



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

This week, children in year 2 to 6 have completed assessments. This is an opportunity for the children to show the progress they have made since the summer and for teachers to identify any gaps in knowledge or misconceptions. Whilst 'scores' and 'levels' are a part of our focus, how the children apply themselves and how they approach assessments is as important and we have been so proud of every single child this week. They have shown our value of Resilience in bucket-loads. They have done their best, focused on showing their knowledge and we know you will share in praising them for their mature approach. We always talk about how tests/assessments do not tell us anything we do not already know and that the most important request we have is that they do their best and they have blown us away. A well-deserved weekend beckons!

Next Friday is our Winter Fair, Friday 5th December from 3:30pm until 6:30pm. We know that our Friends of Brooklands are still looking for volunteers to run stalls and we do hope that you can join us on the day. It promises to be a wonderful way to kick-start our festive events and we are very grateful to the Friends of Brooklands Team who organise this fantastic event every year! Please do contact the Friends team if you are able to help in any capacity. Due to this event starting at 3:30pm, Family and Friends Friday will not be happening next week.

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

School Tour 9:30am- 2nd December

Winter fair- 5th December 3:30pm-6:30pm **NB NO Family and Friends Friday on this day.**

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

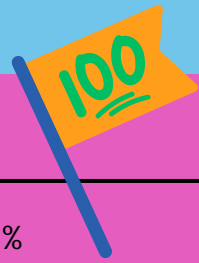


Working in partnership with:



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	96.55%
Year 1	95.17%
 Year 2 	97.14%
Year 3	90%
Year 4	94.40%
Year 5	86.30%
Year 6	88.15%

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

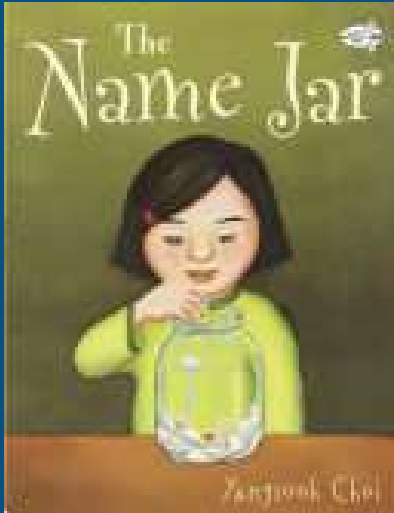
Reading at Brooklands

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!



A heartwarming story about the new girl in school, and how she learns to appreciate her Korean name.

Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what happens when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious about fitting in. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she decides to choose an American name from a glass jar. But while Unhei thinks of being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, nothing feels right. With the help of a new friend, Unhei will learn that the best name is her own.

From acclaimed creator Yangsook Choi comes the bestselling classic about finding the courage to be yourself and being proud of your background.

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 – Protect Neurodivergent Children from Scams in Games

As we all know, neurodivergent children can be amongst those most vulnerable online, therefore more likely to become victims of things like scams. Those with ADHD, autism or other divergent ways of thinking might not recognise when someone intends to do harm.

Internet Matters have put together a brand new free guide for parents which explores how neurodivergent children's unique traits can leave them open to scams, particularly in games.

You can download the free guide [HERE](#).

For Parents – Gadget Gift Guide

Christmas can be an exciting time when many children are given new devices and gadgets. Ireland's online safety charity, CyberSafeKids, have put together a brand new guide for parents and carers covering:

- The benefits and risks of popular smart devices and toys.
- What you can do to make them safer.
- Age recommendations
- And more.

You can download the guide [HERE](#).

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TIKTOK

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Online videos are often associated with apps such as YouTube, but among teens, TikTok is king. The app provides a potentially addictive, never-ending stream of short clips tailored to users' interests based on their viewing habits. Around half of British children use TikTok, and while most content is benign, Ofcom considers it the app where young people are "most likely to encounter a potential harm".

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

(Certain features are restricted to over-18s only)

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

TikTok's Following Feed shows videos from known creators, while the default For You Feed serves endless clips based on viewing history. Most are harmless, but unsuitable content can still appear, and watching for long enough signals interest to the algorithm. Although TikTok bans illegal or inappropriate uploads, the volume of posts means some slip through, increasing the chance that children encounter age-inappropriate material before it is detected or removed.

