

Brooke Primary Academy

Thorne Light Switch-On

Last Friday, our wonderful Christmas Choir performed at the Thorne Light Switch-On event. Despite some unexpected technical difficulties beyond our control, the children were absolutely amazing! They showcased their resilience and talent, adapting beautifully to the changing music and delivering a fantastic performance.

A huge well done to all the children who took part—you made us so proud! Thank you to our parents and carers for supporting the children and joining us at the event.

A special thank you goes to Mrs Cheetham for her dedication and hard work with the choir throughout the year. Her efforts truly make moments like these possible!



Exploring Advent

On Monday, we were delighted to welcome Amy from the Doncaster RE team, who introduced us to the true meaning of Advent. Amy explained that Advent isn't just about the chocolate calendars many of the children are enjoying opening; it's actually a Latin word that means "the journey towards Christmas." She also reminded us that the tradition of giving Christmas gifts originates from the story of the three wise men. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn more about the deeper meaning behind this special season.



Christmas Choir visit

This week, our Christmas Choir from Years 4, 5 and 6 walked up to Northfield Care home to sing a range of Christmas songs. The residents of the home thoroughly enjoyed listening to our children sing their carols and joined in many favourites including Away in a Manger and Silent night! A very big thank you to Mrs Cheetham for organising and rehearsing for such a caring, wonderful event.



Beginnings

We are excited to announce the opening of our brand new 2-year-old provision, *Beginnings*, starting on Monday, 13th January! This addition to Brooke is designed to provide a warm, nurturing environment where our youngest learners can grow, explore, and thrive. If you have a 2-year-old and would like to secure a place, please collect an application form from the office at your earliest convenience. We look forward to welcoming your little ones to *Beginnings*!



Christmas Fayre

Please note that most stalls will be **cash only**, so plan accordingly. We can't wait to see you there and make this a truly magical event for our school community!



Christmas Dinner - Friday 13th December

Please be advised that our school Christmas dinner is now available to be pre-ordered on School Grid. We would kindly request that if you wish for your child to have the Christmas dinner that you place a pre-order before the 6th December.



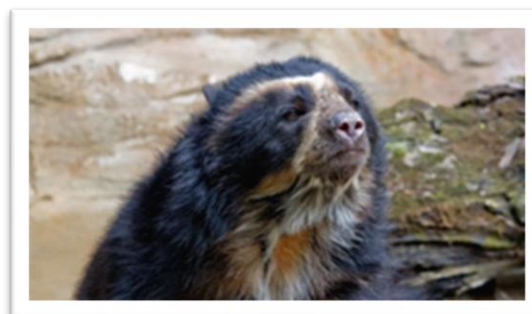
Christmas Party Day – Friday 20th December

The last day of term will be our Christmas Party Day. Children are invited to attend school wearing non-uniform/Christmas party clothes. Christmas activities will take place during the day including a class disco.

Miss Low's Science Bulletin

Most of what scientists know about Andean bear behavior comes from bears in captivity, like this one that lives at the Cincinnati Zoo. New footage is revealing secrets from harder-to-study Andean bears that live in the wild.

Area of science: Biology



Brooke Primary
Academy's
Christmas Fayre

*Brooke's Christmas
Cracker*

18th December 3.15 - 5pm

❖.....❖

*Santa's Grotto - Grinch's Grotto
External Stalls - Face Painting
Games - Raffles - Crafts
Refreshments - Tombolos*

❖.....❖

Everyone welcome

Picture News

Every Thursday afternoon, the children take part in a 'Picture News' assembly. This is used to support the personal development of the children. Picture News provides children with opportunities to develop their learning further through news stories that inspire them. It exposes children to a range of current issues including political, religious, cultural, environmental, social, moral and spiritual. It makes British Values relevant and meaningful which develop links between personal, school and community values. It also allows children to demonstrate respect and tolerance.



