



Newsletter

Friday 4th November 2022

Issue 6



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Shaping Our Children's Futures, Together

Message from Mr Day

A very warm welcome back to our children and families at the beginning of what will be a very busy Autumn 2 term as we build up to Christmas. Monday saw some creepy goings-ons as the school hosted ghouls, goblins and witches at our spooktacular Halloween Disco, enjoyed by over 150 children. I have to give a special thanks, as always, to the mums of the PTFA for volunteering their time to make this a wonderful event for our children. Your dedication and enthusiasm for these events is always greatly appreciated and, without you, we would not be able to run such fun events/activities for our children and families.

On Wednesday, we welcomed back into school our external school improvement partner, Tracy Ruddle. It was wonderful to receive the level of challenge, support and guidance from Tracy and the recognition of the work we are doing on our journey to make Brookvale an excellent school for children.

Next week sees our Educational Psychologist, Dr Anita Soni, back in school to run a parent workshop on emotion coaching (see inside for further details). We do hope that you will be able to join us for this workshop as it is such a powerful strategy to support the development of behavioural regulation in children.

Mr Day

Dates for your Diary

Tues 8th Nov 9.00am 9.00 - 10.50am	Emotion Coaching workshop with Dr Anita Soni—all parents welcome Year 1 and 6 Open Mornings—Parents/ family members invited into class to work with children.
Weds 9th Nov 11.00-5.00pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open day for prospective Reception parents in September 2023—contact the school office to make an appointment (appointment system only)
Fri 11th Nov 9.00am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 class assembly—parents/ families are welcome to attend.
Tues 15th Nov (see inside for times)	Year 2 and 5 Open Mornings—Parents/ family members invited into class to work with children.
Fri 18th Nov All day	Teacher Take Over Day—Pupils in Year 6 get to be the 'mini-me' of staff members.
Tues 22nd Nov	Year 3 and 4 Open Mornings—Parents/ family members invited into class to work with children.

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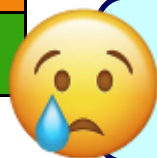
Brookvale Primary School Newsletter



Attendance

Whole School (Years 1 to 6)	94.72%
Reception	91.95%
Year 1	96.67%
Year 2	96.63%
Year 3	90.33%
Year 4	92.33%
Year 5	95.00%
Year 6	97.86%

Equates to:



Oh dear—not a great week in Years 3, 4 or 5 but I know it will be better next week.

This week's Class

Attendance Superstars Are:

Year 6

The class with highest attendance each week will receive an additional 15 minute playtime.

This week's

100% Attendance

Reward Winners are:

KS1: Dawud (Y1)

KS2: Marks (Y6)

Each week, children with 100% attendance will be placed in a draw. Two winners will be selected at random and awarded a brand new book for their effort.

Persistent Absentees

This week, the leadership team met to discuss children who are currently classed as, or at risk of being classed as 'Persistently Absent'. Persistently Absent children (attendance below 90%) have been shown to perform significantly worse than pupils where attendance is at least good. They are more likely to struggle in later life as a result of not securing good GCSEs, and in turn have fewer employment prospects. Research also shows that children who are persistently absent can become involved in anti-social or criminal behaviour.

At this point in the year, we have 26 children whose attendance has fallen below 90%. This must improve and so letters have been issued to all parents/families.

Pupils at Risk of Persistent Absence

Brookvale school will ensure it provides support to pupils at risk of persistent absence (PA), in conjunction with all relevant external authorities, where necessary. with parents. To address PA., Brookvale have established robust escalation procedures which will be initiated before absence becomes a problem by:

- Sending letters to parents. -
- Holding attendance meetings with parents
- Developing personalised attendance plans
- Engaging with Local Authority attendance teams.
- Using fixed penalty notices.
- Creating attendance clinics.

Mr Day is now monitoring these 26 children and will contact families where attendance does not improve by Christmas.



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Parents Evening

Autumn term's parents' evening slots are now available for booking using the School Cloud platform (*details of how to do this were emailed on 3rd Nov*).

Please note, slots are available on a first-come-first-served basis and we will not be making appointments outside of the dates and times set.

Wednesday 7th Dec

3.45-6.00pm

Thursday 8th Dec

3.45-5.45pm

Report cards will be issued a week in advance so that you can discuss your child's progress at the meeting.



We look forward to celebrating your child's successes.

PTFA Members

We are looking for parent and family members to join the wonderful volunteers who make up our PTFA,

The PTFA meet regularly with Mr Day to discuss and organise events in school, such as the Halloween Disco, Christmas & summer fayres, movie nights etc. Without the amazing support of our families, these events would not be able to run.

We are looking for volunteers to help with the set-up, running of stalls and clear up after the Christmas Fayre on Friday 2nd December, between 1.30 and 6pm.



If you could spare an hour to help at this event, please speak to Mr Day or email office@brkvale.bham.sch.uk.

Come on Brookvale!
We Need your help!

Open Mornings

Next week, we start the first of this year's open mornings. Parents and family members are welcome to attend these events and work alongside the children in class. The dates and times of the events are as follow:

Tuesday 8th Nov

9.00-10.50am: Years 1 and 6

Tuesday 15th Nov

9.00-10.50am: Year 2

1.15-3.05pm: Year 5 (time change due to swimming)

Tuesday 22nd Nov

9.00-10.50am: Years 3 and 4

We do hope to see many parents at these events.

