

Brooke Primary Academy

Weekly News

This is certainly not the week we had expected it to be! The Government announcement late on Monday evening was a shock to us all. Since then we have been working hard to organise our remote education package and provide school places for those who have requested a place. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this very difficult time.

This is a time for us to pull together as a school and with our community, to help each other through a time of crisis. I really believe that we are more than a school; we are a family, and as with any family, we should be there for each other. We will be making weekly welfare calls and if you need any support, please speak out. We won't know who is struggling unless they do the bravest thing and ask for help. Alternatively contact me through email or telephone. We can then work out the best way of getting support to you in a discrete way.



School Places

The Government Guidance regarding allocating school places to vulnerable children and the children of critical workers was updated by the Government on Thursday.

Details can be found on page 25 in the document below:

[Restricting attendance during the national lockdown: schools \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

I believe the criteria we have applied so far has been in line with this, however we review requests and registers weekly, so if you feel that you meet the criteria, please don't hesitate to get in touch at BR-admin@vennacademy.org

This includes those who have requested a place but were not allocated one this week.

If your child is allocated a place, details of what you need to know can be found at the link below:

[Arrangements-for-children-issued-a-place-in-school.pdf \(brookeprimaryacademy.org.uk\)](https://brookeprimaryacademy.org.uk)

It is essential that children attending school bring with them their home learning packs.

Remote Learning Package

Full details can be found at this letter, which was sent out by text link on Thursday. If you did not collect the home learning materials on Friday, please come to school on Monday, however please be aware that the music room will not be staffed. Any queries regarding home learning should be sent to the email addresses detailed on the letter.

[Remote-learning-details.pdf \(brookeprimaryacademy.org.uk\)](#)

Live Zoom sessions

We are aware that some families do not have a device or enough devices for all of their children to access these sessions. We have tried to schedule the sessions at different times to enable as many children as possible to attend.

We hope the sessions take some pressure off parents as teachers deliver the material. Please be considerate of the difficulties teachers face delivering education in this way; it is very difficult to provide individual feedback and we are aware that the sessions may flow too quickly for some children. We are looking into recording these sessions, if possible, so they can be replayed or viewed at times suitable to all families.

You only require a device with a screen to access our remote learning, which could be:

- An old phone that can be linked to the internet
- Xbox / playstation

Many families have not realized that old phones (without SIM cards) act as a small tablet. We encourage parents to share old devices with friends to support each other to access the online Zoom sessions.

We have also registered with a national initiative, and hope to be able to support families through this [Business To Schools Initiative: Pages \(business2schools.com\)](#)

Free School Meals (FSM)

Currently we are providing FSM children with a 'grab bag' packed lunch, which can be collected after 12.30 each day. If you haven't already informed the office that you would like this, please do so. Further details can be found in the letter below, which we sent out last week.

[Free-school-meal-and-universal-FSM-update-Angela-Stothard.pdf \(brookeprimaryacademy.org.uk\)](#)

Wellbeing commitment

The theme for PSHE for this term is Dreams and Goals, which was the focus on Wednesday's assembly. During the assembly I asked the children to think about a 'wellbeing commitment' for this half term (6 weeks). Staff will be asking the children to share this with them during the zoom calls. Some examples which have been shared include:

- Drinking one litre of water each day
- Eating a piece of fruit each day
- Exercising 3 x per week

It could be anything that is achievable and improves their own physical and/or mental health and wellbeing.

Our wellbeing is now more important than ever and it is important that we pull together and make a wellbeing commitment to ourselves and each other.

Perhaps parents would like to also get involved in this? Make a display as a family which you can review each week. Remember to make your commitment realistic and achievable!

We have adapted our school plans so it can be used by parents and children at home. We encourage everyone to get involved:

Week Commencing	Focus	Details
4 th January	positive comment	something nice to someone. Leave a positive note, pass a praise comment.
11 th January	Positive quotes	Find a quote that resonates with you. Print it and display it for you/other to read.
18 th January	Take a break	Plan to give yourself at least 1 x 20 min break each day. Find a quiet spot away from others and do something for yourself i.e. read a book, listen to music
25 th January	Secret friend	Do something nice for a friend or relative, but make sure it stays a secret!
1 st February	Express yourself	Wear bright clothing on Monday 1 st February to support National Mental Health Week
8 th February	Treat yourself	You have survived 6 weeks of National Lockdown, treat yourself to something nice!

Two books that I have recently read, which are great for positivity and wellbeing are:

- The Boy, The Mole, The Fox and The Horse by Charlie Mackesy
- The Book of Hopes by Katherine Rundell



Pupil of the week

Well done to the following children who have been awarded pupil of the week for going the extra mile with their learning / displaying the school value's. Children coming into school or accessing remote learning can be awarded the certificate, which will be posted out each week.

Class	Pupil
F2 Mrs Binns/Baxter	Charlie M
Y1 Mrs Brown/Miss French	Tiffany M
Y1/2 Mrs Head	Joe F
Y2 Miss Hennigan	Henry C
Y3 Miss Saul	Max N
Y3 Mr Moore	Oliver L
Y4 Miss Jackson	Harvey B
Y4 Miss Merry	Elexa G
Y5 Mr Thomas	Robert W
Y5 Mr Farrand/Mrs Sanders	Elsie F
Y6 Miss Jackson	Sienna G
Y6 Mrs Marshall	Ethan P



Attendance Challenge Winners – Autumn 2 Week 7 WE 18/12/2020

Key

Attendance is at or above the school target of 96%

Attendance is between 92 – 96%, below school target and being monitored

Attendance is below 92% and significantly below the school target of 97%. Action to improve attendance needed

Phase	Class	Percentage	Winner and Spin to Win prize
EYFS	F1 Mrs Whitfield	94.1%	All children who achieved 100% will have a dip in the box
	F2 Mrs Binns/Baxter	91.3%	
KS1	Y1 Mrs Brown/Miss French	88.0%	Y1/2 Mrs Head
	Y1/2 Mrs Head	94.7%	
	Y2 Miss Hennigan	91.4%	
LKS2	Y3 Miss Saul	98.6%	Y4 Miss Merry
	Y3 Mr Moore	86.1%	
	Y4 Miss Jackson	97.4%	
	Y4 Miss Merry	100%	
UKS2	Y5 Mr Thomas	88.3%	Y5 Mr Farrand / Mrs Sanders
	Y5 Mr Farrand/Mrs Sanders	96.4%	
	Y6 Mrs Marshall	94.0%	
	Y6 Miss Jackson	86.1%	

Overall weekly attendance for the school (14.12.20 – 116.12.20) – 93.3%

Home-school Partnership

If you would like us to celebrate something your child has done, please send in the information to br-admin@vennacadey.org and we will share this with the children during the Friday 9am celebration assembly.

Stay safe everyone

Emma Levers

Head of School