Newsletter

Monday 9th September 2024

Upcoming events this week:

- Clubs start this week
- New Little Acorns begin – Monday
- Kent Test for some Year 6 – Thursday
- Outdoor Learning Day offsite – Saplings, Friday (forest school clothes and packed lunch please)

IMPORTANT: Attendance

There have been some changes to the DFE's Guidance for Attendance in schools, which is now a statutory requirement for schools to follow. Last year, our attendance at Brook fell below the national average.

One of the main changes is to penalty notices. I am required to issue penalty notices in most circumstances where the below applies. Any holidays taken in term time are likely to result in unauthorised absences.

- The threshold for a penalty notice is **10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a rolling period of 10 school weeks.**
- A school week means any week in which there is at least one school session.
- This can be met with **any** combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 4 sessions of holiday taken in term time plus 6 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks).
- These sessions can be consecutive (e.g. 10 sessions of holiday in one week) or not (e.g. 6 sessions of **unauthorised absence** taken in 1 week and 1 per week for the next 4 weeks).
- The period of 10 school weeks can also span different terms or school years (e.g. 2 sessions of unauthorised absence in the Summer Term and a further 8 within the Autumn Term).

Our attendance policy has been updated to reflect these changes. This has been attached for your information and will be available on the website soon, once it is ratified by governors. There is also a useful leaflet for parents.

DIARY DATE: Reading and Phonics Workshop

Mr Stanley, our English leader, is running a workshop for parents after school next Tuesday (17th Sept). This will take place in the hall. Please come along if you can as he will share lots on supporting your child in this important area.

IMPORTANT: Uniform

A gentle reminder that the correct uniform is required to be worn by all children.
Some of the issues we have seen this week are:

- Children in hoodies or sports tops instead of navy jumpers/cardigans/fleeces
- Children with brightly coloured hair bands/ties
- Own clothes for PE instead of a navy polo shirt and suitable trousers/shorts
- Non-black footwear

Polo shirts can be worn instead of shirts if this is suitable for your child. Ties must be worn with shirts but not with polo shirts or summer dresses/playsuits.

During the summer picnic, I had a chat with some parents about uniform and, in particular, ties. We will be reviewing this soon but for now please continue to follow our uniform policy.

UPDATES: Staffing

Our Ellie (nee Sharp) had a wonderful wedding over the summer and is now Mrs De-Buriatte. Congratulations!

We welcome Miss Shaw to our staff team. Miss Shaw will be working part-time in Mighty Oaks as a Teaching Assistant on Thursdays and Fridays. (Mrs Bannister works Mon-Wed).

Mrs Bridle has taken the decision to move on from Brook. We wish Mrs Bridle all the very best for her future and thank her for all her work over the last few years.

Mrs Sharp will be leading nurture and pastoral support for Young Oaks and Mighty Oaks. Mrs Brown will lead this for Saplings and Little Acorns.

Miss Rivers will be running After-School Club on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs Sharp continues to run the club on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

NEWS: Bunnies!

We are very happy to share that we will soon have four rabbits as school pets! The children were introduced to them in assembly last week and they were very friendly. They are coming to visit regularly. The rabbits are for all the children to enjoy!

At the moment they are not living at school as they are little. The area next to the kitchen will be developed into a special and safe area for them to move into soon! Huge thanks to Cheryl and Nadine for organising this for school.

POLICY: Behaviour Policy

Our policy has had its annual update and is now open for consultation. Please contact me if you have any questions about the policy which is attached. It will be shared and ratified by governors on the 26th September.

NEWS: Henry's Paralympic Triathlon

We are so very proud of Henry Urand who competed in the Paris Paralympics – Triathlon and finished in 4th place. Well done, Henry!

NEWS: Year 6 Leadership Team

We are pleased to share our new Young Leadership Team for this year. Our School Captain and House Captains were voted for via ballot on the 5th July, as were our new school council representatives for each class. All of Year 6 had the opportunity to become a Librarian or Sports leader.

