

Brooke Primary Academy

Weekly News

World Mental Health Day

Today we are recognising *World Mental Health Day*. During Monday's assembly, the children explored what *mental health* means and discussed the difference between everyday, smaller feelings and those *bigger feelings* that can sometimes be harder to manage.

We also looked at how we can use clear and consistent language when talking about our feelings, and thought about what it means to be a *good listener* when someone wants to share how they're feeling.

Supporting children to talk openly about their emotions and understand how to care for their mental wellbeing is an important part of what we do every day at school.



Our School Kitchen Retains 5-Star Rating!

We're delighted to share that our school kitchen has once again retained its 5-star Food Hygiene Rating from Environmental Health! This top rating reflects the hard work, care, and high standards maintained every day by our catering team.

A huge thank you to our kitchen staff for their continued commitment to providing safe, healthy, and delicious meals for our pupils. We're incredibly proud of their dedication and attention to detail that ensures our children enjoy the very best every lunchtime!



Taiko Drumming Workshops

This week, all the children in Key Stage 2 took part in exciting Taiko Drumming workshops! Taiko is a traditional style of Japanese drumming that combines rhythm, movement, and teamwork - it's energetic, powerful, and lots of fun!

The children were completely engaged throughout, learning different drumming techniques, rhythms, and even performing together as a group. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm and teamwork in action.

We're delighted that we were able to fund this fantastic experience using money raised from recent school events - thank you so much for your continued support in making opportunities like this possible for our pupils!



Pumpkin Carving Competition

From Monday 20th October to Thursday 23rd October, the children are invited to bring in a carved pumpkin and place it at the front of school, near the information board, for display. If you would like to, please place a battery light inside it, so it glows at night. It should also be clearly labelled with your child's name and class. The entries will be judged on Thursday 23rd October and the winner will be announced in the Friday Celebration Assembly. Pumpkins will be available to take home on Friday 24th October – any pumpkins left after this will be thrown away.



Harvest Festival Donations

Today, our Student Council representatives handed over all of our Harvest Festival donations to the Thorne and Moorends Food Bank. The team were extremely appreciative and thankful for the generous contributions from our school community.

We truly appreciate your support in making this year's Harvest Festival a success and in helping those in need within our community. Your kindness and generosity have made a real difference - thank you!

The Food Bank is now operating through a referral service. If you need to access this support, please speak to Mrs Chowings on the gate or contact the school office. All enquiries will, of course, be handled confidentially.



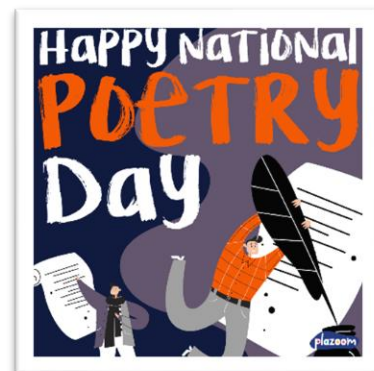
National Poetry Day

National Poetry Day took place on Thursday 2nd October. National Poetry Day aims to inspire a love of poetry and encourages everyone to enjoy, discover, share and celebrate all types of poetry. Our Year Three children looked at the poem 'Down behind the Dustbin' by Michael Rosen. Check out their fabulous posts on Instagram of children sharing their own poetry. Miss Hennigan celebrated her own love of poetry by sharing a poem at the start of our celebration assembly on Friday. If you would like some poetry recommendations, for both children and adults, please use the following links:

[Reading Recommendations - Forward Arts Foundation](#)

[Primary Poetry: Recommended Booklist for KS2, KS1 and EYFS](#)

[Poetry picks for all primary ages | Letters and Sounds](#)



Parent's Evening – Tuesday & Wednesday 21st & 22nd October

Appointments for our Autumn Parent's evening, for children in Nursery to Year 6, are now available for booking on ParentMail. Please speak to the office if you require assistance in making an appointment.

