



Sunny Autumn!

It was lovely to see so many parents and carers attending our Meet The Teacher mornings this week. Should you wish to volunteer your time to support and organise events to raise funds for both schools, please come along to the BSA's AGM. (See the attached poster.)

Our school community continues to thrive thanks to the incredible support from parents, staff, and students. Together, we are creating a nurturing and inspiring environment for our children to learn and grow. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and involvement in our school. Let's make this term another successful one!

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	98.3%
Class 2	98.9%
Class 3	97.6%
Class 4	97.3%
Class 5	94.8%
Class 6	98.8%
Class 7	95.1%
Class 8	87.8%
Whole school	96.1%

KEY DATES

- *Monday 23rd Sept: Therapeutic Thinking Parent Workshop
- *Friday 27th Sept: MacMillan Coffee Morning
- *Thursday 3rd Oct: Harvest donations collected by church
- *Friday 4th Oct: Celebrating European Day of Languages
- *Thursday 10th Oct: World Mental Health Day
- *Tuesday 15th Oct: Tendring Families First Coffee Morning
- *Thursday 17th Oct: BSA AGM at 2pm
- *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
- *Monday 4th Nov: First day back at school

Meet The Teacher mornings

All year groups held their Meet The Teacher sessions this week and many of you attended. Teachers will be uploading their powerpoint presentations to the Class Story pages on Dojo, should you not have been able to attend. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact us through Dojo.



Relaunching House Teams!

The school's current house teams only seem to be referred to by children wearing different colour t shirts and when they compete on Sports Day. The teams do not seem to be referred to much more than that. The current names of: Nelson, Venture, Niagara and Cap Pilar refer to boats connected to Wivenhoe, however, many children forget the name of their team and only remember the colour of their t shirt.



We are therefore relaunching the house teams and staff were asked for suggestions for new names. All children across the school then voted for their favourite group of names. With a large majority, the winning names are: Ruby, Sapphire, Emerald and Diamond. Children will keep the same colour house team as before, but we will be using these new house team names.

We also have a new "Accumulator" (tubes for balls) and each week, the house with the most Dojos awarded will get a coloured ball placed in their tube by their house captain. We hope the teams therefore will start having more prominence in our school.

Harvest

There will be a service to celebrate Harvest Festival at St Mary's Church on **Sunday 6th October at 10.30am.**

We are collecting your kind donations on behalf of the church and these will be collected from here on Thursday 3 October. Should you wish to donate, please send your items in next week with your child, who can hand them in to their class teacher.

After the Harvest Festival, the church will distribute these gifts among Wivenhoe residents in need: Beacon House and Night Shelter for the homeless in Colchester, and Wivenhoe foodbank. The following items are very welcome: non-perishable food items such as soup and vegetables in tins, pasta, rice, coffees and teas, biscuits, jam and marmalade, and also soap, shower gel and shampoo. Thank you very much on behalf of the community.

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.

The Broomgrove Schools Association
Charity no 290403



Annual General Meeting

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Stay informed and get involved.

We need you to help our AGM be a success

Location: The Junior School Hall

Date & Time: 17th October 2024 at 2pm



Parentkind
Member Association



University of Essex



FREE CONFIDENTIAL LEGAL ADVICE FOR FAMILIES

Has your relationship broken down?

Issues Concerning Children?

We are pleased to be working with Essex University Law Clinic to provide a local school based confidential law clinic, to provide legal advice and information on a wide variety of issues affecting families, such as divorce and contact with children.

All advice is given by University of Essex law students in strictest confidence under supervision.

THURSDAY 14TH November 2024 – AM

**BROOMGROVE JUNIOR SCHOOL
by appointment only, No drop ins.**

Appointments will be offered following submission of referral form
please pick up a referral form from the school office or call or email:

info@tendingfamiliesfirst.org or call - 07944333685

Organised by **Tending Families First** in collaboration with the **Essex Law Clinic**

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'.