



BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been so busy with all Brooklands children being scientists, asking curious questions and finding out the answers. This has included investigations, a brilliantly explosive assembly and home learning. It has been so wonderful to hear such an exciting buzz around school.

We have also been celebrating the children's progress this week with assessments. These papers are a fantastic opportunity for teachers to evaluate what learning has been embedded and what the next steps are for their classes as well as individuals. The children have been very mature and calm in their approach to their assessments and have done us all very proud. We have also been able to show the impact of our online programmes in years 3-6 where termly reports are showing accelerated progress in reading across the classes where children engage regularly and Brooklands currently sits top of the leaderboard in IXL for number of maths questions answered. It is great to see the impact of these opportunities. Teachers will be analysing this data and ensuring that next steps meet the needs of the children.

We wish you all a wonderful weekend

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

**DO NOT FORGET:
INSET DAY 20th March**

Year 6 trip to British Museum 24th March

Year 5 trip to British Museum 24th March

Year 2 trip to Greenacres 24th March

Year 3 trip to Science Lab 27th March

We are very excited to share an update on our pond renovation! Last weekend, using funds raised by our brilliant Friends of Brooklands, Mrs McGrath and Claire H went pond plant shopping and have installed some wonderful additions to our pond area. We are really looking forward to seeing the area come together and for the children to be able to explore the habitat! Thank you to everyone who is working so hard to get this project off the ground and for our fabulous fund-raising FOB!



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.



How close is your child to 100%?

How close is your child to 100%?



The infographic is a vertical chart with a background image of a young boy in a school uniform. It consists of six horizontal rows, each with a colored bar on the left containing text, a central box with a percentage, and a bar on the right with a descriptive label. The colors of the bars transition from green at the top to red at the bottom.

School Days Off	Percentage	Perceived Performance
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

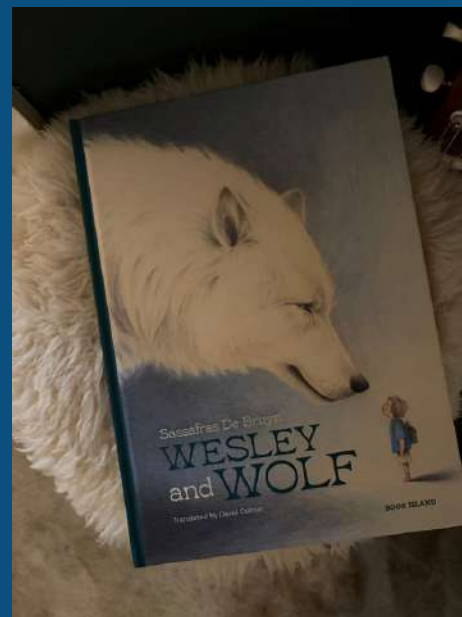
Reading at Brooklands

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!

Linus in year 2 has been loving Wesley and Wolf by Sassafras De Bruyn. It is a thoughtful story about a child who is often praised for being good, brave and cheerful, even when he does not feel that way inside. The wolf represents the feelings he keeps contained. The book speaks so beautifully about children who are compliant and outwardly good, who can so easily be praised for that goodness yet sometimes be missed in it. It feels like an important reminder that even the seemingly easy children have strong inner emotional worlds that need space and acknowledgement.



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 – YouTube Kids

One of the biggest frustrations I hear from parents of younger children is that the content on YouTube Kids is too childish or the content isn't what their children want to watch. The end result is that only a tiny minority of young children use YouTube Kids, with the majority on the main YouTube site.

A feature that has been within YouTube Kids for years, but so very few parents know about, is called 'Parent Allowlisting'. This does a number of things, but one of the most important and useful is that parents can keep their younger children within the safer environment of the Kids app, and parents can approve individual videos from the main YouTube service to that particular child's YouTube Kids account. This keeps younger children away from the dreaded recommender algorithms and allows parents to moderate what their children can or cannot see.

I have linked a short video which is on YouTube to explain what Parent Allowlisting is and how it's used:

Link: [YouTube Kids Parent Allowlisting](#)

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	Olunne for being a kind and thoughtful friend, helping others when they are upset or need help when playing.
Reception	Lorenzo - for excellent progress in phonics Elvis - for having a positive attitude towards learning and using your sounds to write words
Year 1	Alexander for always challenging himself with his learning and working so hard. Harry for consistently working hard in all areas of the curriculum with a great attitude to learning.
Year 2	Zavier for always showing curiosity in his learning and wanting to learn new things Ronin for always trying his best in his learning and being so eager to learn new things
Year 3	Oliver-For his amazing progress in Maths and his fantastic hard work. Rafi-For his amazing descriptive and persuasive writing in English.
Year 4	Zayn - for always looking to help his classmates and teacher to keep the classroom tidy Grace - for showing real maturity throughout all of our assessments
Year 5	Tobias- trying his best in his tests Lienna- for displaying resilience
Year 6	All of year 6 for their effort and resilience towards our assessments this week.

