



### Household support fund

The Household Support Fund is there to help low income households, including families, pensioners, unpaid carers, care leavers and disabled people. It provides immediate help for those who are struggling. This could include help with your energy, water, broadband and phone bills, as well as other essentials such as food, clothing and hygiene products. The fund can also assist with transport-related costs such as car repairs, buying a bicycle or paying for fuel.

Please visit the below website for more information and details on how to apply:

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/council-community/cost-of-living/household-support-fund/>

### Parents Evenings

Have you booked your appointment? We would love every parent to attend our parents' evening as it is so important that staff get to meet parents and also to have an initial discussion about how your child has settled in.

### School Life

#### School Photos

Please make sure your child is looking smart on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> October. All children must come to school in their uniform and bring PE kits even if it is their PE day.



Butterflies - if your child only does afternoons or isn't in this day, please bring them to the front office by 9:15 so they can be in the class photo.



Thank you so much to everyone who joined us, contributed and donated towards our Macmillan coffee morning last Friday!

Between us and Kuka Robotics LTD we have raised an amazing **£838!!!** We are so proud of this total and couldn't have done it without you!



### Spanish at Brook

The children in KS2 are having a great time learning Spanish in their classes. This week they have learnt a little bit about why we learn languages in primary school and they have learnt about flamenco dancing in assembly. This is because the children will soon be taking part in a flamenco workshop.

### Flamenco Workshops

Years 5 and 6 - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Years 3 and 4 - Spring Term - date to be confirmed.

### Spanish Display Competition

The children have also been challenged to create something for a Spanish display. This could be a piece of artwork, a poster, a 3D craft, a fact sheet, a poem, a recipe or anything else they can think of. Entries need to be handed in by the end of this half term (27<sup>th</sup> October).



Brook Primary School Presents



# Brook Fireworks 100 YEARS OF DISNEY

THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER 2023

Tickets go  
on sale  
Monday  
morning!

6.30PM TO 8PM

Please  
collect tickets  
24 hours after  
ordering!

Firework Display, Outdoor Disco &  
Disney Fancy Dress Parade  
Hot food and refreshments

Tickets available in advance from Brook Primary School

**Family £17 (2 Adults & 2 Children)**

**Adult £6.00 Child £4.00 (under 3's free)**

Payment on the night will be £7.00 per person  
(adult or child)

No unaccompanied under 18's, ID may be asked for

This is a walk to event

There will be NO parking available

NB: Please note that we will not be having a bonfire this year due to Health and Safety restrictions. Please do not let this dampen the spirit - it is still set to be an amazing night!

Brook Primary School, George Street, Wordsley, DY8 5YN Telephone

01384 389888

**Are you..**

**A Dudley Borough resident?**

**Significantly struggling to afford food, pay bills and buy essentials?**

We understand that times are tough because of the ongoing cost of living crisis, and we're able to provide help at our Cost of Living Support Hubs

Our funding allows households to attend the hubs a maximum of 3 times since they opened on 30th January 2023. This is for any of our hubs (i.e. 3 times across any hub and not per hub). Also, there needs to be a minimum of 12 days between each appointment. Please make sure you read ALL information on our Eventbrite page when you book.

If you book an appointment and don't meet the criteria to be able to attend, we will either cancel your appointment before the day or decline entry on the day. So to limit disappointment, we kindly ask you to adhere to this request. If you can't book an appointment and need help due to the cost of living crisis, please go to Dudley Council's website for additional help: <https://www.dudley.gov.uk/costofliving>

**What happens in the Hubs..**

When you arrive in our Hub, one of our friendly Hub staff will greet you and complete an assessment to establish your eligibility for support

Poverty relieving practical assistance will then be provided based on your assessment

For example:

- ✓ Giving information on how to save money and make money stretch further
- ✓ Offering practical help relating to access to food, fuel, energy, period products, available benefits, grants and funds based on qualifying criteria
- ✓ Showing how energy usage can be reduced and ways to save money on utilities
- ✓ Issuing a voucher per household to purchase essentials (NB: these vouchers can only be issued in a crisis, and are subject to availability)
- ✓ Issuing a fuel bank voucher (NB: subject to eligibility)
- ✓ Identifying other organisations that can help with the struggles being experienced

**Access to all of our Hubs is by pre booked appointment only, and appointments can only be booked via our Eventbrite page:**

[https://CA\\_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com](https://CA_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com)

Due to the demand for our Hubs, the appointments usually fill up quickly. However, people can follow our Eventbrite page and this will notify them of when new appointments have been released.

In the Hubs, our friendly Hub Staff will be able to provide:

- Information on how to save money
- Practical help relating to access to food, fuel, energy, benefits and grants
  - Ways to reduce energy usage
- Issuing a voucher per household to purchase essentials
  - Issuing a fuel voucher



The 4<sup>th</sup> Cost of Living Support Hub, opened at Christ Church in Lye on the 28<sup>th</sup> September.

