



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

We cannot believe that we are one week away from half term already! What a busy few weeks we have had. This week, we welcomed Clive Efford MP to our Little Bluebells Nursery; he had heard about the wonderful learning going on and had asked to visit! He was, quite understandably, very impressed by our youngest children- well done, everyone!

Tonight our fantastic 'Friends of Brooklands' ran their second Music Bingo night- we hope everyone who attended had a good time; thank you to DJ Clive for entertaining everyone!

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are in need of someone who has a driving licence that enables them to drive a mini bus for a class trip later in the year. If you know of anyone who could help us, please do get in touch! Thank you, in advance!

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at Parents Evenings next week; it is such an important opportunity to share your child's progress, successes and how you can best support them at home,

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong



UPCOMING DATES

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

Shared Stories and Coffee Morning

Friday 13th February 8:45am to 10am

Bake Sale in aid of Demelza- Pupil

Parliament- Friday 13th February 3:30pm

End of term Friday 13th February

Half term Monday 16th February- Friday 20th February

Spring (ii) begins Monday 23rd February

Year 2 trip to London Archives- 24th February

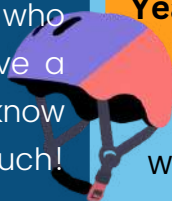
Year 4 trip to Greenacres - 2nd March

We are very proud at Brooklands, to have been awarded the Gold Award for Travel For Life, a programme to encourage healthy and safe travel for all children. As part of this, we know

many of our children travel to school on scooters and bikes and it is amazing to see so many of these parked up in our playground and by the office. We are looking at how we can invest in more bike storage as we know it can get very busy!

Please ensure all children have a helmet if they are using wheels to travel to school. We are happy to store them in school if needed.

Please also be aware that any electric scooters are not permitted on school property as they are illegal and so should not be brought on site by children or adults. We thank all of our community for supporting us in our efforts to keep children as safe as possible



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.

Please press the link below:
Enrichment Clubs / holiday Camps
2026

All outstanding payments must be **paid by Friday 27th February**
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.

Pupil Parliament Bake Sale

Friday 13th February 2026

This **Friday 13th February**, Pupil Parliament will be leading a Bake Sale at Brooklands.

Please remember to bring cash as the sale is **Cash Only!**

Brooklands' parliament are excited to announce we have chosen our charity to be Demelza this year!

'Demelza provides extraordinary care to children and young people with serious or life-limiting conditions, providing expert clinical care and helping to create extraordinary moments along the way.'



We would be very grateful if members of our school community could please help by baking! This could be cookies, cakes, brownies: whatever you would like to bake.

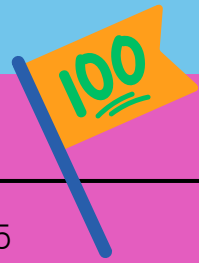
Important reminder: Brooklands is a nut-free school, so please ensure that anything you bake contains absolutely no nuts or nut products. An ingredient list would also be very helpful.

Please bring your baked items into school on the morning of Friday 13th February.

There will also be some items for sale from our TfL ambassadors, including reflectors to promote road safety.

To find out more about Demelza, please visit [demelza.org.uk](#)

Attendance



Reception	95.85
Year 1	95.00
Year 2	94.64
Year 3	93.79
 Year 4 	96.30
Year 5	95.56
Year 6	93.67

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!



This week is National Storytelling Week and there are lots of activities and events available...click the link [here](#) for more information

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 – Lemon8 App

Lemon8 is an app which seems to be growing in popularity. Calling itself a 'lifestyle community' app the terms and conditions, as per most social media, is 13+. The company which owns Lemon8 is ByteDance, who also own TikTok and it's essentially a mix between Instagram and TikTok. Reviews generally seem to be quite positive but one of the big downfalls is that parental features are a little lacking.

It's worth checking if your child is using Lemon8 and if so have a look at this in-depth Lemon8 review.

For Parents – New Parental Control Videos

A couple of days ago Internet Matters uploaded 3 new short videos onto YouTube, each focussing on parental controls for YouTube, Roblox and TikTok, the links are:

- [YouTube parental controls top features.](#)
- [The top 3 parental controls to use on Roblox.](#)
- [The top 3 parental controls to use on TikTok.](#)

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.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

SUPPORTING SAFE USE OF AI

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly woven into young people's digital lives. It can offer some educational benefits and day-to-day assistance; however, it also raises concerns about misinformation, privacy, fairness, and safety. This guide provides parents and educators with practical strategies to support young people to navigate AI tools responsibly, and to use them safely and with discernment.

1 DEMYSTIFY WHAT AI REALLY IS

Children encounter AI in most online places, including games, streaming platforms, and school tools. Explain that AI uses patterns from past data to make decisions, but it doesn't think or feel like humans. Use age-appropriate examples, like how recommendations on YouTube or Netflix work, to build understanding and prevent false beliefs about AI being all-knowing or alive.

