

# Brooklands Bulletin



**Brooklands Farm**  
**Primary School**  
Weaving a learning journey

18th September 2015



One Community

One Primary School

One Localised Plan for Success

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## Term Dates:

Autumn (1) term ends 23rd October

Autumn Half Term Break 23th-30th October

Autumn (2) term begins 2nd November

Autumn (2) term ends 18th December (17th December for Nursery)

Christmas Break 21st December–1st January

Inset Day Monday 4th January

Spring (1) term begins 5th January

Spring (1) term ends 12th February

Half Term Break 15th-19th February

Spring (2) begins 22nd February

Spring (2) ends 24th March (23rd March for Nursery)

Easter Break 25th March-8th April

Inset Day 11th April

Summer (1) term begins 12th April

Bank Holiday Monday 2nd May

We would like to say a big thank you to parents for completing the homework so promptly this week! Gathering pupil voice is a fundamental aspect of personalised teaching and learning and we appreciate you supporting us with this. We have been extremely impressed by the maturity of the children when reflecting on this homework. They commented on how useful it was to see their year group standard in order to set themselves next steps and long term goals. Year 6 pupils have also passed on very positive feedback from parents too which is great to hear! Hopefully you now have a better understanding of the standard for your child's year group and feel more aware of knowledge and skills they will need for a successful year. We encourage you to speak to your child's teacher if you ever have any questions about completing homework. As always, thank you for working in partnership with us at Brooklands Farm.

We have a growing number of children who are coming to school without having any breakfast. As you know, breakfast is the most important meal of the day, and this is especially true for children! Their growing bodies and developing brains need regular refuelling, particularly after a long sleep. Studies have found that eating breakfast may enhance memory, improve cognitive ability, and help increase attention span. Providing your child with a healthy breakfast ensures your child has the best possible start to the day. Remember to include a drink too - being well hydrated also helps improve concentration.

We are very aware that the road layouts around our community have changed recently and our behaviours around the roads must be more cautious. Please can you discuss road safety with your children over the weekend to feedback to their class next week.

Also, can all the children discuss their role as a leader in our school? We have sent home letters highlighting the criteria for each of our leader posts available in school.

Enjoy your weekend.

## Dates for your diary:

Curriculum Teas: w/c 21st September

Deadline for Secondary School Applications: Saturday 31st October

Lantern Festival: Friday 20th November @ Countess Way

The cut-off for ordering school dinners for week commencing 28th September is:

**Midnight, Sunday 20th September**

To report an absence please phone the school office on 01908 760081 (option 1) by 9am. Alternatively, you may report an absence via the website:

<http://brooklandsfarm.milton-keynes.sch.uk/reporting-absence/#>

## Latest News

**Nut Free School:** A reminder that Brooklands Farm is a nut free school, therefore please ensure that any food which is bought in by children is nut free. This includes morning snacks and packed lunches.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning:** We will be hosting a Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 25th September. There will be three sessions at 8am, 1pm and 3pm at Countess Way, bring along something sweet, we'll provide the tea and coffee. We look forward to seeing you there to raise money for a great cause.

**Bicycles, Scooters and Skateboards:** Please remember that bicycles, scooters, skateboards, etc should not be ridden across the playground or courtyard. They should be parked in the bicycle racks near the school gates. Please remind children to walk their bikes and scooters to the gates before riding them.

**Countess Way Car Parks:** You may use both car parks at Countess Way for drop-off and pick up.

**Water Bottles and Book Bags:** Please can all children in years 1-6 both at Fen Street and Countess way bring in a named water bottle so that they have access to a drink throughout the day. Also, may we ask that children bring a book bag to school rather than other types of bags as book bags fit nicely into their trays and we do not have the space for bulky rucksacks, etc.

**Fen Street Breakfast/Activity/Care Club Entrance:** In the interest of safety and safeguarding, we have made the decision to change the entrance for Breakfast Club drop-off and Care Club/KS2 Activities collection. We will no longer be using the door at the end of the hall corridor. We will now be using the main entrance in Reception. A member of staff will be available to let you in.

Collection for KS1 Activities will remain the same in the cross corridor.

**Chartwells:** The cut-off for ordering school dinners is now midnight Sunday the week before.

We are aware that some parents are having difficulties ordering online and have been unable to get through to the Customer Care Line. Chartwells have provided us with a troubleshooting guide which was sent via ParentMail and are available in Reception. If you are still having trouble, please contact Jill at Fen Street next week to arrange a time to come in and do the order for week commencing 5th October together.

