



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

This half term has been one of many successes and celebrations. We have had visitors, educational visits, special visitors from everyone from the CEO of IXL (one of our online platforms) to a Safeguarding visit- all of whom have been so impressed with our children's ability and confidence to speak to them about their wonderful learning and knowledge about important topics such as online safety and how to keep themselves and others safe.

We have also had wonderful FOB events including a yoga session, pond renovations, stay and plays for our youngest children, extended day sessions for our year 6 children...we could go on! An absolute heart-felt thanks must go to our incredible team of staff- every single one is vital to ensuring our children are safe and get the best education and life experiences possible; they come to work every day with the children's best interests at heart and we are proud to work alongside them. We hope they all have a well-deserved break over the coming week, ready for Spring (ii)!

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 hope you all have a restful half term break; we look forward to seeing you all back at school on Monday 23rd February; gates open at 8:30am!

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Half term Monday 16th February-
Friday 20th February

Spring (ii) begins Monday 23rd February

Year 2 trip to London Archives- 24th
February

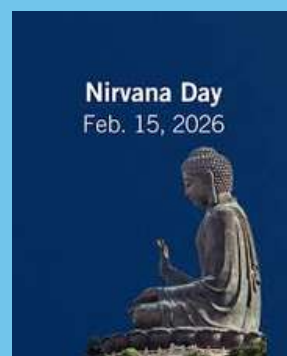
Year 4 trip to Greenacres - 2nd March

We love to hear about and celebrate festivals and traditions observed by members of our community; we know some very special dates are coming up and we hope that any of our families and friends who will be celebrating will share their excitement with us! We send you the very best wishes!



Eid-al-Fitr

Nirvana Day
Feb. 15, 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.

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

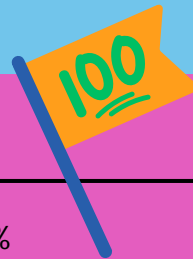


Working in partnership with:



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.

Attendance



 Reception 	97.4%
Year 1	93.4%
Year 2	92.1%
Year 3	92.0%
Year 4	90.6%
Year 5	96.3%
Year 6	89.3%

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!



One for the whole family!

Discover the celebration of Lunar New Year with this bright, interactive lift-the-flap book!

Featuring simple text, gorgeous illustrations and satisfying lift-the-flaps, this book explores common traditions and helps young children understand the importance of this special holiday.

Lift the flaps to reveal gifts being opened, a dragon dance being performed, a lantern taking to the skies and firecrackers and fireworks exploding in the night sky.

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 – Google Family Link

For children with Android devices, Google Family Link is a great way for parents to set restrictions. Last week Internet Matters released a brand new YouTube video showing how to set up Google Family Link to customise content and screen time restrictions:

Click to [Set Up Google Family Link](#)

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

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Helping children feel like they belong is vital for their emotional wellbeing, academic success, and overall development. A true sense of belonging reduces anxiety, builds confidence, and supports resilience. These ten tips are designed to help parents and educators create inclusive, caring environments where children feel accepted, safe, and valued.

1 USE EVERYDAY MOMENTS



Belonging is built in the small moments. Use daily routines such as meals, school drop-offs, or quiet times, to check in, offer praise, or listen. These interactions don't need to be lengthy to be meaningful. Consistent gestures of connection and warmth show children they are important, making them feel seen, appreciated, and truly part of the home or classroom community.

2 INVOLVE THEM IN RULE-MAKING



Inviting children to help create rules or routines gives them a sense of shared ownership and responsibility. When their voices are heard, they feel respected and included in the decision-making process. This empowers children, fosters cooperation, and reduces resistance. Whether at home or school, co-created expectations are more likely to be followed because they come from a place of mutual respect.

3 VALIDATE ALL EMOTIONS



Acknowledging a child's emotions, whether positive or challenging, helps them feel accepted as they are. Validating statements like "I can see that made you upset," or "That sounds really exciting," support emotional expression and connection. Children who feel emotionally safe are more likely to seek help, participate openly, and trust the adults around them – all of which contribute to a sense of belonging.

