



Brookside Primary School

Learn Together - Achieve Together



Brookside Bugle

February 2018

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YEAR THREE RAINFOREST ASSEMBLY



On the 2nd February we had a fantastic assembly from our Year Three Class. There was singing, dancing, wonderful speaking and great costumes. It was clear from the enjoyment and excitement displayed on the children's faces that they had gained an awful lot from their work on their topic 'The Rainforest'. Well done to all of Year Three, the support staff and Mrs Barry who put it all together. You really brought your learning to life!

SNOW AT BROOKSIDE



On Monday 12th February we made the most of the snowy weather by having some fun building snowmen outside. The children had an extra-long break in the morning from 10.25am till 11.25am to enjoy the snow!

Please remember that in the event of disruption caused by heavy snow, the prime concern must always be the safety of the pupils and staff. And as parents you must decide if you feel it is safe to make the journey to school. However, if school is open, please send your child in with their wellies and a warm coat: we will always try to play out!

EASTER EGG ASSEMBLY

Don't forget that we will be celebrating the end of term with our traditional EASTER EGG COMPETITION. Every child who enters will get a certificate, and we have prizes for the best in each class - trophies for the overall Infant and Junior winners.

Parents will know just how wonderful this event always is. Your children are so creative and talented - we will be delighted to share their work in our traditional display.

IMPORTANT:

Easter Egg entries should come into school on Wednesday 28th March morning to be included in the display. Judging will take place after school on Wednesday, with the winners announced in our Thursday morning Easter Egg assembly.

