

Issue 26

13th May 2024



Brookvale Primary School Newsletter



We have welcomed the change in the weather this week by embracing our outdoor surroundings. The children of Brookvale are enjoying the weather along with staff. Parents and carers, please ensure your child brings in a water bottle everyday, and that sunscreen is applied before they come to school. We don't know how long we have this beautiful weather, so let's be prepared!

This is a very important week for our year 6's as it is the start of their SATs. Year 6 parents and carers, your child has been sent home a letter inviting them into school at 8am for breakfast as lessons begin at 8.15am. If you have not received a letter then speak to Miss Humphrey. Year 6, good luck, we know you will do well.

As you know we believe reading is the start of a child's journey into education. All pupils now have a Boom Reader login. Parents and carers, please ensure your child is engaging in Boom Reader everyday. This will have a significant impact on their development and progress. If you require login details, do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or Mrs Carlill, who is the lead for reading at Brookvale.

Mrs Adolphe

Calendar Dates

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 13.05.24—
16.05.24 | Y6 SATs Week |
| 17.05.24 | Y5 Class Assembly
Y6 Go to Drayton Manor |
| 20.05.24 | Payment closes for Sudbury House Y1 Trip |
| 21.05.24 | Y1 & Y6
9-10.50am Open morning. Parents are invited to attend |
| 23.05.24 | Y3 Trip to Stonehenge |

We are caring citizens, shaping our communities.

We are ambitious for our success and the success of others.

Shaping Our Children's Futures, Together.

We are passionate about everything and everyone.

We are the authors of our own lives.

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Weekly Attendance

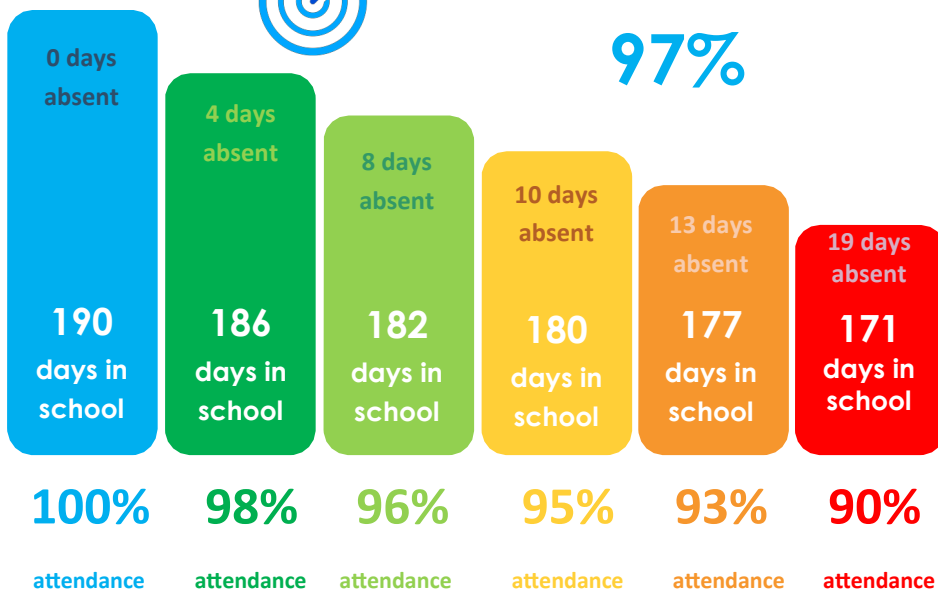
22/04/2024 to 26/04/2024

Reception	92.50%
Year 1	94.17%
★ Year 2	99.17%
Year 3	95.97%
★ Year 4 ★	100%
Year 5	96.48%
Year 6	94.17%



Our School Attendance Target is

97%



Just before the Easter holiday, Mr Day launched our next attendance competition, 'The Brookvale Blue'.

The first class to achieve 100% attendance for the week (and therefore be coloured blue), will be rewarded with a movie afternoon, complete with sweets, popcorn and ice-cream.

We finally have a winner!



Y4

'The Brookvale Blue'?



Best chance of academic success and in later life.

Poor attendance—less likely to succeed academically/in later life.

Serious impact on education and reduced life chances

This week's 100% attendance Winners:
Murtaza 1 & Isaac 6



You each win a new book.
Great Job!



This week's Class Attendance Superstars

Y4



You get extra playtime!

Attendance This Week

96.65%



Attendance Year-to-Date
95.76%



175 days off school per year.

