



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been one of our favourites: Book Week! Seeing the wonderful activities the teachers and children have organised and taken part in has been such a highlight. Thanks also goes to our families who have encouraged and supported all events- what a week we have had.

We would like to thank our fantastic Friends of Brooklands for funding our author visit this year. Christan Foley gave the children a fantastic day of rapping poetry and they all thoroughly enjoyed it! Thank you FOB!

Our Cricket coach who is working with several classes this half term has complimented our children this week on their focus and attitude to learning. It is always so wonderful to hear such positive feedback from our visitors and we are very proud of our Brooklands children; we are sure you are too!

We have had a few queries about letters being sent around punctuality. It is so important that children have a calm and routine start to the day and those first few minutes are vital to settle and get mentally and physically ready to learn. We monitor punctuality and attendance weekly. If there is anything we can do to support you with this, please do get in touch!

We wish you all a restful (and dry!) weekend

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Year 6 trip to British Museum 24th March

Year 5 trip to British Museum 24th March



We seem to have started the half term with several racks of clothes, packed lunches and water bottles. These will be in the courtyard (weather permitting) Monday to Wednesday next week to be collected before being donated on. Thank you.

Next week is Science Week at Brooklands! Please the information in this week's Bulletin and the pack shared! We look forward to seeing our Brooklands scientists hard at work next week!

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.

Enrichment clubs/ Holiday clubs

All outstanding payments must be **paid by Friday 27th March**

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	92.25
Year 1	91.00
Year 2	95.36
 Year 3 	98.97
Year 4	96.06
Year 5	97.04
Year 6	97.00

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

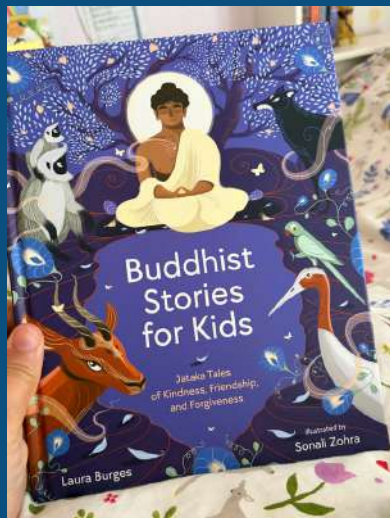
0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Reading at Brooklands

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



We have had some fantastic entries from families about what you are reading at home! Thank you SO much for sending these in...we love to see it! Keep them coming!



Matilda has been reading *Buddhist Stories for Kids* by Laura Burges. These retellings of Jataka tales centre on kindness, friendship, forgiveness, courage and self reliance. The themes of goodness, inner peace and steadiness in difficulty feel very grounding for her. The stories give her language and perspective for thinking about her own challenges.

She is also reading *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, and her parents have especially loved the foreword by Richard E Grant in the edition they gave her at Christmas. He writes about how Alice captures the strange and contradictory experience of childhood, when nothing quite makes sense and the adult world can feel illogical and bewildering. It feels very resonant for this stage of growing up and ties in so beautifully with the idea of children trying to make sense of a world that does not always feel straightforward.

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 – App Controls to Support Children

Jenny is a mother with two teenage girls who feels the pressure of keeping up to date with online safety, new app settings and more the same as other parents. In this article and YouTube video jenny shares how she uses app-level parental controls to manage social media use across her daughters' phones and tablets.

Link: [Using App Controls to Support Children](#).

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.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Esme for managing her emotions independently and showing resilience.
Reception	Della for trying hard with your reading at home. Reception - For excellent costumes and great participation in all the book week activities
Year 1	Kira for her consistent hard work in all areas of the curriculum. She is also a kind, friendly and helpful class member. Nile for his hard work, great listening skills and his enthusiastic attitude to school and learning.
Year 2	Christian, for being noticed by the cricket coach for his amazing cricket skills Sasha, for showing empathy and kindness to his peers in the classroom and around the school
Year 3	Hugo- A wonderful person to have in the class who is always kind to everyone and incredibly helpful to others. Tobie- for trying so hard with his handwriting and always persevering, even when he finds it challenging.
Year 4	Archie for fantastic acting when on our school trip; Isabel for showing real enthusiasm during our author visit
Year 5	Barney- For amazing progress across the board, especially in maths Izzy- for a superb non-chronological report on the legacy of the Ancient Egyptians
Year 6	Chinedu - for a great start to the half term and trying his best with all learning. Eleanor - for her confidence to explain her understanding to others and showing enthusiasm towards all learning.