**ParentMail/ParentPay:** Our main lines of communication for parents are our website and email. If you are not receiving emails please see Reception for a ParentMail (Fen Street) or ParentPay (Countess Way) registration code.



## Tell Me Tuesday

On a scale of 1 to 5, how effective was transition in supporting your child to settle in these first two weeks?

Mrs Langford and Mrs Thelwell will be collecting your answers at drop-off on Tuesday at the school gates at Fen Street and Miss McShane at Countess Way.

## Pin Assemblies

Pin assemblies will be held in your child's classroom. Parents/Carers are invited to attend but please sign in at Reception and then accompany your child to their classroom.

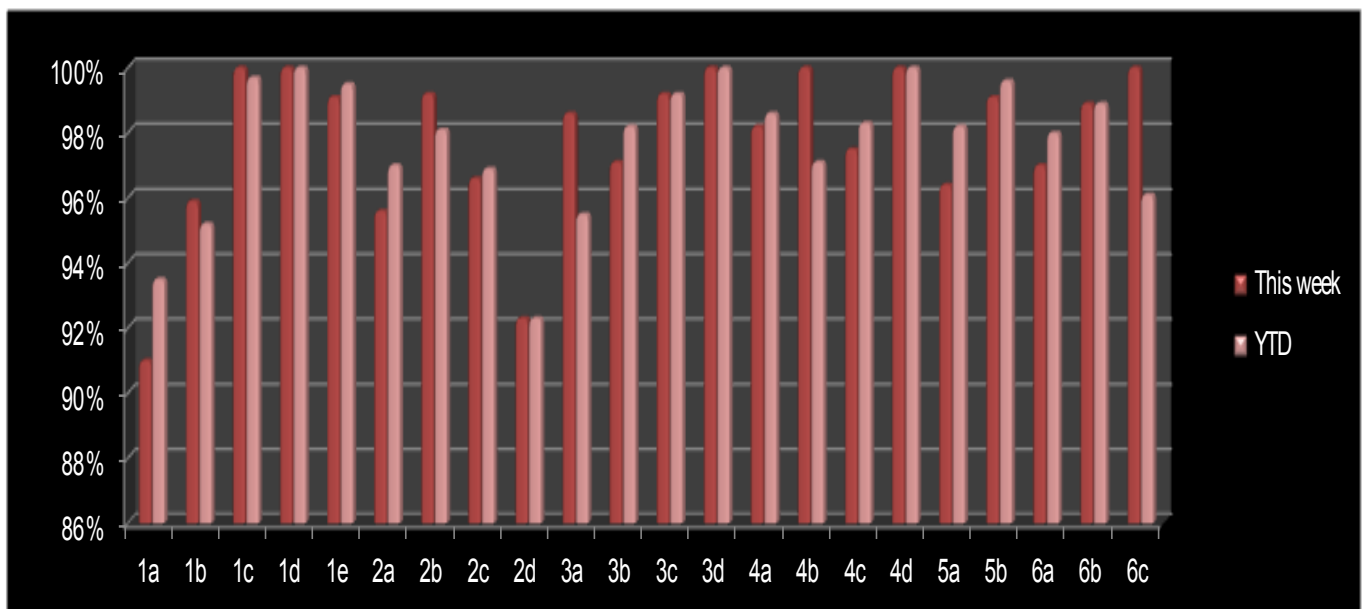
Watch this space for children who have achieved their pins... coming soon.



## Attendance

The national expected level of attendance is 96.5%. We take attendance very seriously at Brooklands Farm and expect to achieve this level with your partnership.

This week's attendance is:





# Small School News



## Early Years

**Foundation 1** have had a very calm week settling into the nursery environment. The children have already shown good friendship skills and have begun to understand the routines of the daily session. We look forward to welcoming more children in next week.

**Foundation 2** have had an exciting week! We have focused on growing relationships and learning the new routines. Just a quick reminder that the children will stay in school until 1.30 next week. We provide a variety of snacks throughout the day including water so children do not need to bring water bottles to school. We also request that personal toys are not brought to school as they could get lost or damaged. Please ensure that your child brings a coat to school as the weather is getting colder and we spend a large amount of time outdoors.