BBC 500 Words Competition

We're inviting all children to take part in the *500 Words* BBC story-writing competition!

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate creativity and imagination. Spelling, punctuation and grammar are *not* marked — it's all about brilliant storytelling.

There are two age categories: **5–7 years** and **8–11 years**, with lots of prizes to be won. Each winner will receive a bundle of books, and the gold winners will also win **500 books for their school library**.

Stories must be submitted by **9pm on Friday 7th November**.

The Grand Final

- 50 finalists will be invited to a star-studded event at **Windsor Castle in February 2026**, hosted by Her Majesty The Queen.
- Winning stories will be read aloud by celebrity guests on TV, featured in a special *500 Words* programme with *The One Show* in early March.

Judges

The official panel of celebrity judges — **Sir Lenny Henry, Malorie Blackman, Francesca Simon, Charlie Higson, and Frank Cottrell-Boyce** — will be back to crown our next winners.

👉 More information and details on how to submit stories can be found here: [How to submit your stories - BBC Teach](#)



Macmillan Coffee Morning – Wednesday 15th October

On Wednesday 15th October, we will be holding a Macmillan coffee morning and would like to invite you and your friends to come along. The event will take place from 9am to 11am in the school hall, please enter through the school office.

There will be hot drinks and homemade cakes available to buy (eat in or take away) so we encourage you to come along and join in the fun!

As part of the fundraiser, **we are calling all bakers and fakers to bring in donations of cakes/buns on Tuesday 14th October** ready for the coffee morning.

The money raised will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support for all the wonderful work they do.

We hope that you can join us for this event to support such an amazing charity that has touched so many of our lives.



Boggledybook Fair – Tuesday 14th October

The book fair will be in school all day on Tuesday. Please send any money in a named envelope on the day. The fair will also be open for a short time after school for you to visit with your child.



**The Book Fair is visiting school on
Tuesday 14th October!**

All books are new and just £1, £2 or £3 each

A fantastic range of picture books, chapter books, activity books and non-fiction

Each class will visit to buy a book - if possible please send the correct amount of spending money to minimise children handling change

A free book will be donated to school for every 10 collectively sold!

Prefer to order online? Place an order by midday on Mon 13th Oct and we'll bring it to school. Just choose Click & Collect and add a note on the checkout page with your school name, child's name and class. Online purchases will be included when calculating free books for school. Find books from baby to teen at www.boggledybook.co.uk/onlineshop



Headteacher's Award

Pupil	For
Libby W	Being a role model to others
Isla S	Being a role model to others
Finlay G	Being a role model to others
Eden P	Achievements in dancing



Pupil of the Week W/E 10.10.25

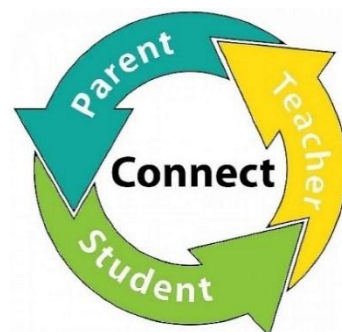
Well done to the following children who have been awarded pupil of the week for going the extra mile with their learning / displaying the school values.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Pupil</u>
Branches	Bonnie-R B
F1 Miss French & Mrs Binns	Amelia B
F2 Mrs Brown & Mrs Whitfield	Amel C & Zachary C
Y1/2 Miss Hennigan	Annie S
Y1/2 Miss Brown	Buddy W
Y2 Miss Booth	Penny L
Y3 Mrs Roberts	Theo S
Y3 Miss Jackson	Niwansu G
Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	Mollie B-W
Y4 Mr Purdy	Austin W
Y5 Mr Jones	Florence B
Y6 Mr Thomas	Astheria G
Y6 Mrs Brady	Nikodem R



Home School Partnership

<u>Pupil</u>	<u>For</u>
Oliver S	Achieving Player of the Month at rugby
Milly H	Being awarded Start of the Day at Aftershock Dance



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.