4 HIGHLIGHT HIDDEN STRENGTHS



Go beyond academic success or good behaviour and take time to recognise a child's less visible qualities, such as thoughtfulness, resilience, or humour. Noticing these strengths sends a powerful message that they are valued for who they are, not just for what they do. This boosts self-esteem and helps children feel accepted in a world that often focuses on external achievements.

5 SHOW CURIOSITY ABOUT CULTURE



Ask respectful, open questions about a child's cultural background, family customs, or celebrations. These conversations create opportunities for children to share what matters to them and to feel proud of their identity. Whether at home or in school, valuing cultural experiences helps all children feel that their heritage is respected, and that they belong in a diverse, inclusive environment where every voice counts.

6 BELONGING BUDDIES



Pairing children with a peer they might not typically choose can foster new connections and break down social barriers. Assigning short projects, games, or shared responsibilities gives them a reason to interact. Buddy systems help quieter or less confident children feel included and supported. Over time, these intentional connections can develop into meaningful friendships, strengthening the wider sense of community and inclusion.

7 AVOID LABELS AND COMPARISONS



Avoid labelling children by behaviour or comparing them to others, as this can damage self-esteem and foster exclusion. Statements like "Why can't you be more like..." may unintentionally make a child feel less worthy. Instead, focus on individual progress and strengths. Encouraging children to celebrate their own achievements, however small, helps them develop confidence and feel valued for being themselves.

8 MAKE TIME FOR ONE-TO-ONES



Spending regular one-to-one time with a child shows that they matter on an individual level. These moments can be as simple as reading a book together or chatting during a walk. Focused attention, free from distraction, builds trust and emotional connection. It lets the child know they are important and cared for, which is crucial for developing a strong sense of belonging.

9 REFLECT THEIR INTERESTS



Whether at home or in school, including children's interests in daily life reinforces their importance. Display their artwork, talk about their favourite books, or include their hobbies in family activities or lesson plans. Seeing their identity reflected in their environment tells children they belong. It shows that their passions, preferences, and contributions are valued and that they have a place in the group.

10 EMPHASISE 'WE' OVER 'THEY'



Use inclusive language that reinforces unity and shared identity. Phrases like "Let's figure it out together," or "We all help each other here," promote collective responsibility and connection. Avoiding divisive terms like "those children," or "that class" helps children feel part of a supportive group. Language shapes experience, and inclusive language fosters environments where every child feels safe, welcomed, and included.

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.

See full reference list on our website

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The National College

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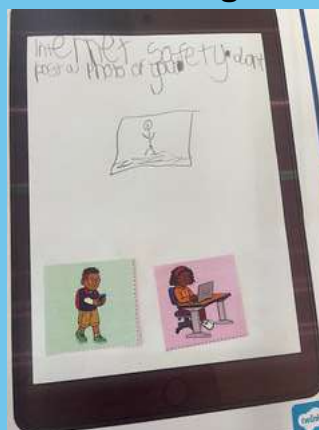
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STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Margot for her wonderfully imaginative story!
Reception	Evelyn for excellent sharing about Rainbows and bringing in your rainbow friend Olivia; Jayden for being a caring and thoughtful member of Reception
Year 1	All of Year 1 for their efforts and amazing progress with phonics this half term. We are very proud of you.
Year 2	Jahyan, for really making an effort to always stay organised and focused in the classroom and around the school Ilya, for always being kind to her peers and helping others in the class and trying her best in everything that she does
Year 3	Rhys-for his amazing independent writing in English and for showing great resilience by not giving up. Hadassa- for her fantastic attitude to learning, always trying her best and showing maturity by asking for help when needed.
Year 4	Roman:completing some fantastic work in English lessons this week. Olivia: Settling into Brooklands and being a fantastic addition to our class.
Year 5	Jude- for being an incredible member of Year 5 and always setting a great example to his peers Siyen- For outstanding progress in all areas of learning
Year 6	Alex - for his confidence to articulate his understanding during Maths lessons. Mariana - for being a good role model to others and trying her best with all learning.

Safer Internet Day 2026

We had an assembly about being safe online this week and our Year 1 children helped to spread the very important message about how to keep safe when using the internet- Thank you, Year 1!



