

# **Brooke Primary Academy**

## **Weekly News**

We can hardly believe that we have reached the end of the Autumn term - it has certainly been a busy one. The past few weeks have been filled with Christmas choir performances, parent events, concerts and our Christmas Fayre, making it a wonderfully festive and lively end to the term.

Today we have enjoyed our party day, with the children taking part in a non-uniform day and celebrating together. We are ending the year with festive songs, games and plenty of Christmas cheer, which has been a lovely way to finish the term.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our parents and carers for their continued support throughout the year. Without you, we would not be able to host such successful and enjoyable events. It has been lovely to see so many of you supporting the chocolate raffle, Brooke's Brilliant Bonanza and the Christmas Fayre, as well as cheering on the children during their concerts and performances. Your presence truly makes a difference, and we are very grateful for your support.

We hope you enjoy a lovely, restful and festive break, spending quality time with your families.

### **Christmas Choir**

Our Christmas Choir has had an incredibly busy few weeks, visiting local care homes and shops, performing at the Christmas Choir Parent Event and singing at the Christmas Fayre. They have been absolutely fantastic, spreading lots of Christmas cheer wherever they have performed.

This year's Christmas Choir has been made up of over 100 children, which has been wonderful to see and truly reflects the enthusiasm and commitment of our children. We hope you have enjoyed hearing their festive performances as much as we have.

A huge thank you to Mrs Cheetham, whose hard work and dedication during lunchtime rehearsals makes the choir such a success each year. Without her commitment, the choir would not be the amazing experience that it is for our children.



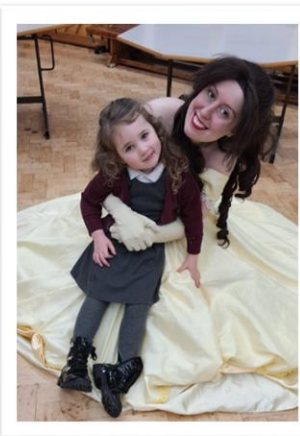
### **Christmas Fayre**

There are no words to describe how thankful we are to everyone who attended our Christmas Fayre. It was a huge success, and it was wonderful to see the children having so much fun throughout the evening. From our staff stalls to the external stalls, it was lovely to see everyone enjoying themselves.

Our beautiful choir performance, along with Santa's and the Grinch's Grotto, were a huge success. Thanks to the money raised from previous events, we were delighted to give all the children a selection box from Father Christmas at the fayre.

The games, chocolate tombola and raffle were fantastic, creating an evening filled with festive cheer and excitement. A big thank you to all the parents and carers who came along and helped make the night so special, to our parent group for organising the raffle and posters, which were a huge success, and to the staff for running the stalls and the effort they put into making the evening such a success.

We love hosting these events, and they are made even more special by the wonderful support we receive. All money raised is put straight back into events and experiences for the children.



### **Parent Events**

This week, we have enjoyed festive events hosted by Beginnings and Foundation 2. Foundation 2 held a Christmas reading event for parents, where the children enjoyed a delicious hot chocolate and breakfast treat while their adults read them a Christmas story.

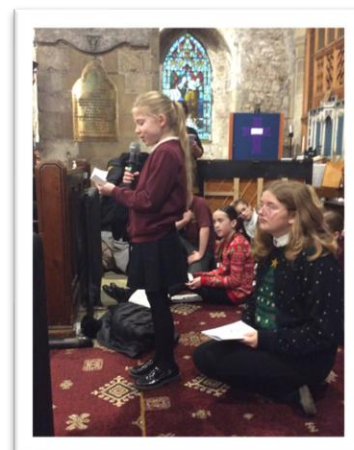
In Beginnings, the children welcomed their parents and carers into school to sing Christmas songs and take part in festive crafts. The children have worked so hard over the past few weeks, and it was lovely to see our youngest children creating special memories with their families.

Thank you to everyone who attended these events and for your continued support.



### **UKS2 Church Service**

Year 5 and 6 put on a fantastic carol service at St. Nicholas Church as part of our run-up to Christmas. The building was packed with parents, carers, and grandparents – a huge “thank you” to everyone who came along! The children had practised hard, and their efforts paid off with some wonderful singing. Rev. Mitchell concluded the service with thoughtful words, reminding us all of the true meaning of Christmas.