BODY IMAGE AND DANGEROUS CHALLENGES

Ofcom reports that most online harms for girls involve body image, while boys more often see dangerous stunts. Both types appear frequently on TikTok and spread quickly through its engagement-driven algorithm. Harmful challenges have included the "blackout" trend, where users held their breath until passing out. Families filed lawsuits after children died linked to the trend, showing how extreme or risky content can rapidly reach young people and negatively influence them.

IN-APP SPENDING

TikTok is free, but children can still spend money. TikTok coins, costing £9.99 to £224.99, let users buy gifts for creators. TikTok Shop adds risk by allowing purchases from influencers or companies, sometimes leading to poor-quality items driven by persuasive marketing. A Canadian investigation found TikTok collected personal data from many children for targeting and advertising despite age limits, meaning young users may lose control over their personal information.

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Between 1.6 and 1.9 billion people use TikTok, meaning there's a high risk of unwanted attention from strangers. Accounts created by over-16s (or young people using a fake date of birth) are set to public view by default. This means that not only is someone's profile visible to everyone else on the app, it also suggests their videos to others and allows anyone to download or comment on them.

MISINFORMATION AND RADICALISATION

TikTok's short videos may appear lighthearted, but they can expose young people to harmful ideas. Misinformation is common, and Ofcom reports that nearly one third of 12-15-year-olds use TikTok as a news source, increasing the chance of seeing racist, misogynistic, extremist or conspiracy material. Even brief clips can influence impressionable users and shape their worldview, making discussions about critical thinking, propaganda and online influence especially important for parents and educators.

ADDICTIVE DESIGN

TikTok's fast-paced stream of eye-catching videos can be potentially addictive for young users. In 2024, UK children spent an average of 127 minutes per day on the platform, double the time recorded in 2020. Excessive use can disrupt sleep, increase irritability, and distract from healthier activities. Constantly skipping between short clips may also affect attention span, making it harder to focus on longer tasks such as homework or reading.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING

Family Pairing allows parents to link their TikTok account to their child's in order to manage settings remotely. Parents can then turn on Restricted Mode (reducing the chances of a child seeing inappropriate content), set screen time limits, make accounts private and manage whether their child can send messages – and if they can, to whom. Children cannot alter these settings without parental approval.

DISCUSS THE DANGERS

If a child wants to use TikTok and you're happy for them to do so, it's good practice to discuss the potential risks. Ensure they don't share any identifying personal information or respond to dangerous trends, and that they know to talk to a trusted adult if they're worried by interactions on the app. With more teens using TikTok for news, it's important to talk about misinformation and propaganda.

BLOCK IN-APP SPENDING

Parents can restrict in-app purchases on iPhone and Android devices to prevent accidental or impulsive TikTok spending. Young people can easily spend large amounts on TikTok coins or low-quality products promoted through TikTok Shop. If a disappointing purchase occurs, turn it into a discussion about influencer marketing and how online promotions can be misleading.

READ THE SIGNS

If you're concerned that a child is spending too much time on TikTok, or that they've been emotionally affected by something they've seen, it's important to know how to spot the signs. Increased irritability and a lack of concentration are potential red flags, as is failing to complete homework or skipping meals. Remember, the parental controls are there for a reason, and it's never too late to introduce limits.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



See full reference list on our website

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Daniel for playing so nicely with others, sharing the toys, waiting his turn and approaching adults for help.
Reception	Evie – for drawing a beautiful picture of your night time animal Sonum – for working hard in phonics free writing this week.
Year 1	Evie – for drawing a beautiful picture of your night time animal Sonum – for working hard in phonics free writing this week.
Year 2	Ihunda – for always helping her peers and being enthusiastic about her new learning. Metahan – for his amazing piece of work in English describing the Great Barrier Reef
Year 3	Hadassa –for her consistently positive attitude and excellent effort in all her learning. Niyla Ray- for being an amazing helper who always supports her classmates and contributes positively to our classroom.
Year 4	Billy – for showing great resilience and completing some fantastic work this week Ella – Showing some real enthusiasm in her learning
Year 5	Frank- A well-researched and crafted non-chronological report on the Mayan civilisation Levi- For displaying real resilience this week across all subjects
Year 6	Jimmy and Rory – for working well as part of a team and asking great questions during our wider curriculum lessons this week.

