School News | Friday 16th October 2026

BROOKLANDS BULLETIN

Weekly Reflection

Dear parents and carers,

This week has been a VERY busy one! On Tuesday and Wednesday, some children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 took part in local Rugby tournaments; thank you to the adults for supporting our children and to ALL of our children for showing our Brooklands values with dedication and true sportsman and womanship in the face of very tough opposition. The feedback from every single adult was glowing of our children and they did us VERY proud. We work very hard to ensure that all children, in the course of a year, are given the opportunity to take part in inter-school events as it is not always possible to take every child to every event. Our dedicated staff are always looking to forge new partnerships with local groups to provide opportunities for our children so if you are aware of events we may be able to get involved with, please do let us know- thank you in advance and we look forward to offering more opportunities to children who may not have been able to take part this time around. We are also looking for more Key Stage One events, as many are only open to the older children. Rest assured, we are working hard to offer these opportunities to as many children as possible.

We have had a lot of developments in our Pupil Leadership in recent weeks- please have a look in this week's Bulletin to welcome this year's Pupil Parliament; they have already had their first meeting and are eager to help us make a difference to the lives of the Brooklands Community! We also now have Lunchtime helpers and Playtime Leaders; they have already started to support other children in the lunch hall and on the playground!

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend

Mrs McGrath and Mrs Armstrong

UPCOMING DATES

Shared Stories and coffee morning in the BUFA with Greenwich Mental Health Team 23rd October 8:45-10am

Last day of term - Friday 23rd October

Half term holiday - Monday 26th October - Friday 6th November

First day back - Monday 9th November

Parents Evenings- Tuesday 17th and Wednesday 18th November 3:30pm-6pm

Year 6 Big Outcome- Wednesday 18th November- afternoon- time TBC

Wreath making- FOB event 27th November

Winter Fair- 4th December

STAFF ABSENCE

We understand that several parents have raised questions about how we communicate staff absence. We have experienced a number of staff absences in recent weeks and recognise that changes in staffing can be unsettling for children. We work closely with trusted supply agencies to ensure that cover is provided by qualified professionals who understand our routines and expectations. While we cannot always anticipate absences, we do everything possible to maintain consistency, using familiar adults wherever possible. Learning continues to be planned by the class teacher, with systems in place to monitor pupils' progress and keep the teacher informed.

For privacy reasons, we cannot discuss individual staff members' circumstances or confirm when they will return. We talk to the children to understand that their teacher is doing all they can to return, and we appreciate your support in reinforcing this message at home.

We regularly check in with children and staff to ensure that supply arrangements are working well and that our expectations for teaching, learning and wellbeing are being met. We take any concerns raised seriously and act where necessary.

We appreciate that limited communication about staffing can be frustrating; however, it is not always possible to provide regular updates when circumstances change. Please be assured that maintaining stability for our children remains a priority. Thank you for your continued support and for sharing any concerns with us.

What do you celebrate?

Different backgrounds Brighter together

We would love to know what you and your family celebrate at home each month!



Religious festivals



Cultural celebrations



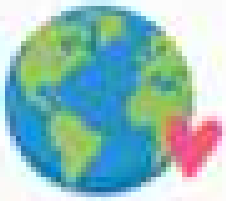
Special days



Heritage events



Traditions



Anything that is special to your family!

You could tell us:

- What the celebration is
- When it happens
- How your family celebrates
- Photos (if you're happy to share)
- Anything else you'd like us to know

We will include your celebrations in our 'This month, our Brooklands families will be celebrating...' section of our school bulletin.

We love finding out about our families and sharing our commonalities and differences as **we all belong** as our school community.

