

Brooke Primary Academy

Weekly News

Road Safety

This week, Y1/2MBR and Y1/2SHE were excited to welcome a visit from The Riot Act. They performed "Muffin, Don't Get Squished!", a fun and interactive show that teaches essential road safety skills, helping children stay safe as pedestrians. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and were able to answer key questions about road safety. We are very proud of their enthusiasm and learning.



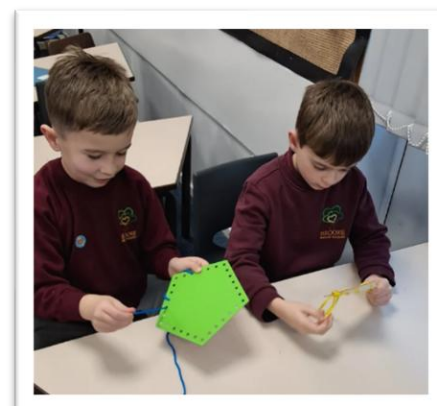
Pinch it, flip it and put it down

This week, we have introduced a new catchphrase to help children learn how to hold their pencil correctly. Over the coming weeks, we will be embedding "the perfect pinch" approach to pencil grip.

The children are learning to pinch it, flip it and put it down, which helps them form the correct tripod grip. This grip uses the thumb, index and middle finger and supports good control, comfort and stamina when writing. Developing a secure pencil grip at an early age helps children write more confidently and with greater accuracy.

Fine motor activities at home, such as threading, playdough, colouring and using scissors, can greatly support pencil control and hand strength. Gross motor skills are just as important too - activities such as climbing and using playground equipment help to strengthen children's shoulders and core, which provide the stability needed for good writing posture and control.

Our Year 2 children have been busy completing a range of fine motor activities in school to further support hand control and pencil grip development.



Pinch it



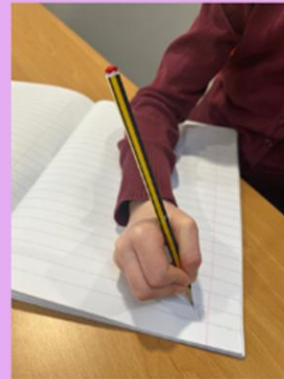
Pinch the pencil

Flip it



Flip the pencil over

Put it down



Put your hand down

Pupil of the Week W/E 30.01.26

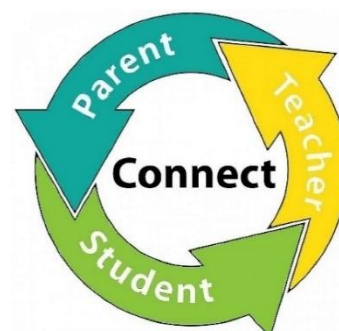
Well done to the following children who have been awarded pupil of the week for going the extra mile with their learning / displaying the school values.

Class	Pupil
Branches	Abigail C
F1 Miss French & Mrs Binns	Lara T
F2 Mrs Brown & Mrs Whitfield	Joseph C, Bobby W
Y1/2 Miss Hennigan	Jenson D
Y1/2 Miss Brown	Riley M
Y2 Miss Booth	Clark G
Y3 Mrs Roberts	Eva C-D-R
Y3 Miss Jackson	Jack F
Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	Arrow A
Y4 Mr Purdy	Hallie R
Y5 Mr Jones	Sophie C
Y6 Mr Thomas	Kadie-J S
Y6 Mrs Brady	George C



Home School Partnership

Pupil	For
Iyda B	Being the under 7's Irish Dancing Champion in Dublin and winning the Irish Shield
Theo S	Being awarded Parents Player at football



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

The Football Association (FA) has published a review looking at behaviour in football across England. It wants to ensure football practice and matches are safe, fair, and enjoyable for everyone, including players, referees, and fans. The review encourages all involved in the sport to play their part in supporting and following values of positive behaviour.

Things to talk about at home ...

- > Share your experiences of sporting or other competitive events with someone at home. Have you ever felt strong feelings when watching or taking part?
- > Do you believe players and fans should have the same rules about respect?
- > Discuss what you think might happen if winning becomes more important than respect.