Carol Concert

Christmas is such a magical time at Brookvale, with a whole raft of events taking place.

One of our biggest (and most in demand) is our annual Carol Concert. Tickets for this year's 3rd annual concert are now on sale through the MCAS platform. Please note, 40 out of 150 have already gone.

Residents of Waterford Court will again be joining us for this wonderful community get-together.



Christmas Fayre

Would you like to sell craft or food items at the Christmas Fayre? We are currently booking stall holders at the event and welcome any interest.

To book a stall, please contact of-
ice@brkvale.bham.sch.uk
Stalls are £10 each

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Emotion Coaching

On Tuesday 8th, our Educational Psychologist, Dr Anita Soni will be delivering a parent workshop on the power of emotion coaching as a parenting tool. Come along and find out how you can support your child to better regulate their emotions and behaviour.

What is Emotion Coaching?

Emotion Coaching is based on the principle that nurturing and emotionally supportive relationships provide optimal contexts for the promotion of children's outcomes and resilience.

Emotion Coached children and young people:

- Achieve more academically in school
- Are more popular
- Have fewer behavioural problems
- Have fewer infectious illnesses
- Are more emotionally stable
- Are more resilient



Emotion Coaching uses moments of heightened emotion and resulting behaviour to guide and teach the child and young person about more effective responses. Through empathetic engagement the child's emotional state is verbally acknowledged and validated, promoting a sense of security and feeling 'felt'. This activates changes in the child's neurological system and allows the child to calm down, physiologically and psychologically.

Inappropriate behaviours are not condoned in Emotion Coaching and when the child is calmer, incidents are discussed in a more rational and productive manner. Moves are made to problem solve and engage in solution-focused strategies.

Family Support

Please see below details of support from the Erdington Families Network. If you are struggling with any personal issues outside of school, please, come and speak to us. We are here to help and can direct you to a number of services.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR STRUGGLING FAMILIES

We are getting a lot of enquiries about families who are struggling financially in the current cost of living crisis.

The Household Support Fund is currently closed to applications and we will let you know when it re-opens.

In the meantime, we would like to inform you about a grant fund that is opening on November 1st - TONS OF HELP.

Eligibility criteria

- Applicants must be residents of Birmingham
- Grants are available to lone-parent households, those living with a physical disability or those in receipt of a pension.

The fund is unfortunately not limitless and so grants will be awarded to those assessed as most in need.

£100 Grants will be awarded to successful applicants on the 30th of November, and 19th of December.



For more information, please visit;
<https://tonsofhelp.com/apply>

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Parent Safeguarding Information

Working together to Safeguard Our Children

Bullying (NSPCC)

What is Bullying?

Bullying is when individuals or groups seek to harm, intimidate or coerce someone who is perceived to be vulnerable. It can involve people of any age, and can happen anywhere – at home, school or using online platforms and technologies (cyberbullying). This means it can happen at any time.

Types of Bullying

Bullying encompasses a range of behaviours which may be combined and may include the behaviours and actions set out below. Bullying can be a form of discrimination, particularly if it is based on a child's disability, race, religion or belief, gender identity or sexuality.

Verbal abuse:

- name-calling
- saying nasty things to or about a child or their family.

Physical abuse:

- hitting a child
- pushing a child
- physical assault.

Emotional abuse:

- making threats
- undermining a child
- excluding a child from a friendship group or activities.

Cyberbullying/online bullying:

- excluding a child from online games, activities or friendship groups
- sending threatening, upsetting or abusive messages
- creating and sharing embarrassing or malicious images or videos
- 'trolling' - sending menacing or upsetting messages on social networks, chat rooms or online games
- voting for or against someone in an abusive poll
- setting up hate sites or groups about a particular child
- creating fake accounts, hijacking or stealing online identities to embarrass a young person or cause trouble using their name.

Recognising the Signs of Bullying

Indicators that a child could be experiencing bullying include:

- being reluctant to go to school
 - being distressed or anxious
 - losing confidence and becoming withdrawn
 - having problems eating and/or sleeping
 - having unexplained injuries
 - changes in appearance
 - changes in performance and/or behaviour at school.
- Adults may notice that a child isn't spending time with their usual group of friends, has become isolated or that other children's behaviour towards a

Impact of Bullying

The emotional effects of being bullied include:

- sadness, depression and anxiety
- low self-esteem
- social isolation
- self-harm
- suicidal thoughts and feelings (Bainbridge, Ross and Woodhouse, 2017).

Bullying can affect children's performance and attendance at school. They may find it hard to concentrate on schoolwork and homework, or be too afraid to go to school (Brown, Clery and Ferguson, 2011).

If you are concerned that your child is being bullied, please ask to speak to a member of staff immediately or email office@brkvale.bham.sch.uk. Do not delay!

We will not tolerate any form of bullying at Brookvale and are proactive in addressing behaviours that could constitute bullying. Please follow the attached link for a copy of our Anti-Bullying Policy

<https://brkvale.bham.sch.uk/files/2022/11/Anti-Bullying-Interventions-Policy-2022-2023.pdf>

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Our Week in Pictures

Check out our Twitter account @BPS_B23

If you don't have a Twitter account, ask a member of staff to help you setting this up.



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