Creativity
Resilience
Empathy
Aspiration
Togetherness
Excellence



A community where everyone belongs

Many cultures ♥ Many stories ♥ One Brooklands

BROOKLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

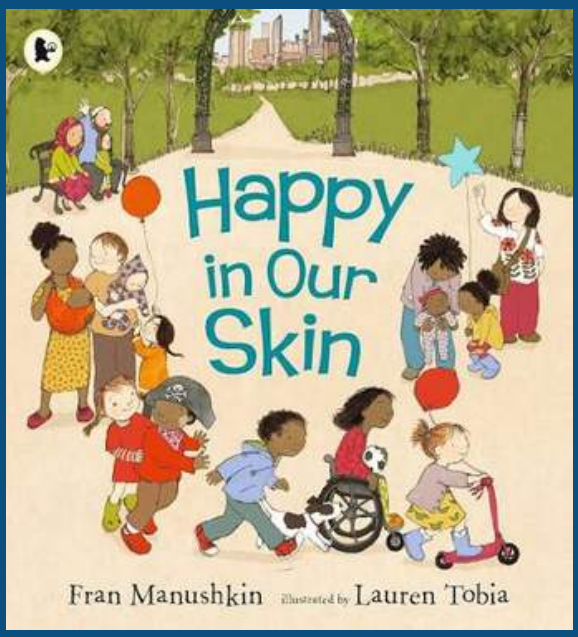
Reading at Brooklands



We have a wonderful reading culture at Brooklands and celebrate this in lots of ways!

What's your favourite book?
Let your teacher know!

We would love to hear what books and stories you enjoy at home- please email in to share your favourite books, or photos of you reading together at home!



Happy in Our Skin
by Fran Manushkin

Bouquets of babies sweet to hold: cocoa-brown, cinnamon, and honey gold. Ginger-coloured babies, peaches and cream, too – splendid skin for me, splendid skin for you!

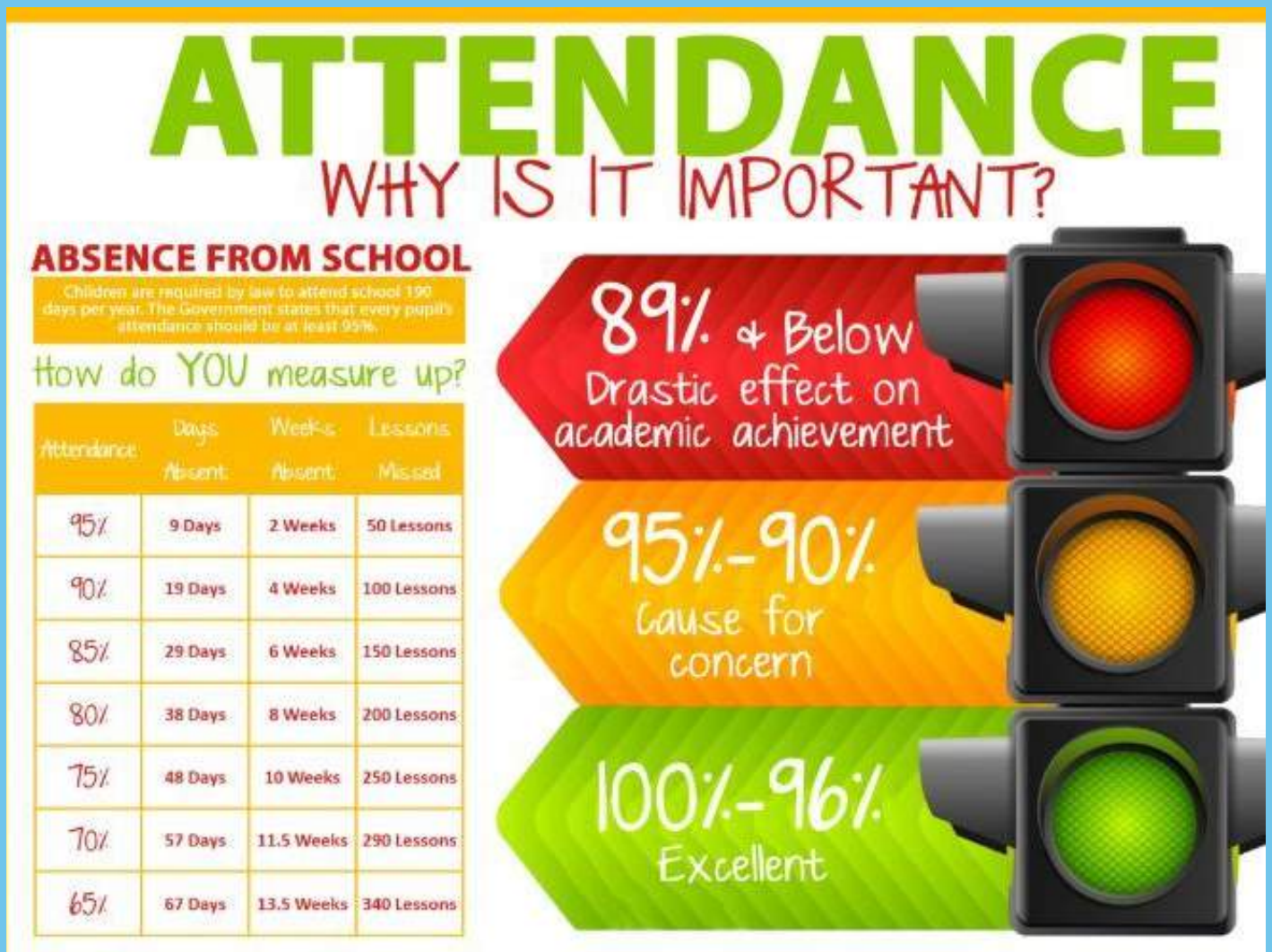
A delightfully rhythmical read-aloud text is paired with bright, bustling art from the award-winning Lauren Tobia, illustrator of Anna Hibiscus, in this joyful exploration of the new skin of babyhood. All children can see themselves, and open their eyes to the world around them, in this sweet, scrumptious celebration of skin in all its many, many, wonderful forms.