2 TALK ABOUT RISKS OF MISINFORMATION

AI can create convincing false information, including deepfake videos, photos, and fake 'facts'. Encourage children to think critically about what they see and read. Teach them to double-check information using reliable sources, to look at images and videos carefully, and to ask an adult if something doesn't seem right.

3 DISCUSS DATA AND PRIVACY

Explain that AI systems learn by analysing lots of data, sometimes including personal information. Help young people to be mindful of what they share online and why protecting personal data matters. Model good habits like reading app permissions together or reviewing what's collected by voice assistants like Alexa or Siri.

4 ENCOURAGE CREATIVE USE OF AI

Support children, when using AI tools, to explore ideas, make art, or build projects. This fosters confidence, imagination, and independent thinking. When children use AI creatively, rather than just passively consuming it, they are more likely to stay engaged and make thoughtful choices.

5 USE AGE-APPROPRIATE AI TOOLS

Not all AI platforms are suitable for children. Choose tools designed for education or creativity, with clear safety policies. Review terms of use and privacy settings, and help children use them in age-appropriate ways. For example, some chatbot tools mimic conversation but should only be used with guidance and boundaries in place.

6 USE AI TOGETHER

Exploring AI tools together can help adults understand how they work and spot potential issues. Try co-writing a story with an AI writing assistant or experimenting with an AI art tool. This encourages curiosity, helps you stay informed about the latest AI tools, and allows you to reinforce safe and respectful use while modelling critical thinking.

7 SET BOUNDARIES FOR AI USE

Establish when, where, and how AI tools can be used, just as you would with any digital technology. For example, you might agree not to use AI tools to complete school assignments without permission, or to avoid unsupervised use of voice assistants. Consistent boundaries help manage overuse and misuse.

8 WATCH FOR OVERRELIANCE

Some AI tools, like homework help apps, may be tempting shortcuts. Encourage children to use AI to support their thinking, not replace it. Celebrate effort and process over perfect answers. Reinforce that mistakes are part of learning and that relying too heavily on AI can limit real understanding.

9 TEACH DIGITAL ETHICS AND LITERACY

Help children explore how AI works, where it might be biased, and why ethical thinking matters. Building digital literacy alongside ethical awareness ensures children engage with AI critically, not just conveniently. Help young people to understand that not all people use AI for legitimate purposes; some use it for malicious reasons. Encourage questions about fairness, representation, and who benefits from certain tools; talk about algorithms, echo chambers, and the impact of automation on daily life.

10 STAY CURIOUS AND INVOLVED

AI is developing rapidly, and staying informed helps you support the young people in your care. Follow trusted sources for updates and keep the conversation going. If a child brings up a new AI trend or tool, take the opportunity to learn about it together. Showing interest builds trust and strengthens digital resilience.

Meet Our Expert

Home to the world's largest CPD library for educators, The National College has transformed the way education establishments go about developing their workforces and managing compliance. Our three memberships help all phases and types of setting raise standards, save time, reduce risk, and build a culture of improvement.

#WakeUpWednesday®

The National College®

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Shya for engaging really well with his peers, talking and asking interesting questions when we read a story. Well done Shya!
Reception	Santiago for always trying your best in all areas of your learning George for excellent and consistent reading at home and school
Year 1	Sophie for her consistent hard work during phonics and her super sentence writing. Isabella for using her phonics successfully when reading and writing.
Year 2	Whole class-year 2- For an amazing PE session in Year 2, where everyone was involved and showed great enthusiasm, teamwork, and effort throughout.
Year 3	Year 3 -whole class- For fantastic behaviour and positive attitude during our Year 3 trip. They showed great enthusiasm, listened carefully, and represented the school brilliantly.
Year 4	Vaughn - For showing determination and always looking to help others Lena - For showing great resilience and always wanting to help her classmates despite her broken arm
Year 5	Izzy- for displaying our school values Andrei- For a superb newspaper report on Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb
Year 6	Sophie - for always showing a positive attitude towards learning. Cameron - for always being willing to help and share his understanding with others.

Our brilliant TFL ambassadors doing a fab job selling safety reflectors on a very rainy afternoon!