### **LKS2 A Christmas Carol Performance**

This week, the lower Key Stage Two children performed a Christmas carol in front of parents and carers. They were absolutely brilliant – a huge well done to each and every one of them!



**Name the Elf Competition**

A big thank you to everyone who took part in our 'Name the Elf' competition. The elf's name was Frostella. Well done to our lucky winner – Braxton.

**Pupil of the Week W/E 19.12.25**

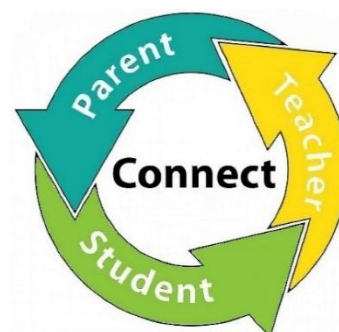
Well done to the following children who have been awarded pupil of the week for going the extra mile with their learning / displaying the school values.

Class	Pupil
Branches	Archie G
F1 Miss French & Mrs Binns	Raydyn-P P
F2 Mrs Brown & Mrs Whitfield	Bhavic G, Indie B
Y1/2 Miss Hennigan	Tyler E
Y1/2 Miss Brown	Georgie O'N
Y2 Miss Booth	Alfie F
Y3 Mrs Roberts	Jack H
Y3 Miss Jackson	Joseph P
Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	Oceanna P
Y4 Mr Purdy	Michael M
Y5 Mr Jones	Aaliyah P
Y6 Mr Thomas	Ricky S
Y6 Mrs Brady	Savannah C



**Home School Partnership**

Pupil	For
Savannah C	Earning trophies in her dancing competitions
Santanna C	Earning trophies in her dancing competitions
Lucas P	Earning his purple belt in martial arts
Addison W	Gaining her blue belt in Taekwondo
Olivia L	Completing a charity run in her pyjamas



**Venn Certificate of Special Recognition**

Each term, every school within the trust nominates five children who demonstrate the Venn characteristics: Pioneer, Inspire, Achieve, Collaborate and Create. From these nominations, one child is selected across the trust for each characteristic.

This term, George N has been chosen for the Collaborate award in recognition of his coaching and inclusive approach on the playground. George consistently encourages children of all abilities to take part in football and supports them in understanding the game, ensuring everyone feels included and valued.

Well done George – we are very proud of you!

## 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.



What does kindness look like?

Small Acts of Ki

## In the news this week

This winter, a charity called Small Acts of Kindness has sourced, packed and distributed over 10,000 'Warm in Winter' gift bags across Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire. Each bag includes things to keep people warm, like blankets, socks and hot drinks. The project aims to bring comfort to elderly and vulnerable people in the colder months. It shows that small acts of kindness can make a big difference in someone's life.

### Things to talk about at home ...

- Talk to someone at home about the campaign.
- Can you think of a time someone was kind to you? How did it make you feel?
- Do you believe helping others can make us feel happier too? Why?
- What are some small acts of kindness we can do at home, at school, or in our community?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

[www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss](http://www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss)



**'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts'**

**Attendance Challenge Winners – W/E 19/12/2025 (Autumn 2, Week 6)**

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	82.5%	All children who achieved 100% will receive a dip in the box
	F2 Mrs Whitfield Mrs Brown	96%	
KS1	Y1/2 Miss Hennigan	99.2%	Y1/2 – Miss Hennigan – Popcorn and a movie
	Y1/2 Miss Brown	97.1%	
	Y2 Miss Booth	92.4%	
LKS2	Y3 Miss Jackson	97.9%	Y3 – Miss Jackson – Bring in a board game to play Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January
	Y3 Mrs Roberts	92.8%	
	Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	93.2%	
	Y4 Mr Purdy	91.9%	
UKS2	Y5 Mr Jones	93.9%	Y6 Mr Thomas – Non uniform day Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January
	Y6 Mr Thomas	95.5%	
	Y6 Mrs Brady	94.5%	
Total	93.32%		