ONLINE SAFETY

For Parents - Protecting Children's Images from AI Abuse
AI tools can now be used to manipulate ordinary photographs of children into sexual or otherwise harmful imagery.
The Internet Watch Foundation and the National Crime Agency have produced practical guidance for parents and carers about reducing the risk of image misuse.
The advice includes thinking carefully about privacy settings, who can see photographs, how much identifying information is shared and involving children in decisions about posting their images as they get older.
The guidance also explains what parents can do if an image has been manipulated or misused.
Link:
IWF – Parent Guide: Stopping AI Child Image Abuse

Attendance

Reception	95.33%
Year 1	98.28%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	99.31%
Year 4	95.52%
Year 5	100%
Year 6	90.36%



Office Reminders



- **Absence** - Please ensure you call the office before **9am** if your child will not be in school that day. Alternatively, you can report your child's absence on Studybugs. Logging your child's absence on Study Bugs will not autmatically mean it is authorised; our monitoring procedures include checking the validity of the reason given for absence. Should there be any query, school will contact you directly for more information before making a decision as to whether the absence will be authorised.

- Should your child's attendance have been a concern last year (check your child's End-Of-Year report if you are unsure) and your child has already had absence this term, the school will be contacting you as to how we can support you in ensuring your child attends school regularly. Any child who has attendance below 90% over the last 10 school weeks will not have any further absence authorised without medical evidence. If you have any questions, please arrange to speak with Mrs. Armstrong who will be happy to meet with you to discuss this further.

- **Punctuality** - Should a child's punctuality be identified as persistent (more than 10%) or a pattern (e.g. late on a particular day of the week), parents will be invited in to meet with leadership and/or the local authority attendance officer to discuss how the school can support the family to improve punctuality for the child.



Please sign up to our attendance app which is how we now ask parents to inform us of absence; thank you to those who have already signed up. There is also a link to the page along the top of our home page on our website.