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 been excitedly learning about Little Red Riding Hood this week! We are really developing our language skills by retelling this story and the other traditional tales we have learnt about this term. Using story sequencing cards and puppets helps us to recall the key events and we can use new vocabulary that we have heard when Sally, Jo and Caroline share different versions of the same story. The weather has still been very wet but we have managed to get outside and hunt for puddles and take part in a forest school session. We have also made some 'cakes for Grandma' which were yummy!
Reception	It was another busy and fulfilling week in Reception. The week began with a space crash landing as we introduced our new class reader, Beegu by Alexis Deacon. This poignant story explored universal themes through the experiences of a small yellow alien who became lost on Earth after her spaceship broke down. The book encouraged the children to understand things that might be unfamiliar to them. The children enjoyed investigating and finding clues about the alien and had many opportunities to draw, write and create their own space creatures. In phonics, the children consolidated previously learnt sounds and began exploring compound words.
Year 1	Year 1 are enjoying hearing and finding out about Henry VIII in their History lessons. They have been using this information to help them recall facts about King Henry and Tudor times. Then they have been writing these facts, in sentences, in their English sessions. In our maths sessions this week we have worked on calculating doubles and then using doubles to calculate near doubles E.G $3 + 3 = 6$ so $3 + 4$ is one more than double 3. During our Geography lesson we identified the seas surrounding the UK. We had a visitor this week who came to talk to us about taking care of our teeth, how to brush them and good food/drink choices we can make to keep them healthy.
Year 2	It has been a fantastic week for Year 2, filled with hands-on learning and skill-building! In English, the children have excelled at writing clear instructions, focusing on the use of adverbs to add detail and precision to their work. In maths this week year 2 have been deepening their understanding of currency by exploring the relationship between pounds and pence. Meanwhile, in Science, the class consolidated their knowledge of micro-habitats, identifying the tiny ecosystems that support local wildlife. The week also included thoughtful reflection in RE, where students reviewed how Christians worship and have consolidated their knowledge on this. They were able to have an active stretch in PE as they continued to refine their ball skills and gymnastics routines. Finally, year 2 turned into explorers and studied various types of maps and mastered the practical art of using a compass. We are again very proud of year 2 this week and all their hard work they have done.
Year 3	This week in Year 3 has been very busy and full of exciting learning opportunities, including a lovely trip to the Roman Temple in Central, which was an amazing experience for the children as they explored Roman life and enjoyed the wonderful atmosphere; I was extremely impressed with their behaviour and engagement throughout the visit, and would like to say a big thank you to all the parents who joined us and supported the team on the trip. In English, we have begun exploring Roman myths and started practising our outcome by writing sentences using subordinate clauses, prepositions and time adverbials, as well as beginning to plan our own Roman myth stories. In Maths, the children have been learning about equivalent lengths in centimetres and metres, showing great focus and effort. In RE and History, we completed our challenge grids, which the children approached very positively and completed to a high standard. In Science, we carried out an exciting experiment investigating magnets and forces, allowing the children to develop their enquiry skills, and in Art we have started creating our Roman mosaics, with pupils showing creativity and care in their work. Overall, it has been a fantastic week, and I am very proud of the children's enthusiasm and progress across all subjects.



This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	This week in English, Year 4 pupils have been exploring non-fiction writing by creating explanation texts about the digestive system. The children have worked hard to include complex sentences, fronted adverbials, and precise nouns to make their writing clear, informative, and engaging. They have shown great curiosity when learning about how the human body processes food and have impressed us with their use of ambitious vocabulary and detailed explanations. In Maths, we have been focusing on perimeter. Pupils have been learning how to calculate the perimeter of shapes by adding the lengths of all sides. They have worked with both regular and irregular polygons, developing their problem-solving skills and mathematical reasoning. The class has shown excellent determination when tackling more challenging shapes and applying their knowledge in different contexts. Across the curriculum, pupils have also completed their challenge grids, allowing them to demonstrate and reflect on what they have retained from their learning this term. It has been wonderful to see the children revisiting prior knowledge with growing confidence and independence. Well done, Year 4, for your fantastic effort and enthusiasm this week!
Year 5	It's been another busy week in Year 5! In Maths, we have been learning how to find fractions of amounts and building our confidence with this important skill. In English, we stepped back in time and wrote newspaper reports about the discovery of Tutankhamen's tomb by Howard Carter: the classroom was full of dramatic headlines and exciting historical detail. In RE, we completed our learning about the life of Jesus by writing letters as if we were one of his disciples, reflecting on the events we have studied. Our History learning has continued our focus on Ancient Egypt, where we explored the concept of continuity and change and made comparisons with early British societies. In PE, we have been developing our football skills, practicing teamwork and control. In Art, we have been getting creative by designing and making our own sarcophagus artwork, inspired by our Egyptian theme. I would like to wish everyone a restful weekend.
Year 6	This week in English, the children have begun exploring story retells based on Mission to Marathon. They have written detailed character descriptions of the messenger, successfully using semicolons, adverbials and compound words to add clarity to their writing. In maths, we have continued our algebra topic, with a focus on solving one-step and two-step equations and the children have shown growing confidence in applying these skills. Across our wider curriculum subjects, the children impressed us with their ability to recall key information accurately in order to complete their challenge grids. In D.T., they worked collaboratively and followed instructions carefully to design and construct a compound pulley, demonstrating excellent teamwork and problem-solving skills. This week also brought a lovely opportunity for Year 6 to spend time with their Year 2 buddies, enjoying a storytelling session and beginning to build positive relationships. They're looking forward to continuing this next week when they will be writing letters together about their favourite books!





@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com



Friday 23rd 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

*The session will be led by two highly
experienced practitioners who both independently
run their own countryside retreats and practise
from their own London studios.*

**We feel incredibly lucky to have them sharing
their expertise with our community.**

Friday 6th February

Family Bingo Night
School hall 6-7pm

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.**

get
YOUR
TICKETS

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



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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





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