



# Brookside Primary School

Learn Together - Achieve Together



## Brookside Bugle

February 2020

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### ROAD SAFETY WEEK



On Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January our Tawny, Eagle and Bay Owls took part in activities on Road Safety with the council. The Tawny Owls learned about crossing roads safely, Eagle Owls Learned about the importance of wearing a helmet when cycling, and Bay Owls worked alongside the Road Safety Team, using speed cameras to monitor car speeds.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – EYFS trip to Lyme Park  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Bay Owls Trip to Lyme Park  
Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day  
Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Tawny Owls Class Assembly  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March – Parents Information Meeting on Internet Safety 2pm  
Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March – Parent Consultation  
Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March- Parent Consultation  
Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March – Snowy Owls Class Assembly  
Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Bikeability Y5  
Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March - Bikeability Y5  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April – Inter schools Cross Country Competition  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Easter Egg Assembly  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – School Closed for Easter Holidays 3.15pm  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April – School opens for Summer Term

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April – Alison Paige Author Visit – Snowy, Tawny, Barn, Eagle Owl classes  
Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Year 2 football tournament at Manchester United  
Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May – Tawny Owls Trip to Lyme Park  
Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May – May Bank Holiday – School Closed  
Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May to Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May – KS2 SATS week  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May – Maths Week  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May - Open Morning  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – School closed for Whitsun Holidays  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – School open  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Eagle Owl trip to Lyme Park

## MATHS CHALLENGE



We hosted Brookside's first Maths Whizz Challenge for Tawny - Bay owl classes. We couldn't believe how quick everyone was especially the contestants from Tawny owls! The timer had to get shorter and the questions harder as the competition went on. Well Done to all contestants!

## PINK AND PURPLE DAY FOR CROHNS AND COLITIS UK

A big Thank you for all the kind donations sent in on our Pink and Purple Day. We raised a total of £173.30 for Crohns and Colitis UK.

**CROHN'S &  
COLITIS UK**

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INFLAMMATORY  
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TOGETHER

[www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk](http://www.crohnsandcolitis.org.uk)

## MUSIC NEWS

It's always great to hear that a seed planted at Brookside once upon a time has grown and blossomed into something wonderful..... Former pupil, Ruby-Rae Cotter, began her brass career at Brookside Primary through Wider Opportunities, provided by Stockport Music Service. This gave her the chance to learn the cornet. She became a keen member of the Brookside Brass Band and this prompted her to join Poynton Youth Brass Band, only leaving when she became too old to play for them anymore. She did all of her brass exams, became a member of Stockport Schools Brass Band and Besses Brass Band. Ruby's love for music has never left her and this year she has embarked on an exciting adventure, teaching brass to children in Uganda! To think this has all happened thanks to Wider Opportunities being offered to primary school children is amazing, and just shows that giving something a try, being willing to embark on something new cannot only provide you with a new skill but give you a lifelong passion and take you on a fantastic journey.



## More music alumni news....

On Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> it was the North West Regional Brass Band Championships in Blackpool. Ex pupil Ted Ellis was playing percussion with Hazel Grove Brass Band. Not only did the band win their section, but it was such a pleasure to watch Ted yet again play to such a high standard that he scooped the Best Percussion award! Next stop the National Finals!

## 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 there attendance remains above 95% allowing them to achieve their potential.**

## 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 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.

## SPRING TERM CONSULTATIONS

Reminder – Parents Consultation Meetings will be held later on this term. **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March** You will be receiving your Parent Mail appointment sign up message shortly.

## PUNCTUALITY AT SCHOOL

In order to keep parents fully informed we will be sharing data on school punctuality (punctuality with regards to the beginning of the school day) at Parents Consultation. Registers are marked at 8.55am and close at 9.00am and all pupils are expected to be on school premises at this time. Should your child arrive after the register closes, they will receive a late mark to show that they are on-site but were in school after register closed. As a school we record both number of lates and total time lost. Regular lateness can have a significant impact on a child; they can often miss important information given out during registration, and instructions for lessons affecting learning.

Along with your child's attendance percentage you will receive the number of lates they have received at consultation. I hope you find this information informative and useful.

## EASTER EGG COMPETITION

Start planning now!

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.

**IMPORTANT:**

Easter Egg entries should come into school on Thursday 2nd April in the morning to be included in the display. Judging will take place after school on Thursday, with the winners announced in our Friday morning Easter Egg assembly.



### WORLD BOOK DAY

To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday **5<sup>th</sup> March** we will be giving the children (and staff!) the opportunity to dress up as a character from a book.



### THE BIG PEDAL

Once again we will be entering Sustrans BIG PEDAL Competition which runs from the **22<sup>nd</sup> April- 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020**. It's the time where we compete against other schools to see who has the highest number of children riding their bikes, scooting or walking to school. The race is on for two weeks and we will be sending our numbers in officially to be counted for the race.

We want as many of the children (and parents) to join in the travel as everyone counts!



## 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.

## ATTENDANCE TARGET 2019/20

**After achieving our target of over 96% attendance last year, this year we have set a target of 96.5% for attendance throughout the whole school.**

Hoot	94.73%	Barn	95.67%
Snowy	95.17%	Eagle	94.47%
Tawny	97.77%	Bay	97.96%
Whole School	<b>96.06%</b>		

**Well done to all our classes over the 96.5% target – , Tawny, and Bay Owls**

**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.**