



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

What another wonderful week of fun and learning we have had at Brooklands this week- it has flown by!

It was so nice to welcome some familiar and new faces to our Stay and Play on Saturday; our next one is 21st March- get that date in your diaries!

We have had a few 'wet play' days this week. When the children are inside, they have different games, colouring, drawing and traditional games to play. If you have any suitable games that you no longer play with at home, we would always welcome more games for our classes- thank you in advance!

We look forward to welcoming our community into Brooklands on Sunday 18th January to help to continue the work on our pond area; there is lots to be done and we would love to see you there! Thank you to all of the staff who are giving up their time to help- we look forward to working together as a community.

We are so proud of all the children and families who walk, scoot and cycle to school- we even had someone go home tonight on a Pogo stick! However, please ensure your child is as safe as possible by encouraging them to wear a helmet; the roads and pavements around school are very uneven and accidents can happen in the blink of an eye! It goes without saying that we ask all parents and our community to be respectful of all road and pavement users and be mindful of where you park.

We hope you all have a safe weekend,

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Brooklands Pond Clear out Sunday 18th January 12pm

Bikeability- Year 5- starts Monday 19th January

Parents Evenings- Tuesday 10th and Wednesday 11th February 3:30pm-6pm

Shared Stories and Coffee Morning Friday 13th February 8:45am to 10am

End of term Friday 13th February

Half term Monday 16th February- Friday 20th February

Spring (ii) begins Monday 23rd February

INSET day Friday 20th March 2026

We would like to remind parents and carers that Year 5 will be taking part in Cycle Confident workshops every day next week, starting Monday 19th January.

The children will be working in small groups and will receive one hour of bike training each day.

If you have not already done so, please ensure permission is given by returning the letter sent home.

Please also remember to bring bikes into school if you indicated on the form that your child would be bringing one.

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 30th January**
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

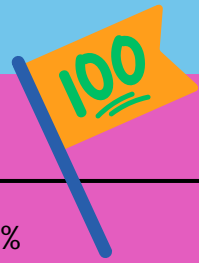


Working in partnership with:



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	93.26%
Year 1	96.33%
Year 2	97.86%
 Year 3 	98.60%
Year 4	95.56%
Year 5	95.93%
Year 6	94.33%

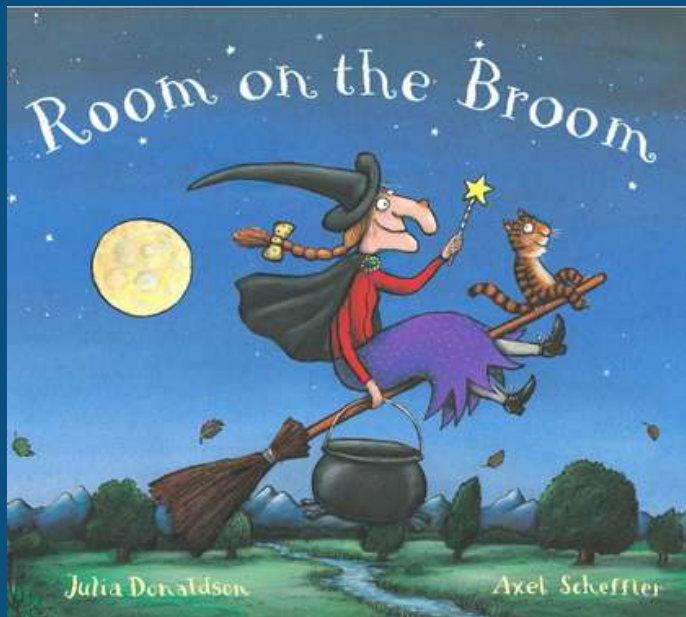
Attendance Ladder

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!



Room on the Broom is a beloved children's story by Julia Donaldson about a kind witch and her cat flying on a broom, who keep losing items (hat, bow, wand) that are found and returned by a dog, bird, and frog, each earning a ride, until the overloaded broom breaks, but the new animal friends help the witch escape a hungry dragon, leading to a magnificent new broom with room for everyone, teaching lessons on friendship, teamwork, and kindness

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!

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 – Playstation Family App

The Playstation Family App came out in Sept 2025 and it is a great way to help parents set up and manage their children's Gaming experience. Features include:

- Manage playtime.
- Activity report.
- Visibility into what children are playing.
- Approving playtime requests.

On this web page you will find detailed instructions to guide you through setting up a child account, get notified what game your child is playing in real time, approve or decline a request for extra playtime, apply content filters, privacy settings and more.

