



Hello October!

October seems to have arrived so quickly!

We are now virtually half way through the first half term and we only have three weeks left.

This week, we have celebrated Harvest and Reverend Lammens delivered a special assembly in our school hall before taking away all of your kind donations which will be distributed to those in need. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Today, we celebrated European Day of Languages and we were welcoming the children in at the gate with a wealth of different greetings from around Europe and further afield.

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	96.4%
Class 2	98.6%
Class 3	97.9%
Class 4	96.9%
Class 5	94.9%
Class 6	98.2%
Class 7	95.5%
Class 8	90.6%
Whole school	96.1%

KEY DATES

- *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
- *Monday 4th Nov: BOOMGROVE! BSA Fireworks display
- *Monday 11th - Friday 15th Nov: Anti-Bullying Week
- *Thursday 14th Nov: TFF Free Law Clinic
- *Tuesday 19th Nov: Odd Sock Day
- *Wednesday 27th Nov: No Pens Day Wednesday
- *Friday 29th Nov: Non-pupil day

MacMillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 27th September, we held our annual MacMillan Coffee Morning. It was so well-attended and we can now share that £506.68 was raised for this wonderful cause. Thank you all for your cake donations as well as raising this money. We would also like to thank the Norwegian Bakery for their kind donation of delicious goodies and Mrs Guild for delivering them to us.



European Day of Languages

by Ms van der Wolf

Today, Friday 4th October, all the staff and children present at school enjoyed a day full of language, learning and laughter! We were celebrating the European Day of Languages, which takes place on the 26th of September each year and promotes diversity and inclusion. At the start of the day, all staff were assigned a greeting in a different language and greeted the children and staff they spoke to with this particular greeting throughout the day! Lots of children responded with these greetings or their own greetings in various different languages.

FUN FACT: Students and staff at Broomgrove Junior School speak at least 20 different languages between them!

In the afternoon, the children took part in a round-robin of four different language sessions. In lower school, the children learned about the cultures of various countries and they practised getting their tongues around the sounds of Spanish, Russian, Dutch and Italian words and phrases. In upper school, the countries 'visited' were Germany, Ireland, Spain and The Netherlands and the languages practised were German, Gaelic, Spanish and Dutch.



Our Accumulator!

It is the second week of our accumulator since its launch. All Dojos awarded across the week were totalled and the House Captain of the winning team has been dropping a ball in their team's tube to create a 3D chart. Last week, (the first ever week) there was a tie between Diamond and Ruby and this week, Ruby took the lead. All Dojos are set back to zero on Fridays, giving all teams the same starting point each week. The children have been finding this very exciting and there are lots of "Oohs" and "Ahhs" in our Friday Celebration Assemblies. We always ensure that all teams are celebrated for their achievements.

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'.