



# Brookside Primary School

Learn Together - Achieve Together



## Brookside Bugle

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### YEAR SIX BIKEABILITY



On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> January our Year Six took part in one of Stockport's Road Safety Team activities 'Bikeability'. Cycling instructors from the 'Bikeright' team worked with the class to complete both the Bikeability Level 1 and Level 2 grades over two full days. Level 1 was taught in the traffic-free environment of the school playground, and the children learned the basics of how to control their bike safely. For Level 2 the class went out on the local roads in real traffic conditions. Children who achieve level 2 are then deemed safe to be able to make a trip to school or elsewhere on small roads.

The Bikeability training delivers effective learning outcomes in educating children about the impact road safety. Schools have a primary duty to safeguard the staff and young people in their care while at the same time creating the 'risk aware, but not risk adverse' citizens of tomorrow (RoSPA). The children had a great time and learned some very important lessons! Well done Year 6.

### PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

It has been brought to my attention, several times over the last few weeks, about both inconsiderate and dangerous parking outside school in the mornings. There have been parents double parking, blocking residential driveways, parking on pavements; one parent had to walk with their pushchair onto the road to get around them!

***How would you feel if your parking caused an accident where a child was injured?  
Please think, be more considerate and help keep the roads outside school safe.***

Make I also take this opportunity to thank the majority of parents who either park safely or walk sensibly to school.

Remember dangerous parking is an offence and can result in penalty points being issued on your driving licence

***As a driver you have a responsibility to stop and think about whether you are parking in a safe and considerate manner. If you are not, you could be endangering a child's life.***

Many thanks in advance for your cooperation with keeping parking safe near school.

## YEAR FOUR VISIT PIZZA EXPRESS



Last Thursday our class went to Poynton to go to Pizza Express. The man talked to us about what foods we put into pizza and how to make it. It was really fun and when we got back to school we got to eat our pizza for lunch. Thank you Pizza Express!

PS It was delicious!!!

Abigail, Eleanore and Neve Year 4

## YEAR FOUR CLASS ASSEMBLY



What a fantastic class assembly we had when Mrs Bollington's class presented their class assembly on Anti Bullying. Positive messages for addressing bullying were shared, a very original anti bullying version of the who wants to be millionaire was acted out and the class sang 'HELP' and sang their own version of John Lennon's 'Imagine' with an anti-bullying message. It was clear for all to see that these children have gained so much from their learning and topic work. Their confidence and talents impressed us all.

Congratulations to them and thanks for sharing their hard working efforts. Mrs Bollington has certainly challenged and inspired them all!

## CHARITY LEADERS INVITE THE HEARING DOGS IN



On Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January we had some extra special guests for our morning assembly; Jessie a three year old Labrador hearing assistant dog and Gilby a six month old Cocker Spaniel trainee hearing dog. Christine, who brought along Jessie, spoke to the whole school all about the jobs that Jessie did for her and the difference these dogs make to many people's lives. The hearing dogs were invited into school by our Charity leaders, Charles and Isobel, who have decided to run a couple of events in school to raise money for this charity; a bake off competition on the 9<sup>th</sup> February and then an Easter Egg raffle just before the Easter holidays.

Following the assembly our two hearing dogs and carers were taken around school by our two charity leaders, and all children got to say 'hello' and give the dogs a stroke! A big thank you to Christine and Jessie, and Sue and Gilby, for bringing in the two dogs and putting a big smile on a lot of children's faces!



## 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.**

## 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.

## SPRING TERM CONSULTATIONS

Reminder – Parents Consultation Meetings will be held later on this term. **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> 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 2nd February – Year 3 Class Assembly  
 Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Children’s Bake Off Competition (date changed from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>)  
 Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – School Disco  
 Monday 12th -16th February – Maths Week  
 Friday 16th February – 9.15 – 10.25 Open Morning  
**Friday 16th February – Break up for half term holiday**  
**Monday 26th February – School Open**  
 Friday 9th March – Year 2 Class Assembly  
 Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th March – Parent Consultations  
 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

## 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	96.29%	Year Four	96.91%
Year One	95.85%	Year Five	95.28%
Year Two	96.34%	Year Six	91.47%
Year Three	94.62%	Whole School	95.17%

**Well done to all our classes over the 96% target. 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.**