



Respect



Resilient



Pride



Challenge



Independent

## Message from Mrs Fellows

As we come to the end of another busy and successful half term, I would like to take a moment to wish all of our families a very happy and restful half term break.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support—it makes such a difference to the life of our school. I would particularly like to recognise our Year 6 pupils, who have worked incredibly hard in the lead-up to and during their SATs. They have shown great determination and resilience, and we are very proud of them.

We hope you enjoyed taking part in our Brook Reads sessions this term. It was a wonderful opportunity to share special moments together through reading, and it was lovely to see so many families involved.

Looking ahead, we are excited for what promises to be another fantastic half term, with highlights including Sports Days, transition activities, and of course, our incredible Brookfest.



## MAY HALF TERM

This week, 1 child from each class was selected by their teacher to enjoy a hot chocolate with Mrs Fellows as a celebration of their hard work this term. Congratulations to the following children:

**Butterflies** - Freddie

**Reception R** - Ettie

**Reception B** - Kenton

**1D** - Poppy

**1T** - Olivia

**2C** - Gurkinat

**2T** - Malakai

**3B** - Edie

**3F** - Stanley

**4H** - Alisha

**4W** - Luca

**5E/N** - Gracie

**5S** - Rae

**6D** - Jasmine

**6I** - Jameson





# Operation Encompass:



At our school, the safety & wellbeing of every child is our highest priority. We are proud to be part of Operation Encompass, a national initiative that supports children who may have been exposed to domestic abuse.

Operation Encompass is a partnership between schools & local police. Following any domestic incident where a child may have been present, the police will securely notify the school, as soon as they can, ideally the next school day. This allows us to provide immediate, sensitive support to the child if needed when they arrive at school.

A trained member of staff (the school's Key Adult) will be informed & will ensure that appropriate care, understanding & support are available where needed. This may be as simple as offering a safe space, additional emotional support, or extra understanding if a child is finding the day more challenging than usual.

We understand that these situations can be difficult for families, and all information shared through Operation Encompass is treated with strict confidentiality.

### **Our aim is to:**

- Help children feel safe, supported, and understood
- Reduce anxiety and distress following difficult experiences
- Enable children to be ready to learn and engage in school life

Together, we can ensure that every child feels safe and supported in our school community.

### **Understanding ACES - Supporting Our Children Together**

At our school, we are committed to supporting the whole child—not just their learning, but their emotional wellbeing too. You may hear us talk about ACES, which stands for Adverse Childhood Experiences.

ACES are potentially stressful or upsetting experiences that children may face while growing up.

These can include things like family conflict, changes at home, bereavement, or other challenging life events. While not all children are affected in the same way, we know that these experiences can sometimes impact how children feel, behave, and learn.

It's important to understand that experiencing difficulties does not define a child's future. With the right support, care, and positive relationships, children can build resilience and thrive.

We support children by creating a safe, caring environment, building positive relationships, teaching emotional skills, and offering extra help when needed while working closely with families. Parents can help by keeping routines, encouraging open conversations, providing reassurance, and sharing any concerns with school. Together, we aim to ensure every child feels secure, valued, and ready to learn.

Last Thursday a group of Year 1 and Year 2 children went to Stourbridge Cricket Club to take part in a cricket festival. They practiced batting, throwing, catching through playing lots of different cricket games. They all had a wonderful time and really enjoyed learning some new skills!



On Friday in Butterflies, we are raising awareness for Juvenile idiopathic arthritis which affects Bella. We are having some fun activities in preschool and would like it to be put on the main newsletter if possible.

The only UK-wide charity focusing solely on JIA.

