



Brookvale Primary School Newsletter

Dear parents and carers



Reading to children is so powerful, so simple and yet so misunderstood (National Literacy Trust)

If parents ask me what is the singular most important thing they can do to help their child make progress with their learning, my answer is always the same – read aloud to them every day. Immerse them in stories, poems and rhymes and do it for the duration of their time in primary school.

Alison David (2020), writing on behalf of the National Literacy Trust points out that there can be few things as powerful as regularly reading to a young child. It has astonishing benefits for children: comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun. Giving a child time and full attention when reading them a story tells them they matter. It builds self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns. Yet fewer than half of 0–2-year-olds are read to every day or nearly every day by their parents.

Regularly reading to a child for the love of it provides a connection between parent and child from the very early days and helps build strong family ties. Lines from favourite stories enter the family lexicon. One that remains a firm favourite in our house is “square sweets that look round!” Can you name the book? By starting the journey of building a lifelong love of reading for pleasure, parents are giving their child the opportunity to be the best they can be: children who read for pleasure do better in a wide range of subjects at school.

Reading is a great habit. Like all habits, it needs repetition and regularity to establish itself. Because it needs quiet time, and our lives today are very short of this, parents need to create it for their children. This means consciously making time and keeping interruptions to a minimum. The earlier parents can start, the better, as it allows the love of reading to take root, grow and become part of a child’s life. And what an enriched life that will be.

Dr Beth Clarke



Upcoming events

21/10/24	8.45am—10.30am Parent Workshop Multiplication Tables Last day to send Rags to Riches donations
22/10/24	9am –11am Y6 Parent SATs Workshop
24/10/24	9am—10am SEND Coffee Morning 4pm—5.30pm Halloween Disco— collect your child at the normal time and return them in fancy dress for the disco at 4pm (NO MASKS)
23/10/24	Cake Sale after school on playground raising money for Burns Charity
25/10/24	11.30am Diwali Lunch—Parents invited to attend - make payment via MCAS Break up for HALF TERM
28/10/24 — 01/11/24	SCHOOL CLOSED
04/11/24	Children return to School
05/11/24	Whole School Flu Vaccine

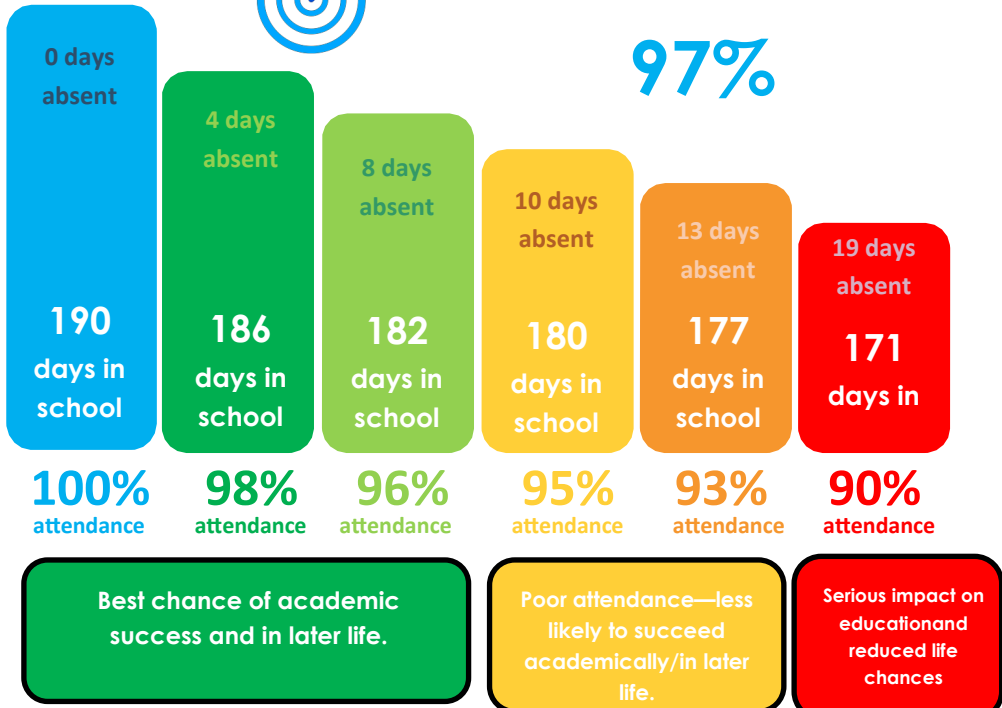
Weekly Attendance



Our School Attendance Target is

97%

07/10/2024 to 11/10/2024	
Reception ★	97.67%
Year 1	93.67%
★ Year 2 ★	99%
★ Year 3	97.33%
🎉 Year 4 ★	100%
Year 5	92.67%
Year 6	95.16%



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 Class Attendance Superstars And Brookvale Blue winners

Y4

You get extra playtime!

This week's 100% attendance Winners:

Penny Y4 Kaiden Y2

You each win a new book. Great Job!

Attendance This Week

96.30%

Attendance Year-to-Date

97.11%

175 days off school per year.
Use this time for holidays, appointments etc

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.

Parental Safeguarding



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HORROR FILMS & AGE RATINGS

The 'on-demand' availability of streaming platforms in many homes creates extra possibilities for young viewers to be exposed to age-inappropriate content. Material which features horror or violence can cause anxiety and nightmares for children, especially since it can be hard for young ones to grasp that what they're watching isn't real.