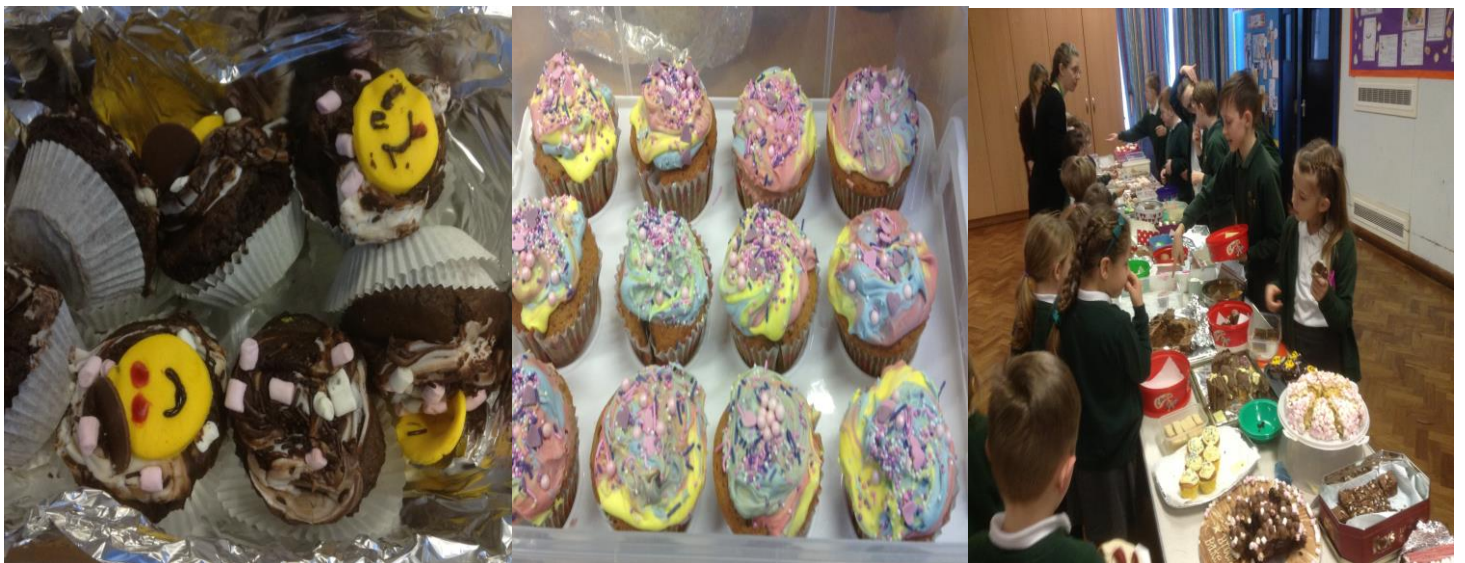


LEARNING LEADERS ORGANISE AND RUN OUR FIRST EVER SPELLING BEE



On Monday 29th January Brookside's Learning Leaders, working alongside Miss Ramsbottom, organised and ran our very first Spelling Bee. The idea was first thought out by Student Leaders at one of their meetings. There were four competitions held in front of the whole school and our judges, Miss Ramsbottom and Mrs Warner. Competitions were held for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. For each competition participants had to spell out words onto Whiteboards, the words became progressively more difficult and when a child spelt a word incorrectly they were out the competition. There were four eventual winners; Year 3 Becky, Year 4 Oliver, Year 5 Myles and Year 6 Maddie. Well done to all our contestants.

BROOKSIDE'S BAKE OFF COMPETITION AND CAKE SALE



On Friday 9th February our charity leaders organised a Bake Off competition and Cake Sale in aid of the children's chosen charity 'The Hearing Dogs'. The Bake Off event had many entrees and the effort that had gone in to make such fantastic cakes was astounding. There were fantastic designs from giant Brookie Owls to traditional Victoria Sponges; the cakes were mouth-watering! Our Judges had a very tough job judging the cakes on their overall taste; don't know how Mary Berry does it for a living! After much debate the winners were decided. For Key Stage One the winner was Phoebe in Year 1, and in Key Stage Two the winner was Harvey in Year 4. The student leaders then held a cake sale with all the cakes. All the money raised along with our Easter Egg Raffle will go towards the Charity. Thank you to all the parents for supporting this event, and well done to all the children who entered.

SPRING TERM DISCO FUN!

On Friday 9th February we were delighted to have our Spring Term Disco. The event was well attended and the children had a great time. A big thank you to all our PTA members for organising and running the event, for school staff who helped out on the night, and of course to our favourite DJ – DJ BOB!

ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

Raise Your Child's Attendance And Raise Their Chances!

What Does Good Attendance Mean?

- Do you know what your child's attendance is?
- Do you know what it means?

Attendance Example

This is Simon. He is in Year 6 and has 90% attendance.

Is that good?

What does it mean?

Simon thinks that his attendance is good and so do his parents.

Are they right?

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week.

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons missed!

90% attendance over 5 years of school = ½ a school year missed!

Half a year absent from school. What impact might this have on Simon's life?

Research suggest that 17 missed school days = one GCSE grade drop in achievement.

The greater the attendance the greater the achievement.

So 90% is not as good as it first seemed.

What can parents do?

- Find out regularly what your child's attendance is.
- Make sure that your child arrives on time so that they do not lose any time at all. (Half an hour per day = 2.5 hours per week = a half day per week).
- Talk regularly with your child about school and how you feel about it. They will want to attend if they feel supported and anxieties listened to.
- **Ways for parents to encourage attendance:**
- Phone us as soon as possible to tell us why your child is absent and when you expect them to return.
- Avoid taking holidays in school time.
- Only grant days at home for genuine illness.
- Know the routines of the school day to avoid issues – have they got their PE kit?
- If you have any concerns ring us – we will check attendance for you and be discreet.
- Praise and reward good attendance: even small successes i.e. going in promptly even when the first lesson is not their favourite!

Please talk to us to resolve issues. We may be able to support you and your child. You are not alone.

If a school can improve attendance by 1% they will see a 5-6% improvement in the child's attainment.

Please help us to help your child by ensuring that their attendance remains above 95% allowing them to achieve their potential.

GATES TO THE PLAYGROUND

It has been brought to my attention that parents are going into the Key Stage One playground via the Preschool and EYFS outdoor areas to collect scooters and bikes from as early as 2.45pm. As we still have sports lessons and infant break times still taking place and in order to keep our children safe, can I please ask that parents don't go onto the playground before 3.10pm. If for any reason you do need to collect a bike or scooter earlier than this, can you come to the school office. Many thanks for your support with this matter.

