



## **Broughton Primary School: 02.09.2025**

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Welcome!**

A very warm welcome back to all pupils, parents/carers and staff at the start of our new school year and a special welcome to our pupils and parents/carers who have joined us this year. We hope you have all had an enjoyable summer break.

We are so proud that our school is shown so much support from our families, our parent committee KABS and also the wider community – I personally cannot thank you all enough for this, as by working together, the outcomes for the children are even more positive. I am sure that this year will be another very successful one, and the whole BPS team are excited to see what the children achieve throughout the year.

As this is the first weekly newsletter of the academic year, it is very lengthy but there is lots of information that I need to share with you about the upcoming year – apologies!

### **Consent/Medical forms:**

Last year, we changed our system for completing consent and medical forms, and rather than updating the information annually, school will presume that all information we hold from the previous school year is correct and still in place. This will allow us only to send out new consent paperwork to parents/carers of new starters. If you wish to change your consent for your child to appear in photographs or to attend school trips, please contact the school office so that we can change our records. All children will come home this week with the current contact details we hold for you, including addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses, as well as emergency contacts. **PLEASE CAN THIS INFORMATION BE**

**CAREFULLY CHECKED AND ONLY IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES TO MAKE, PLEASE EDIT THE FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE BY FRIDAY AT THE LATEST.**

If we do not receive an edited form, we will presume that the information we already hold is correct. In the case of school administering medication for your child, please note that we are only able to do so if the medicine has been prescribed and is to be taken 4 x daily. This should be arranged with Mrs Bryden in our school office and parental consent should be given by completing a short form.

### **Attendance:**

If your child is unwell, there are a number of options you can use to report their illness. You can contact the school office on 01900 828971 between 8-8.45am and leave a message on the answer-machine, or you can use the 'Absence reporting' tab on the school website, which parents have reported is very quick and easy to do. Please only use these methods if your child is unwell. Please avoid sending messages about illness to your child's class teachers, as they do not have the opportunity to monitor private messages, and so they can be missed.

If you would like to request a term-time holiday, please collect a 'term-time holiday request' form from our school office, or print/download a copy from the school website. Please note that I am only allowed to authorise term-time absence in 'exceptional' circumstances. You may be aware that due to the national drive to improve school attendance, the fining

system for term-time holidays is now in place. The Local Authority are tracking school attendance figures and issuing the fines - not individual schools.

**The following dates for national statutory testing are already in place for this academic year, and so these dates should be avoided if booking holidays:**

- **Year 1 Phonics Screening: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026**
- **Year 4 Multiplication checks: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026**
- **Year 6 SATs: Monday 11<sup>th</sup> – Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

### **Punctuality:**

We made an excellent start to the new school year this morning, with all children arriving at school on time, before doors were closed. The entrance doors will be opened at 8.40am but will be closed promptly at 8.50am. If children arrive after this time, they will have to gain access through the main office door but will now need to be formally signed in and provide a reason for lateness. This will hopefully reduce the number of children walking through the office, as this is one of Mrs Bryden's busiest times, and she is not always at her desk to let children in. **All children can be collected from their entry points apart from Year 1 & 2 pupils who will leave school through the hall doors, where it will be less busy for staff to hand over children safely to parents.**

### **Uniform & P.E kits:**

It was great to see all of the children looking smart in their school uniform/PE kits this morning in assembly. A quick reminder of our school uniform items:

- Dark grey/black trousers/pinafores/skirts or red tartan skirt
- Red/white polo shirt
- Red jumper/sweatshirts/cardigans
- Plain dark shoes/trainers
- In warmer months, shorts/red checked dresses can be worn

Younger children are greatly assisted if they wear clothes that are easy to manage – we appreciate slip-on-shoes or Velcro fastening and zips rather than buttons.

All children will need a PE kits and we have a statutory uniform in place:

- Plain **unbranded** white/red/navy t-shirt
- Navy/black **unbranded** shorts/leggings/joggers
- Black/navy **unbranded** hoodie
- Trainers

Children in Years 1- 6 are able to attend school wearing their PE kits on their PE days. If children forget their kit, or are wearing branded sports items, we will issue them with items from our spare PE kit box or we may need to contact you to bring their kit to school. School uniform and PE kits can be ordered using the link below, which will include the school badge:

[https://www.conistonshop.com/Broughton-Primary-School--Cockermouth\\_699/school/index.php](https://www.conistonshop.com/Broughton-Primary-School--Cockermouth_699/school/index.php)

Alternatively, plain unbranded school uniform items can be purchased from all local supermarkets at an affordable price.

