



Welcome to the new school year!

What a fabulous start to the new school year! I hope you have all had a lovely summer.

It has been wonderful seeing the children returning to school in their new year groups - and of course, welcoming our new pupils in year 3 and other classes. We have also welcomed two new members of staff: Mrs Leathers, teaching part time in class 3, and Mrs Stephenson in our front office.

The atmosphere across the school has been brilliant and classrooms are filled with lots of smiling faces.

If you ever want to contact staff, please feel free to use Class Dojo to send messages, however, please be aware that our staff have "Quiet Hours" set up so they will not receive notifications before 8am, after 6pm or at weekends. They will respond as soon as they can outside these quiet hours.

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	97.3%
Class 2	98.7%
Class 3	78.5%
Class 4	75.8%
Class 5	76.4%
Class 6	79.3%
Class 7	74.5%
Class 8	69.8%
Whole school	80.7%

KEY DATES

- *Friday 6th Sept: Curriculum map jigsaws sent out
- *Thursday 12th Sept: Individual school photos
- *Mon 16th - Fri 27th Sept - SEND (One Plan) Reviews
- *Monday 16th Sept: Y3 Meet The Teacher Meeting at 9am
- *Tuesday 17th Sept: Y4 Meet The Teacher Meeting at 9am
- *Weds 18th Sept: Y5 Meet The Teacher Meeting at 9am
- *Friday 20th Sept: Y6 Meet The Teacher Meeting at 9am
- *Monday 23rd Sept: Therapeutic Thinking Parent Workshop
- *Friday 27th Sept: MacMillan Coffee Morning
- *Tuesday 15th Oct: Tendring Families First Coffee Morning
- *Tuesday 22nd Oct: Parents' Evening (3.45 - 6.45pm)
- *Thursday 24th Oct: Parents' Evening (3.45 - 5.45pm)
- *Friday 25th Oct: Last day of half term

Technical Issues with our communication systems

Please accept our apologies for the delays in setting up our electronic systems. We have been experiencing technical issues with our Management Information System and Mrs Cooke has worked tirelessly with the technical support team to get everything sorted. Thank you for your understanding.



Woody, our school dog.

Woody definitely missed the children over the summer holidays and he is clearly very excited about being back at school. On the staff's first day back, he was barking and wagging his tail as soon as we arrived in the school car park and he continued to do so entering the building. He loves the attention he receives from the children and it has been abundantly clear since returning how much they all love him.



As well as the children stroking him and talking to him as they enter school in the morning, he receives many visitors throughout the day - including at lunchtime. Some children get the opportunity to go with an adult to walk him around the field and others get to come into my office and stroke him/cuddle him. Also, he is enjoying being read to by children.

His purpose is to comfort the children and for them to enjoy his company and the unconditional love he brings. He is clearly a valued member of our school community.

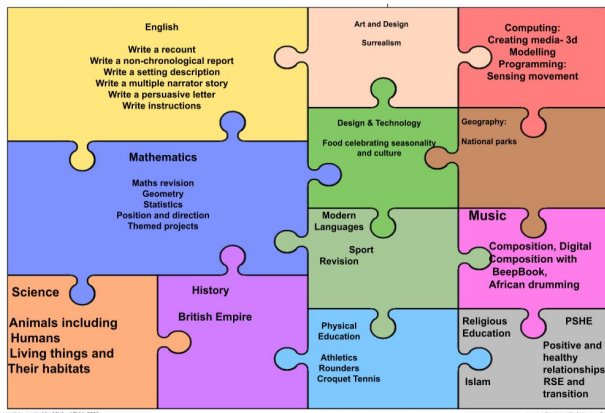
Meet The Teacher sessions

As you will see from the calendar dates, our annual Meet The Teacher sessions are approaching.

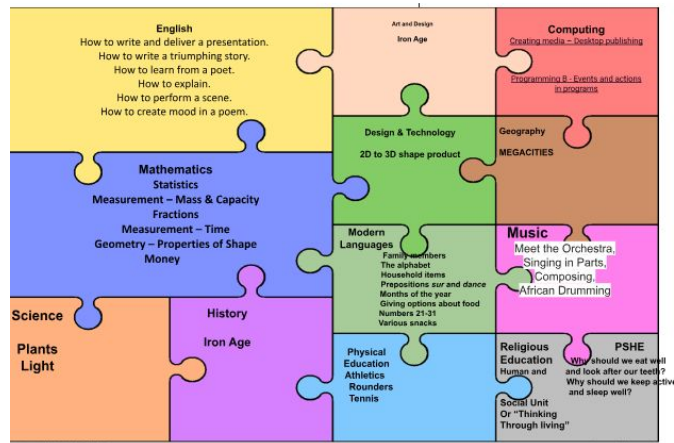
A letter has already been shared with you.

At these meetings, teachers will share pertinent information about routines, expectations, timetabling etc and you will have the opportunities to ask questions.

Curriculum Summer Overview for Year 6



Curriculum Overview for Year 3



Curriculum jigsaws

Today, all families should have seen the curriculum overview “jigsaw” for their child’s year group. These are posted on Class Dojo in each class’s “Class Stories.” These documents provide you with an overview of what your child will be learning about during the autumn term in all 13 subjects of the Primary Curriculum. We hope you find this useful. New jigsaws will be shared at the start of each term.

Trainee Teacher



We are very lucky to be welcoming a trainee teacher to our school. Miss Scarle will be joining Mr Hawkins’ class on Monday and will spend most of the school year with us, completing her training. We are very keen to support and develop people at the start of their career and we are sure the children and you will welcome her.

Broomgrove Schools’ Association (The BSA) is our schools’ version of a PTA. As volunteers, they dedicate considerable time and energy to organising and running events to raise much needed funds for both schools. They are always looking for new members. If you are able to offer your time to this valuable cause, it would be greatly welcomed by the whole of our school community - especially our children.

Therapeutic Thinking Parent Workshop

**Monday 23rd September 9:30am-11:30am
@ Broomgrove Infant School**



Kindly funded by the BSA, Joel Shaljean will be in school to explain the therapeutic approach to behaviour that our school behaviour policies are based upon. This is a great opportunity for parents to develop their understanding of what it means to be a Therapeutic Thinking school and the inseparable link between teaching, learning and behaviour.

Please let Miss Bonner know that you are attending so that refreshments can be catered for-thank you.

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.



Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools **after 19th August 2024**.

Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the U code (late after registers have closed).

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2024-2025

September 2024							October 2024							November 2024							December 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		1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30																					30	31						

January 2025							February 2025							March 2025							April 2025						
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		1	2	3	4	5	6
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
														31													

May 2025							June 2025							July 2025							August 2025						
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						1		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31
							30																				

- = Schooldays
 = School holidays
 = Bank holidays
 = 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 2 September 2024 – Friday 20 December 2024 <i>Half Term 28 October – 1 November</i>	75 days
Spring Term:	Monday 6 January 2025 – Friday 4 April 2025 <i>Half Term 17 February - 21 February</i>	60 days
Summer Term:	Tuesday 22 April 2025 – Tuesday 22 July 2025 <i>Half Term 26 May – 30 May, and May Bank Holiday - 5 May</i>	60 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.