SAFEGUARDING AT BROOKSIDE

Brookside primary school is a Safeguarding School. If you would like to see or read our Safeguarding policy it is available to parents via the school website. Alternatively, a copy of the policy is available for you to read in the main entrance of school. We also have a leaflet prepared describing the schools prevent duty for parents available on the website or paper copies can be seen in the main entrance.

If you have any concerns about a child you can talk to the schools Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Tavernor or in his absence Mrs Barker or Mrs Warner.

Links to our Safeguarding policy, prevent leaflet and external links for parents with advice for keeping children safe can be found on the website by clicking 'About Brookside' in the main menu and then 'Safeguarding' in the subsequent menu.

WORLD BOOK DAY



To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 1st March we will be giving the children (and staff!) the opportunity to dress up as a character from a book. We will also be coming to school in their favourite sports clothes for Sport Relief on 16th March; the Friday before Sport Relief Day. We will be asking for a donation of 50p to go towards Sports Relief.



SPRING TERM CONSULTATIONS

Reminder – Parents Consultation Meetings will be held later on this term. **Monday 12th March and Tuesday 13th March 3.30pm till 6.30pm.** Letters will be sent out in the next few weeks in order for you to book an appointment.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 16th February – Break up for half term holiday

Monday 26th February – School Open

Thursday 1st March – World Book Day

Friday 9th March – Year 2 Class Assembly

Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th March – Parent Consultations

Friday 16th March – Come to school in your favourite sports clothes- 50p donation to Sports Relief

Friday 23rd March – Year 5 Class Assembly

Friday 23rd March – Brass Evening - Year 3 Brass players, School Brass Band and Poynton Youth Brass Band

Thursday 29th March – Easter Egg Assembly

Thursday 29th March Break up for Easter Holidays

Monday 16th April – start of the summer term

Friday 27th April – Year 1 Class Assembly

Monday 14th –Thursday 17th May- Key Stage Two SATS Week

Friday 18th May – School Disco

Monday 21st – Friday 25th May – Enterprise Week

Friday 25th May – Open Morning 9.15-10.25

Friday 25th May – Break up for Half Term

Monday 11th June – School Open

Monday 11th – 15th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Tuesday 12th June – Class Photos

Friday 15th June- Theatre Group Visit – The Wizard of OZ

Friday 22nd June – Sports Day AM

Monday 25th June – Summer Music Festival -Evening

Tuesday 26th June – Summer Music Festival - Afternoon

Friday 29th June – Reception Class Assembly

Friday 6th July – Summer Fair

Monday 9th July – Wednesday 11th July – Year 6 Residential

Monday 16th July - Open Evening

Tuesday 24th July – Year 6 Show

Thursday 26th July – Brookside's Got Talent

Monday 30th July – Awards Assembly

Tuesday 31st July– Year 6 Leavers Assembly and Brookside Leavers Tunnel

Tuesday 31st July – School Finishes for Summer Holidays

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Pupil absence during term time can seriously disrupt their continuity of learning. Government guidance states '...From 1st September 2013 the law has changed in that the option to authorise ANY holidays during term time has now been abolished...' There are very strict guidelines and strict criteria for what would be regarded as exceptional circumstances. Please can I urge parents to take this into account and NOT book holidays during term time. I do sympathise with cost implications and work commitments – but the DfE have passed this law to impact on attendance at school. Thank you for your support and understanding that I cannot authorise any holidays in term time, and that legally parents are liable to be fined. **Under the terms of the schools new attendance policy fines will be issued for future unauthorised holidays.**

ATTENDANCE TARGET 2017/18

In order to improve the attendance of all children at school we have set a target of 96% for attendance throughout the whole school.

Reception	96.41%	Year Four	96.83%
Year One	95.7%	Year Five	95.29%
Year Two	96.14%	Year Six	91.71%
Year Three	94.88%	Whole School	95.2%

Well done to all our classes over the 96% target (Reception, Year 2 and Year 4). The current best attendance is in Year 4.

Please ensure that your contact details remain up to date. Let us know if you change your mobile or home telephone number. If you have an email address it would be very useful for the school office to have this as well. You must also make us aware of any medical needs or changes to the information we have.