



Spring issue 5 - 4/4/2025



## End of the Spring Term!

As we approach the Easter holidays, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone in our Broomgrove Junior School community for their continued support and enthusiasm. It's been a busy term filled with exciting learning opportunities and memorable events, and I'm incredibly proud of the progress our pupils have made.

The Easter break offers a wonderful chance for families to relax, recharge, and enjoy some quality time together. Whether you're embarking on a family adventure or enjoying the comforts of home, I hope you all have a restful and enjoyable holiday.

## 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	95.8%
Class 2	95.7%
Class 3	94.0%
Class 4	95.1%
Class 5	94.2%
Class 6	95.2%
Class 7	93.9%
Class 8	91.6%
<b>Whole school</b>	<b>94.5%</b>

## KEY DATES

- \*Monday 7th April: Monday 21st April: Easter holiday
- \*Tuesday 22nd April: First day back to school
- \*Thursday 24th April : Y5 Bikeability
- \*Friday 25th April: Y5 Bikeability
- \*Friday 25th April: Broomgrove Sponsored Dash
- \*Monday 28th April: Y5 Bikeability
- \*Tuesday 29th April: Y5 Bikeability
- \*Thursday 1st May - Non-Pupil Day
- \*Monday 5th May: Bank Holiday
- \*Monday 12th May–Thursday 15th May: Y6 SATs Week
- \*Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May: Half term holiday
- \*Monday 2nd June: First day back to school

## Red Nose Day

We would like to thank everyone for their kind donations to this worthwhile charity. We received 60 donations from families, amounting to £291.

In return for your donations, the children wore non-uniform for the day.



## Our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA)

We are very lucky to have an ELSA (Miss Davies) at our school and we mention her often to parents, so thought it appropriate to share more information about her role and the positive impact she has on our pupils. An ELSA is specially trained to provide targeted emotional and social support to pupils. ELSAs help children understand and manage their emotions, develop social skills, and improve their overall wellbeing.

### The Impact of ELSA Support on Our Pupils



- **Improved Emotional Wellbeing:** Pupils working with ELSAs often show increased emotional awareness and resilience. They learn strategies to manage feelings such as anxiety, anger, or sadness.
- **Enhanced Social Skills:** Through individual and group sessions, pupils develop better communication skills, empathy, and the ability to build positive relationships with peers.
- **Increased Confidence and Self-Esteem:** ELSA interventions boost pupils' confidence, helping them to participate more actively in class and social settings.
- **Positive Academic Impact:** With improved emotional regulation and social skills, pupils are better equipped to focus on learning, leading to enhanced academic performance.

Our ELSA sessions are tailored to meet the needs of individual pupils. We work closely with teachers and parents to identify children who may benefit from additional support. Miss Davies also provides targeted support to any child who may need it at any time of the school day.

**Active April 2025**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
1. Commit to being more active this month, starting today	2. Spend as much time as possible outdoors today	3. Listen to your body and be grateful for what it can do	4. Eat healthy and natural food today and drink lots of water	5. Turn a regular activity into a playful game today	6. Do a body-scan meditation and really notice how your body feels	
7. Get natural light early in the day. Dim the lights in the evening	8. Give your body a boost by laughing or making someone laugh	9. Turn your housework or chores into a fun form of exercise	10. Have a day with less screen time and more movement	11. Set yourself an exercise goal or sign up to an activity challenge	12. Move as much as possible, even if you're stuck inside	13. Make sleep a priority and go to bed in good time
14. Relax your body & mind with yoga, tai chi or meditation	15. Get active by singing today (even if you think you can't sing!)	16. Go exploring around your local area and notice new things	17. Be active outside. Plant some seeds and encourage growth	18. Try out a new exercise, activity or dance class	19. Spend less time sitting today. Get up and move more often	20. Focus on eating a rainbow of multi-coloured vegetables today
21. Regularly pause to stretch and breathe during the day	22. Enjoy moving to your favourite music. Really go for it	23. Go out and do an errand for a loved one or neighbour	24. Get active in nature. Feed the birds or go wildlife-spotting	25. Have a 'no screens' night and take time to recharge yourself	26. Take an extra break in your day and walk outside for 15 minutes	27. Find a fun exercise to do while waiting for the kettle to boil
28. Meet a friend outside for a walk and a chat	29. Become an activist for a cause you really believe in	30. Make time to run, swim, dance, cycle or stretch today				

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS** Happier · Kinder · Together

**Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates  
for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools -  
Academic Year 2025-2026**

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

  

January 2026							February 2026							March 2026							April 2026						
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			1	2	3	4	5
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
														30	31												

  

May 2026							June 2026							July 2026							August 2026							
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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5							1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
																					31							

- = Schooldays
- = School holidays
- = Bank holidays
- = Weekends
- = Non-pupil days

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

<b>Autumn Term:</b>	Monday 1 September 2025 – Friday 19 December 2025 <i>Half Term 27 October – 31 October</i>	75 days
<b>Spring Term:</b>	Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026 <i>Half Term 16 February - 20 February</i>	55 days
<b>Summer Term:</b>	Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026 <i>Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday - 4 May</i>	65 days
		<u>195 days</u>

**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.

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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'.

# PERFORMERS of WIVENHOE

ACTING

MOVEMENT

SONG

**WEDNESDAYS**

**5PM-7PM**

**7-14 YEAR OLDS**

**7.15PM-9.15PM**

**15-18 YEAR OLDS**

**@PERFORMERSOFWIVENHOE**

**PERFORMERSOFWIVENHOE@GMAIL.COM**





# EASTER at BETH CHATTO'S PLANTS & GARDENS

## 5TH-21ST APRIL

Closed Sundays & Mondays, except Bank Holiday Monday when we are open!



**TAKE PART IN OUR EASTER TRAIL  
AROUND THE GARDEN - FIND THE  
EGGS, WIN A PRIZE**



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CHILDREN**

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email: [customerservices@bethchatto.co.uk](mailto:customerservices@bethchatto.co.uk)



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Dragons CIC

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& DRAGONS**

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3 April with spaces  
for new players.



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Starting 5 April  
1-5pm



Pokemon  
Club  
Starting 24 April  
3.30-6pm



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Readers - children's  
book groups

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Victoria Place,  
Brightlingsea CO7 0BX



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