**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

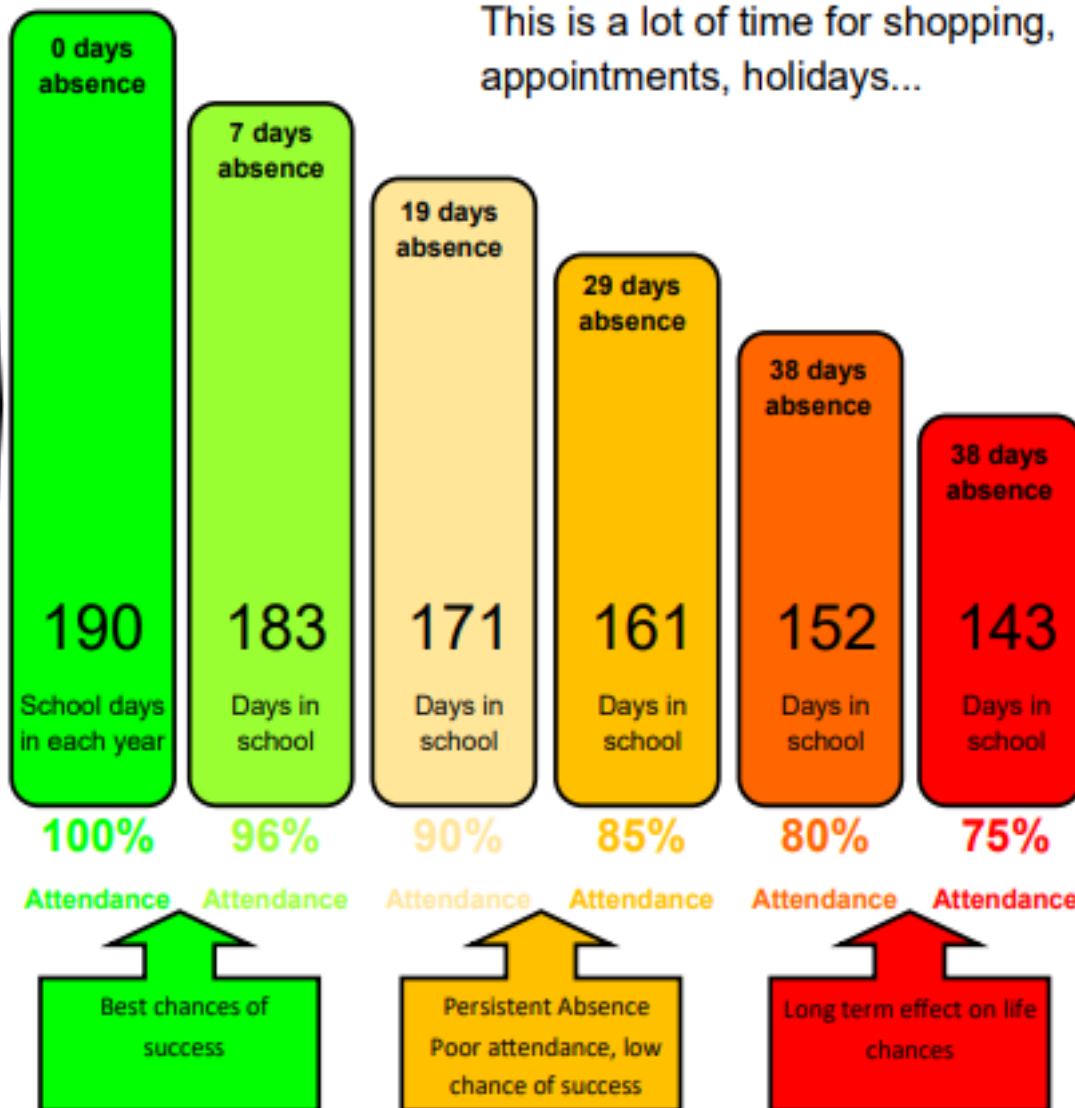


# Good attendance at Brooke Primary Academy means...

...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**

**Spring 1**

- **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January** – Staff Training Day – School closed to all pupils
- **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January** – School re-opens for Spring 1 term
- **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January** – Pantomime 'Cinderella' in school

Have a wonderful Christmas break.

Brooke Primary Academy