



Newsletter

Friday 20th October 2023

Issue 6



Twitter

@BPS_B23



Shaping Our Children's Futures, Together

Messages from Mr Day

The school was filled with Rock royalty on Friday as children took part in our first TT Rockstars day of the year. Children dressed as their favourite rock legends and took part in a day of activities designed to strengthen and embed their knowledge of timetables. Year groups battled it out in different arenas as they competed to become the ultimate rockstars, mastering and demonstrating their knowledge and speed of timetables up to 12 x 12.

It was such a wonderful day of learning and a pleasure to see how enthusiastic children and staff were in embracing the theme. A huge thanks goes to Mr Mills and Miss Ashford for organising such an excellent day and to all the children, staff and families for fully immersing yourselves into the rock and roll lifestyle.

What is TT Rockstars?

To support children to learn and become confident with their multiplication tables, children can use a website called 'Times Tables Rockstars' (TT Rockstars). The website contains lots of games with a rock star theme, which support the children to recall times tables facts and increase their speed when answering these questions.

The children all have their own logins and avatars and earn coins for correct answers so that they can buy their avatar new things. We use TT Rockstars in lessons during the week and also advise children to practise as part of homework (Battle of the Bands).

There are two single player modes to play:

Garage - this is the main mode the children should play. The questions will only come from the times tables that the teacher has set. As pupils start to answer questions, TT Rock Stars works out which facts they take longer on and will give them more of these questions to answer.

Studio - these questions can be anything from 2 x 2 to 12 x 12. TT Rock Stars calculates the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates this into a Rock Status.

There are also multi-player modes:

Rock Arena - this allows players to compete against all other members of their Band or Class (their band mates would need to join the same game in order to compete together).

Children will need to master different times tables as they move through the school. Our aim is that: in Year 2, children master 2s, 5s, and 10s; in Year 3, children will master 3s, 4s, and 8s. By the end of Year 4, children will need to have mastered all timetables up to 12 x 12. In June 2024, children in Year 4 will complete the Government's Multiplication Tables Check (MTC), where they will be asked 25 questions and will have to answer each question within six seconds.

If you want to know how you can support your child with their timetables, come along to our workshop on Tuesday 24th October, or speak with their class teacher.

Mr Day

Dates for your Diary

Mon 23rd Oct	9.00-11.00—SATS SPaG Parent Workshop led by Mr Mills and Miss Humphrey. Come along and find out how you can support your child to develop a secure understanding of grammar and punctuation.
Tues 24th Oct	8.45-10.30am Year 3 and 4 parent workshop – Multiplication Tables. Come along to gain a better understanding how you can support your child to develop fluency in their timetable recall and work with your child in class. 5.00-7.00pm PTFA Free Movie Night. If you attended our movie night last week, you can join us for a 'spooktacular' evening watching 'Hocus Pocus 2' free of charge. Please note: this movie is a PG and parents must attend alongside children.
Thurs 26th Oct	4.00-5.30pm Halloween Disco. Parent volunteers needed for set-up, during and clear-up – speak to Mr Day if you can help. Children should not wear masks/gory costumes as these may scare younger children.
Fri 27th Oct	9.00am—Harvest Celebration Assembly. Parents of children receiving awards are welcome to attend. 3.25pm Break up for half term. We look forward to welcoming children back to school Monday 6th November.

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We are passionate about everything and everyone.

We are the authors of our own lives.

Brookvale Primary School Newsletter



Attendance

Whole School
(Years 1 to 6)  96.24%

Reception 81.72%

Year 1  99.26%

Year 2 91.63%

Year 3 94.27%

Year 4  99.26%

Year 5 95.57%

Year 6  97.42%

Equates to:



This week's Class

**Attendance Superstars
Are:**

Year 1 & 4

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

This week's

100% Attendance

Reward Winners are:

KS1: Kathrine (Y1)

KS2: Darja (Y3)

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.

Attendance Competition

After the half term break, we will be launching our first attendance competition of the academic year. Children who are in every day, between Monday 6th November and Friday 17th November will be entered into a prize draw. Selected winners will receive £10 'One4All' shopping vouchers, which can be used in hundreds of high street and online retailers.

You've Gotta Be In To Win!