Webpage: Playstation Family App

Chrome Book usage...

IS...

part of a range of teaching and learning approaches utilised at Brooklands

IS NOT...

a replacement of the teacher or adult in the classroom

provides opportunities for personalised, targeted learning, enabling the class teacher to focus support and identify next steps for all learners

IS...

subject to filtering and monitoring systems in school to block harmful content

at home must be supervised.

Inappropriate use (including accessing non-educational sites, over-use) will result in the device not going home.

IS...

deliberately chosen by the teacher to enhance the learning experience

IS NOT...

used in every lesson, replacing other subjects or key foundation skills including daily reading, writing and maths

IS...

monitored by leadership regularly to ensure usage is appropriate and having a positive impact on progress and engagement in learning

IS NOT...

a replacement for traditional teaching and learning approaches

We are currently working to enable a filtering and monitoring system similar to that at school for when devices are used at home to block harmful or inappropriate content. If you notice that your child is accessing something you are uncomfortable with, please reach out to your child's class teacher who can look at how to block this for all users.

Thank you for your continued support with keeping our children safe whilst they are online.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about DIGITAL DEVICES & WELLBEING

Children aged 7 to 14 now spend roughly 3 to 5 hours a day on phones, tablets, consoles, and computers. That much screen time has parents and educators worried – not just about the hours logged, but about online safety and the knock-on effects on mental health. This guide brings together practical, expert-backed strategies so adults can nurture healthier digital habits and help young people thrive both on and offline.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SLEEP DISRUPTION

Excessive screen time, especially before bed, can interfere with melatonin production and delay sleep onset. Children may struggle to concentrate or regulate emotions due to poor sleep hygiene linked to late-night device use.

ONLINE PEER PRESSURE

Social media platforms expose children to unrealistic standards and peer validation loops. Likes, comments, and follower counts can influence self-worth and lead to anxiety or risky behaviour to gain approval.

CYBERBULLYING EXPOSURE

Children may encounter bullying through messaging apps, games, or social media. This can be persistent and anonymous, making it harder to detect. Victims often feel isolated and reluctant to report incidents.

REDUCED PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Time spent on screens often replaces outdoor play and physical activity. This sedentary lifestyle can contribute to obesity, poor posture, and reduced cardiovascular health.

EMOTIONAL DYSREGULATION

Fast-paced digital content can overstimulate young brains. Children may become irritable, impatient, or struggle with boredom and emotional control when not engaged with screens.

PRIVACY AND SAFETY RISKS

Children may unknowingly share personal information or interact with strangers online. Without guidance, they may not understand the long-term consequences of digital footprints or unsafe online behaviour.

Advice for Parents & Educators

SET CLEAR BOUNDARIES

Establish screen-time limits and device-free zones, e.g. classrooms and dinner tables. Use parental controls and co-create a digital use agreement with children to encourage accountability. Trying a visual schedule or timer app can help children understand and stick to limits.

MODEL HEALTHY HABITS

Children mirror adult behaviour. Demonstrate balanced device use, take regular screen breaks, and prioritise face-to-face interactions to reinforce positive behaviours. Making a habit of putting your phone away during meals and conversations can show that real-life interactions come first.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DIALOGUE

Create a safe space for children to talk about their online experiences. Ask open-ended questions like, "What did you enjoy online today?" to build trust and awareness. Try setting aside 10 minutes each day for a digital check-in where children can share what they've seen or done online.

PROMOTE DIGITAL LITERACY

Teach children how to evaluate online content, recognise misinformation, and understand privacy settings. Empower them to think critically and act responsibly in digital spaces. You could use real-life examples from the news or social media to help children practise spotting fake information.

Meet Our Expert

Adam Gillett is Associate Vice Principal for Personal Development at Penistone Grammar School and works on secondment one day a week for Minds Ahead, which works with schools on improving their mental health provision.



The National College®

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	T.J and Luca for settling in so well.
Reception	Nefeli.G for being a caring and kind member of reception Safiya for excellent phonics phonics work this week
Year 1	Zayn for all his hard work in all areas of the curriculum. We are particularly pleased with your reading and writing. Ava for all your hard work with your reading and writing and for using your phonics to help you.
Year 2	Haakon- for his amazing efforts in English this week writing a narrative story all about London. Joy, for always trying her best in everything that she does and being kind to others
Year 3	Ayo and Skyler For demonstrating amazing teamwork during bench ball and using excellent blocking skills to support their team. Well done!
Year 4	Matilda - For showing real enthusiasm in her learning and always putting her hand up to answer questions Kacper - For making sure to be focused on his work and producing some great work
Year 5	Troy- For a precise explanation text on the human life cycle Tilda- For displaying our school values
Year 6	Beau - for her fantastic effort when writing her Greek myth in English this week. Tamara - for her resilience towards her learning in Maths.