We are so lucky to have so many opportunities to develop skills in different areas in addition to our fantastic learning in the classroom.

Today we got to see what our rockstars have been working on every Friday in the BUFA with our Rock Steady team. The audience were VERY excitable and gave great feedback to our very talented performers! Such fun!



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 a busy one in nursery. We have been enjoying water play outside by exploring pouring and filling containers and we have used various objects to create different effects with paint. We also enjoyed a fantastic science week assembly and watched an amazing experiment in the playground where we watched a fizzy drink explode! We also enjoyed a road safety workshop where we learned all about how to cross the road safely. Well done nursery for another great week of learning!
Reception	It has been a week of wind, rain and sunshine, and Reception has been very busy. In maths, the children explored 3D shapes. They compared them with similar 2D shapes and began learning how to recognise a 3D shape by the way it looks. In phonics, they consolidated their Phase 3 sounds and began writing short phrases, using their skills to build and edit simple sentences. Our focus book this week was No Dragons for Tea by Jean E. Pendziwol. The story led to some lovely discussions about fires and firefighters, linking well with our topic of People Who Help Us. The children learnt about healthy eating by exploring vegetables, following on from last week's text Supertato. They enjoyed chopping, mixing and making a vegetable soup to round off the week. They also had fun at the road safety workshop, where they enjoyed role playing and acting out different scenarios that might happen on an everyday road.
Year 1	Year 1 has been busy again both inside and outside the classroom. We have continued writing about the character Errol from our topic book Errol's Garden. This week we have written character descriptions for Errol, describing his appearance and personality, using nouns and adjectives. In Maths we have been measuring and comparing different lengths and heights. We have investigated measuring with non standard units such as unifix cubes and standard units using a ruler. One PE session took place outside this week and we enjoyed the outside area, digging and playing with our new outdoor toys. During the RE session we discussed Easter and what the festival means to Christians and in our Geography lesson we found out about the town of Limbe, in the country Cameroon, on the continent of Africa.
Year 2	Year 2 has had a truly wonderful week full of inspired learning and growth across the entire curriculum. In English, the children have dove into their new unit by reading The Kookaburra Who Couldn't Laugh, using the story as a hook to create some amazing narrative writing pieces; they have been focusing specifically on using commas in a list, apostrophes for possession, and descriptive noun phrases to bring their stories to life. The week was equally busy in Maths, where they have begun exploring the foundations of multiplication. We are very proud of them.. While in Geography, the students enjoyed exploring the fascinating world of Indigenous animals and plants. Our History lessons have taken us back in time as we began exploring the incredible life and legacy of Mary Seacole, and the energy remained high in PE during another amazing cricket session where everyone had a blast developing their catching skills. We are all so incredibly proud of the hard work and enthusiasm the children have shown this week!
Year 3	This week in Year 3 we have had an amazing week of learning across the curriculum. In English, we have been exploring persuasive leaflets and looking closely at Eynsford and Jausiers. The children have been learning how to make their writing more engaging by using time adverbials, subordinate clauses and prepositions. They have also practised applying these skills in their own writing using our success criteria to help them improve and edit their work. In Maths, we have been learning about fractions on a number line and have worked hard to develop a deeper understanding of equivalent fractions. The children have practised identifying and comparing fractions to help embed their learning. In RE, we have been learning about prayer and discussing the significance of praying for people of faith. The children shared thoughtful ideas about why prayer can be important in different religions. In Geography, we explored four-figure grid references on maps and used our map-reading skills to locate places in Eynsford and Jausiers. In PE, although our cricket coach was absent, the children still had a great session practising their throwing and catching skills, focusing on control, accuracy and teamwork to continue developing their sporting abilities. In Art, we have been exploring patterns in Islamic art, particularly looking at geometric patterns. The children studied how these patterns are created and had the opportunity to practise painting their own designs inspired by this style. It has been a fantastic week of learning and the children should be very proud of their hard work.