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 has been our final week learning traditional tales and we have thoroughly enjoyed them! The final story was The 3 little pigs. The children loved role playing the story inside the classroom, outside the classroom building houses for the pigs and even in forest school when they used their best huffing and puffing skills to blow down the shed! The traditional stories were familiar to some of the children and new to others but they all really enjoyed them and they have provided lots of opportunities for speaking and listening, language development and mark making as the children had a go at writing their own mini books!
Reception	It has been another busy and wet week in Reception, and the children have been working hard. This week was all about aliens and underpants, a rather unusual combination but an exciting focus for learning. The children read Aliens Love Underpants Save the World by Claire Freedman. The story begins with the aliens setting off on their usual mission to Earth to pinch fresh underpants. However, their radar suddenly detects a massive meteorite hurtling directly towards earth. The book supported our maths learning through addition, subtraction, counting and comparing numbers using more than and less than. The children also explored planets, descriptive language, bravery and some intriguing new vocabulary. It has been a joy to see their imagination come to life through play, talk and creativity. I am so proud of all the progress they have made, and they now deserve a well earned rest over the next week. Well done, Reception!
Year 1	Year 1 have enjoyed their last week of half term and have certainly been busy. We have been writing facts about Queen Elizabeth and have become Tudor experts. In Maths, we have been working on finding the difference between two numbers and revisiting our maths learning from this half term. At the end of this week we have been carrying out activities, in Busy Learning, linked to Chinese New Year. We have had a great week but we are ready for a well deserved rest.
Year 2	Year 2 have had a wonderful last week of term. We are so impressed with all the learning that they have done this half term they have all tried so hard in all their learning. We spent this week in English writing instructions on how to make an old fashioned fire truck. They were able to use the skills that they learned over the past two weeks. They are precise verbs, adverbs and the use of 'before', 'after' and 'when' we are very proud of the work they have produced. In maths they have been continuing their unit on money and have been looking at the difference between pounds and pence. They have also been looking at different ways to make the same amount and have really enjoyed looking and exploring money. In geography they were looking at different types of maps and exploring what key is. They even had the chance to create their own maps of the local area making sure that they included at least one key in their maps. In science they explored letter writing and were writing letters to the local garden centre asking if we can have new resources to enhance our school pond. They all did some amazing writing and produced some amazing letters. We are all so proud of them. In PE they were learning how to take part in a circuit and really used all the skills they have been learning for example, balancing, skipping and how to keep control of a ball. We are so proud of them this half term and they have all tried so hard to persist with their learning. We hope you have a lovely week off, enjoy!
Year 3	This week in Year 3, we have enjoyed a wonderful final week of the term. The children had the opportunity to consolidate their learning across our core subjects by creating their own knowledge organisers and designing posters to showcase everything they have learned this term. We also spent time revisiting and addressing any misconceptions to ensure the children feel confident moving forward. In English, we proudly completed our myths based on the Roman legend of Romulus and Remus. The children thoroughly enjoyed writing their own mythological stories while applying our success criteria, including the use of subordinating clauses, prepositions and time adverbials. It has been fantastic to see their creativity and progress in writing. In Maths, we have focused on measuring and comparing lengths, specifically working with centimetres, metres and millimetres. The children have been encouraged to think about real-life examples of length and measurement at home to strengthen their understanding. In PE, we concluded our unit with a bench ball competition, where the children demonstrated great teamwork and sportsmanship. Finally, we completed our amazing Roman mosaics. The children showed incredible creativity and care in their artwork, and they were very proud of their finished pieces. Well done, Year 3, for a fantastic week and a brilliant end to the term! A big thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening – it was wonderful to meet you and talk about the children's progress and achievements.