STARS OF THE WEEK

Nursery	Cleo for being so polite and kind to others when playing.
Reception	Phoebe for continuing to build your confidence and for sharing your beautiful home projects Sienna for being an enthusiastic learner
Year 1	Jayden for working really hard with phonics and maths. You have also been engaging very well during whole class sessions. Amari for a great start to Year 1 and working so hard on her reading, writing and phonics. Well done!
Year 2	Whole class, for their incredible consolidation of learning, demonstrating exceptional focus
Year 3	The year 3 rugby team - For showing incredible sportsmanship and doing Brooklands proud. Jahyan - For a brilliant acting performance as a Stone Age person in our history lesson.
Year 4	Sofia - for completing some absolutely fantastic work in history. Rafi - for showing great curiosity in all our lessons this week and wanting to contribute to class discussions.
Year 5	The whole class for having an amazing discussion with Sarah during their jigsaw lesson this week.
Year 6	Andrei - for always having a great attitude towards learning. Troy - for improved focus and confidence to contribute to class discussions.

A huge thank you also goes to our fantastic Friends of Brooklands and volunteers for a wonderful school disco and for the teachers who stayed behind to help! These events could not happen without the dedication of these wonderful people- THANK YOU!

FOB could ALWAYS do with more people to get involved! Please do let us know if you would be interested!

GENTLE REMINDERS

A reminder that the gate opens for children and families at 8:30am. This is for families and children to socialise and network as well as giving children plenty of time to be on site in time. The classroom doors and main KS2 door opens at 8:40am and children need to be on site by 8:45am.

Parents on site at the start of the day

Parents are expected to remain on site, with their children, until the classroom doors open. This is for health and safety and safeguarding reasons. If children come to school alone (Years 5 and 6), they are to remain in the Early Years playground to ensure they are in sight of the school staff.

Mobile phones and smart watches

Children who walk to and from school are allowed to bring a mobile phone to school so they are able to inform parents they have arrived safely. However, mobile phones should not be used on site and so children are to take phones and smart watches to the office so they can be kept secure until they can be collected at the end of the day. Having these devices on and accessible during the school day poses a safeguarding risk, which we take very seriously. Please support the school in reminding children to only use their phones once they are off-site. Thank you.

Appropriate clothing for school

We have had a few children coming to school recently in clothing that has not been appropriate for school e.g. costumes, restrictive clothing and loose footwear. We know that being a non-uniform school is a unique feature of Brooklands and we do not wish to prevent children from expressing their individuality. However, please ensure children are dressed in clothing that does not restrict movement and footwear that is secure. We have had a few accidents at playtime recently and this is something we are closely monitoring. We thank you for your support in this matter.

This week at Brooklands...