It is very helpful to staff in school if all your child's belongings are labelled with their name – especially for the dark PE hoodies which very often get left around the school building and yard on warmer days.

### School lunches and menus:

Payments for school lunches have now gone 'live' on our online payment system SchoolMoney. A quick reminder for parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, that your children are now eligible for universal free school meals and so no payment is required for school lunches. Pupils in Years 3 -6 are not eligible for free school meals and so payments for school lunches should be paid online using SchoolMoney.

Menu choices for school lunches will be sent out by private message on Dojo next Monday, as an electronic form to complete and submit. Please can we request that these are completed and submitted promptly (no later than next Friday), so that class teachers do not have to use up class time completing menu choices. It would be beneficial to sit with your child when completing the menus, to ensure that they are aware of the meals being chosen, as on occasions some children have told us that they don't like the food that has been chosen for them.

### Class Dojo:

Class Dojo is an excellent method of communication between home and school, and we intend to continue to use this tool as the main method of communication this year. The Dojo points will allow you to track your child's behaviour in school and the Class Story will keep you informed of areas of learning in class and any special moments in school. We do intend to continue with the use of the private messaging tool between parents and the class teacher for now, however, this will be turned off if the messaging system is not used appropriately.

**As a reminder, Dojo messages should not be used as a means to make a complaint or to seek information regarding incidents your child may have been involved in.**

If you wish to seek further information around an incident or to make a complaint, please request a telephone/face-to-face meeting with your child's class teacher/Headteacher to discuss it further. Staff will often be unable to reply to messages sent between 8.45 – 3.20pm as they will be working with the children. Quiet hours have been set from 5.30pm – 8am and over weekends, and so staff will not be notified of any messages received between these hours and so they will respond during the next working day. I have attached an updated Class Dojo policy for you to read. The weekly newsletter will continue to be sent via Dojo private message each week.

### Personal belongings:

During summer term, we found an increasing number of children were bringing in personal items such as: dolls, fidget toys, footballs, figures from home. It can be very distressing for children if these items are lost/damaged and can cause quite a lot of disruption in school, and so please could we request that no personal items are brought into school in order for us to avoid this. We will always provide school footballs etc at break times so that children don't need to bring their own in.

### School car park:

**Please can we request that you do not park on either the school car park or at the bottom of the school drive when dropping off and collecting children,** unless you are a blue-badge holder. The bottom of the school drive is becoming increasingly busy with parked cars, and last year caused some disruption with deliveries to school and also blocked in the school minibus when classes were heading out on trips and to sporting events. The school drive does get very busy with children walking to and from school, and the safety of our pupils is our number one priority.

### **After-school clubs:**

A quick reminder that Laura Smith plans to continue with the KS2 Re-charge after-school club every Tuesday from next week. The club will finish at the new time of 4.30pm. If you would like your child to attend, please can you send me a message on Dojo and I will create a club register. This club is free of charge.

I will keep you up to date about after school football sessions/choir club in the coming weeks.

### **KABS (Kids at Broughton School Parent Committee):**

Our fabulous parent committee, KABS, will be holding their annual AGM on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 6.45pm in the Punch Bowl (in the village). Everyone is welcome. They are always looking for new volunteers so please pop along to hear what they are all about and how you may be able to support them. KABS are looking for new roles of Chair, Secretary & Treasurer to be filled for the coming year. If you are interested in taking on one of these roles, please drop them an email at [KABS@broughton-pri.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:KABS@broughton-pri.cumbria.sch.uk). KABS will be unable to run without those key roles and amazing volunteers so please do get in touch if you think you can help.

### **Dates for your diary Autumn 1:**

Class Dojo has updated their system to allow us to post upcoming events on the Dojo story pages. It also allows us to provide reminder alerts as we approach the event which we feel will be helpful. I will however continue to list events on the newsletter:

- Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September: Wheelchair basketball sessions for all children, including Nursery. ALL CHILDREN CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IN PE KITS ON THIS DAY.
- Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> September 8.30am Individual and family photographs
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September: KABS Pyjama day - more information to follow
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 6.45pm KABS AGM meeting in The Punch Bowl. All welcome.
- Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October: Times Tables Rockstar day. Children can attend school dressed as rockstars.
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> October 1.30-6pm Face-to-face Parents Evening appointments – Booking link will be sent out at a later date.
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> October 3.30-5.30pm Virtual Parents Evening appointments – Booking link will be sent out at a later date.
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October – Break up for half-term

Kind regards,

*A. Bewsher*

Mrs A Bewsher – Headteacher