School Captain

Imogen

House Captains

Bees – Danny and Joshua

Grasshoppers - Maison

Ladybirds - Maya

Dragonflies – Zack

Sports Leaders

Maison, Joshua, Danny, Maya, Jack, Harry

Librarians

Zack, Harry, Jack, Katie

Well done to all these children!

2024-2025 Calendar

Every effort will be made to keep these dates in place but please be aware, changes may occur.
Updates/changes are highlighted.

TERM 1 – 2024/25			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
1	Mon 2nd Sept	Staff Development Day 1	
	Tues 3rd Sept	**Term 1 begins**	
	3rd – 6th Sept	New Little Acorns Home Visits	
2		All clubs start this week	
	Mon 9th Sept	New Little Acorns begin	9.30-2.30 on day 1
	Thurs 12th Sept	Kent Test	Some Year 6's only
	Fri 13th Sept	Environment-led learning – Saplings	Off-site
3	Tues 17th Sept	Phonics and reading parent workshop	Hall, 3.15pm
	Fri 20th Sept	Environment-led learning – Mighty Oaks	Off-site
4	Thurs 26th Sept	Environment-led learning – Young Oaks	Off-site

5	Fri 4th Oct	Environment-led learning – Saplings	Off-site
6	Tues 8th Oct	Individual School Photos	
	Thurs 10th Oct	Mental Health Day – wear yellow	
	Fri 11th Oct	SEN/D Provision Review Meetings	By Invitation
7	Wed 16th Oct	Class Assembly – Mighty Oaks	Hall, 9.00am
	Thurs 17th Oct	Environment-led learning – Young Oaks	Off-site
	Fri 18th Oct	Environment-led learning – Mighty Oaks	Off-site
	Fri 18th Oct	Coffee Morning	Library, 9.00am
	Sat 19th Oct	Open Morning for Prospective Year R	10am, Sept 2025 intake
8		Black History Week	
	Mon 21st Oct	Parents' Evening Meetings	3.30-6.00, all classes
	Tues 22nd Oct	Parents' Evening Meetings	3.30 – 6.00, MO and YO
	Thurs 25th Oct	Harvest Festival – St. Mary's Church	9.30am, all welcome
	Thurs 25th Oct	BRILLIANT BROOK DAY - Enrichment	Saplings – Road and Rail safety Young Oaks – First Aid Mighty Oaks – Fire and Water safety
	Thurs 25th Oct	**End of Term 1**	
	Fri 26th Oct	Staff Development Day 2	

TERM 2 – 2024/25			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
1	**Mon 4th Nov**	**Term 2 begins**	
	Mon 4th Nov	NHS flu immunisations	
	Thurs 7th Nov	Stay and Play 1 for Prospective Families	New intake Sept 2025
2		Clubs start this week	
		Anti-Bullying Week	
	Mon 11th Nov	Remembrance Assembly	9.00am, All welcome (hall)
3	Thurs 21st Nov	Stay and Play 2 for Prospective Families	New intake Sept 2025
	Mon 13th – 17th	Anti-Bullying Week	
	Fri 17th Nov	Children in Need	
4			
5	Thurs 5th Dec	Stay and Play 3 for Prospective Families	New intake Sept 2025
	Fri 6th Dec	Coffee Morning	9.00am, All welcome (library)
	Fri 6th Dec	Music Concert	After school, all welcome (Hall)
6	Wed 11th Dec	Christmas Dinner Day	
	Wed 11th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day	
	Fri 13th Dec	Choir singing in the village	2pm, all welcome
7	Wed 18th Dec	Whole school Nativity 1	Villlage Hall, 2pm, no need to book
	Thurs 19th Dec	Whole school Nativity 2	Villlage Hall, 2pm no need to book
	Fri 20th Dec	Christmas Service - St. Mary's Church	9.30am, All welcome
	Fri 20th Dec	End of Term reports issued	
	Fri 20th Dec	**End of Term 2**	
Environment-led learning days will take place as usual this term. Dates TBC nearer the time.			

