



## Happy Days...

This half-term is always a special time, with plenty of opportunities for our pupils to showcase their achievements and take part in memorable events. We have already had our sports day, Year 5's residential and transition activities, and there's still a lot to look forward to, including: trips, our Celebration Afternoon, the Year 6 performance and leavers' assembly.

We are so proud of everything our pupils have accomplished so far this year, and we can't wait to see what they achieve in the coming weeks. As always, our dedicated staff are here to support every child as they continue to learn, grow, and thrive. Thank you for your continued support in making Broomgrove Junior School a vibrant and nurturing community.

## 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             | 93.7%        |
| Class 4             | 94.6%        |
| Class 5             | 94.4%        |
| Class 6             | 95.5%        |
| Class 7             | 93.6%        |
| Class 8             | 92.0%        |
| <b>Whole school</b> | <b>94.4%</b> |

## KEY DATES

- \*Thursday 3rd July: BSA non-uniform Day for contributions to Summer Fayre
- \*Friday 4th July: Y3 trip to Walton On The Naze
- \*Friday 11th July: BSA Summer Fayre
- \*Friday 11th July: End of Year Reports sent home
- \*Friday 11th July: Y6 Dress Rehearsal
- \*Tuesday 15th July: Year 6 performance at 1:30 & 6:30pm
- \*Wednesday 16th July: Celebration Afternoon at 2:30pm
- \*Thursday 17th July: Year 6 performance at 6:30pm
- \*Friday 18th July: BSA after school sale
- \*Monday 21st July: Y6 Leavers' Assembly at 2:30pm
- \*Monday 21st July: Last day of the school year.
- \*Wednesday 3rd September: Children return to school

## Panto fun!

On Monday afternoon, the whole school enjoyed a pantomime performance from a visiting drama/panto company. (Oh no, we didn't! Oh yes, we did!)

They performed a one hour version of The Wizard of Oz and the children seemed to really enjoy it, although several asked if the staff would be performing again!



**Jump Back Up July 2025**

| MONDAY   | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  | SUNDAY   |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|  <p>1 Take a small step to help overcome a problem or worry</p>   | <p>2 Adopt a growth mindset. Change "I can't" into "I can't...yet"</p> | <p>3 Be willing to ask for help when you need it</p>                    | <p>4 Find something to look forward to today</p>                           | <p>5 Get the basics right: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time</p>              | <p>6 Pause, breathe and feel your feet firmly on the ground</p>             |  |
| <p>7 Shift your mood by doing something you really enjoy</p>   | <p>8 Avoid saying "must" or "should" to yourself today</p>             | <p>9 Put a problem in perspective by seeing the bigger picture</p>      | <p>10 Reach out to someone you trust and share your feelings with them</p> | <p>11 Look for something positive in a difficult situation</p>                       | <p>12 Write your worries down and save them for a specific 'worry time'</p> | <p>13 Challenge negative thoughts. Find an alternative interpretation</p>  |
| <p>14 Get outside and move to help clear your head</p>   | <p>15 Set yourself an achievable goal and take the first step</p>      | <p>16 Find fun ways to distract yourself from unhelpful thoughts</p>    | <p>17 Use one of your strengths to overcome a challenge today</p>          | <p>18 Let go of the small stuff and focus on the things that matter</p>              | <p>19 If you can't change it, change the way you think about it</p>         | <p>20 When things go wrong, pause and be kind to yourself</p>              |
| <p>21 Identify what helped you get through a tough time in your life</p>   | <p>22 Find 3 things you feel hopeful about and write them down</p>     | <p>23 Remember that all feelings and situations pass in time</p>        | <p>24 Choose to see something good about what has gone wrong</p>           | <p>25 Notice when you are feeling judgmental and be kind instead</p>                 | <p>26 Catch yourself over-reacting and take a deep breath</p>               | <p>27 Write down 3 things you're grateful for (even if today was hard)</p> |
|  <p>28 Think about what you can learn from a recent problem</p> | <p>29 Be a realistic optimist. Focus on what could go right</p>        | <p>30 Reach out to a friend, family member or colleague for support</p> | <p>31 Remember we all struggle at times - it's part of being human</p>     |  |   |  |

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

## Non-Uniform Day

On Thursday 3rd July, children are invited to attend school in non-uniform in exchange for your kind donations towards the tombola prizes at the BSA's Summer Fayre.

All donations will be welcomed and children should take them to their classrooms. (Any alcohol needs to be taken to our front office by an adult.)

As you will be aware, the BSA would also appreciate volunteers to help out on the day, too. Information has been shared on Class Dojo.

As always, we would like to publicly thank all members of the BSA and additional volunteers for all they do to enable our school community and our children to enjoy a wide range of events and to raise money for our school.

## 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<br><i>Half Term 27 October – 31 October</i>                | 75 days  |
| <b>Spring Term:</b> | Monday 5 January 2026 – Friday 27 March 2026<br><i>Half Term 16 February - 20 February</i>                   | 55 days  |
| <b>Summer Term:</b> | Monday 13 April 2026 – Monday 20 July 2026<br><i>Half Term 25 May – 29 May, and May Bank Holiday - 4 May</i> | 65 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.

## 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'.