
Year 3	95.74%
Year 4	96%
Year 5	84.33%
Year 6	96.30%

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

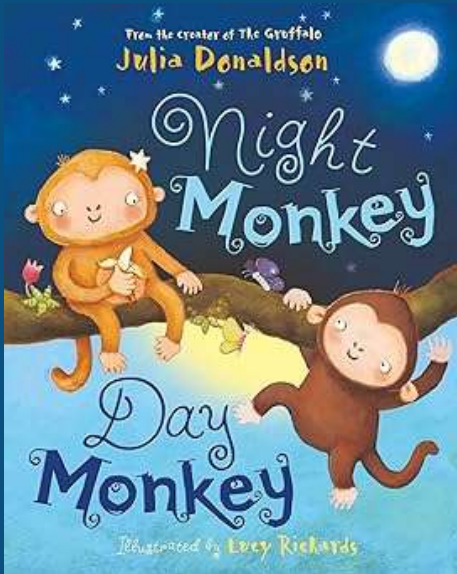
We have a wonderful reading culture at Brooklands and celebrate this in lots of ways!



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!



Julia Donaldson's beloved rhyming picture book story about two monkeys who are as different as night and day yet still learn to be friends – with adorable, sumptuous illustrations from Lucy Richards. Night Monkey and Day Monkey don't think they have much in common. But when they each spend time in the other's opposite worlds, they learn a lot – and they also learn to be the best of friends.

Such an important message for any child of any age!

We love reading picture books to all ages at Brooklands; they often have lovely messages and morals to share and the pictures really bring the message to life!

This week, we have focused on making sure every child in KS2 has the correct banded reading book for their fluency and comprehension level.

In Early Years and Ks1, children should bring home a book that is linked to their phonics level. They should be able to read this book to you.

Please encourage your child to read and record a comment in their reading records every day. Research shows that 10-15 minutes of reading every day is one of the biggest influences on a child's life.

School adults will be checking children's reading record books weekly, Please help them to remember to bring their books and reading records to school EVERY day

In EVERY class, children should bring home at least two books- one they can read to you and one they have chosen from their book corner for you to share with them- this will not necessarily be at their reading level, but it is to support a love of reading with their home adults and families . These books can be changed as often as the children like,

ONLINE SAFETY

For Parents – Discord Family Center

Discord, the app, is still very popular particularly with gamers and like many apps it has safety features, including features for parents/guardians. The Discord Family Center is quote a tool built to help parents and guardians stay informed and involved in your teen's Discord experience while respecting their privacy and autonomy unquote. The safety features have recently been updated and now include:

- Ability to view the activity feed.
- Get weekly email summaries,
- Manage safety and privacy settings.

To find out more about these features and more, and how to set up Family Center you can view the Discord Family Center [HERE](#). There is also a parent hub which has lots of information and resources for parents such as user controls, moderation, reporting and more. You can find the parent hub [HERE](#).

For Parents – Shopping Scams

Every year hundreds of thousands of people here in the UK fall victim to fraud when buying something online. With Xmas and Xmas sales rapidly approaching, fraud and scams will be significantly on the increase.

GetSafeOnline has a plethora of information to help with this such as:

- Information on purchase scams [HERE](#).
- Online buying tips [HERE](#).
- Scam website checker [HERE](#).

One piece of advice I couldn't see on either of these pages is related to the legitimacy of the company. Particularly on social media such as Instagram I will often see ads for things like clothing and gifts which look interesting and unique. When I click on the ad to take a closer look I will always tap on the 3 dots on the top right and tap on "open in external browser." The reason for this is that if it is a company I'm not aware of, I want to know the details of the company before I purchase. Often when I go onto the website there are no company details, no contact details (apart from a web form), and either no reviews or perfect reviews. These are all red flags to me and I would never purchase from such a site.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TRACKING DEVICES

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STALKING AND HARASSMENT

Because of their tiny size and unassuming appearance, tracking devices can easily be hidden in bags or clothing. They've been used to monitor individuals without their knowledge, with a lawsuit in the US labelling AirTags "the weapon of choice of stalkers and abusers". In the UK, use of tracking devices in coercive control and stalking cases reportedly rose by 317 percent between 2018 and 2023.

TOOLS FOR BULLYING

Tracking devices could allow bullies to follow or locate their targets even outside of school. This makes it difficult for children to find refuge, potentially extending the trauma of bullying into spaces – like home – that should feel safe and secure.

FALSE ACCUSATIONS

Because tracking devices are linked to user accounts, they could be misused to 'prove' ownership of someone else's possessions. Someone could, for example, plant a tracker on another person's belongings to falsely claim them as their own.

INVASION OF PRIVACY

These devices are designed to share location data with the user via other people's phones, which can unintentionally broadcast someone's movements without their consent. This makes them vulnerable to being monitored by strangers without realising.

