Brookmead School

Bringing learning to life and life to learning

Together We Inspire, Challenge, Achieve

Friday 13 November 2026

Dear Brookmead Families

With minus temperatures this week, the weather now feels much colder - warm coats and wellies are now needed in school most days as outside play continues whatever the weather!

GOOD NEWS – BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

Highlights from the last few weeks include:

Reception - walked to Pitstone Windmill for their first ever school trip - this supports their learning about our local area. They have also been learning about Diwali and Remembrance Day.

Year 1 had a trip to the old school to enhance their learning about the history of our school and local area.

Year 3 took part in a Stone Age workshop to enhance their learning in history.

Year 4 had a wonderful day at Verulamium in St Albans to enhance their learning about Roman Britain - did you know Verulamium was the third largest Roman city in England at that time!

Remembrance Day - Our House Captains represented our school beautifully at the Remembrance Day service at St Mary's Church this week. The whole school has learnt about Remembrance Day and we all took part in a two minute silence.

Religious Festivals - In assembly this week we learnt about the Hindu and Sikh Festival of Diwali and the Sikh Festival of Bandhi Chhorr Divas - there are some useful resources on BBC Bitesize if you would like to learn more.

Clubs - there are some photographs below of our art and puzzle clubs that take place every week!



CHILDREN IN NEED

There was a wonderful welcome this morning from Pudsey Bear who always manages to make the visit to Brookmead School to thank our community for their fundraising efforts. We are incredibly proud to have raised £236 so far which goes directly to Children In Need via ParentPay. If you wish to make a donation, we will leave the link open on ParentPay until Monday morning:

Please click here to make a donation

Here is Pudsey having a fantastic time welcoming everyone into school this morning:







A shout out to **our staff teaching and learning team**. We have been working together to really focus on high quality teaching and learning through our weekly staff meeting times. This shout out is to our staff team for all of the excellent teaching and learning we see going on in your classrooms every day! Working in a school goes far beyond 8.30am to 3.30pm, and we truly appreciate all of your hard work and dedication to make Brookmead such a special learning environment.

A shout out to all **parents who have supported our school trips** so far this term - without you, many of our visits couldn't go ahead! From volunteers who come on the trips, to parents who donate additional funds - thank you all!

REMINDER REGARDING APPOINTMENTS

Message from our office and attendance team:

We have noticed an increase recently in the number of children leaving school during the day for appointments and arriving at school following morning appointments.

We understand that hospital and specialist appointments cannot always be arranged outside school hours. However, where possible, please book routine appointments, such as dental and optician check-ups, after school, at weekends, or during school holidays.

If your child has an appointment during the school day, please inform the school in advance, including the appointment details and the time they will be leaving or arriving at school. Please email this information to pupilabsence@brookmead.net
Thank you for your understanding and continued support.



YEAR 5 SWIMMING STARTS NEXT WEEK

Year 5 start their swimming lessons next week. We are going swimming every day so remember your packed lunches and swimming kit everyday!

FORGOTTEN ITEMS

We understand that things can sometimes be forgotten. However, recently we have noticed an increase in items such as library books, school bags, reading glasses, coats and water bottles being left behind in the morning.

Please could we kindly ask that you check carefully each day to ensure your child has everything they need before the start of the day. Please note that only essential items should be bought in via the office; we will call you if something important is required. This situation has a significant impact on all our staff, who are already very busy.

Can we ask that only essential forgotten items are brought to the office and before 10.00am**.** Please do not worry—drinking water is always available for your child.

Thank you in advance for your continued support.





ATTENDANCE



The class with the highest attendance in October 2026 is Year 2 - Simmonds with 98.8%!

WELL DONE SIMMONDS CLASS!!

YOU SAID	WE DID
We receive lots of questions from parents and carers each day, and it can sometimes be difficult to know where to find the answers.	We have created a handy FAQ document, bringing together answers to some of our most frequently asked questions. You can visit it any time on our website: CLICK HERE FOR FAQ's

PE AND LIBRARY DAYS

Year Group	PE Days	Library Day
EYFS	Monday	Friday
1	Thursday & Friday	Thursday
2	Wednesday & Thursday	Wednesday
3	Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday
4	Monday & Friday	Monday
5	Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday
6	Wednesday & Friday	Friday

TRIPS AND EVENTS - Autumn Term 2026

Click here to see the School Diary on our website

AT BROOKMEAD, WE LOVE TO ENHANCE OUR LEARNING WITH EXPERIENCES

November	**November**
Monday 16 November	Year 5 Swimming - Week 1
Tuesday 17 November	Parent's Evening
Thursday 19 November	Parent's Evening
Monday 23 November	Year 5 Swimming - Week 2
Wednesday 25 November	Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop
Friday 27 November	EYFS Fabulous Finish - 9:15am
December	
Thursday 3 December	Year 6 Trip to Cadbury World
Tuesday 8 December	Christmas Tree Light Switch On - details to follow
Thursday 17 December	Christmas Lunch Day - book as normal with Fresh Start
January	
Monday 4 January	School Closed for pupils - staff training day
Tuesday 5 January	School reopens for pupils for Spring Term

END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

The times for performances are below. Booking information will be shared in the next newsletter.

Monday 14 December Year 1 & 2 Nativity - 2PM	**Tuesday 15 December** Year 1 & 2 Nativity - 9:20AM EYFS Nativity - 2PM
Wednesday 16 December Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert - 9:20AM Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert - 2PM	**Thursday 17 December** Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert - 9:20AM Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert - 2PM

TERM DATES 2026 - 2027

Click here to see Term Dates on our website

AUTUMN TERM 2026	
Friday 18 December 2026	School closes for Christmas Holiday - 3.20pm finish
SPRING TERM 2027	
Monday 4th January 2027	**School closed for pupils - staff training day**
Tuesday 5th January 2027	**School opens for Spring Term**
Friday 12th February 2027	School closes for Half Term - 3.20pm finish
Monday 22th February 2027	**School opens for Second Half Term**
Thursday 25th March 2027	School closes for Easter Holiday - 3.20pm finish
SUMMER TERM 2027	
Monday 12th April 2027	**School opens for Summer Term**
Monday 3 May 2027	**School closed for May Bank Holiday**
Friday 28th May 2027	School closes for Half Term - 3.20pm finish
Monday 7th June 2027	**School closed for pupils - staff training day**
Tuesday 8th June 2027	**School opens for Second Half Term**
Tuesday 20th July 2027	School closes - 3.20pm finish
Wednesday 21st July 2027	**School closed for pupils - staff training day**

Wishing you a lovely weekend - wrap up warm!

Kind regards



Mrs Esther Taylor
Headteacher