The hubs are funded by DMBC and the ICB, to respond to the difficulties many people continue to face because of the financial increases we are seeing in so many areas (termed cost of living crisis).

Since the 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 we have been helping the community through our existing Hubs in Dudley, Halesowen and Brierley Hill and we have now expanded our service to Lye.

**When and how to access the Hubs..**

The Hubs can only be accessed by booking an appointment online at: [https://CA\\_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com](https://CA_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com)

**On the day of your appointment, you must bring with you 2 forms of ID:**

- ✓ 1 form of ID with your name (passport, travel pass, debit card etc)
- AND;**
- ✓ 1 form of ID with your name and address on it to prove you're a Dudley Borough resident (eg. a council tax bill)

If you are providing a bank statement for proof of address it must be downloaded onto your phone or a hard copy presented to staff. We will not accept your address from a mobile banking app.

We reserve the right to request photo ID when you are at the hub to authenticate your ID. We reserve the right to cancel the appointment should we feel the ID is not that of the appointment holder or that the ID is not authentic.

Support is only offered by attending a pre booked appointment, appointments cannot be booked directly at the venues.

Please do not contact the venues as they are not running the hubs

**To book go to: [https://CA\\_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com](https://CA_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com)**

**Hub Opening Times**

**Our Cost of Living Support Hubs are open at:**

**Brierley Hill**, Brierley Hill Methodist Church, 24 Bank Street, Brierley Hill  
**Open Alternating Wednesdays, 9:30am - 3:30pm**

**Halesowen**, Halesowen Library, The Cornbow Centre, 7th Floor, Halesowen  
**Open Alternating Wednesdays, 9:30am - 3:30pm**



**Stourbridge**, Christ Church, High Street, Lye, DY9 8LF  
**Open Thursdays from 28th September, 9:30am - 3:30pm**



**Dudley**, Provision House, 80-81 High Street, Dudley  
**Open Fridays, 9:30am - 3:30pm**

**To see available dates and book an appointment visit our Eventbrite page: [https://CA\\_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com](https://CA_DudleyandWolverhampton.eventbrite.com)**

**Appointments can only be booked via visiting our Eventbrite page**

**For more information on Cost of Living support, go to:**

<https://DudleyWolverhamptonCA.eventbrite.com>

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/costofliving>

<https://www.facebook.com/CitizensAdviceDudleyAndWolverhampton/>



The week beginning the **16<sup>th</sup> October** is our harvest week, a time when we support our local food bank to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

Our Year 2 and Year 5 children have been preparing a harvest assembly and **Year 2 parents will be invited to join us on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October at 2.45pm** and **Year 5 parents are invited on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2.45pm.**

During the week we will be asking for donations, which we will be taking to the food bank. Donations can be made any day from the 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> October. Please see the attached poster which explains which items are in demand this year.



# SHOPPING LIST

**BLACK COUNTRY  
FOODBANK**  
LOVE . CONNECT . INVEST

**BLACK COUNTRY FOODBANK** HELPS VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN CRISIS THROUGH THE PROVISION OF AN EMERGENCY FOOD AND TOILETRY PARCEL, WHILE A LONGER-TERM SOLUTION IS DEVELOPED

**PLEASE SUPPORT US BY DONATING ANY OF THE ITEMS FROM OUR SHOPPING LIST:**

- 1L CARTONS OF FRUIT JUICE
- 1L CARTONS OF UHT MILK
- TINNED CHOPPED TOMATOES
- SMALL JARS OF COFFEE
- TINNED POTATOES/MASH
- TINNED FRUIT
- TINNED CUSTARD/RICE PUDDING
- TINNED READY MEALS
- TINNED HAM/CORNERED BEEF
- TINNED FRAY BENTOS PIES
- TINNED FISH
- BREAKFAST CEREAL
- TINNED SOUP
- TINNED MACARONI CHEESE
- PACKETS OF SAVOURY RICE/NOODLES
- DEODORANTS
- SHAMPOO
- SHOWER GEL
- TOILET ROLL

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1136676



## Reader of the Week

At Brook, we strive to:

- Listen to each child read at least once a week
- Teach explicit reading skills for at least 30 minutes each day
- Provide our children with engaging reading material (This year we have invested over £3000 in new books!)
- Provide access to an extensive school library
- Provide comfortable and inviting reading areas for children

Parents/carers, reading to your child at home is just as important! There can be few things as powerful as regularly reading to a child. It has astonishing benefits for children: comfort and reassurance, confidence and security, relaxation, happiness and fun. Giving a child time and full attention when reading them a story, or them reading you a story, tells them they matter. It builds self-esteem, vocabulary, feeds imagination and even improves their sleeping patterns.

At Brook this year, we want to celebrate reading regularly so we are introducing 'Reader of the Week' for each class. The children will achieve a certificate from their class teacher and will be celebrated in class. To achieve reader of the week children will:

- Read regularly at home.
- Share books with other people.
- Make book recommendations.
- Have evidence of regular comments in reading records from parents or themselves.
- Use the school library regularly.
- Visit libraries in the local area.
- Engage in discussions during 'Book Talk'.
- Examples of great reading skills in lessons.
- Read a range of types/genres/authors of books.
- Make progress with their reading.