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	It may seem a little early but we began to practice our Christmas songs and make Christmas decorations ready to decorate the tree this week. We are looking forward to singing our song to our grown ups in a couple of weeks so please do look in our book bags for an invitation! We have enjoyed some cutting and sticking activities where we made our own number block towers to practice our counting and extended this with building towers with the unifix cubes, which also supports the development of our fine motor skills. We have enjoyed mark making in the tuff tray with coloured pencils and love having lots of space to express ourselves through marks. Beginning to understand that marks can have meaning is an important early step in learning to read and write. We have also continued to enjoy lots of stories, role play, sensory play and construction with different resources such as the Octoplay and Magnatiles. Well done nursery on another busy week!
Reception	This week, Reception have been as busy as ever! The children have gotten into the Christmas cheer and have been learning the lines to a range of songs for their nativity performance, as well as making wonderful Christmas ornaments. They continued to explore our topic of Day and Night and enjoyed reflecting on the different things we can do during the day and at night. They had lots of thoughtful discussions and loved creating day and night crafts. We also looked at shadows and investigated the mystery of what makes a shadow. Our focus book this week was Don't Look Under the Bed by Angelika Glitz and Imke Sönnichsen. It tells the story of a boy called Tom and his mother and how it becomes Tom's turn to comfort her when she is afraid of the dark. This delightful and funny story about night time fears really captured the children's interest. They shared their own experiences of night time sounds, shadows and worries. The children also had great fun making their own little phonics word books during their free learning time which was awesome!
Year 1	On Monday, Year 1 enjoyed a trip to the local church, St Michael and All Angels, to participate in a Christmas workshop and find out about the events in the Christmas Story. They had an amazing time and were extremely well behaved. We have done some follow up activities in class linked to our trip and our RE curriculum, including writing and some art. In our English sessions, we have been writing sentences linked to the Where's my Teddy book by Jez Alborough. The children have been writing about how they would feel if they lost a toy and where it might be found. During our History lesson we discussed old toys, the materials they were made from and how we can tell they are old. We have been working on subtraction in our Maths lessons, using part/whole models to show a take away calculation and number sentence. As part of our Design and Technology curriculum we are using joining techniques to make furniture for our own dolls house. A fun and full week for Year 1.
Year 2	We are again so proud of the week that Year 2 have had. They have been making so much progress in their learning. In English they have been able to write a non chronological report based around different habitats, specifically polar and desert habitats. They have produced some amazing writing this week we are all so proud of them. In maths they have been consolidating their knowledge of addition and subtraction and have really shown some amazing progress. In RE they were able to look back over all of the knowledge they have learnt this half term and consolidate their knowledge on this. In science they turned into scientists and were investigating different habitats in forest school and exploring what animals live there and how many of the animals/insects there are in the habitat they found. In history they explored what happened after The Great Fire of London and what London did to rebuild after The Great Fire of London. They have had such an amazing week and we are so proud of how they are progressing through Year 2. Well Done!!!
Year 3	This week in Year 3, we began our assessments, which will continue into next week. In English, the children have been writing their final outcome on the Stone Age, Bronze Age, and Iron Age by creating a chronological report. They used commas in a list, subordinating clauses, and coordinating conjunctions to describe how life changed across these periods. Their enthusiasm and growing confidence in non-fiction writing have been wonderful to see. In maths, we started multiplication and subtraction, and the children showed great perseverance with their new learning. In science, we learned that humans and some other animals have skeletons and muscles for support, protection, and movement. The children enjoyed labelling key body parts such as the skull, ribs, spine, and pelvis, and discussing how each part helps the body function. In geography, we continued exploring the South East of England and identified some of its physical features. In history, the class looked at different Stone Age shelters and compared how they changed over time. It has been an amazing week!

