



Brookfields Parent Newsletter 5.06.26

Message from Head of School:

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the final term of the academic year. I hope you all had a restful half term and were able to enjoy some of the lovely sunshine with your families.

As always, this promises to be a busy and exciting term. Our Year 4 pupils will be completing their Multiplication Tables Check, and our Year 1 children will be taking part in their Phonics Screening Check—important milestones that celebrate the progress they have made this year.

We will also soon be preparing to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils as they move on to the next stage of their education. At the same time, all children will have the opportunity to move up to their new year groups on our transition day. Further details about this will be shared with you closer to 1st July.

Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support. We look forward to a successful and memorable final term together.

Miss O'Rourke

Head of School

Mosque Car Park - Closed Next Week

Please be aware that next week the mosque car park will be closed due to special celebrations taking place at the mosque, with the space needed to support these events.

We appreciate that this is not an ideal situation; however, I am confident that we will all continue to work together to ensure parking remains safe.

Please remember not to park on the yellow lines outside school, as this is essential in helping to keep our children safe.

I will notify parents as soon as the car park reopens for use.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Reception - September 2026

We are delighted to share that our Reception cohort for September is filling up quickly! We currently have 56 pupils registered, with a further 3 hoping to join us.

If you have a child due to start Reception this September and have not yet applied, please ensure you do so as soon as possible to secure your place.

*If you have any questions or need support with the application process, please contact the school office on **0121 675 1897**—we are happy to help.*

If you have already applied, and received your letter of confirmation, further correspondence has been sent out to confirm open days. If you have not received this, please contact the school office.

Important Information: Free School Meals Eligibility from September 2026



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I would like to make you aware of an important change to Free School Meals eligibility, which will take effect from September 2026.

From September 2026, there will no longer be an earnings limit for families in receipt of Universal Credit. This means that if your family receives Universal Credit, you may be eligible to claim Free School Meals for your child.

However, please note that a child will only receive Free School Meals where an application has been made and eligibility has been verified by the Local Authority, these will be checked on an annual basis.

If you are in receipt of Universal Credit, it is very important that you complete an application before September 2026 to avoid your child not receiving Free School Meals when we return after the summer break.

Please click on the link below and complete the application as soon as possible:

[Online Free School Meals Application](#)

*If you have any questions, please contact the school office on **0121 675 1897***

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, please ensure you apply.

Staffing Updates - New Appointments



Before the holidays, Mr Dyson, Mr Henson and I were busy interviewing for our new SENDCo (Special Needs Co-ordinator). We know how important this role is within our school and, just as importantly, how vital it is for you as parents to feel confident that there is strong leadership in place to support our pupils with SEND at Brookfields and to continue moving our provision forward.

*I am delighted to share that **Mrs Bibi-Aziz** will be taking up the role from September. Mrs Bibi-Aziz has been part of the Brookfields community for over 10 years and knows our pupils and families exceptionally well. She has always had a real passion for SEND and has taught across all key stages during her time here, giving her a deep understanding of the expectations and needs of our pupils at every stage of their journey.*

I know that many of you will already have worked with Mrs Bibi-Aziz—whether as your child’s class teacher or through her role on the Senior Leadership Team—and will agree that she is the right person to continue developing our provision and support for pupils with SEND.

Please join me in congratulating Mrs Bibi-Aziz on her well-deserved promotion. She will officially take up the post in September.

Mrs Bibi-Aziz will be working closely with me this half term, and attending all annual reviews, to ensure a seamless handover is in place as she takes up the post.

Repairs - School Entrance

We have started our repairs on the school office area. We are hoping to be back in action soon.

We will keep you posted when this is sorted and the office area is back in use.

Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

Carers Week – Support and Local Events

| FORWARD CARERS | CARERS WEEK 2026 | WEST MIDLANDS |

MONDAY

Carers Week

IF YOU ARE PROVIDING CARE AND SUPPORT FOR SOMEONE, THESE EVENTS ARE FOR YOU

8th MONDAY	Queen Elizabeth Hospital Pop Up Event 10am - 2pm Main Entrance, Hospital Way B15 2GW We'll be offering advice on caring for someone in hospital & hospital discharge process.	 NO NEED TO BOOK
8th MONDAY	We Love Carers Marketplace 10am - 3pm Mary Stevens Hospice, Hagley Rd, Stourbridge DY8 2JR	 NO NEED TO BOOK
8th MONDAY	Birmingham Carers Hub Drop in 10am - 12pm Communita, Boldmere Road, Sutton Coldfield B73 5TJ Come down for information & advice for Carers!	 NO NEED TO BOOK
8th MONDAY	Young Adult Carers Information & Advice 11:30am - 1pm University College Birmingham, Summer Row, Birmingham B3 1JB Come down for information & advice for Young Adult Carers!	 NO NEED TO BOOK

Carers Week is a national awareness campaign that recognises and celebrates the vital role of carers, while also helping to raise awareness of the support available to them.

If you are a family member who provides care and support for someone, please look out for information linked to Carers Week. There are a range of events taking place across Birmingham for parent carers and young people who may be interested in attending.

These events are a great opportunity to access support, find out more about local services, and connect with others in the community. Please see the leaflet for further details, or speak to the school office if you would like additional information or support in getting involved.

Safeguarding - Water Safety

With the recent hot weather, there has sadly been an increase in incidents involving young people getting into difficulty in the water, making it more important than ever that we reinforce key safety messages. As part of this, the RNLI has launched its Float to Live

campaign, promoting a simple, life-saving technique to use if caught in trouble in the water—particularly important as millions of people are expected to visit the coast this summer. Although we are not by the sea, Birmingham has many canals and open water areas, so it is vital our children understand how to stay safe; we encourage you to talk about this at home and, if helpful, watch and discuss this short video together if you feel it is appropriate for your child:

<https://rnli.org/news-and-media/2026/may/19/rnli-launches-it-float-to-live-campaign-for-2026>

5 steps to know how to float

However you got there, if you end up in difficulty in the water, Float to Live.





Online Safety

Online Safety Reminder – Snapchat Group Chats

We have recently seen an increase in concerns raised by children about group chats on Snapchat outside of school. In some cases, conversations from these chats have been brought into school and have led to conflicts within friendship groups.

We have supported the children involved and have spoken with parents where concerns have arisen. We would like to ask all parents and carers to remind their children about the importance of staying safe online. It is important that children understand that what they say online should be no different to what they would say to someone face to face.

Please also check that your child is not part of any class or year group Snapchat groups where unkind behaviour may be taking place.

Thank you for your continued support with this—we will, of course, continue to support children in school. If you have any concerns about online safety, please do get in touch, as we are always happy to help.

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children. Should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalsafety.org.uk for further guides, links and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING

Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile, deliberately leaving them out of group chats, sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone, or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health – so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.

- 1. GET CONNECTED**
Playing online games together with those at school or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is one way of establishing some common ground as digital literacy and social skills are shared online. You may be keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.
- 2. KEEP TALKING**
Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can help prevent or deal with any situations. Topics you might want to raise include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).
- 3. STAY VIGILANT**
Observe your child while they're using technology and just when they've used it. Are they acting normally or do they seem suspicious or nervous? Possible signs of a problem may include being upset, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time you may want to check in with them to see if anything is up.
- 4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE**
If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just being around them with any support you can offer may help them feel safe to tell you what's going on. You might also suggest a trusted adult, someone they feel comfortable talking to, or someone who is not embarrassed to tell you directly.
- 5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN**
When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're best kept brief, focused and calm. Avoid being too judgemental or critical as this may make them feel less likely to talk to you in the future. Listen with the intention to understand, not to judge.
- 6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD**
Depending on their age, your child might not want to present fighting their bullies for them. In that case, talk through their options with them. Encouraging the perpetrator, deleting the app and/or blocking the bully are all options. If you're putting them in control but you're also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.
- 7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE**
Cyber-bullying often takes place through a platform or app, so report the platform or online game if that is the case. It may also encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – some platforms do offer support to their complainants. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to limit bad behaviour and protect users.
- 8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY**
Protecting themselves online is the priority of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness cyber bullying. Even when it's not about their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidently report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.
- 9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE**
Victims of online bullying should be aware of the signs of self-harm or suicide. If cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental health, there are some useful contacts, details in the quote below.
- 10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES**
If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is in danger or if there are any signs of imminent physical danger, being shared as part of the bullying – that you should call the police and report the incidents to your local police force.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE
If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to:
 Online: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/
 National Online Safety's resources are available on 0845 225 5787 or by visiting www.nationalsafety.org.uk/cyberbullying.html
 The NSOC is the national centre for reporting and responding to bullying at www.nsoic.org.uk/what-is-cyber-bullying or by emailing info@thebullybullying.com and can be reached on 0203 655 3200