TERM 3 – 2024/25			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
1	**Mon 6th Jan**	Staff Development Day 3	

	Tues 7th Jan	**Term 3 begins**	
	Fri 10th Jan	Swimming lessons start - 5 weeks	Year 5
2		Clubs start this week	
3	Fri 24th – 31st Jan	Book Fair	
4	Fri 31st Jan	SEN/D Provision Review Meetings	By Invitation
	Wed 29th Jan	Class Assembly – Young Oaks	Hall, 9.00am
5	Fri 7th Feb	Coffee Morning	9.00am, All welcome (library)
6	Tues 11th Feb	Safer Internet Day	
	TBC	Parents' Evening Meetings	
	Fri 14th Feb	Top up Swimming lessons start – 5 weeks	Some Yr5 and 6
	Fri 14th Feb	**End of Term 3**	
Environment-led learning days will take place as usual this term. Dates TBC nearer the time.			

TERM 4 – 2024/25			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
1	**Mon 24th Feb**	**Term 4 begins**	
	Fri 28th Feb	Top up Swimming lessons continue– 4 weeks	Some Yr5 and 6
2		Clubs start this week	
	Thurs 6th March	World Book Day	
3			
4	Thurs 20th March	Class Assembly – Saplings	Hall, 9.00am
	Fri 21st March	Music Concert	After school, All welcome, (hall)
5	Fri 28th March	Coffee Morning	9.00am, All welcome (library)
6	Fri 4th April	Easter Service – St. Mary's Church	9.30am, All welcome
	Fri 4th April	End of Term reports issued	
	Fri 4th April	**End of Term 4**	
Environment-led learning days will take place as usual this term. Dates TBC nearer the time.			

TERM 5 – 2024/25			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
1	Mon 21st April	Bank Holiday	
	Tues 22nd April	**Term 5 begins**	
2		Clubs start this week	
3	Mon 5th May	Bank Holiday	
	Thurs 8th May	Class Assembly – Little Acorns	Hall, 9.00am
4	12th – 15th May	Year 6 SATs	
	Fri 16th May	Year 6 Fun Day	
	Fri 16th May	Coffee Morning	9.00am, All welcome (library)
5	Fri 23rd May	FUNDRAISER! Whole School Walk	
	Fri 23rd May	**End of Term 5**	
Environment-led learning days will take place as usual this term. Dates TBC nearer the time.			

TERM 6 – 2024/25			
Week	**Day/Date**	**Event**	**Further information**
1	**Mon 2nd June**	**Term 6 begins**	
	2nd – 13th June	Year 4 Multiplication Check	
2	w/c 9th June	Year 1 Phonics Screen	
	TBC	Transition begins	

3	Fri 20th June	World Music Day – Music Concert	
4	Fri 27th June	Sports Day and family picnic	
	Fri 27th June	FUNDRAISER! Summer Fair	
5	Fri 4th July	Mighty Oaks Camp Out	TBC
	Fri 4th July	SEN/D Provision Review Meetings	By Invitation
6	Fri 11th July	End of Term reports issued	
	Fri 11th July	Year 6 trip	TBC
	Fri 11th July	Coffee Morning	9.00am, All welcome (library)
7	Mon 14th July	Parents' Open Afternoon/Evening	3.30-5.00pm
	Tues 15th July	Mighty Oaks' Show	1.30pm
	Wed 16th July	Mighty Oaks' Show	5.00pm
	Thurs 17th July	Year 6 Forest Party	
	Fri 18th July	Year 6 Leavers' Service - St Mary's Church	Time TBC
	Fri 18th July	**End of Term 6**	
	Mon 21st July	Staff Development Day 4	
	Tues 22nd July	Staff Development Day 5	
Environment-led learning days will take place as usual this term. Dates TBC nearer the time.			