In the news this week

Ellie Goldstein, a 23-year-old model from Ilford, has been announced as a contestant on Strictly Come Dancing. She is the first person with Down's syndrome to take part in a full series of the show, having already made history as the first model with Down's syndrome to appear on the cover of British Vogue. Ellie says she's excited for the challenge and hopes to show that people can do amazing things, even when others don't expect them to.

Things to talk about at home ...

- Have you ever seen Strictly Come Dancing on TV? Do you enjoy watching programmes that show competitions? Ask others at home whether they do.
- Why do you think Ellie decided to take part? Is it something you would like to take part in?
- Can you remember a time when you were told you couldn't do something? E.g., finish a puzzle or reach the top of a climbing frame. Share how you felt, and what happened.

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 19/09/2025 (Autumn 1, Week 3)

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	84.2%	All children who achieved 100% will receive a dip in the box
	F2 Mrs Whitfield Mrs Brown	96%	
KS1	Y1/2 Miss Hennigan	94.5%	Y2 Miss Booth – Pyjama Day Thursday 16 th October
	Y1/2 Miss Brown	95.2%	
	Y2 Miss Booth	99.3%	
LKS2	Y3 Miss Jackson	92.3%	Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders – Pyjama Day Thursday 16 th October
	Y3 Mrs Roberts	87.5%	
	Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	96.8%	
	Y4 Mr Purdy	96.4%	
UKS2	Y5 Mr Jones	90.3%	Y6 Mr Thomas – Non Uniform Day Tuesday 14 th October
	Y6 Mr Thomas	94.5%	
	Y6 Mrs Brady	91.7%	
Total		93.2%	

