



Brookside Primary School

Learn Together - Achieve Together



Brookside Bugle

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www.brooksideprimary.com



YEAR SIX BIKEABILITY



On Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th 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, which is usually taught in the traffic-free environment of the school playground, had to be taught in the school hall; A first for the Bikeright Team. The children learned the basics of how to control their bike safely on Level 1. 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 and the Bikeright Team commended them for their exemplary behaviour in bad weather conditions. 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 FIVE CLASS ASSEMBLY



On the 18th January we had a fantastic assembly from our Year Five Class. There was dancing, wonderful speaking and great costumes. It was clear from the enjoyment and excitement displayed on the classes faces the children had gained an awful lot from their work on their topic 'The Mayan Civilisation'. Well done to all of Year Five, the support staff and Miss Thompson who put it all together. You really brought your learning to life!

PTA - DISCO TIME

Children, it's time to start getting out your dancing shoes and party wear as our PTA have kindly organised another Disco for you all on Friday 8th February. There will be drinks, crisps and magic wands on sale amongst other things and our very own DJ, DJ Bob, on the decks!



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 4th 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.



THEMAYOR OF GREATER MANCHESTER'S ONEVOICE CELEBRATION

With our continued work with the One Voice initiative I am delighted to announce we will be involved once again with another children's concert in the Bridgewater Hall on 20th May at 1330 hrs with Mr Andy Burnham.

The 2017 concert was a collaborative effort between One Voice and Stockport Schools, attempting to bring an extraordinary idea to life. The concert will showcase not only the faiths but an array of wonderful world music to give your child a unique experience. An opera singer (who has performed in some of the greatest halls in Berlin) performing, along with a military orchestra will add a certain magic.

This year the focus is on bringing the communities in. Flight Lieutenant Harriet Tadikonda has written a piece of music called 'Learn your lessons well'. The idea is to establish a parents choir, to sing for the children. The words are, we hope inspiring for everybody. Information on how to get involved will be shared in the near future.

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 11th March and Tuesday 12th March 3.30pm till 6.30pm.** Letters will be sent out in the next few weeks in order for you to book an appointment.

SNOW POLICY

In the event of disruption caused by heavy snow, the prime concern must always be the safety of the pupils and staff. The decision to close the school will take account of the safety of all of our pupils and staff- some of whom travel a great distance to school each day. We will always endeavour to open the school in the event of bad weather, as long as it is safe to do so.

If Brookside is open in snow or bad weather, the decision as to whether or not to send a pupil to school, however, must be at the discretion of the parents, taking into account factors such as local road conditions and the availability of child care.

In the event of bad weather, parents should check whether the school is open before travelling to the site. There are a number of ways to confirm whether the school is open or closed.

- Parent Mail will be sent out
- Check the school website: www.brooksideprimary.com
- Check the list of school closures on the Stockport Council website.

If Brookside is closed, we will try and make a decision as early as possible, and will intend to re-open as soon as we can.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 1st February – Year 4 Class Assembly
 Tuesday 5th February – Internet Safety Day
 Friday 8th February – School Disco
 Friday 15th February – Y3 Class Assembly
Friday 15th February – Break up for half term holiday
Monday 25th February – School Open
Thursday 7th March – World Book Day
 Friday 8th March – Year 2 Class Assembly
 Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th March – Parent Consultations
 Thursday 14th March – Year 3 Trip to Treak Cliff Cavern
 Friday 22nd March – Y1 Class Assembly
 Monday 25th March to Friday 5th March – The Big Pedal
 Friday 5th April – Easter Egg Assembly
Friday 5th April Break up for Easter Holidays
Tuesday 23rd April – start of the summer term

WORLD BOOK DAY

To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday **7th 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 **25th March- 5th April 2019**. 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 2018/19

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	95.24%	Year Four	95.5%
Year One	97.49%	Year Five	97.1%
Year Two	97.50%	Year Six	97.36%
Year Three	95.41%	Whole School	96.57%

Well done to all our classes over the 96% target. The current best attendance is in Year 2.

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.