DIFFICULT TO DETECT

Many tracking devices are designed to be discreet, but that also means they're easy to hide. Without proactive checking or the right tech to detect them, children and young people might not realise they're being tracked.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH FOR WARNING SIGNS

If a child's peers always seem to know their location – whether in person or hinted at online – it could be worth checking for tracking devices. Some, like AirTags, will eventually make a noise if separated from their owner. Listen out for a chirping sound.

CHECK LIKELY HIDING SPOTS

Common places where trackers may be planted include jacket linings, bag seams, pockets, or under bike seats. If you find one, take a photo of the serial number before disposing of it – this could help police trace the account it's linked to.

USE DETECTION APPS

Apple devices running iOS 14.5 or later will notify users of unknown AirTags nearby. Android users can install Apple's 'Tracker Detect' or the third-party app 'AirGuard' to scan for tracking devices from various manufacturers.

HAVE THE CONVERSATION

Talk to your child about what tracking devices are, what signs to look out for, and how they might be misused. Emphasise the legal consequences of using them to prank, harass, or monitor someone.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is a seasoned technology journalist with bylines in Wired, TechRadar, The Guardian, The Evening Standard, The Telegraph, and The New Statesman. He specialises in consumer tech, online safety, and emerging risks in the digital landscape.



The National College®

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Brody for settling in so well, making friends and joining in with the class routines.
Reception	Uma for being a kind and thoughtful friend Reggie for your creativity when learning with playdough
Year 1	Kira for super writing and fantastic phonics. You are a wonderful class helper too. Isabella because you always work hard, try your best and you are a very kind class member.
Year 2	Ihunda - for always helping her peers and being enthusiastic about her new learning. Ilya - for always showing the class that she is ready to learn and going above and beyond in her learning.
Year 3	Sofia-For her fantastic focus and effort in Maths. She has shown excellent determination and engagement during every lesson. Robert — for his amazing writing in English. He used all the success criteria effectively and put outstanding effort into his work. The whole of year 3- For being brave in producing an excellent and engaging assembly
Year 4	Maurice - For making sure to be on task and focusing on his work Ava - For showing strong resilience and perseverance in Maths, always looking to be better
Year 5	Kristen- Superb non-chronological report writing Willow- for a superb presentation on the decline of the Mayan civilisation
Year 6	Jesse - for his resilience and effort towards all learning. Iayla - for always being a good role model and willing to help others in 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	We have had a lovely week in nursery enjoying the colder weather! We noticed that some of our trays had ice in and we loved touching and cracking it by throwing it on the floor. We noticed how it was wet when we touched it and began to understand that it is water which has frozen because it was so cold overnight. In other activities we have been using tweezers and hole punchers to practice our fine motor skills, have continued to enjoy lots of role play and have enjoyed looking at and reading lots of stories. We have also been investigating the light panel and using some lovely wooden nesting shapes to help us with our spatial awareness and development of concepts such as size and position. Well done nursery!
Reception	It's been a very cold week, but the children have remained focused and positive in their learning. They began the week with a height and weight session, which created a space for rich conversations that linked well with our maths learning on comparisons. Many of them were intrigued by the equipment the nurses used and took time to look closely at how each tool helped measure height and weight. This week's focus book was Night Monkey, Day Monkey by Julia Donaldson. The story follows two monkeys whose lives are different and who initially believe they have very little in common. Through their experiences, the book gently explores themes of kindness, understanding differences, and being open to seeing things from another point of view. The children engaged well with these ideas and shared thoughtful observations during discussions.
Year 1	Year 1 continue to make us proud with their enthusiasm and attitude to learning. This week we have been writing reports comparing toys they play with and toys their parents may have played with. They have been applying their phonic knowledge when writing words and thinking hard about the sentences they want to write. In Maths we have been writing addition number sentences to solve simple number problems. The children have used number lines to jump on when adding from a given number. We have also looked at 3D shapes and revised the names and properties of these shapes. During Science sessions we explored and investigated the properties of different materials and thought about their purpose. As part of our Art focus for this half term we have been using lines and shapes to draw and trying the cross hatching technique. Another week of hard work from Year 1, well done.
Year 2	Year 2 have had an amazing week. This week we are very proud of the effort that they are putting into their learning. In English they have been exploring writing a non chronological report. They are exploring habitats and the different animals that live in them. In maths they have been consolidating their knowledge on addition and subtraction using resources to support them adding two 2 digit numbers together. In RE they have been looking at the similarities and differences of Hanukkah and Christmas. Creating a venn diagram to show this. In Science they have been continuing looking at different habitats exploring food chains of different animals and then getting the chance to draw their own. In History they have further explored The Great Fire of London looking at the key people that were involved. They are always so enthusiastic about their new learning and we are very proud of the progress that they are making.
Year 3	Year 3 has had a fantastic and productive week filled with exciting learning across all subjects! In English, we have been preparing to write our own chronological reports about the Stone Age. The children have been practising key grammar skills, including using subordinating clauses, co-ordinating conjunctions, and commas in a list. They have shown great focus and enthusiasm as they get ready for their final writing outcome. In Maths, we wrapped up our work on addition and subtraction, and the children have shown strong resilience when tackling challenges. Next week, we will be moving on to multiplication and division, and the class is already eager to begin. In RE, we explored the Ten Commandments and discussed different parables, focusing on what these stories teach Christians about how to live. In Science, we learned about what makes a balanced diet and why it is important for our bodies. The children enjoyed creating their own healthy plates and discussing the different food groups. In Geography, we continued learning about the UK, focusing on counties within England, such as Kent. The children enjoyed locating places on the map and comparing different regions. In DT, we have begun designing our new project, thinking carefully about materials, purpose, and creativity. The children are very excited to bring their ideas to life. In PE, we have worked on teamwork skills through group activities that encouraged communication, cooperation, and fair play. Finally, I am extremely proud of Year 3 for their SUPER assembly this week. Every child showed amazing confidence and bravery. They spoke clearly, performed brilliantly, and the whole school thoroughly enjoyed it. Well done, Year 3!