Nursery	This week in Nursery, we have enjoyed spending time in Little Bluebells, exploring the outdoor provision and making the most of the different opportunities for play and learning. The children were fascinated by the chickens and spent time watching them, encouraging their curiosity about the natural world and living things. We also embraced the autumn season in our mud kitchen, using natural materials to create wonderful autumn-inspired play. Alongside our outdoor adventures, we enjoyed some calming yoga to help us relax and unwind, as well as singing our favourite songs together. These experiences support the children's communication and language, physical development and understanding of the world, while giving them plenty of opportunities to explore, express themselves and learn through play.
Reception	It's been another wonderful and busy week in Reception! Our learning about Harvest explored how farmers gather crops such as wheat, apples and pumpkins, and how the Christian celebration reminds us to be thankful for the food we enjoy. The children also got creative, using leaves, twigs and other natural materials to make their own artwork. In phonics, we continued practising learnt sounds, expanding our word banks and writing simple phrases. In maths, we explored comparing size and quantity through fun, hands-on activities. Our focus book was Happy in Our Skin by Fran Manushkin, a beautiful book that celebrates diversity, individuality and the importance of loving who we are. With just one week left this term, it's amazing to see how much progress has been made in such a short time. I'm so proud of the children and the enthusiasm, curiosity and confidence they bring to their learning each day.
Year 1	Year 1 are still trying very hard with all their learning despite nearly being at the end of a long half term. We have continued with counting forwards and backwards within 100 and looking at sequences/ patterns within a 100 square. They are becoming much more confident when explaining their thinking and reasoning. In English this week we have looked at our core text 'A place called Home', a non fiction book that shows different homes from around the world. We have consolidated our learning on lists, labels and captions when writing about a home from another country. The children are making a huge effort to use the correct letter formation when doing their writing. During our Geography session we have looked at the flags for the countries in the United Kingdom and painted these as one of our Art challenges this week. We have also participated in our weekly PSHE lesson and music lesson, learning a new song. We were very fortunate to have a visitor, in Year 1, this week, a Grandma who came to show us some of the toys she played with as a child. She talked about what they are made of and how she played with them. This was a fantastic interactive and hands-on experience for the children and consolidated their History learning on old toys. We would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Comfort for a lovely afternoon.
Year 2	Year 2 have had another wonderful week! In English, they have been finalising and writing their explanation texts based on The Tiny Seed and what a plant needs to stay healthy, focusing on using the word "because" to give reasons and "and" to extend their sentences. In maths, they have been exploring addition by adding different numbers together using a variety of concrete materials. Despite the rain, they also had a lovely outdoor forest school session for science. In RE and geography, they have been busy consolidating their knowledge from across the half term, while in PE they have continued to practise their ball skills and learning how to keep a ball under control. They have had such a great week, I am so proud of them!
Year 3	Year 3 have enjoyed a brilliant week 6 at Brooklands. In English we have started writing our newspaper report all about Mary Anning and the fossils that she discovered. In maths, we have begun looking at measurements and considering whether an item would be appropriate to be measured in centre metres or metres. In history, the children took their learning of how The Stone Age developed over time and created a short drama performance explaining how this happened. We may yet have some Oscar winning actors in our class! In RE, we learnt all about a Puja tray and its significance to Diwali. The class also continued their learning of French and have begun learning a new song in Music. 12 of year 3 also took part in a rugby tournament on Wednesday in which they played extremely well, winning both of their knockout games after lunch! As well as playing brilliant rugby, the children showed incredible sportsmanship and kindness throughout and I could not be more proud of the way they held themselves and represented our school.

This week at Brooklands...in photos!

Year 4	Well, Week 6 is officially in the history books, and what a fabulous week it has been! The children have truly embodied all of our school values across every area of learning: **Curiosity:** In Science, the children explored the differences between reversible and irreversible changes. It was wonderful to see their enthusiasm during our hands-on experiments as they questioned, observed, and collaborated. **Resilience:** Our Tag Rugby team demonstrated this value brilliantly on Wednesday. For many, this was their very first time playing a competitive match. While they didn't bring home a trophy, they were absolute winners in my eyes for their determination and giving their all against far more experienced teams! **Excellence:** The class has produced fantastic work in English, successfully incorporating fronted adverbials, time connectives, and prepositions into their writing. Their explanation texts about the water cycle are coming along splendidly. **Aspiration:** Everyone in Year 4 has been working tremendously hard to master rounding in Mathematics. Rounding can be a tricky concept to grasp, but I have been so impressed by the children's drive and determination to master it. **Togetherness:** During our swimming lessons, the children showed wonderful team spirit by cheering on their peers and celebrating each other's progress in the pool. **Empathy:** This week, the class showed great kindness and consideration toward one another, whether by stepping in to support a friend during group tasks or ensuring everyone felt included and supported at playtime. I am so proud of Year 4's efforts across the board. Well done, everyone!
Year 5	This week in Year 5, we have continued to build on our learning across the curriculum. In Maths, we explored thousandths and worked on securing our understanding of place value. In English, we completed our information texts about the four ashramas, the stages of Hindu life. The children included relative clauses and parentheses in their writing and then self-assessed their work using assessment grids to reflect on their progress. In Reading, we continued exploring The Infinite Lives of Maisie Day, developing our comprehension skills and practising inference to deepen our understanding of the text. In RE, we explored the Hindu belief in the universe's endless cycle of creation, preservation and destruction. In Music, we worked on the theme tune for The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air, focusing on rhythm and developing our rapping skills. In Science, the children tackled a series of challenge grids, revisiting previous learning and demonstrating their understanding of the topics we have studied. In History, we continued learning about Mayan farming techniques and how the Maya used the land to grow their crops. In Computing, we explored search engines, learning what they do and how they help us find information online. In French, we learnt about the verb être, meaning 'to be', and practised using it in a verb table. A huge congratulations to Year 5, who won the rugby tournament this week! We are incredibly proud of the children for their achievement, teamwork and determination. They represented Brooklands brilliantly, and it was fantastic to see their hard work and commitment rewarded with such a wonderful result.
Year 6	This week, the children have begun writing their non-chronological reports about Hajj. They have worked hard to include information from their learning in R.E. while also focusing on our writing success criteria. These include using semicolons, relative clauses and subordinating conjunctions to make their writing more detailed and engaging. In maths, we have continued to explore how increasing or decreasing the minuend affects the difference in a subtraction calculation. The children have also been using their knowledge of number facts to solve subtraction questions more efficiently. Within our wider curriculum lessons, the children have begun completing their challenge grids, answering questions based on their learning throughout this half term. The children have confidently recalled key information and demonstrated a good understanding of the topics they have studied. It has been wonderful to see them applying their knowledge and reflecting on their learning On Tuesday, some of our Year 6 children had the exciting opportunity to attend a Year 5/6 rugby festival. They demonstrated great teamwork, determination and sportsmanship throughout the event, representing the school brilliantly. Well done to everyone who took part!





