



Time to Bloom!

What an exciting fortnight it's been at Broomgrove! We were thrilled to welcome Night Owls to our school, who brought along a magnificent selection of owls that flew around our hall. The children were absolutely captivated as these beautiful birds swooped overhead, and the adults from Night Owls taught them lots of fascinating facts about these incredible creatures. It was a wonderful learning experience that brought our curriculum to life.

We also celebrated World Book Day in style, with children and staff alike embracing their favourite characters and stories. Looking ahead, our Year 6 pupils are preparing for their residential trip to Bawdsey next week – we know they're all very excited! Finally, we have some bittersweet news: today we say goodbye to a much-loved member of our team, Mrs Allen, who has dedicated 26 years of service to Broomgrove Junior School. Whilst we'll miss seeing her every day, we're delighted that she'll be returning as a volunteer to continue leading our weekly singing assemblies. Her commitment to our school community is truly inspiring, and we're so grateful she'll still be part of our Broomgrove family.

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	95.4%
Class 2	96.2%
Class 3	95.5%
Class 4	95.0%
Class 5	95.5%
Class 6	95.2%
Class 7	96.0%
Class 8	94.4%
Whole school	95.4%

KEY DATES

- *Monday 16th - 20th March: Year 6 Residential
- *Monday 16th-20th March: Neurodiversity Week
- *Monday 23rd-27th March: Shakespeare Week
- *Tuesday 24th March: Parents Evening
3:45pm-6:45pm
- *Thursday 26th March: Parents Evening 3:45pm - 5:45pm
- *Monday 30th March-Friday 10th April: Easter Holidays
- *Monday 27th-28th April: Year 5 Bikeability
- *Thursday 30th April: Class Photos
- *Monday 11th- 14th May: SAT's Week
- *Thursday 21st-22nd May: Year 5 Bikeability

Nite-Owl Visit by Mrs Gruender

The children, had a fabulous experience today when the Nite-Owl visitors came last week. All the children thoroughly enjoyed hearing and seeing 5 different types of owl.

It was lovely seeing the children's excited faces at having the chance to be so close to these magnificent birds of prey. The photos taken of the children were incredible and really encapsulated the children's excitement.



Reading by Mr Hawkins

Reading regularly with your child has a significant impact on their long-term success and wellbeing. Children who read frequently develop stronger vocabulary, better communication skills, and improved academic achievement across all subjects. Reading also supports emotional development and opens doors to future opportunities in education and employment.

How to Help a Reluctant Reader

Make it enjoyable – Let your child choose books that interest them, including comics, magazines, or books about their hobbies. Reading should feel like fun, not a chore.

Read together – Sit alongside your child and share the reading experience. Take turns reading pages or simply enjoy a story together without pressure.

Keep it short – Just 10-15 minutes daily makes a real difference. Little and often is more effective than long sessions.

Create a cosy space – Find a comfortable spot with good lighting where your child enjoys spending time.

Be a reading role model – Let your child see you reading and talk about what you're enjoying. Children copy what they see.

Celebrate progress – Praise effort and enjoyment rather than focusing on mistakes. Every book finished is an achievement worth celebrating.

Visit the library – Regular library trips give children choice and make reading an exciting adventure.

If you'd like more ideas or support, please get in touch with your child's teacher.

Character Virtue conversation prompts

At Broomgrove we have Character Virtues that we look for in the children each week. Each newsletter we will look at two of these virtues. The Character Focus in this newsletter: Courage & Empathy.

Talk to your child:

- "Tell me about a time this week when you did something that felt scary or difficult. What helped you be brave?"
- "Was there a moment when you had to speak up for what was right, even though it was hard? What happened?"
- "How did you show kindness to someone this week? How do you think it made them feel?"



General Enquiries

ALRESFORD HALL

07584 968420 | alresfordhall.com

we wish to share details of exciting educational event which will be held on Sunday 24th and Monday 25th May 2026, on the Alresford Hall Estate, near Colchester!

The event is of local significance as it will re-enact the Siege of Colchester: a significant battle during the English Civil War which took place in 1648.

Families are invited to step back in time as 1,000 re-enactors, roaring cannons, and thundering cavalry come to life for the largest English Civil War re-enactment Essex has ever seen!

On Sunday 24th and Monday 25th May 2026, history comes vividly to life with spectacular full-scale battles, complete with muskets, artillery, and mounted troops charging across the field in a dramatic recreation of 17th-century warfare as well as a "living history village" where families can talk to soldiers and townsfolk and experience a variety of demonstrations to understand what life was like in those days.

In addition, there are special activities and quests for children, including FREE entry to Wyvernwood.

You can find out more here:

<https://www.alresfordhall.com/colchester-living-history-festival/>

Alresford Hall has offered every pupil at Broomgrove Infant & Junior Schools one FREE ticket to this event.

Once we receive further details, we will share them with you.

KUROTEN PRACTICAL KARATE

黒猫実戦空手



**KUROTEN
PRACTICAL KARATE**

Junior Beginners

Wednesday 4:25pm - 5:25pm

For kids in school years

3, 4 & 5

**ENROLLING
NOW!**

Infants

Friday 4:30pm - 5:15pm

For kids in school years

1 & 2



**LOCATION:
WILLIAM LOVELESS HALL,
WIVENHOE**

**EMAIL:
TRACEY@KUROTENKARATE.COM**

Guidance for Parents of Broomgrove Infant and Junior Schools

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- If conditions are bad the following morning and our school remains closed, please check our website for updates and a ParentMail, Tapestry, Teams or Class Dojo message from us.
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Please note:
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You are strongly advised to check with your child's school before making any holiday or other commitments.

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Holiday Requests

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

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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)

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