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	This week has been very wet and very cold so we have enjoyed lots of indoor activities. We are reading lots of traditional tales and have read the story of Goldilocks. We have worked in small groups to retell the story using puppets and enjoyed a sensory tray of oats, pouring and mixing our own porridge. We have also read the story of the Paper Dolls and enjoyed drawing and cutting activities linked to the book, making our own dolls from paper and making up stories about them. We have also explored the playdough using it to make different models and shapes and have used lots of our construction toys such as the Octoplay and Magnatiles to create different models and structures. We have shared our classroom with Little Bluebells this week and we are really impressed with how well the children have played together and shared the resources.
Reception	Reception enjoyed a week of magical learning, embracing all the different weather conditions the week brought. The children developed their phonics knowledge by practising familiar sounds and learning new Phase 3 sounds such as or, ar and oo, which are helping to gradually build a wider phonics word bank. As a follow up to last week's learning, the children extended their learning on pirates through imaginative play within the classroom environment. Our focus book was Room on the Broom by Julia Donaldson. The story supported the children in developing early maths sequencing skills, describing story characters and writing using sounds they were able to hear, segment and write. They also enjoyed a nature walk around the school, where they collected sticks and twigs to make their magic letter wands.
Year 1	Year 1 has been fully embracing our topic work about monarchs and Tudors. They have really enjoyed role playing in our castle area and helping to develop it making turrets and shields. In our English lessons we have been retelling the story of Queen Elizabeth's day and using our phonic knowledge to help us spell unknown words in our sentences. During Maths lessons we have been developing our understanding of the number 20 and how we can add onto numbers from 10 to make 20. We have been working on the place value of numbers from 10-20. This week in the Science sessions we were recognising and beginning to classify common animals. Our Art learning this week included finding out about Stephen Wiltshire and Andre Domain, two artists that have painted or drawn the London Landscape. We also explored drawing or painting some London landmarks. In between the wet plays and rain we even made it to Forest School!
Year 2	It has been an incredible week of learning for Year 2! In English, the children produced some amazing stories inspired by the city of London, showing wonderful imagination in their writing. Year 2 have also been exploring the city of London and its landmarks using google earth as a whole class. In maths they have been busy exploring shape, mastering the properties of shape and the concept of symmetry, while also having the opportunity to draw certain 2D shapes. In Science, creativity met classification as the pupils designed their own unique creatures and carefully considered the specific habitats they would need to survive. In History they have been looking at the aftermath of the Great Fire, where we investigated the rebuilding of St Paul's Cathedral. In RE the class continued to develop their knowledge of Christianity, showing great engagement and thoughtful reflection.
Year 3	This week in Year 3, we have had another amazing week of learning across the curriculum. In English, the children wrote letters in role as Roman soldiers, writing to their families about the victory of invading Britain. They worked hard to include key features from our success criteria, such as time adverbials, prepositions, and subordinating clauses, and showed great creativity and engagement in their writing. In Maths, we have been focusing on multiplying 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers, with the children developing their confidence and applying their understanding through a range of activities and problem-solving tasks. In Science, the children carried out an experiment investigating how far a toy car would travel across different materials, such as carpet. They enjoyed making predictions, testing their ideas, and discussing their results. In RE, we explored the Sikh parable of the Blind Men and the Elephant, learning about its meaning and the importance of this story for believers. The children showed thoughtful discussion and respect when sharing their ideas. In PE, we played bench ball, where the children demonstrated excellent teamwork and cooperation throughout the lesson. In History, we read about Boudicca, learning about who she was and what she achieved. The children showed great curiosity and interest in this significant historical figure. Overall, it has been a fantastic week full of hard work, enthusiasm, and brilliant learning.