World Book Week 2026







£135 was raised in our World Book Day bake sale! Thank you to everyone who donated goods and bought them! We hope you enjoyed them! Thank you to our FOB team for running the stall!



Here is the link to our fantastic author visitor this week:
<https://www.christianfoley.co.uk/> should you and your children wish to find out more about his work!



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 we have finally seen the sun! It feels like a long time! We have made the most of the beautiful weather and enjoyed taking our learning outside where we have been painting rocks, cutting out and decorating masks, creating complex ramps for cars and balls and of course using our amazing sandpit and climbing frame. On Wednesday we also had a visit from an author who read us 2 of his books. He was really fun and we all joined in with the rhyme and rhythm of his words. We had a lovely book day dressing up and enjoying lots of stories throughout the day. We ended the day with a reading safari where the children enjoyed a story read by the teachers from reception, Year 1 and 2.
Reception	What an exciting week we have had. With superheroes, the lovely weather, the Book Week buzz and the fabulous costumes, the children have been busy learning, creating and exploring. Our focus book this week was Supertato by Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet, a humorous superhero story that the children thoroughly enjoyed. The superhero theme in the story also gave the children an opportunity to reflect on the everyday superheroes in their lives. As part of Book Week, the children enjoyed a book reading session with author and rapper Christian Foley and took part in a variety of activities. In maths, they continued to explore number sentences using tens frames. It has been a non stop week filled with excitement and bringing stories to life. They all deserve a well earned weekend of rest.
Year 1	Year 1 has had a wonderful, warm week with a real Spring feel! At the beginning of the week we enjoyed reading our class book 'Errol's Garden' by Gillian Hibbs. We sequenced and then retold the story using full sentences. In Maths lessons, we have worked on place value and placing numbers on a blank number line to 50, thinking carefully about where a number would go and why. During our Science and Forest School sessions the children have been observing signs of Spring, labelling flowering plants and identifying differences between deciduous and evergreen trees. The end of the week has been all about World Book Day. We were very fortunate to have an exciting visit from the author Christian Foley. It was great to see the children dressed as their favourite characters, engaging in reading and celebrating books both inside and outside the classroom. In our Busy Learning times we enjoyed carrying out reading and book related activities.
Year 2	Year 2 enjoyed a wonderful week overflowing with fun and learning. The children kicked off the week by channelling themselves to write narrative diaries based on the book The Diary of a Wombat, expertly applying the writing skills they have been focusing on recently. In maths, the class successfully wrapped up their current unit (money) and began the transition into the world of multiplication and division. They have started this unit amazingly. They turned into scientists and have been busy exploring the life cycle of a plant, which perfectly complemented their amazing time spent outdoors in Forest School. The week was also packed with special events; we were treated to another fantastic session with the cricket coach. We are so proud of the progress the children are making. We also enjoyed a brilliant author visit from Christian Foley, who led an inspiring workshop with the class. To celebrate World Book Day, it was lovely to see everyone dressed up as their favorite book characters! Finally, in geography, the children have been broadening their horizons by comparing the similarities and differences between the United Kingdom and Australia.
Year 3	This week in Year 3 we have been doing some amazing learning across all of our subjects. In English, we have finished writing our non-chronological reports about Eynsford and Jausiers. The children worked very hard to organise their information clearly and include interesting facts about each place. We also focused on improving our sentence structure by using subordinate clauses, as well as adding prepositions and adverbs to make our writing more detailed and engaging for the reader. In Maths, we have been learning about fractions. We explored the meaning of the numerator and denominator and how they help us understand parts of a whole. The children also practised identifying fractions, comparing different fractions and explaining which fractions are bigger or smaller. In Science, we have been investigating magnets and learning about magnetic forces. We explored how magnets attract and repel, discussed magnetic fields and began to learn about electromagnets. The children enjoyed investigating which materials are magnetic and making predictions. In Art, we looked at different colours used in Islamic art and explored how artists create beautiful patterns and designs using repeating shapes and vibrant colours. The children discussed how colour can be used to make patterns stand out and created some of their own designs inspired by Islamic art. In RE, we have been learning about the important features of a mosque and why mosques are special places for Muslims. We explored parts of a mosque such as the prayer hall, minaret and mihrab, and discussed why these features are important for worship and community. The children have worked very hard this week and should be very proud of their learning.