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

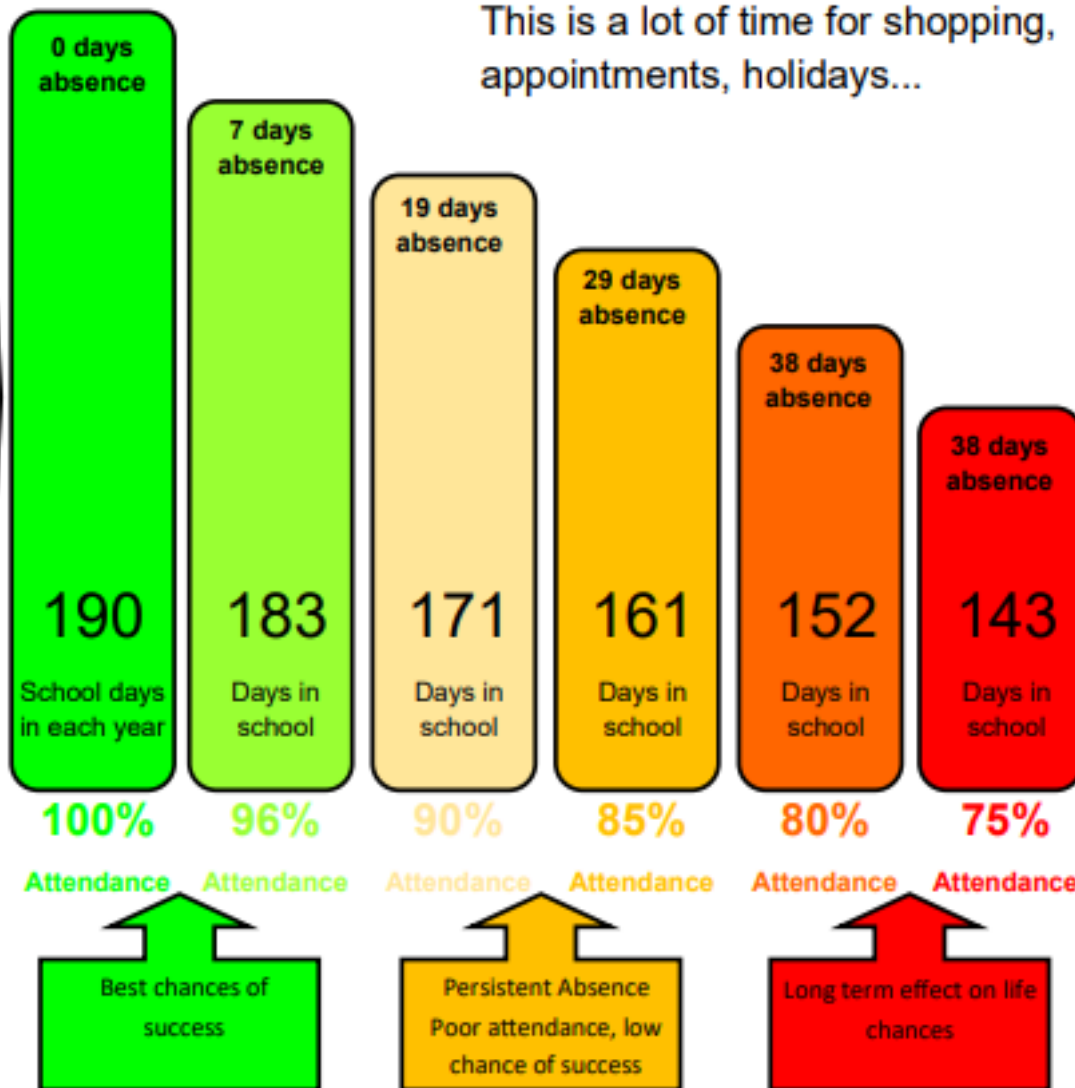


Good attendance at Brooke Primary Academy means...

...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 1

- **Tuesday 14th October** – Boggledy Book Fair
- **Wednesday 15th October** – Macmillan Coffee Morning 9am – 11am
- **Friday 17th October** – Y6 Eden Camp Trip [Y6-Eden-Camp.pdf](#)
- **Friday 17th October** – Final day to purchase Halloween Disco tickets [Halloween-Disco-Beginnings-and-Nursery.pdf](#) [Halloween-Disco-Reception-Year-6.pdf](#)
- **Tuesday 21st October & Wednesday 22nd October** – Parent's Evening
- **Wednesday 22nd October** – Beginnings and F1 Halloween Disco [Halloween-Disco-Beginnings-and-Nursery.pdf](#)
- **Friday 24th October** – **School Closure Day, school closed to all children**
- **Friday 24th October** – **School closes for half term**

Autumn 2

- **Monday 3rd November** – School re-opens to children
- **Monday 3rd November** – Reception -Y6 Halloween Discos [Halloween-Disco-Reception-Year-6.pdf](#)
- **Friday 7th November 3.30pm** – **Y5 PGL Parent Meeting** [PGL-2026.pdf](#)
- **Wednesday 12th November** – EYFS Nursery Rhyme Performances [World-Nursery-Rhyme-Week.pdf](#)
- **Tuesday 13th November** – Y3 Stoneage Day
- **Tuesday 13th November** – Y6 SATs Parent Workshop [SATs-Parent-Letter.pdf](#)
- **Wednesday 14th November** – Children In Need [Children-In-Need-2025.pdf](#)
- **Monday 17th November** – Reception to Y6 Flu Immunisation Day
- **Friday 28th November** – **Staff Training Day, school closed to all pupils**
- **Wednesday 10th December** – EYFS Nativity Performance – details to follow
- **Friday 11th December** – Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner Day – details to follow
- **Monday 15th December 9.15am & 2.30pm** – Y1 & Y2 Christmas Concert – details to follow
- **Tuesday 16th December 9.15am & 2.15pm** – Y3 & Y4 Christmas Concert – details to follow
- **Wednesday 17th December** – Christmas Fayre
- **Friday 19th December** – School closes for the end of term

Have a wonderful weekend.

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