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	It has been an incredibly busy and productive week in Year 4, and I am thrilled to share how fantastically the children have handled our Assessment Week. Over the last five days, the class completed a total of six assessments, including three Mathematics papers covering arithmetic and reasoning, alongside papers in Reading, Spelling, and Grammar and Punctuation. I have been immensely proud of the resilience and focus shown by every single student. They worked incredibly hard, stayed calm, and gave their absolute best effort throughout the entire process. Well done, Year 4! When we weren't busy with our papers, we continued our exciting journey through the curriculum. In Science, we have had a "bright" time exploring the world of electricity. The children have been having great fun discovering how circuits work and learning exactly what is needed to make a bulb light up. In History, we took a deeper dive into the Vikings and their settlement in Britain. It was fascinating to discuss how the Vikings still influence our lives today, particularly how many of our local town and city names actually originate from Viking times. As we head into the final two weeks of the term, I want to reassure everyone that it will be business as usual next week. We are jumping straight back into our full timetable and continuing our wonderful learning. I am very much looking forward to a fantastic end to the term with this brilliant class!
Year 5	This week in Year 5 we have been completing our assessments. I am very proud of the resilience the children have shown throughout the week and the positive attitude they have demonstrated. As part of Science Week, we carried out an experiment exploring "Does it dissolve?". The children investigated different materials and discussed which substances dissolve in water and why. In History, we have continued our learning about Ancient Egypt by comparing Egyptian civilisation with other civilisations, including the Mayans and the Anglo-Saxons. The class enjoyed identifying similarities and differences between these societies. In English, we have begun writing a diary entry from the perspective of a Pharaoh, using descriptive language and historical knowledge to imagine what life may have been like for an Egyptian ruler. In Maths, we have moved on to statistics, where the children have been learning how to draw and interpret line graphs. We have also continued our cricket sessions with a coach from Kent Cricket Club. The children have been developing their bowling and batting skills and have shown great enthusiasm during the sessions. Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.
Year 6	This week in Year 6, the children have completed their assessments and we have been very impressed with the resilience and effort they showed throughout. - well done to all of them. In Maths, we have continued our current topic with a focus on finding percentages of an amount. The children have been developing their understanding of how percentages relate to fractions and decimals and applied this knowledge to solve a range of problems. In English, the children have been writing poems inspired by the theme "Echoes of Telesilla." Geography involved making comparisons between agricultural methods in Ancient Greece and Ancient Egypt. The children considered how climate, landscape and available resources influenced farming techniques in these civilisations. In Science, we had a hands-on lesson dissecting a sheep's heart. The children were extremely enthusiastic and engaged, carefully identifying the different parts of the heart and asking thoughtful questions about how it works.



British Science Week 2026

Curiosity: What's your question?

This week has seen Brooklands partake in the annual British Science Week.

Children were invited to carry out experiments at home. We have been amazed at all of the entries so far- well done!

Fostering a sense of curiosity and understanding of the world is crucial in children's development. We were blown away by the curiosity and inquisitiveness of all of our amazing young scientists!

We were treated to an assembly all about asking scientific questions and displaying curiosity. We thought about different scientific roles in society and how curiosity is pivotal to advancements in many different fields.

At the end, we saw a rather 'explosive' reaction!





Finnegan in Year 5 answered the question 'Does it Float?' with this amazing model of a riverside Ironclad from the American Civil war. Finnegan went on to add that from a 2D perspective, the underbelly, or the hull, is a hemisphere and the top is a trapezium. This helped its stability and sea-worthiness.

Finnegan displayed curiosity and real creativity. Well done Finnegan!

Earlier today children from Years 5 and 6 took part in a floor hockey tournament at Nightingale Primary School.

We played with skill and competitiveness. The children all tried their very best.

We finished in second place, behind Boxgrove School.

We all displayed our school values and represented Brooklands impeccably.

Well done Brooklands!



Our year 5 and 6 hockey players



@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

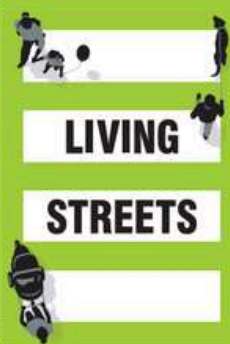
Summer Fair

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



This poster is produced with
vegetable-based inks and
made of material from well-managed
FSC®-certified forests and
from recycled materials.

Get involved on social media: #WALKTOSCHOOL

X @LIVINGSTREETS



LIVINGSTREETSUK



LIVINGSTREETS

LivingStreets(ThePedestrians' Association)isaRegisteredCharityNo.1108448(EnglandandWales)andSC039808(Scotland),
Company LimitedbyGuarantee(England&Wales),CompanyRegistrationNo.5368409.

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.

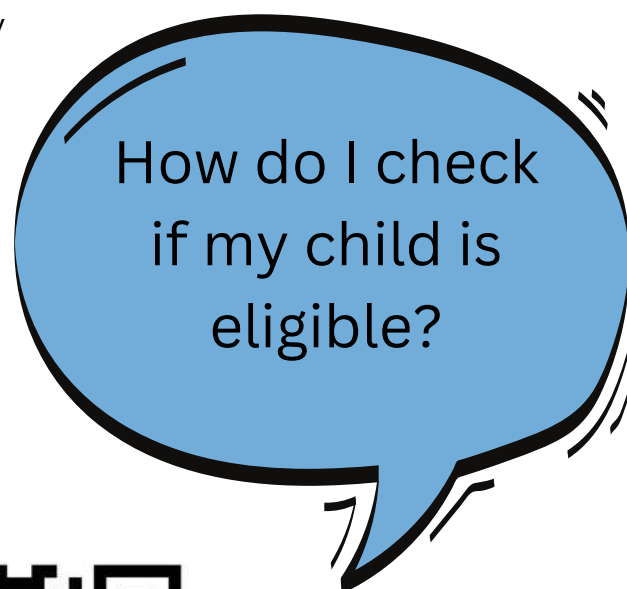


What have you got to lose?

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



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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Etsy

 trainline

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MONEYSUPERMARKET

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ASDA

 TUI

 JUST EAT

SCREWFIX