TAKEHOME 2nd - 8th December



In the news this week

The Football Association (FA) has laid out new plans aimed at raising awareness and increasing participation in disability football. The strategy, called Football Without Limits, includes growing the Comets programme for young people aged 5–11. The FA says Comets will be the most inclusive format of the sport and will provide a safe and supportive space for children to start playing football.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your thoughts about the FA's plans to increase awareness of disability football.
- Can you think of a time when you have felt like you belonged (perhaps in a team or group)? What was it that made you feel included? Ask the same questions to someone at home.
- Ask people at home whether they, or someone they know, have benefitted from a similar programme.

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss



'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts'

Attendance Challenge Winners – W/E 29/11/2024 (Autumn 2, Week 4)

Improving school attendance is everyone's business and, to tackle the challenge we face, **we need to work together**. The Government has launched a national campaign, aimed at parents and carers, on the importance of school attendance. Our goal is to create a nurturing bond between parents and school, emphasising the pivotal role attendance has in enhancing their child's overall wellbeing. Being in school is essential to **your child's achievement, wellbeing, and wider development**.

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

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Percentage</u>	<u>Winner</u>
EYFS	F1 Miss French & Mrs Binns	93.8%	All children who achieved 100% will receive a dip in the box
	F2 Miss Hutt & Mrs Brown	91.6%	
KS1	Y1 Miss Hennigan	74.4%	Y2 –Mrs Whitfield
	Y2 Miss Brown	86.2%	
	Y2 Mrs Whitfield	86.4%	
LKS2	Y3 Miss Jackson	92.2%	Y3 – Mrs Roberts
	Y3 Mrs Roberts	93.5%	
	Y4 Miss Low	92.3%	
UKS2	Y5 Mr Jones	84.3%	Y5 – Mrs Potter
	Y5 Mrs Potter	96.2%	
	Y6 Mr Thomas	94.3%	
	Y6 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	95%	
Total	89.24%		

Lateness

Being late adds up to a loss of learning

- If you are 15 minutes late every week, this adds up to a loss of 3+ days of education every year
- If you are 15 minutes late every day, this adds up to a loss of 2+ weeks of education every year
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How to help ensure your child arrives in school on time everyday

- get up early and make sure your child leaves the house on time
- prepare uniform and bags the night before
- attend breakfast club if needed (breakfast club opens at 07:30)
- if your child is unhappy or having problems at school, please ring to discuss these issues.
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Arriving late to school may cause difficulties for your child

- it may be embarrassing walking into a class that has already started working
- it disturbs lessons, impacting other pupils
- missing even part of a lesson can make learning more difficult
- lateness contributes to your child having a poor attendance record