Meet Our Expert
Dr Claire Gilmore is a senior safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government regarding internet use and wellbeing behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

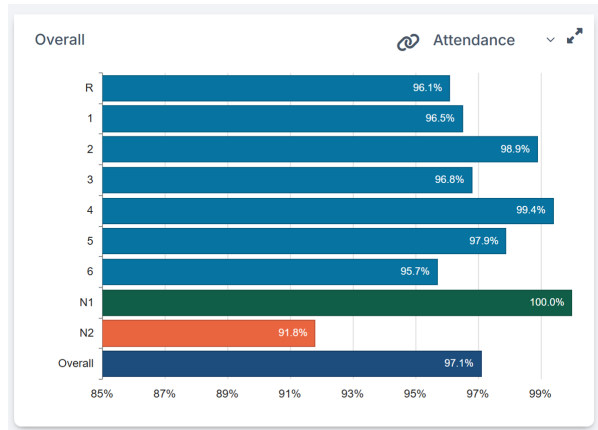
Attendance and Punctuality Matter

Being in school every day and arriving on time plays a vital role in children's learning, wellbeing and long-term success. Each lesson builds on the last, and even small amounts of lost time can make it harder for pupils to keep up, feel confident and fully engage with their learning.

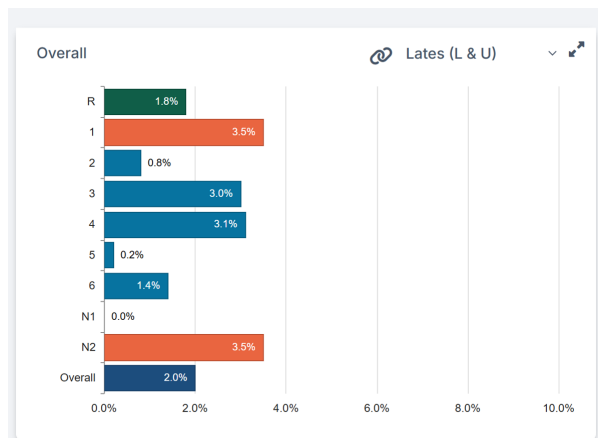
We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all parents and carers for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school regularly and punctually. Your commitment makes a real difference and is greatly valued.

If you have any concerns about your child's attendance or punctuality, or if there are circumstances that may be affecting their ability to attend school, please do not hesitate to get in touch. Our team is here to help. Please contact the school office to arrange an appointment with one of our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs), who will be happy to offer support and guidance.

Together, we can ensure every child has the best possible opportunity to thrive.



1 - Please see this week's attendance figures.



2 - Please see this week's lates figures.

Supported by



Department
for Education

Key Dates:



Wednesday 11th June 2026: Year 6 Boys Swimming (Focus on completing their 25 metres/water safety)

Monday 8th June 2026: Y1 Phonics Check Begins (1 week)

Tuesday 23rd June 2026: RSHE Parent Consultation Workshop 9am

Thursday 25th June 2026: Nursery Sports Day (9am - 10am)

Recognition Assembly - every Friday morning