Year 4 Science experiment this week!



Our Autumn disco!



Pupil Parliament Gets Under Way!

On 15th October, our newly elected Pupil Parliament members came together for their first meeting of the year. Representatives from Years 1 to 6 will work together to share ideas, make decisions and help make Brooklands an even better place to learn.

Our elected representatives are:
Year 1: Jayden and Meva
Year 2: Isabella and Kion
Year 3: Ihunda and Artie
Year 4: Niyla-Ray and Fox
Year 5: Rori and Zac
Year 6: Willow and Finn

One of the first important decisions was choosing our school charity for the year. After a vote, the members elected the RSPCA, which received 10 votes. The RSPCA works to protect animals and promote their welfare, and our Pupil Parliament is looking forward to supporting this important cause.

Our first project will be to create a "Recipes from Home" school cookbook! We want to celebrate the wonderful variety of cultures, traditions and family favourites within our school community by collecting healthy, traditional recipes from around the world. Pupil Parliament representatives will give their classmates a sheet to take home, inviting families to share a favourite recipe. Once we have collected the recipes, we will bring them together to create a digital or printed cookbook. The book will also include a page explaining the work of Pupil Parliament and our chosen charity. We hope to sell copies of the cookbook to raise money for the RSPCA.

We are excited to get started and look forward to seeing the delicious recipes our families share. This project is a fantastic opportunity to celebrate our school community, learn about different cultures and work together to make a positive difference for animals!



What do you want your Pupil Parliament to do this year?

@brooklands_fob

friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com

All events for children are free for families receiving Pupil Premium.

Friends of Brooklands

(Brooklands School PTA)

2026/2027 CALENDAR

Look what we've got planned!

WED 23RD SEPTEMBER

BLOOM & BREW

Especially for our Early Years families! Come for a relaxed cuppa, meet other parents and carers and say hello to Friends of Brooklands. **8:45am in the BUFA. We'd love to see you!**

FRI 2ND OCTOBER

BOOK & BAKE SALE

Books AND cake, what's not to love? Pick up a new read and a tasty treat while helping raise money for the school. **3:25pm, KS1 playground.**

FRI 16TH OCTOBER

TICKETED EVENT

AUTUMN DISCO

Get those dancing shoes ready! Our Autumn Disco is back for an evening of music, dancing and plenty of fun. Timings and ticket details will follow nearer the time.