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	We've had a very fun and productive week in Year 4! Our assessments have begun, and I have been incredibly proud of the class. They have shown focus, maturity, and a brilliant attitude, getting straight on with their work without a single grumble. In English, we've been learning how to write play scripts. The children have been working hard to include fronted adverbials, pronouns, and brackets, and we're looking forward to performing their scripts for each other soon. Our fish sessions continue to amaze me too, everyone is making fantastic progress in the water.
Year 5	Year 5 have continued their great start to the term and have been working brilliantly across all subjects. In Science, we turned our attention to levers, exploring how they work and looking at real-world examples of where they are used. The children enjoyed investigating how different lever types can make tasks easier. In History, we continued thinking about the lasting influence of Mayan achievements and how aspects of their civilisation can still be seen in society today. In Maths, we continued our work on fractions, focusing on adding and subtracting fractions with different denominators. The children have shown great perseverance as they tackled increasingly challenging problems. In English, we finished writing our non-chronological reports about the Mayans, using clear structure, factual detail and subject-specific vocabulary. In PSHE, we had thought-provoking discussions about our relationships and how our actions can impact others' feelings. In PE, we continued with hockey, applying the skills we have practised in small matches and concentrating on teamwork, control and accurate passing. It has been another productive and positive week in Year 5!
Year 6	This week in Year 6, the children have worked incredibly hard completing their assessments, showing excellent focus and resilience throughout. In English, they have been writing discursive reports about the British Empire, drawing on everything they have learnt across the wider curriculum to support their ideas. Our maths lessons have focused on multiplying fractions by whole numbers and by other fractions, with the children showing increasing confidence in using different strategies. In science, we completed our investigation into which beak shape is best adapted to pick up a seed, and the children thoroughly enjoyed using different objects as "beaks" to collect as many seeds as possible in one minute. In R.E., they also explored the importance of the Kippah, Tallit and Tzitzit, learning about their meaning and significance within Judaism. Overall, it has been a busy and productive week, and we are very proud of Year 6 for their fantastic effort.



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 School PTA)

Friends of Brooklands

RAFFLE

Our much-loved Brooklands raffle is back!

RAFFLE PRIZES

We often receive brilliant donations from local businesses and parent workplaces. With times being tougher this year, we'd really appreciate any help in sourcing prizes.

If your employer or your own business can offer charity donations or prize contributions, please let your class rep know – even small items make a big difference!

RAFFLE TICKETS

Tickets are £1 each and will be on sale at the Winter Fair

Thank you for supporting the Brooklands community – whether by donating, buying tickets, or simply spreading the word! ❤️

Wreath Making

**Tuesday 2nd December
7-9pm, School Hall**

Join us for an evening of crafting, mulled wine, mince pies and good fun!

Tickets are £35 and include all materials and refreshments.

There are just 2 places remaining, reserve your spot by emailing: friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com

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 directly.

THE WINTER FAIR NEXT WEEK!

**Friday 5th December
3:30-6:30pm**

In a break with tradition, this year's Winter Fair will be held on **Friday 5th December at 3:30pm**, after school.

We'll have all your favourite stalls including Sprout Roulette, Teddy Hoopla, and a BBQ, but this year we're taking our bake-off to the next level...

WINTER WONDERLAND BAKE-OFF

The theme is Winter Wonderland - and anything goes! Snowflakes, snowmen, penguins, polar bears, mittens... let your imagination run wild.

PRIZES FOR:

-  **Best Decorated** - for any master bakers out there
-  **Best Tasting** - because flavour is what really counts
-  **Hidden Gem** - looks a bit dodgy but tastes AMAZING

BUY YOUR TICKETS 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**

WHY TOKENS?

We use tokens to keep things simple on the day. Most stalls are either free or cost 1-2 tokens. A visit to Santa costs 3 tokens. Bar and BBQ will take cash and card.

MAKING EVENTS ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

Entry is free for families receiving pupil premium, and discounted tickets are available for those who would like to attend but are struggling financially. If this is you, please contact the school office directly at info@brooklands-maritime.org

Upcoming Events

A full list of events is on the **next page**. You can also keep up to date by following our Instagram page @brooklands_fob



@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 28th 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),
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.

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





Shop with your favourite brands
and you'll raise donations for
Brooklands Primary School



TESCO

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 **trainline**

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MONEYSUPERMARKET

Booking.com

ASDA

 **TUI**

 **JUST EAT**

SCREWFIX