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	We have had an extremely productive week in year 4 this week. In English we are writing our own play scripts, based on "The Sword in the Stone". The children have been fascinated with the legend of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round table. I can not wait for next week for the children to write and perform their scripts for the class. We even had a little performance from some of the children this week. It only made sense for our Arthur to have the role of King Arthur. We continue to work on our times tables in Maths, this week focusing on our 7, 11 and 12 times tables. I am seeing progress which is fantastic to see. I can not stress how important it is for the children to be practicing at home, the test at the end of the year is crucial for the rest of their academic journey. The children need to achieve a score of 25 out of 25 in that final test. In DT we have been looking at stable diets and what components we need to have a stable diet. Soon we will be making Soup in class, which I am certain the kids will absolutely adore.
Year 5	We've had a fantastic and productive week in Year 5. In maths, we continued our work on fractions, focusing on mixed numbers and improper fractions. The children also practised ordering and comparing fractions and showed great progress in their confidence and accuracy. In English, we began our new unit on non-chronological reports all about Tikal. The children produced some excellent introductory paragraphs and demonstrated a strong understanding of how to organise factual information. In science, we carried out an investigation into water resistance. Using Blu Tack, the children explored how the shape of an object affects the time it takes to sink, making careful observations and discussing their findings thoughtfully. In history, we explored the decline and eventual demise of the Maya civilisation, considering different theories and the evidence historians use. In geography, we learned about the physical geography of the Yucatán Peninsula, including its landscapes, climate and natural features. In PE, we continued developing our hockey skills, focusing on dribbling, shooting and small-sided games. Reminder: Our class trip to the Science Museum is on 8th December. Please ensure you have filled in the Google Form if you have not already done so. Have a lovely weekend!
Year 6	In English, the children have been exploring discursive reports. They spent time identifying the key features of this text type before applying their understanding to a balanced discussion about the British Empire. Using their wider curriculum knowledge, they wrote about both the positive and negative aspects, carefully incorporating relative clauses, passive voice and a range of adverbials to elevate their writing. In maths, our focus has been on adding and subtracting fractions. The children have practised using common denominators, simplifying when necessary, and applying their skills to increasingly challenging problems. In science, the children worked collaboratively to plan an exciting investigation: 'Which beak shape is best adapted to pick up a seed?' They discussed variables, predictions and fair testing, showing excellent teamwork and scientific thinking. In R.E., the children were fascinated as they learned about the Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies. They explored the significance of these coming-of-age traditions within Judaism and enjoyed deepening their understanding of how different faiths celebrate important milestones.



Brooklands Winter Fair

Friday 5th December



Children
go free!

After school - 3.30pm - 6.30pm

Santa

**Winter
Wonderland
Bake-off**

**Whacky
jumper
competition**

**Bar
& BBQ**

**Face
painting**

Raffle

TICKETS ON MCAS NOW!
Early bird special – buy tickets on
MCAS before 30th November:

 **1 adult & 10 tokens for £11 - save £2**
 **10 extra tokens £9 - save £1**

Pupil Premium Families are free to enter. We have some discounted tickets available for those that would like to attend but are struggling financially - if this is you please contact the school office directly.



@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 14th November 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:**

Tuesday 2nd December

Parent/Carers Wreath Making Workshop
7pm-9pm

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)

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.

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



LIVINGSTREETSUK



LIVINGSTREETS

LivingStreets(ThePedestrians' Association)isaRegisteredCharityNo.1108448(EnglandandWales)andSC039808(Scotland),
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This poster is produced with
vegetable-based inks and
made of material from well-managed
FSC®-certified forests and
from recycled materials.



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



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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Brooklands Primary School



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 **JUST EAT**

SCREWFIX