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	On Monday, the children took part in our Anglo-Saxon school trip, where we were visited by Ash, the Anglo-Saxon man. The children had the fantastic opportunity to get hands-on with authentic Anglo-Saxon weaponry, armour and shields. They also learned about what people would have worn during the era, what food they might have eaten, and what happened when the Vikings invaded Britain. The session really brought our history learning to life, and it was wonderful to see how enthusiastic and engaged all of the children were throughout the day. Later in the week, we were lucky enough to have a visit from author Christian Foley. He spoke to the children about the similarities between poetry and rap, and even showed them how to create their own rap performances. In the words of some of the Year 4 children, they learned how to become "rap gods"! It was fantastic to see how much the children enjoyed and engaged with this creative session. This then led perfectly into World Book Day, where it was lovely to see so many children dressed up as their favourite characters from their favourite books. The effort and creativity on display were fantastic, and it was a great way to celebrate reading together as a school. It has been a brilliant week full of learning, creativity and fun!
Year 5	This week in Year 5, we have been busy across the curriculum and the children have shown great focus and enthusiasm in their learning. In English, we have been writing non-chronological reports about the legacy of the Ancient Egyptians. The children worked hard to organise their information clearly using headings, subheadings and factual language. In Maths, we have started our new topic on shape and space. The class has been learning how to calculate the perimeter and area of rectilinear shapes, applying their understanding of length and multiplication to solve problems. In History, we explored the Lighthouse of Alexandria and discussed why it was considered one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. The children were fascinated by its scale and importance to sailors in the ancient world. In Geography, we looked at modern-day Egypt and discussed why the country is well suited to producing solar power. We also considered how Egypt can harness both solar and wind power to support its energy needs. In PSHE, we continued our 'Healthy Me' topic and discussed the dangers of alcohol and the importance of making safe and healthy choices. In PE, we have continued our cricket sessions with a coach from Kent CC. The children are developing their batting, bowling and fielding skills and are really enjoying the sessions. In Art, we have been analysing and critiquing a range of self-portraits, discussing different styles and techniques before adding our work and reflections to our art folders. We have also begun our Spring term assessments and all of the children are doing incredibly well. We are very proud of the effort they are showing. Have a restful weekend!
Year 6	It has been another great week in Year 6! In English, the children have taken on the role of Telesilla of Argos, writing diary entries imagining her life during the Spartan invasion. The children demonstrated empathy and historical understanding as they explored what it might have felt like to live during this turbulent time in Ancient Greece. In Maths, we have been learning how to divide decimals and have practised this using a range of questions and problems. We then moved on to converting fractions into decimals, helping the children understand how these numbers link together. In Science, our focus has been the heart. The children have learned about its vital function in pumping blood around the body, as well as identifying and understanding the different parts that make up this essential organ, including the ventricles, atria and major blood vessels. They have asked thoughtful questions and shown great curiosity about how the circulatory system works. Our History lessons have explored democracy and its roots in Ancient Greece. The children examined how democratic ideas began and discussed how they have influenced the systems we have today. It has been wonderful to see them making links between the past and the present. In P.E., the children continued developing their cricket skills with our coach. They have been practising their batting, bowling and fielding techniques and showing great teamwork and sportsmanship. Finally, we thoroughly enjoyed celebrating World Book Day this week! It was wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm for reading and their fantastic costumes.



**BRITISH
SCIENCE
WEEK**

6-15 March 2026



CAN YOU BE CURIOUS AT HOME?

As part of British Science Week, we are inviting the children to conduct an experiment of their choosing at home! For inspiration, British Science Week have released packs below where you can, with your children, conduct some experiments to nurture their curiosity. Do wonky fruits really taste that bad? What is the best shape for a paper aeroplane?



@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com

Friday 6th March 2026



(Brooklands School PTA)

Friends of Brooklands

2026 Events Calendar

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

Friday 27th March

Spring Treasure hunt

Run for the children by FOB & Yr6

~ Takes place during the school day ~

Monday 20th April

Friendsof Brooklands

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

- Everyone welcome -

BUFA building at school, 6pm

Friday 24th April

Spring Disco

KS1 3.30-4.15

KS2 4.45-5.45

(nursery will have a mini disco during the day)

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





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and you'll raise donations for
Brooklands Primary School



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