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 23/01/2026 (Spring 1, Week 2)

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	84.4%	All children who achieved 100% will receive a dip in the box
	F2 Mrs Whitfield Mrs Brown	91%	
KS1	Y1/2 Miss Hennigan	89.6%	Y1/2 – Miss Brown – Cookies and extra break
	Y1/2 Miss Brown	98.3%	
	Y2 Miss Booth	90%	
LKS2	Y3 Miss Jackson	99.1%	Y3 – Miss Jackson – Bring a teddy bear / soft toy to school on Monday
	Y3 Mrs Roberts	90.3%	
	Y4 Mr Farrand & Mrs Sanders	93.9%	
	Y4 Mr Purdy	93.3%	
UKS2	Y5 Mr Jones	94.6%	Y6 Mr Thomas – Pyjama day Tuesday 3 rd Feb
	Y6 Mr Thomas	98.5%	
	Y6 Mrs Brady	95%	
Total		%	

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

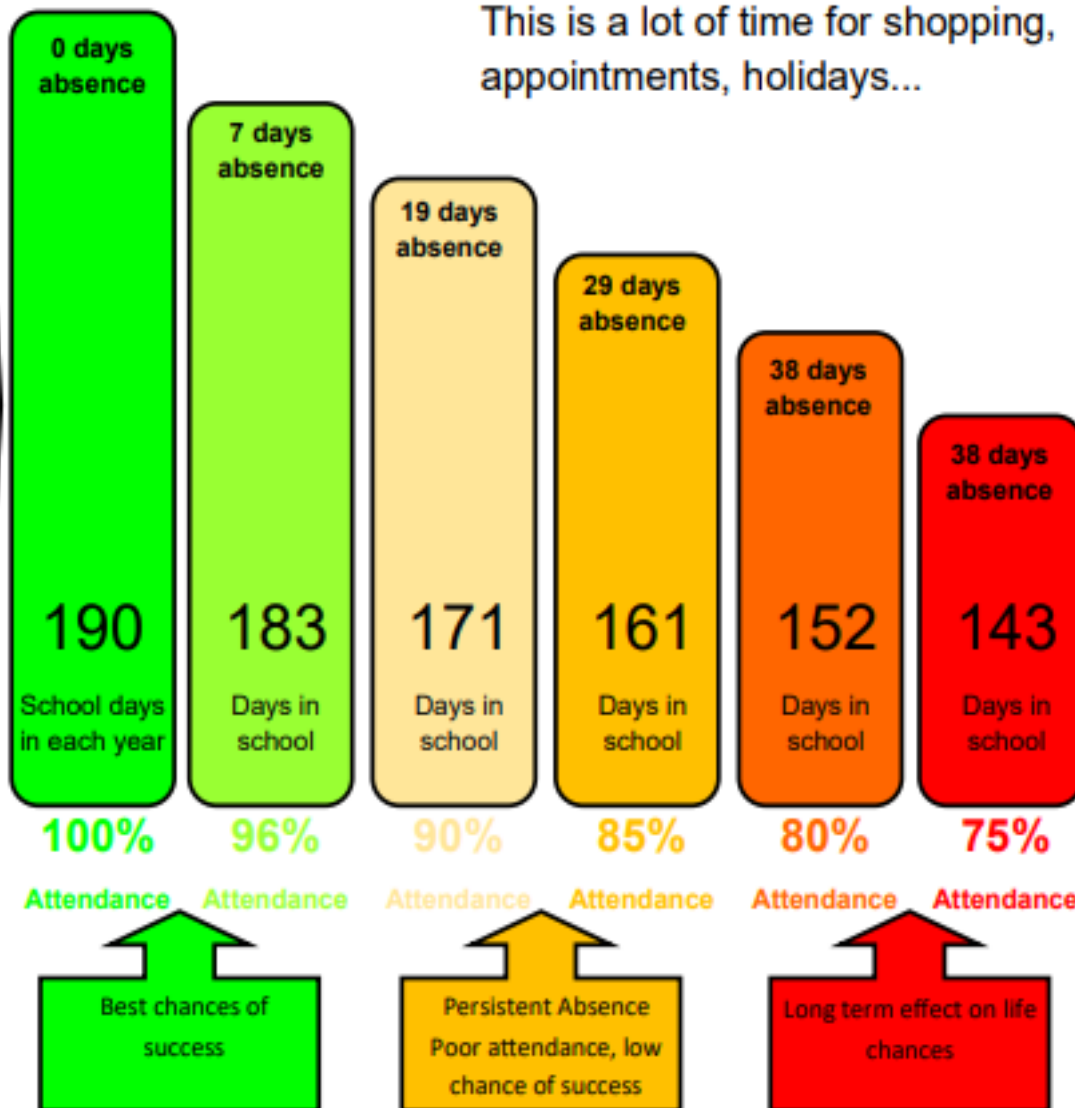


Good attendance at Brooke Primary Academy means...

...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

- **Wednesday 11th February** – Valentines Discos [Valentines-Disco-F2-Y6.pdf](#) [Beginnings-and-Nursery-Valentines-Disco-.pdf](#)
- **Friday 13th February** – Y6 Trip to Crucial Crew [Y6-Crucial-Crew-Trip-.pdf](#)
- **Friday 13th February** – School closes for half term

Spring 2

- **Monday 23rd February** – School re-opens after half term
- **Tuesday 24th February** – Y3 Egyptian Workshop – [Y3-Egyptian-Workshop.pdf](#)

Have a wonderful weekend.

Brooke Primary Academy