## Infant School

**Year 1** have worked very hard this week to draft and re-draft their artwork showing us their determined muscles and not giving up. Each class created a collage based on the past, present or future of Brooklands Farm and they look brilliant, well done everyone! We've all been using our dancing feet in preparation for the lantern festival...watch this space!

**Year 2** we have been learning about the past present and future. We have used this in both our literacy and art to create exciting final pieces of work. Also we really enjoyed our first dance lesson and are looking forward to another one next week!

Please make sure Reading Records and their reading book are sent in every day in their book bags.

Countess Way children have continued to grow their calm learning this week and have done lots of believing! In literacy they have continued to look at the story of Katie and the British Artists and have been writing their own stories. We look forward to starting our Lighthouses project next week.

## Lower Junior

**Year 3** have a wonderful week of new learning! They ventured out on their first trip to Middleton Swimming Pool which they thoroughly enjoyed! The whole year group have also started learning French with Madame Leech. It's lovely hearing their French greetings and French songs throughout our small school. Next week they will be introduced to their new project, 'Vanishing Rainforests'. Please let us know if you'd like to volunteer to join us on our trip to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens on Thursday.

**Year 3/4** have been really settling into their learning. They've created some fantastic stories and are beginning to understand the importance of reviewing and improving our writing. I've seen some fantastic growth mindsets and children receiving the believe medal because they are telling themselves and others 'I can, you can, we can!'

I'm also very proud of the way year 3/4 have taken on the responsibility of being the school's role models.

**Year 4** have shown great maturity and resilience this week as they've learnt completely new skills in drumming lessons in music. They have also begun learning a dance for our lantern festival in November! Next week, they will begin their project 'The Romans are coming!' and I can already feel a buzz of excitement in anticipation of this exciting project! Please let us know if you'd like to volunteer to join us on our Roman Experience day at Milton Keynes City Discovery Centre in Bradwell Abbey on Monday 28th September.

## Upper Junior

**Year 5** have really enjoyed starting their dance work for the lantern festival coming soon. They have continued their create and communicate learning in their take one picture project and are looking forward to hearing how they get on when their work is sent off for The National Gallery competition.

**Year 6** have continued to grow their review and redrafting learning within the context of story writing this week! They have also enjoyed producing their Take One Picture create and communicate learning and are very much looking forward to seeing it up on display at the gallery!



## Community groups that meet at Brooklands Farm—Fen Street

**Mondays:** Mums & Tots 8:45-11:15

**Tuesdays:** Child minders & Tots 8:45-11:15

**Wednesdays:** Polish Friends of Brooklands Farm 8:40-9:40

**Thursdays:** Mums & Tots 8:45-11:15

**Fridays:** Me Time 9:00-11:00. A fun group just for you! Try something different, make friends and find your creativity. Childcare is available but should be booked in advance as places are limited.

## Brooklands Farm Friends (PTA)

Brooklands Farm Friends will be holding their next meeting at Fen Street on Tuesday 22nd September at 7:30pm, access via hall corridor door (old Care Club entrance).

All are welcome from both Countess Way and Fen Street campuses.

Items on the agenda are Lantern Festival planning, the Nearly New Uniform Shop and more.

For more information please contact Sam Vernon at [samantha.vernon@sky.com](mailto:samantha.vernon@sky.com) or visit their Facebook page by searching Brooklands Farm Friends (PTA)

## Upcoming Local Events In Our Community

**Dinner Church, Sunday 20th September 4.30pm to 6pm @ Broughton Pavilion**

Eat a simple meal together, share in a time of prayer, and chat together about what it might mean to follow the way of Jesus. £2 for adults, free for kids. Bring a tin for the Food Bank box. Join the event to help with numbers: <https://www.facebook.com/events/451782435006710/>

**Knit, Natter & Sew, Monday 21st September 10 to 11.30 @ The Broughton Pub**

Bring your sewing or knitting, grab a cuppa and join this informal weekly get together. Everyone welcome.

**Sacred Space, Tuesday 22nd September 7.30pm @ Broughton Pavilion**

Take some time out! Quiet prayer/meditation, a space from the busyness of life.

**Forest Church, Sunday 27th September 10am @ The Well at Willen and then Salcey Forest**

Breakfast, worship & walk! Bacon butties and kids cereals, then a simple reflection & prayer and off to Salcey Forest for a walk together and a chance to meet God in the beauty of nature.