FRI 27TH NOVEMBER

WREATH MAKING

TICKETED EVENT

One for the grown-ups! Get creative and make something beautiful for your front door, while enjoying a relaxed evening with other Brooklands parents and carers.

FRI 4TH DECEMBER

WINTER FAIR

TICKETED EVENT

Save the date! One of our biggest events of the year, with stalls, games, treats and plenty of fun for the whole family. More details coming soon!

FRI 5TH FEBRUARY

FAMILY BINGO

TICKETED EVENT

Eyes down! Grab the family and join us for an evening of bingo, prizes and friendly competition. **Fun for children and grown-ups alike.** More details coming soon!

FRI 5TH MARCH

BAKE SALE

Friday + cake = a pretty good combination. **Stop by for an end-of-week treat**, help raise money for Brooklands and perhaps take something delicious home for later too!

WED 24TH MARCH

AGM

Come along to our Annual General Meeting (AGM) to hear what Friends of Brooklands has been up to, our plans for the future & how you can get involved. **Everyone's welcome, we'd love you there.**

FRI 30TH APRIL

TICKETED EVENT

SPRING DISCO

Dancing shoes at the ready! Join us for an evening of music, dancing and plenty of fun at our Spring Disco. Timings and ticket details will follow nearer the time.

SAT 26TH JUNE

SUMMER FAIR

TICKETED EVENT

Save the date! One of the biggest events in the Brooklands calendar, with a brilliant day of games, stalls, food and family fun. Lots more details to come!

If you want to send us your views, questions or would like to join the committee, please drop us an email friendsofbrooklands@gmail.com or ask your class rep.

NHS
South London Children and Young People's Community Immunisation Service

Missed your flu vaccine?

Do you live or attendschool in the borough of Greenwich? Aged 4 - 16?

Come down to a flu catch-up clinic and protect yourself!

Thursday 15 October, 15:15 - 16:15
Charlton Family Centre, SE7 7EL

Monday 26 October, 10:00 - 14:00
Clockhouse Community Centre, SE18 5QL

Tuesday 27 October, 10:30 - 14:00
Greenwich West Community Centre, SE10 8JL

Call 020 3903 3345 or scan the QR code for more information or to book an appointment

Baby Massage

FREE 5-week Baby Massage Course!



Would you and your baby enjoy some special time together while learning gentle baby massage techniques?

The sessions will offer a relaxed and friendly opportunity to:

- **Learn gentle baby massage techniques**
- **Enjoy special 1:1 time with your baby**
- **Support bonding and communication**
- **Help your baby feel relaxed & settled**
- **Meet & chat with other parents**

The course will consist of 5 weekly sessions held at Brooklands Primary School.

Dates & times will be confirmed once we know who can attend.

Newborn to 1 years old

If you would like to take part, please email: info@brooklands-maritime.org

Please include your name and baby's age

Maritime Strong Foundations

International Association of Infant Massage IAIM

Bloom & Brew at Brooklands

Register your interest today!

Apply for Free School Meal eligibility

You'll be helping the school with funding and may qualify for money for the holidays for your child too.

What have you got to lose?

If your child is eligible for 'free school meals' and you register them for this then the school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium'. This is in addition to the funding we receive for your child towards meals. We use this extra money to improve the educational provision and resources at the school - which benefits your child's experience of school

Did you know that qualifying parents receive money from Greenwich each school holiday - got to be worth checking if you're eligible too, surely?

How do I check if my child is eligible?

To check your eligibility using the checker system linked to local government go to this link: Entrust https://apply.cloudforedu.org.uk/o fsm/link2ict

Alternatively click on the QR Code which will take you to the website:

Or provide your NI Number and your date of birth, along with your child's details to the admin team and we'll do it for you!



easyfundraising

Shop with your favourite brands and you'll raise donations for Brooklands Primary School

TESCO trainline MONEYSUPERMARKET ASDA JUST EAT

Etsy M&S Booking.com TUI SCREWFIX