Broughton Primary School: 07/0962006

Wk 01/09/2026		
	Attendance	Unauthorised
Reception	100%	0.0%
Year 1	99.1%	0.93%
Year 2	98.4%	1.6%
Year 3	96.9%	0.0%
Year 4	100%	0.0%
Year 5	100%	0.0%
Year 6	95.2%	3.7%
Whole School	98.4%	1.0%

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!

Celebrations:

We are delighted to let you know that our school has been awarded the Green Flag Eco award to celebrate the ecological achievements of our young people. Miss Tweddle has led on this project, in her role as Eco lead, and we really appreciate all her hard work, time and effort she has put in to achieve this accreditation, along with our fabulous pupils. Our work to reduce our school's carbon footprint will continue and I will keep you updated with our progress in future newsletters.

Consent/Medical forms:

We are going digital with our form this year. In the coming weeks, we will send out a Microsoft Form to collect all of your child's data, including emergency contact details, medical information and permissions. The forms will be sent to you on Dojo. As it is our first year of going digital, we need forms completed for all children from Nursery to Year 6. Next year, apart from new pupils joining our school, we will just ask you to check your forms that all information we hold is accurate and up to date, and then resubmit them.

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 on Dojo, as they do not always have the opportunity to monitor private messages, and so they can be missed. If your child has a dental/medical appointment which cannot be arranged for after-school hours, please send a screenshot or copy of the appointment letter to: admin@broughton-pri.cumbria.sch.uk

Our term-dates for this academic year can be found on the school website. 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.

Statutory Tests:

The following dates for national statutory testing are already in place for the next academic year, and so these dates should be avoided if booking holidays:
· Year 1 Phonics Screening: Monday 14th – Friday 18th June 2026
· Year 4 Multiplication checks: Monday 14th – Friday 18th June 2026
· Year 6 SATs: Monday 10th – Thurs 13th May 2026

Punctuality:

We made an excellent start to the new school year last week, with 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 Champion's busiest times, and she is not always at her desk to let children in.

End of day exit points:

As mentioned on Dojo, the end of day exit points have been rearranged to reduce congestion in the corridors. Years 1 & 2 can be collected from the front red door (where they enter school), and children in Years 3 – 6 will leave through the hall doors at the back of the school.

Uniform & P.E kits:

It has been great to see all children looking smart in their school uniform/ P.E kits. A quick reminder of our school uniform items:

· Dark grey/black/red tartan skirt or trousers
· Red/white polo shirt
· Red jumper/sweatshirts
· 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 P.E 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 P.E kits on their P.E days. If children forget their kit, or are wearing branded sports items, we will issue them with items from our spare P.E kit box or we may need to contact you to bring their kit to school.

School uniform and PE kits can be ordered through using the link below, which will include the school badge: 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 P.E hoodies which very often get left around the school building and yard on warmer days.

School lunches, SchoolMoney & menus:

We apologise for the issues we are having with SchoolMoney, as currently you are unable to make payments for lunches or use the booking system for OOSC – this is a nation-wide issue which will hopefully be resolved soon. 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 Nursery, and Years 3 -6 are not eligible for free school meals and so payments for school lunches should be paid online using
SchoolMoney. As stated in July's newsletter, there will be a slight increase in school lunch costs, going from £3.00 to £3.10 per meal.

Menu choices for school lunches will be sent out by private message on Dojo, as an electronic form to complete and submit. Please can we request that these are completed and submitted promptly, 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 that 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 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 - please can you also notify family members who are dropping off/collecting children as they will not have access to the newsletter.

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 pupil's is number one priority.

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 9th September**: Wheelchair basketball sessions for all children, including Nursery. ALL CHILDREN CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IN P.E KITS ON THIS DAY.
· **Monday 14th – Friday 18th September** – whole school Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) week
· **Thursday 24th September** – Times Tables Rockstars day for children in Year 1 – Year 6. Children can attend school dressed as rockstars.
· **Wednesday 30th September** 8.30am Individual and family photographs
· **Tuesday 6th October** 1.30-6pm Face-to-face Parents Evening appointments – Booking link will be sent out at a later date.
· **Tuesday 13th October** 3.30-5.30pm Virtual Parents Evening appointments – Booking link will be sent out at a later date.
· **Friday 23rd October** – Break up for half-term

Kind regards,

A. Bewsher

Mrs A Bewsher – Headteacher