Attendance Year-to-Date

At the end of each half term, the class who have the highest attendance will have a reward afternoon to celebrate their collective efforts. So far, class attendance for the year stands at:



4th—Year 2 (96.31%)

5th—Year 3 (95.76%)

6th—Year 5 (95.61%)

7th—Rec (92.74%)



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Behaviour Reward Party

At Brookvale, we set the highest of expectations for our children's behaviour and have established a whole school set of expectations which all children can achieve and demonstrate daily.

We believe that children who consistently demonstrate these expectations, and model what is required of a pupil at Brookvale, should be rewarded for their efforts.

Mr Day will be holding a Pumpkin Carving Party to celebrate these children.

Friday 27th October
1.30-3.00pm

Invitations will be sent home with children on Monday
Children will be able to bring along a family member to join in the festivities.



Movie Night

A huge thank you to all the families who bought tickets for our PTFA movie night last Thursday. Whilst the weather was not on our side for the outdoor screening we originally had planned, it still turned out to be a great night nonetheless.

To say thank you, we would like to invite those children and families who purchased a ticket back into school on Tuesday 24th for a free movie night.



Come along and watch
Hocus Pocus 2
5.00-7.00pm

Harvest Festival

Thank you to all the families who have kindly donated goods for our Harvest collection.

These food items will be made into food parcels and distributed to families in our local community.

If you would like to donate any rice, pasta, tins, jars or toiletries, please send these in with your children by Thursday 26th October.



Thank you again for your generosity.

Santa's Little Helpers

Know how to run a basic running stitch on a sewing machine or are willing to learn? Then we need your help!



We have 400 metres of beautiful voile that we need to sew hems into ready for our Christmas Snowball on Wednesday 20th December.

If you are free on **Monday 6th November** to come into school, we would be grateful for your help. Please contact the school office or let Mr Day know.

We have all the materials and sewing machines in-school and there will be lots of teas, coffees and treats provided.

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Parent Safeguarding – Risk of Youtube From ‘National Online Safety’

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

YOUTUBE

YouTube is a video-sharing social media platform that allows billions of people around the world to watch, share and upload their own videos with a vast range of content – including sport, entertainment, education and lots more. It's a superb space for people to consume content that they're interested in. As a result, this astronomically popular platform has had a huge social impact: influencing online culture on a global scale and creating new celebrities.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate material. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform, which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as messaging other users directly. Connecting with strangers online, of course, can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, to cyberbullying and even to encountering online predators.

SUGGESTED CONTENT

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but can also lead to binge-watching and the risk of screen addiction, especially if 'auto-play' is activated. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

HIGH VISIBILITY

Content creators can also be put at risk – especially young ones who try to make their online presence as visible as possible. Creating and uploading content exposes children to potential harassment and toxicity from the comments section, along with the possibility of direct messaging from strangers. Videos posted publicly can be watched by anyone in the world.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends, challenges and memes that are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may harm children through either watching or copying. The painful 'salt and ice challenge', which can cause injuries very quickly, is just one of many such examples.

SNEAKY SCAMMERS

Popular YouTube channels regularly have scammers posing as a well-known influencer in the comments section, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and sometimes offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users are not who they claim to be.

Advice for Parents & Carers

APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate content (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence and sexual situations) to underage viewers. To prevent your child from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that your child uses to access YouTube.

TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows you to monitor what your child is watching, uploading and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives you an oversight of how your child is using sites like YouTube and helps you ensure they are only accessing appropriate content.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that your child is subscribed to can be hidden. If your child is only uploading videos that are protected as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

CHECK OTHER PLATFORMS

Influential content creators usually have other social media accounts which they encourage their fans to follow. Having an open discussion about this with your child makes it easier to find out how else they might be following a particular creator online. It also opens up avenues for you to check out that creator's other channels to see what type of content your child is being exposed to.

MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them children. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course, and react to content differently. You may want to keep an eye on how your child interacts with content on YouTube – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand the types of videos they are interested in.

LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases: users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch, for example. If you're not comfortable with your child purchasing content online, limit their access to your bank cards and online payment methods. Many parents have discovered to their cost that a child happily devouring a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

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A large collage of 18 photographs showing children and adults participating in a 'Rock Your Literacy' event. The photos depict various activities: children playing guitars, singing into microphones, reading books, and performing on stage. The event is held in a school hall with a large screen displaying a presentation.

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