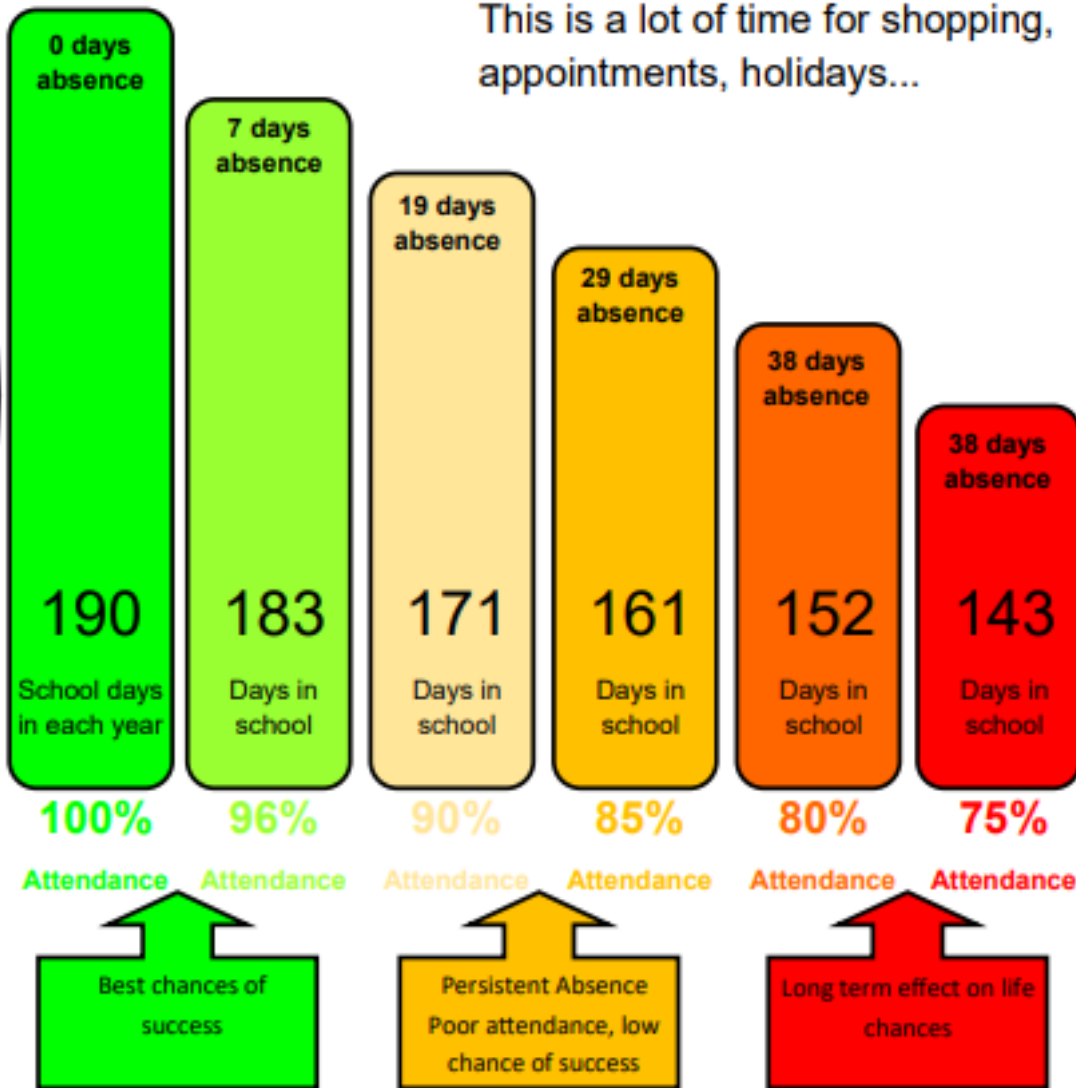


Good attendance at Brooke Primary Academy means...

...being in school at least
96% of the time (183+ days)

175 days are non-school days
This is a lot of time for shopping,
appointments, holidays...

365 days in a calendar year



DID YOU KNOW? A two week holiday in term time means that
the highest attendance you can achieve is **94.7%**

Important Dates

Autumn 2

- **Friday 6th December – School Closure Day – Closed to all children**
- Tuesday 10th December – Y1 & Y2 Christmas Performances 9.30am & 2.15pm [Christmas-Performances.pdf](#)
- Wednesday 11th December – Christmas Choir singing at Sainsburys and Lidl
- Wednesday 11th December – F1 & F2 Christmas Nativity Performance [Christmas-Performances.pdf](#)
- Wednesday 11th December – Y6 to attend Trinity Academy Carol Service 1pm-2pm
- Friday 13th December – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner – details to follow
- Tuesday 17th December – Y3 & Y4 Christmas Performance 9.15am & 2.15pm [Christmas-Performances.pdf](#)
- Wednesday 18th December Christmas Choir singing at Parklands Care Home (Y4-6)
- Wednesday 18th December – Christmas Fayre – see poster
- Thursday 19th December – Y5 & Y6 Christmas Service at St Nicholas Church 10am [Christmas-Performances.pdf](#)
- **Friday 20th December – School closes for end of term – Christmas Party Day**

Spring 1

- Monday 6th January – Training day – School closed to all children
- Tuesday 7th January – School re-opens to children

Have a wonderful weekend,

Brooke Primary Academy