



SATs are over for another year!

What a week! It started with glorious sunshine, then quickly changed to rain yet again.

However, this did not dampen the spirits of our pupils! Our Year 6 children coped brilliantly with their SATs tests and we are incredibly proud of their hard work, resilience, motivation and determination. We hope they are as proud of themselves as we are of them.

All of the other children were extremely respectful throughout the week, by not causing any distractions to everyone sitting the tests.

Year 5 have ended the week by going on their residential trip to Birch Hall and Year 6 have gone bowling today.

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	93.2%
Class 2	92.6%
Class 3	95.7%
Class 4	92.9%
Class 5	92.8%
Class 6	93.7%
Class 7	95.2%
Class 8	93.1%
Whole school	93.7%

KEY DATES

- * Fri 17th May - Year 5 return from their residential trip
- * Fri 17th May - Year 6 trip to Bowling Alley & Castle Park
- * Thurs 23rd May - "Pro-Strike" sponsored football event
- * 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 Day /moving up morning
- * Fri 12th July - Year 3 trip to Hasty's Farm
- * 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 Holidays!

Princess Charlotte's birthday!

Three of our Year 3 pupils decided to make a birthday card for Princess Charlotte, who celebrated her 9th birthday on 2nd May. They put in a lot of time and effort creating this beautiful card which has been posted to the princess in Windsor.



Year 5's visit to The Nottage - Maritime Institute by Miss Chapman

As part of local celebrations to commemorate the 80th anniversary of D-Day, Year 5 visited the Nottage (down at the the quay) on Thursday, 9th May and learned about Wivenhoe's amazing shipbuilding connection with WW2 - minesweepers and motor torpedo boats were built here in the 1940s.

We watched two short films about the preparations that took place before D-Day and then had time to look at models and photographs of the boats constructed in the shipyards which everyone studied carefully, as well as trying out the ship's compass!

Alongside this visit, we will be constructing a card model of part of a 'Mulberry Harbour'. Parts of these were constructed at the Wivenhoe shipyards for use during D-Day. The Mulberry Harbours were floating artificial harbours designed to protect supply ships anchored off the coast of Normandy after the D-Day landings of June 6, 1944.

The finished models will be going on display in the Wyvern Room at the William Lovelace on 6th June, from 9:30 -12:30. Visitors will be welcome to pop in and have a look.

We would like to thank local resident, Phil Long, for organising this.

MUSIC at Broomgrove Junior School



At our school, we value learning about music, singing and playing musical instruments.

Our pupils have the opportunity to have individual music lessons with two peripatetic music teachers, group lessons with Rocksteady, as well as their weekly classroom music lessons from our specialist music teacher: studying and listening to different music, as well as learning to read, write, play and enjoy music. Our pupils also have the opportunity to gain formal levelled 'Stave House' music certificates via the London College of Music. *(Please enquire at the office if you are interested in the additional music tuition we offer.)*

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.