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

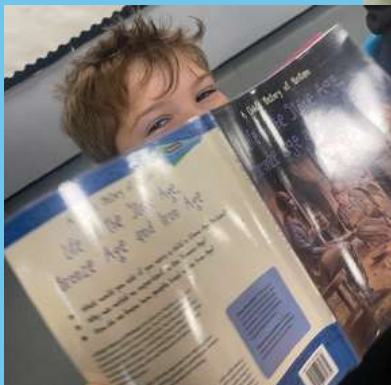
Year 4	In Year 4, we have had an amazing final week of term. In Maths, we have started learning about fractions and the children have been really engaged, showing great enthusiasm and confidence when exploring new concepts. In English, we have been learning about the digestive system and using our knowledge to write detailed and informative pieces, focusing on using accurate vocabulary and clear explanations. This week, we have also spent time reflecting on all of our learning from this term in RE, Science and Geography, creating our own knowledge organisers to showcase everything we have learned. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this task and have demonstrated fantastic creativity, pride and independence in presenting their understanding. Finally, thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening – it was wonderful to meet with you and discuss the children's progress and achievements. Have a lovely half term!
Year 5	What a fantastic half term we have had in Year 5; the children have worked incredibly hard and learned so much! In English, we finished writing our reports on Howard Carter's discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb. The children made great use of language, and it has been amazing to see how much their writing has progressed. In Art, we created detailed drawings of Tutankhamun's sarcophagus, linking closely with our history and geography work. In History, we continued learning about Ancient Egypt and completed our challenge grids, where the children tested their knowledge from across the topic. In Geography, we also recapped our learning from this term by working through our challenge grids, which was a great way to revisit key knowledge and skills. In PE, we played dodgeball as part of a team and focused on competition, teamwork, and how to win (and lose) respectfully! In Maths, we are continuing our learning about decimals and their fractional equivalents, working with numbers up to thousandths. We wish all the children and families a restful half term break and look forward to seeing everyone back and ready for more learning next term!
Year 6	We have had a great last week of the half term in Year 6. In English, the children have been working incredibly hard to write their own stories inspired by the book Mission to Marathon. They have focused on the use of adverbials to add detail and cohesion, semicolons to link closely related ideas and compound words to enhance description. In Maths, we have begun our new topic on decimals. This week, we have focused on understanding place value within decimals and practising rounding decimals to the nearest whole number. Within our wider curriculum lessons, the children have successfully completed their challenge grids. We then spent time recapping key knowledge from the topics we have studied this half term, helping to consolidate their understanding. A particular highlight of the week was our writing session with our Year 2 buddies. Year 6 worked alongside the younger children to write thoughtful letters, including book recommendations, to the residents at Morden College. It was fantastic to see such kindness, collaboration and leadership from our Year 6 pupils.



Our Shared Stories



My Grandmother wrote this book and dedicated it to me!





@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



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.

Apply for Free School Meal eligibility
You'll be helping the school with funding and
may qualify for money for the holidays for
your child too.



What have you got to lose?

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this then the school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. This is in addition to the funding we receive for your child towards meals. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school - which benefits your child's experience of school

Did you know that qualifying parents receive money from Greenwich each school holiday - got to be worth checking if you're eligible too, surely?

To check your eligibility using the checker system linked to local government go to this link:
Entrust
https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/o_fsm/link2ict

How do I check
if my child is
eligible?

Alternatively click on the QR Code
which will take you to the website:



Or provide your NI Number and
your date of birth, along with your
child's details to the admin team
and we'll do it for you!





Greenwich has a critical shortage of foster carers, which is significantly impacting our children's well-being and stability. When local children cannot be placed with Foster Carers near their existing support networks, they face additional emotional challenges. We are reaching out to educational professionals who understand these children's complex needs.

By becoming a foster carer, you can provide a nurturing and safe environment that keeps children connected to their schools, friends, and communities. You can still work and be a foster carer.

Our comprehensive support package includes 24-hour support, excellent training, mentoring, council tax exemption, a generous, competitive financial allowance, support groups, counselling services, the innovative Mockingbird Family Model, The Fostering Network membership, and a calendar of engaging events. Your commitment can change a young person's life trajectory – helping them feel secure, supported, and empowered during critical developmental years.

If you or anyone you know would be interested in speaking with us about starting your fostering journey, please don't hesitate to contact us via:

Email: fostering-recruitment@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

Phone: 0800 052 1499





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and you'll raise donations for
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