Brook Primary School Newsletter

Newsletter 9: Friday 6th November 2026

Respect Resilient Pride Challenge Independent



Message from Mrs Fellows

A very warm welcome back to the second half of the autumn term. We have a busy and exciting few weeks ahead, packed with opportunities for our children to learn, grow and make lasting memories.

What a wonderful way to start the term with our fantastic Fireworks Display last night. It was lovely to see so many families come together, and we would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make the event such a success.

As many of you will be aware, Monday was a staff training day and, contrary to popular belief, we do actually spend the day training! This year, we are continuing our commitment to developing the very best opportunities for both our children and staff. As part of this, we welcomed Andy Instone from Urban Strides to deliver training on the *Resilience Reaps Rewards* programme.

It was an inspiring and energising day, with staff leaving feeling motivated and excited about embedding this approach into our school culture. The programme focuses on developing resilience, confidence, self-belief and positive attitudes through movement, engagement and shared experiences.

Your child may already have come home talking about us doing a "dance" on the playground, using the phrase *"Challenge Accepted"*, or discussing our *Hero Values*. These are all key elements of the programme and are designed to help children develop the confidence and resilience needed to approach challenges positively, both in and out of the classroom.

Throughout the year, we will keep you updated on the various initiatives that form part of this exciting journey. We hope they will empower our children and staff alike, fostering a culture of positivity, engagement and perseverance, while ensuring there is plenty of fun along the way!

We are looking forward to sharing this journey with you and seeing the positive impact it has across our school community.

If you'd like to find out more, please follow the link: Inset Training for Teachers | Resilience Reaps Rewards | Urban Strides

Spooktacular FIREWORKS

Thank you to all our families, school and local community for making our spooktacular fireworks event such a success last night!

We made around £1500 and the school council will be meeting together to decide how to spend it!









Our New Morning Routine

A little change to help everyone start the day calmly and ready to learn!

8:40am — **Doors open – learning starts!**
Activities will be on the board ready for children to start straight away.



8:50am — **Every child should be in class!**
Register is taken.



8:50 – 9:20am — Children who arrive between these times will receive a 'L' mark.



After 9:20am — Children will receive a 'U' mark which is a unauthorised session for the whole morning and has a direct impact on their attendance data.



Let's work together to make every morning count!

Punctuality matters!

As you are aware, at the end of last term we shared our intention to place a greater focus on punctuality, as we had seen an increasing number of children arriving late to school. We reminded families that all children should be in class and ready to learn by **8:50am**.

To support this, we have adjusted our morning arrangements. The school gates are now opened earlier, and cloakroom doors open from **8:40am**, giving children ten minutes to settle into school and prepare for the day ahead. Learning begins from the moment children arrive, and those first few minutes are an important opportunity for them to engage in activities, connect with their classmates and start the day positively.

We are delighted that this initiative has got off to such a positive start and would like to say a huge thank you to those families who have made a real effort to ensure their children arrive on time. Your support makes a significant difference and helps ensure every child starts the day ready to succeed.

We would also like to remind parents that, prior to entering school, children remain the responsibility of their parent or carer. During this time, children should be supervised at all times and should not be using the playground equipment before school.

Thank you for your continued support as we work together to ensure every child gets the very best start to their day.



On **Friday 13th November**, we will be supporting **BBC Children in Need** and helping to raise money for this fantastic cause.

Children are invited to come to school in **non-uniform** in exchange for a **£1 donation**. All donations will go directly to Children in Need to support vulnerable children and young people across the UK. **To make the £1 donation go into School Shop on Arbor.**

As well as our non-uniform day, we are launching a fun **whole-school coin challenge**! We are asking children to bring in any spare change they may have at home. Each class will then work together to create a line of coins, and we will see:

- Which class can create the **longest line of coins**
- Which class can **raise the most money**

This friendly competition is a great way for our children to work together while supporting an important cause.
We look forward to seeing everyone in their non-uniform and would like to thank you in advance for your generosity and support. Every penny really does make a difference!

Challenge accepted! Let's see which class can become our Children in Need champions!

Save the date

Key Stage 2 Christmas carol service at Wordsley church: **Monday 14th December**:
Year 5 & 6 : Morning, approximately 10:30am
Year 3 & 4 : Afternoon, approximately 2pm
Please keep an eye out for further details.

Pupil achievements!



Huge well done to Patrick from Year 5 for being accepted into Worcestershire County Cricket clubs talent pathway!



Huge well done to Oscar who has been litter picking around his street and community area!
He is very passionate about looking after our community and animals.

We love to see your child's achievements and share them with our school community!

If you would like your child to be on the weekly newsletter, please send their photo and a description to info@brook.dudley.sch.uk with the subject '**newsletter achievement**' by Thursday 12pm.