**JAR** Juvenile Arthritis Research  
Charity No. 1091128

Kipo is a happy monkey who likes to laugh, learn and play

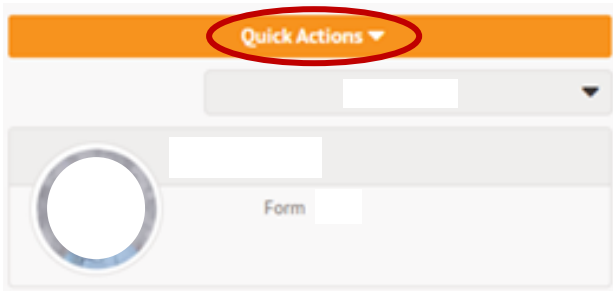


But some days, Kipo has pain, where he finds it hard to play, walk and run

Arthritis can affect anyone of any age



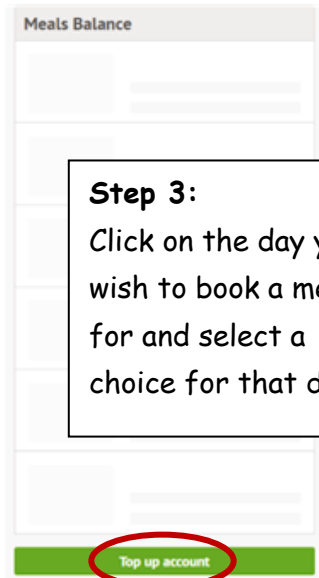
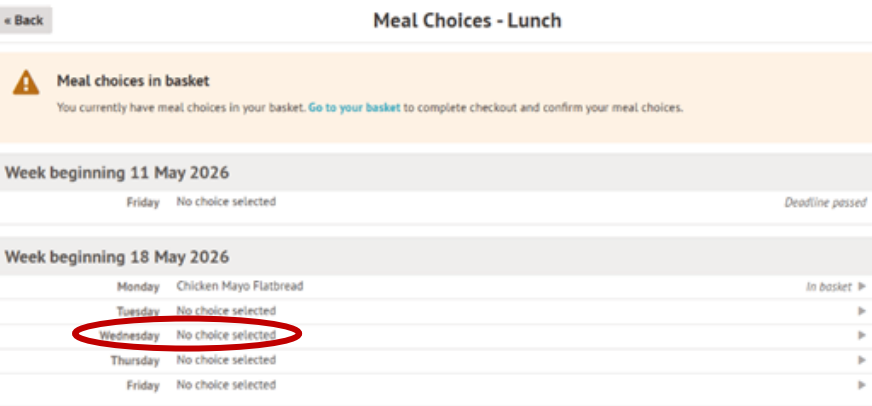
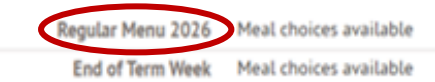
School meals are no longer booked via Parent Pay and are now live on Arbor.  
Please familiarise yourselves with the new system and book in advance.



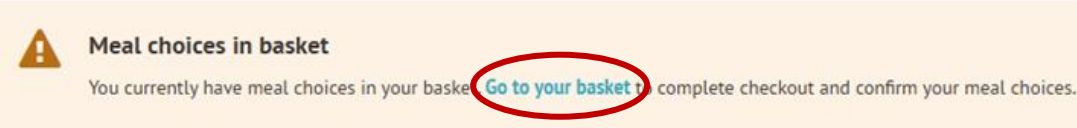
**Step 1:**  
Click on 'Quick Actions' and then 'meals'



**Step 2:**  
Click on 'Regular Menu 2026'



**Step 3:**  
Click on the day you wish to book a meal for and select a choice for that day.



**Step 4:**  
Top up account before you click process at the bottom of the page and then go to basket.



We are receiving an increasing number of requests for holidays during term time and would like to take this opportunity to remind all parents of the school's position. Holiday absence during term time will not be authorised, except in very exceptional circumstances. While we understand the pressures families may face when planning time away, we are required to follow national guidance, and parents should be aware that taking children out of school without permission may result in a penalty fine.

Further information can be found in the Department for Education guidance on attendance here: [Working together to improve school attendance](#). We appreciate your understanding and continued support in ensuring that children attend school regularly and do not miss valuable learning time.

## School photographs

This week we had the school photographers join us to take individual photos of our Brook children. They all were sent home with the proof and details of how to order the photo.

It was lovely to see all of our children looking smart in their uniforms!



A big thank you to all our reception children & their families for their fantastic effort on 'Recycling Day' this week! We had some fabulous outfits, raised awareness, helped our school environment by litter picking & even raised some money for 'Friends of the Earth'.



# Maths Mania Week - What a Number-tastic Success!

What a fantastic week it has been in school—Maths Mania Week has certainly lived up to its name!

Throughout the week, the school has been buzzing with excitement as children took part in a variety of fun-filled maths activities. From brain-teasing challenges and assemblies to our energetic Times Tables Battle of the Bands, there has been something for everyone to enjoy.

One of the highlights of the week was welcoming so many of you—our parents and carers—into school for our maths workshops. It was wonderful to see families learning together, playing games, and sharing plenty of smiles (and a little healthy competition too!). The classrooms were full of laughter and enthusiasm as everyone discovered that maths can be fun, interactive, and something to enjoy together at home.

At our school, we love showing children that maths is more than just numbers on a page—it's about thinking, exploring, problem-solving, and sometimes even making mistakes along the way.

Maths Mania Week has helped us celebrate all of this!

We hope the excitement doesn't stop here and that you'll continue enjoying maths games and challenges at home. Who knows—you might even have a Times Tables champion in the making!

We can't wait to share more of our Maths Mania adventures with you soon!



Local libraries such as Wordsley, Stourbridge and Kingswinford have loads of free activities on offer this May half term such as craft sessions, LEGO clubs and trails! They offer drop in and pre-booked sessions across the week and details can be found on their website and social media pages!



# ATTENDANCE UPDATE



This week 319 children have had 100% attendance. Well done!

Well done to 4W who had the highest class attendance this week with 99.6%.

Our attendance superstar this week is Frazer in Year 5!

Our attendance superstar since September is Evie in Year 2



## Sun safety over May half term!

The weather is looking absolutely beautiful next week with temperatures estimated to be as high as 31 degrees!

We are so glad the sun will be shining for you and hope that you get to spend some lovely time outdoors.

But as lovely as it is don't forget to remember a few things!

Keep hydrated with water

Remember sun hats and sunscreen



## Brook Buddies



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 - £4.50

**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: **07970 704 158**

Our email is **Buddies@brook.dudley.sch.uk**

This week in Buddies we have enjoyed creating a large bee to celebrate world bee day!  
We have enjoyed picking some rhubarb from the garden and chopping it up to make a rhubarb crumble which we cooked and tried with custard!