



Wonderful Autumn

We have had lots of activities taking place at school - including the BSA's rescheduled Summer Fair, sporting activities and our Meet The Teacher sessions for parents and carers. It was lovely to see so many of you at these.

This week, you will have copies of our new termly curriculum overviews shared through Class Dojo. We hope you find these useful and informative. Finally, a polite reminder that children should not be bringing their personal possessions (such as toys and Pokemon cards etc) into school. This will avoid items getting lost or damaged and/or causing arguments with peers. (However, some children have permission from Miss Bonner to bring in transitional/ attachment objects.)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

All absence must be reported on the first day. If we do not have a reason for absence your child will receive an unauthorised absence mark. This data is monitored by The Department for Education on a regular basis.

Attendance Percentages for this academic year:

Class 1	92.5%
Class 2	94.8%
Class 3	92.8%
Class 4	89.4%
Class 5	93.5%
Class 6	90.0%
Class 7	90.2%
Class 8	91.3%
Whole school	91.7%

KEY DATES

- *Thurs 28th Sept: Harvest Donations into school
- *Friday 29th Sept: MacMillan Coffee Morning
- *Tues 17th Oct: Parents' Evening 3:30pm-7:30pm
- *Thurs 19th Oct: Parents' Evening 3:30pm-5:30pm
- *Fri 20th Oct: Last day of half term

- *Mon 30th Oct: First day back at school

MacMillan Coffee Morning

As in previous years, we will be holding a Coffee Morning in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support. This will be on Friday 29th September in our school hall. We will be sending out a separate letter with allocated time slots for families of different year groups. We look forward to seeing you all and to raise money for such a worthwhile cause.



Celebrating Sports! by Miss Henshall

On Wednesday, Broomgrove took part in the National Fitness Day challenge- 10@10. All staff and students participated in a dance workout showing their support for this year's initiative #Your Health is for Life. The aim is to encourage people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities to enjoy exercise and promote a lifelong love of exercise. It was great to see everyone taking part and enjoying themselves, with some students asking if we can do it again next week! Please see the attached poster on how we can increase our physical activity levels.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1j0q2ANc8dx800Yw97uughN3hwvEZwMG0/view?usp=drivesdk>

On Friday we had an amazing opportunity for an Essex Cricket Coach to visit our school and deliver four coaching sessions to some of our children. The children learnt about the ICC cricket World Cup that is starting in October. This was a fantastic day where students learnt how to bat, bowl and field whilst completing challenges throughout the session. It was great to see the children taking part and some being able to try a brand new sport! Our coach also passed on a range of challenges for us to incorporate into our lessons throughout the year. We look forward to completing these!

Harvest donations and celebration

On Monday 25th September, both Broomgrove schools will be having Harvest assemblies led by Reverend Lammens from St Mary's Church.

The Reverend has asked if our school community would be willing to make donations of non-perishable items such as : soup, vegetables or sauces in tins, pasta, coffees and teas, jams and marmalades as well as soap, shower gel and shampoo. These will be distributed among Wivenhoe residents in need, Beacon House and Night Shelter for the homeless in Colchester as well as Wivenhoe foodbank.

These will be collected from school on Thursday 28th September.

Holiday Requests

The school has been receiving an increasing number of holiday requests in term time. I have included the term dates for the academic year for your information within this school newsletter.

Holidays in term time are always taken as an unauthorised leave of absence. Parents who take these periods of absence do so with the full knowledge that the school may issue a penalty notice. There is no entitlement in law for pupils to take time off during the term to go on holiday.

At Broomgrove Junior School 'exceptional circumstances' will be interpreted as: ... being of unique and significant emotional, educational or spiritual value to the child which outweighs the loss of teaching time (as determined by the headteacher). The fundamental principles for defining 'exceptional' are events that are **"rare, significant, unavoidable and short"**. By **'unavoidable'** we mean an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time, outside of school term time.

Examples of 'exceptional' events that are "rare, significant, unavoidable and short" may include but are not limited to: a parent or carer being a member of the armed forces and has been on active duty so could not reasonably schedule the absence for another time, the death of a close family member, the attendance at the funeral and the attendance at the wedding of a close family member.

Furthermore, we will not consider applications for leave during term time:

- at any time in September. This is very important as your child needs to settle into their new class at the start of the academic year as quickly as possible.
- during assessment and test periods in the school's calendar affecting your child.
- when a pupil's attendance record already includes any level of unauthorised absence or they have already been granted authorised leave within that academic year.

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							December 2023						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
25	26	27	28	29	30		30	31						6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
														20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
														27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2024							February 2024							March 2024							April 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					26	27	28	29				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					

May 2024							June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30	31		

- = Schooldays
 = School holidays
 = Bank holidays
 = Non pupil days/ Weekends

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term:	Monday 4 September 2023 – Wednesday 20 December 2023 <i>Half Term 23 October – 27 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term:	Thursday 4 January 2024 – Thursday 28 March 2024 <i>Half Term 19 February - 23 February</i>	56 days
Summer Term:	Monday 15 April 2024 – Tuesday 23 July 2024 <i>Half Term 27 May – 31 May, and May Bank Holiday - 6 May</i>	66 days
		195 days

Please note:

The above dates may vary for individual schools, especially Foundation, Voluntary Aided schools and Academies.
You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.