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	This week has been full of great learning and some really lovely moments across the curriculum. In English, we have started working on writing newspaper reports about a real landslide that happened in the 1990s, where a hotel was swept away into the sea. The children have been learning how to write like journalists, thinking about headlines, introductions, quotes, and using formal language. In Maths, we have continued to practise our multiplication. The children are becoming much more confident with their times tables, and we have now started to go deeper by multiplying 2-digit and 3-digit numbers. This is tricky, but they have shown great resilience and are beginning to understand the different methods we can use. We are having a huge focus on reading at the moment. I have absolutely loved being read to by the children, and I am trying to hear as many of them as possible. They have been told how important this is, and it is essential that they bring their reading book and reading record to school every day. This helps me see how often they are reading and how they are getting on with their reading overall. Please encourage regular reading at home, where possible, it really does make a big difference. In Geography, we started learning about the North Downs and South Downs. This led to some really engaging class discussions, with children sharing places they have visited and what they noticed about different landscapes. It was great to hear their experiences and see how curious they are about the world around them. Overall, it has been a positive and busy week, and I am really proud of the effort the children are putting into their learning.
Year 5	This week in Maths, we have continued to multiply 2-, 3- and 4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. The children have been applying their prior knowledge of times tables and factors, using these skills confidently in a new context. In English, we have completed our explanation texts on The Human Life Cycle. The children worked hard to organise their writing clearly and use appropriate technical vocabulary. In RE, we have continued our learning about Christianity, focusing on Easter and how it helps Christians to remember that God is the Holy Trinity. In History, we have further explored Ancient Egypt, looking specifically at how the Egyptians used the River Nile as an essential part of their daily lives. During P.S.H.E., we have been considering our goals and dreams, encouraging the children to reflect on their aspirations for the future. Unfortunately, due to poor weather, we have not been able to go outside for PE at the time of writing. However, we are hopeful that we will be able to take part in PE later this afternoon (Friday).
Year 6	This week in English, Year 6 have been immersed in Greek mythology, writing their own creative versions of Theseus and the Minotaur. They have worked hard to both retell the story whilst also including elements of the success criteria in their writing (subordinating conjunctions, relative clauses and adverbials). In Maths, we continued our learning on ratio, with a particular focus on scale factors and enlarging shapes. Our History lessons explored the invention of the water mill and how this innovation impacted daily life in Ancient Greece. The children enjoyed discussing how new technology helped improve farming and trade. In Art, the children designed their own Greek urns, carefully focusing on repeating patterns inspired by traditional Greek pottery. Finally, in Geography, we identified the human and physical features of Greece, including landmarks such as the Parthenon and natural features like the Imbros Gorge. The children used maps and images to develop their geographical knowledge.



MUSICAL FAMILY

BINGO NIGHT



FRIDAY
6TH FEB

6-7PM

Bingo... but with songs instead of numbers! Listen, sing along,
and mark off your card as the music plays



FUN FOR
KIDS &
ADULTS

 **TICKETS**
£5 per adult

WIN
PRIZES

Kids go FREE
(must be accompanied
by an adult)

**Pupil Premium families
attend free**
(speak to the school
office to book)

**Tickets available
now on MCAS**

**WELCOMING BACK YOUR FAVOURITE MC
CLIVE GARDEM**



REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

There will be a bar selling drinks (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) and crisps.

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We want everyone to be able to join in. A limited number of discounted tickets are available for families who may be struggling financially. If this is you, please contact the school office directly: info@brooklands-maritime.org

SARAH HANKS & JO LLEWELLYN



YOGA & SOUND BATH

2.00-4.00 pm | Saturday 31 January | Brooklands School Hall

Join us for an afternoon of gentle movement & a restorative sound bath.

Come along and unwind whilst fundraising for Friends of Brooklands.

Everyone welcome inc. beginners.

What to expect:

75 mins of gentle yoga & 45 minutes sound bath.

You will be guided by experienced teachers Sarah Hanks & Jo Llewellyn. An event for adults in the Brooklands community and beyond. Please invite your friends and family along too.



How to book:

Email friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com.
Payment in advance via bank transfer,
bank details will be supplied via email.

The standard ticket price for the event is £40 per person. **In the spirit of inclusivity & accessibility we are offering tickets on an integrity basis, allowing you to select a price between £25-40 according to your financial means.**

What to bring:

It is essential to bring your own yoga mat.

Wear warm layers including a jumper and socks. Bring a blanket, cushion and anything else for warmth and comfort during the sound bath

Please pay what feels right to you. Your honesty helps us continue to make these experiences available to everyone.



@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 16th January 2026

(Brooklands School PTA)

Friends of Brooklands

2026 Events Calendar

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

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

Etsy

 **trainline**

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MONEYSUPERMARKET

Booking.com

ASDA

 **TUI**

 **JUST EAT**

SCREWFIX