



Summer issue 1 - 3/5/24



Summertime Blues...

Welcome to the summer term! If only we had some sunshine rather than so much rain!

It is great to be back! I was welcomed back by staff, governors, families and of course, the children - although I think they were more excited to see Woody returning than me! Massive thanks to the staff, governors and of course Miss Bonner for covering during my absence. Also, thank you to James Newell for supporting the school during those weeks.

We have a busy summer term ahead and hopefully the sunshine will appear: Year 5's D-Day visit to the Nottage Centre and their residential trip, Year 4's trip to the Zoo, Sports Day, fun SATs week with breakfasts and ending with a trip to the bowling alley, the Year 6 production and so much more...

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	92.9%
Class 2	92.2%
Class 3	95.3%
Class 4	92.6%
Class 5	92.4%
Class 6	93.6%
Class 7	94.5%
Class 8	92.1%
Whole school	93.2%

KEY DATES

- * Mon 6th May - BANK HOLIDAY
- * Mon 13th May - Thurs 16th May - Year 6 SATs week
- * Thurs 16th May - Friday 17th May - Yr 5 Residential
- * Mon 27th May - Fri 31st May - Half term holiday
- * Wed 12th June - Sports Day
- * (Wed 19th June - Contingency Sports Day)
- * Thurs 20th June - Year 4 trip to Colchester Zoo
- * Thurs 27th June - Transition (moving up) morning
- * Fri 12th July - End of year reports to parents
- * Mon 15th July - Rock Steady Concert
- * Fri 19th July - TBC: BSA Summer Fayre
- * Tues 23rd July - Non Pupil Day
- * Wed 24th July - 2nd September - Summer Holiday

(Possible Year 3 trip TBC; Year 6 Talent Show date TBC)

Bikeability

As in previous years, year 5 pupils were invited to participate in Bikeability. Bikeability cycle training equips children with vital life skills. Pupils not only learn to cycle, they gain independence, social skills and a sense of wellbeing. All those who took part were a credit to the school and they have all achieved certificates.



PE and Sports at our school

This term, our Year 6 pupils are attending swimming lessons at Clacton Leisure Centre. These lessons cater for swimmers of all abilities and cover a range of skills and techniques.

Also this term, all year groups are receiving athletics coaching - delivered by staff and students from Colchester Institute - in preparation for our annual Sports Day.

In addition, Years 3 and 5 are receiving cricket coaching from the Chance To Shine Programme and Miss Henshall is organising a "Prostrike" Football event.

As you know, we also have a selection of extra-curricular sports clubs, which were shared in our newsletter at the end of last term and which are also on our website.



Termly Curriculum Jigsaws

Last Friday, all teachers shared their termly curriculum coverage documents, as in previous terms. These curriculum jigsaws provide families with information about what learning will be covered this term. These were shared on Class Dojo. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to make contact with your child's class teacher.

English Write a recount Write a non-chronological report Write a setting description Write a multiple narrator story Write a persuasive letter Write instructions	Art and Design Surrealism	Computing: Creating media- 3d Modelling Programming: Sensing movement
Mathematics Maths revision Geometry Statistics Position and direction Themed projects	Design & Technology Food celebrating seasonality and culture	Geography: National parks
Science Animals including Humans Living things and Their habitats	History British Empire	Music Composition, Digital Composition with BeepBook, African drumming
	Physical Education Athletics Rounders Croquet Tennis	Religious Education Islam
		PSHE Positive and healthy relationships RSE and transition

Children Late to school

The number of children arriving late to school still continues to be high (between 5 - 10 children each day and 17 on the 22nd April, the first day of the summer term!)

Please remember that the school gates close at 8.50am. Latecomers not only miss the start of lessons, when modelling, explanations and instructions are provided to the class, but entering the classroom late could feel embarrassing and raise anxieties. It can also disturb the rest of the class and the teaching.

Late arrivals also disturb the office staff and can impact on the catering team.

Frequent lateness adds up to a considerable amount of lost learning time:

- 5 minutes late every day = 3.4 school days in a year**
- 10 minutes late every day = 6.9 school days in a year**
- 15 minutes late every day = 10.3 school days in a year**
- 20 minutes late every day = 13.8 school days in a year**
- 30 minutes late every day = 20.7 school days in a year**

Meaningful May 2024

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
		1 Do something kind for someone you really care about	2 Focus on what you can do rather than what you can't do	3 Take a step towards an important goal, however small	4 Send your friend a photo from a time you enjoyed together	5 Let someone know how much they mean to you and why
6 Look for people doing good and reasons to be cheerful	7 Make a list of what matters most to you and why	8 Set yourself a kindness mission to help others today	9 What values are important to you? Find ways to use them today	10 Be grateful for the little things, even in difficult times	11 Look around for things that bring you a sense of awe and wonder	12 Listen to a favourite piece of music and remember what it means to you
13 Find out about the values or traditions of another culture	14 Get outside and notice the beauty in nature	15 Do something to contribute to your local community	16 Show your gratitude to people who are helping to make things better	17 Find a way to make what you do today meaningful	18 Send a hand-written note to someone you care about	19 Reflect on what makes you feel valued and purposeful
20 Share photos of 3 things you find meaningful or memorable	21 Look up at the sky. Remember we are all part of something bigger	22 Find a way to help a project or charity you care about	23 Recall three things you've done that you are proud of	24 Make choices that have a positive impact for others today	25 Ask someone else what matters most to them and why	26 Remember an event in your life that was really meaningful
27 Focus on how your actions make a difference for others	28 Do something special and revisit it in your memory tonight	29 Today do something to care for the natural world	30 Share a quote you find inspiring to give others a boost	31 Find three reasons to be hopeful about the future		



Is my child too ill for school?

It can be tricky deciding whether or not to keep your child off school, nursery or playgroup when they're unwell. The NHS has provided this guidance for parents and carers:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/#:~:text=If%20your%20child%20has%20mild,they%20can%20go%20to%20school>

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.