Additionally, we always enjoy hearing about how children are engaging in reading activities outside of school so please continue to share these with us to support our children with their reading journeys.

**We ask that you please write regularly in your child's reading record when read with them at home.**

### The magic of reading with your child

<https://youtu.be/XiBS8IF48uM?si=CwQIBKqoc5NvT6CO>

Thank you for supporting your child's reading development - we appreciate it!

## Reader of the Week



Congratulations to

in Class \_\_\_\_\_



You are such a good reader,  
keep up the good work!

Date: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_





The Big Ambition is a new campaign to hear directly from children, young people, and parents across the country about what they need to make their lives better.

Now is a crucial moment to take children and young people's voices to policymakers, Government, and decision makers, to make sure they are heard.

The children's commissioner for England wants to hear from every child and young person in England about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world. She will also be asking what they want for their future, their hopes, dreams, and aspirations.

This survey is for all children and young people aged 6-18 and for parents/carers who can complete the survey on behalf of children aged 0-5. This will ensure we hear from early years settings. Adults can also assist children who are unable to complete the survey independently.

The survey can be completed here: [www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition](http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition)

By sharing this survey far and wide, you'll be ensuring children's voices are reflected in the decisions that will affect them in years to come.

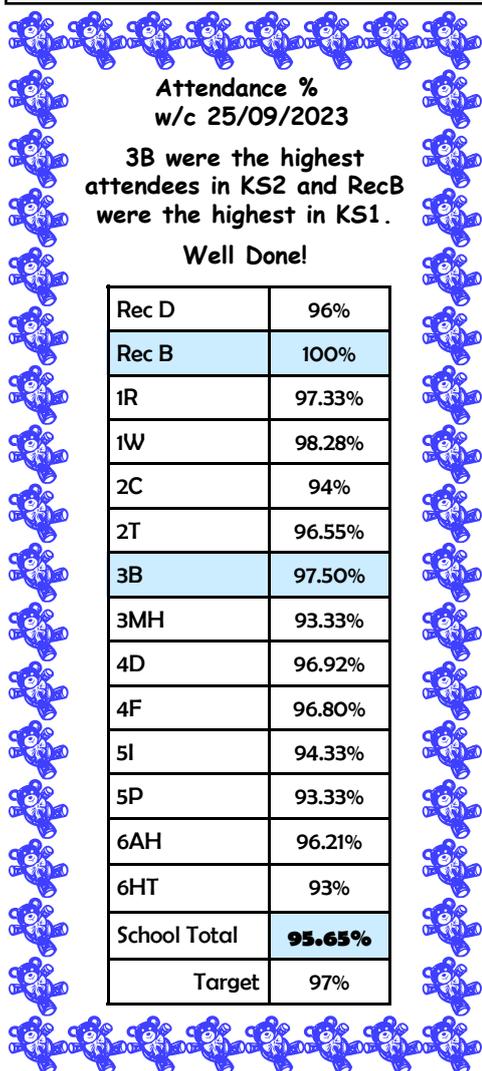


National Trust

National Trust are offering a single use ticket (2 adults & up to 3 children) free on any date up to 20th October for a selection of their properties! This is a great opportunity for our families and children to get out and explore nature in some really beautiful settings.

You can claim a ticket via this link;

[https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/escape-into-autumn?campid=Social Central Visit Facebook Autumn 260922](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/features/escape-into-autumn?campid=Social%20Central%20Visit%20Facebook%20Autumn%20260922)



Attendance %  
w/c 25/09/2023

3B were the highest attendees in KS2 and RecB were the highest in KS1.

Well Done!

Rec D	96%
Rec B	100%
1R	97.33%
1W	98.28%
2C	94%
2T	96.55%
3B	97.50%
3MH	93.33%
4D	96.92%
4F	96.80%
5I	94.33%
5P	93.33%
6AH	96.21%
6HT	93%
School Total	<b>95.65%</b>
Target	97%



# Brook Buddies



Brook Buddies parents it's that time again! If you require a place at Buddies please remember you need to fill in a new parent pack please. These are available from Buddies or the main school office

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:

8:00am-8:45am - £3.50

### Afterschool club:

Half session 3:20pm-4:45pm - £5.25

Full session 3:20pm-5:45pm - £8.00

**All bookings must be made by Thursday of the week before you require childcare.**

### Please note: (Summary from Brook School policy)

Parents should collect their child promptly at the end of a session otherwise you will be charged a fee of **£10.00** to cover staff costs if they are **more than 10 minutes late**. If this situation arises more than three times in one term, their child's place at Brook Buddies may be forfeited!

### Buddies parents please note:

If you need an emergency place—this needs be paid on Parent Pay no later than 3pm.