CLASSIFICATION BREAKDOWN

The British Board of Film Classification has the following age ratings:

U: Suitable for all ages

PG: For children aged 8 and above; this content shouldn't unsettle them

12A: Children under the age of 12 should not watch without an adult; this content potentially features bad language, nudity or sexual references

15: Suitable only for 15-year-olds and above

18: Exclusively for an adult audience, with potentially explicit themes of violence, nudity or sex



WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

STREAMING IS EVERYWHERE

Modern mobile devices make it very easy for children to watch streamed films without the need for a TV. The availability of inappropriate content has risen significantly on streaming platforms, almost all of which host 18-rated content. If not restricted by parental controls, this could be viewed by children who aren't quite ready for such adult themes, concepts and imagery.

FACT VS. FICTION

Many children have no trouble separating fact from fiction. However, with modern day technology making pretend violence and horror look ever more realistic, it's becoming harder for youngsters to tell the difference. For instance, consider remakes of older films, where dated special effects (making it easy to discern that something wasn't real) have been replaced by far more convincing monsters and gore.

PEER PRESSURE

Friends encouraging each other to watch the latest film featuring violence or horror can lead to children consuming content that they're not ready for. As 18+ content is available on many streaming platforms, youngsters can watch these together – potentially without their parents' or carers' knowledge.

CHILDREN SCARE DIFFERENTLY

It can be difficult to decide what content is appropriate for children. What's fine for one child could be extremely frightening for another. As many children admit to not sharing or discussing the content they watch with their parents, encouraging an open dialogue around the kind of media that young people consume can help avoid exposing them to any inappropriate content.

PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACTS

Horror prides itself on its ability to startle or induce genuine fear in the viewer – so it's no surprise that this genre isn't usually intended for children. A natural side-effect of this is that 'jump scares' or a creepy, suspenseful atmosphere can have lasting effects on younger minds. The resulting anxiety can impact a child's sleeping patterns or eating habits.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WATCH THE FILM FIRST

If you're concerned that a film might be unsuitable for children (whether it's their first dive into the horror genre or a step up in age classification), then take a look for yourself. There's no better way to judge whether this content is something you'd deem appropriate for a child – and if a parent, for example, has actually seen the film (or at least a portion of it), they can construct a far more credible case if they decide it's inappropriate.

DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF FILMS

If a child has seen a film that you think may have exposed them to potentially uncomfortable themes and ideas, don't shy away from talking about it, and answer any questions they may have. This is especially important if they watched the film without an adult present. Ask them to summarise the story for you, as this will give you an understanding of what they've learned from watching it.

REMEMBER – IT'S NOT REAL

Emphasise to children that the content they're viewing is entirely fictional and has no chance of affecting them in real life. If a child is upset after watching a film, try to understand what exactly has unsettled them; this can help you approach the topic in a healthy and informative manner, to dispel any fears or anxieties they may have.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Most streaming platforms have the option to put age ranges on children's accounts. This means that films and shows that are inappropriate for children won't be advertised while they're browsing and won't even appear if a child specifically searches for them. This can be changed any time at parents' discretion, but it's wise to protect these settings with a password, so a child can't alter anything on their own.

Meet Our Expert

John Inley is an assistant principal at a secondary school. He has been involved with e-safety in schools for over 10 years, writing policies and supporting various schools in developing their e-safety provision. John has introduced a range of strategies at multiple schools aimed at helping parents to better support their child in the ever-changing digital world.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/horror-films-and-age-ratings>

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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 16.10.2024

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MALLARD DRIVE CAR RESTRICTIONS

As a reminder to all parents and carers,

Mallard Drive is CLOSED to non-resident vehicles between;

8:15am – 9:00am

3:00pm – 3:45pm

During the restricted times, driving in the zone is a moving traffic offence, with the Police as the enforcing body. They are able to issue a £50 fixed penalty fine to anyone caught driving in the zone without permission when this restriction is in place.

Y5 London Trip

Y5 children had a fabulous trip visiting the Tower of London and The Houses of Parliament where they met Paulette Hamilton Erdington MP.

Trip s are not only enjoyable but also reinforce children's learning by experiencing new things outside of the classroom whilst making great memories with friends.

We look forward to sharing all our future trips with you throughout the year.



Raise funds by collecting reusable clothes



Our school is raising money by collecting reusable clothes.

Please help us by donating your unwanted reusable clothes and accessories.
Donated items become affordable clothing and accessories.

**WE ACCEPT CLEAN,
GOOD QUALITY, DRY,
REUSABLE CLOTHING**

- Adults, Childrens & Babies Clothing
- Jewellery and Accessories
- Paired Shoes and Footwear
- Belts and Handbags

A full list of reusable items is listed on our website
www.rags2riches4schools.co.uk

WE DO NOT ACCEPT

**POOR QUALITY ITEMS SUCH AS
DIRTY, WET, RIPPED OR SOILED
CLOTHES.
PILLOWS, DUVETS, CURTAINS,
BOOKS CDs OR ANY UNIFORM**

Please use the clothing bag provided.
You can also use any additional bag if required.

Collection Date:

Monday 21st October

Please remember - NO UNIFORM



HALLOWEEN PARTY



Thursday 24th October

4pm—5.30pm

Pocket money stalls

NO MASKS

THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

POPPY APPEAL

Y6

will be selling Poppies and other items (as below) to support

The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

At break and lunch times on the playground



Zip pull - **Suggested** Donation: 50p



Poppy pin badge - **Suggested** Donation: £1.00



Wristband - **Suggested** Donation: £1.00



Wristband - **Suggested** Donation: £1.50