Use this time for holidays, appointments etc

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Superstars of the Week

- Rec— Nivarna Walker
Finley Smyth
- Year 1— Helena Glowacka
Andi Foca
- Year 2— Zack Mohammed
Aarav Mahay
- Year 3— William Kayes
Emma Ndreca
- Year 4— Armand Tikamda
Tahrim Chowdhry
- Year 5— Suprati Yadav
Jeremiah Hadland
- Year 6— Imogen Box
Zuzanna Michalowska



Readers of the Week

- Rec— Liyana Rehman
- Year 1— Amarion Ward
- Year 2— Isla Mohammed
- Year 3— Mohamed Husein
- Year 4— Alex Enukei
- Year 5— Zunairah Bukhari
- Year 6— Abdulmalik Olalere



TT Rockstars

Whole School Studio Leaderboard

- 1st— Isaiah Turner—Year 2
- 2nd— Ruyani Pinto—Year 3
- 3rd— Zaroon Rizwan—Year 5
- 4th— Abdul Malik Olalere—Year 6
- 5th— Aryaan Menaj—Year 4



We are
2nd

in the nearby schools leaderboard



Reading Plus Level Award

- Year 5— Wuraola Adenekan
- Year 4— Daniella Youwudi
- Year 3— Meridyah Olalere

A huge congratulations to the below readers for your Reading Plus awards for words read (1000s)

- Year 3— Nathaniel Kuforji 250,000
- Year 4— Essa Abdul-Zaman 500,000
- Year 4— Aarav Pandya 450,000
- Year 5— Zunairah Bukhari 350,000
- Year 6— Warren Youwudi 300,000



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HELLDIVERS 2

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Within weeks of release, Helldivers 2 had become one of 2024's biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.



PEGI 18 RATING

Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, Helldivers 2 carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like giant bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It's certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

IN-GAME PURCHASES

In Helldivers 2, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

Helldivers 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a roll of the dice, as the game can't control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game's 'Social' tab.

FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to Helldivers 2's appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

LACK OF ACCESS

The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can't get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as Helldivers 2.

Advice for Parents & Educators

GIVE IT A GO FIRST

Helldivers 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for young players.

SET EXPECTATIONS

At the time of writing, Helldivers 2 costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it's worth considering whether Helldivers 2 is really the game for them.

CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES

If playing on Xbox – where Helldivers 2 isn't available – consider something like Halo: The Master Chief Collection as an alternative. One of its game modes – Firefight – replicates Helldivers' mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted Deep Rock Galactic, which sees them play as fantasy dwarves in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS

Many titles offer in-game purchases, but Helldivers 2's are comparatively cheap. You'll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk; on the whole, however, the game's selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS

Thanks to an in-game "Ping" system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn't as integral to Helldivers 2 as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5's own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won't be speaking to people they don't know.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.



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Brookvale's uniform swap

Why waste what's still good?

Our stock of used uniform is very low!

PLEASE

Donate any used, good condition school uniform that your child has out grown to school to enable Swap Shop to support our families.

Swap shop enables parents and carers to exchange any good condition uniform for previously owned.

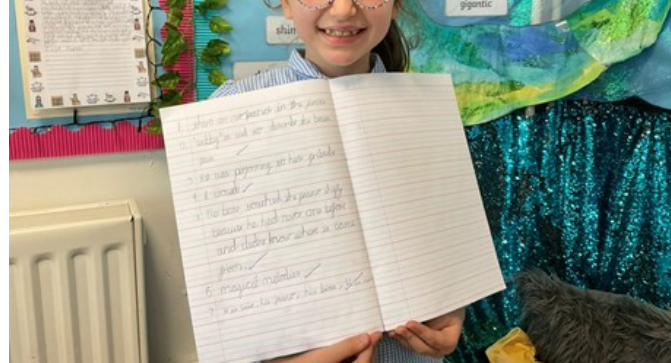
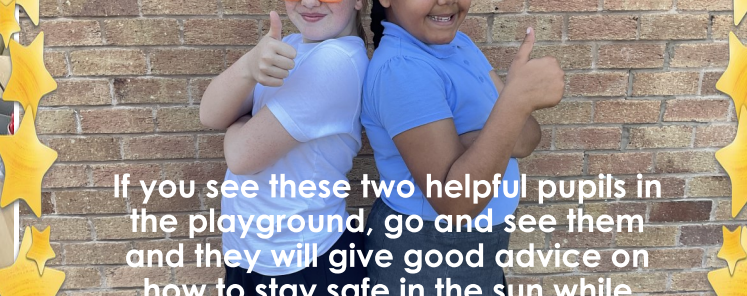
Contact Mrs Coulson in the school office.



the
uniform
swap

Our Week In Pictures

Check out our social media on X (@BPS B23)



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