🐸🌼 RECEPTION PHONICS WORKSHOP 🌼🐸

🐸 **Our Reception children and their parents had a fantastic time at our Read Write Inc. Phonics Workshop this week!** 🐸

🌈 Parents discovered: ✅ How we teach phonics in school

✅ What their child's reading journey looks like in **Reception, Early Years and Key Stage 1**

✅ Practical ways to support reading and phonics at home

The workshop included...

👀 Watching a live phonics lesson

🖍️ Joining in with spelling activities alongside their child

📖 Learning about the stages of early reading development

🏠 Taking away fun ideas to support reading at home

⭐ Thank You! ⭐

A huge thank you to all the parents who attended and took part. It was wonderful to share our love of reading and learning with you.

🐸 **Read • Learn • Grow • Succeed** 🐸

📚 *"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."* 📚

Diabetes Awareness Day – Saturday 14th November

On Saturday 14th November, we are recognising Diabetes Awareness Day, an opportunity to raise awareness of Type 1 Diabetes and help everyone understand the signs and symptoms to look out for.

Type 1 Diabetes can develop quickly, particularly in children, and recognising the early warning signs is extremely important, knowing the 4T's could help save a life.

Remember the 4T's

THIRSTY – Drinking more than usual and never seeming to quench their thirst.

TIRED – Feeling unusually tired, having little energy or seeming more exhausted than normal.

TOILET – Needing to go to the toilet more frequently, including during the night or experiencing new bed wetting.

THINNER – Losing weight unexpectedly, even when eating normally or having an increased appetite.

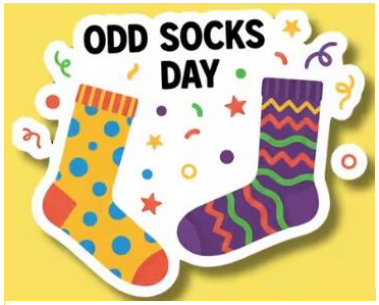
Type 1 Diabetes is not caused by eating too much sugar or an unhealthy lifestyle. It is an autoimmune condition which means the body can no longer produce insulin.

A little awareness can make a life saving difference. Let's spread the word and make sure we know the 4T's.

A personal and true story by Mrs Waterworth

Some of you may know, that my little boy was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes. It was Saturday 13th November 2025. We had noticed he was drinking more and needed the toilet more which was a different pattern of behaviour that was interrupting his sleep. We booked an appointment at the doctors and were sent for some blood tests. I was called by a doctor from New Cross Laboratory the day after his blood tests. I was told to take my son to hospital immediately and was quoted his blood glucose levels and ketones. They were extremely HIGH and were dangerous levels. We were admitted in hospital and spent the next 5 days there, undergoing treatment and training to care for our son and his new diagnosis of Diabetes. We have no Diabetes in the family and it was a learning curve (and still is) for us all as a family. We still face challenges a year on but I wouldn't have had an awareness of these symptoms prior to caring for another little boy in our school.

Awareness made me notice the symptoms.



We are looking forward to celebrating **Anti-Bullying Week 2026**, which takes place from Monday 16th to Friday 20th November. This year's theme is **'Break the Silence'**, encouraging everyone to speak up, start conversations and help break down the barriers that can sometimes make it difficult to ask for help.

🧦 **Odd Socks Day – Monday 16th November!**

Odd Socks Day is all about celebrating what makes us unique, embracing our differences and spreading kindness. It's a chance for everyone to have a little fun, be themselves and show that being different is something to celebrate!

Children are invited to come to school wearing their usual school uniform, but with their most colourful, creative and completely odd socks! There will be a prize in each class for the child wearing the most creative odd socks!

Let's get talking, celebrate our differences and work together to make Brook a kind, happy and bullying-free school! 💙

Attendance Update



This week **337** children have had 100% attendance.
Well done!

Well done to 6D who had the highest attendance this week with 100%!

Our attendance superstar this week is Jayden!

Brook Buddies

Brook Buddies parents it's that time again! If you require a place at Buddies this year, please remember you need to fill in a new Buddies agreement, which can be found here: https://forms.office.com/e/V2Sw2WJSHb
1 form needs to be completed for each child.

Brook Buddies runs every morning and evening. Why not join us for breakfast or some after school fun?
Our session times & prices are below:

Breakfast club:
7:30am-8:45am - £4

Afterschool club:
3:20pm-5:45pm - £8.00

All bookings must be made by Thursday of the week before you require childcare.
To get in touch, please call our mobile: **07970704158**
Our email is **Buddies@brook.dudley.sch.uk**

This week in Buddies we have enjoyed creating bonfire & firework pictures to celebrate November 5th.

Please can we remind parents to ensure they have booked their Buddies after school places – we have had a number of children this week who hadn't booked. It's in your best interest as if we haven't got space you would need to collect your child. Thankyou.