



Newsletter Date
December 2024

Brocks Hill News



The end of term is fast approaching, and Christmas will soon be here. There is lots to look forward to this month so please do take note of the special events happening at school.

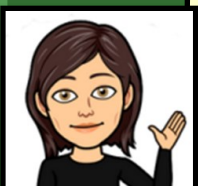
November has been busy with lots of exciting events. We took part in Anti Bullying week, enjoyed Odd Socks Day and watched informative assemblies on how to 'Speak Out, Stay Safe'. We also marked Children in Need and raised a total of £170. Thank you to all those who made donations, and a special thanks to the group of Y3 children who worked so hard to make and sell bracelets.

It was lovely to welcome so many parents into school for our Open classrooms in mid November to take part in writing lessons. I hope you found this a useful session and maybe you even learnt something new?

Foundation Stage have also been keeping their parents busy with a fantastic performance of the 'The Little Red Hen'. It is always great to see them develop their self confidence and knowledge of stories as they do this.

Thank you for your continued support of your children's learning and we look forward to seeing you at events this month.

Mrs Shilling



Staffing News

On Thursday 28th November we said goodbye to Miss Wright as she commences her maternity leave. We wish her all the very best for the arrival of her new baby.

We are delighted that Miss Odedra will be covering this class during her absence.

We are pleased to be welcoming Mrs Cave back to school on the 17th December. She will return to teach Y5 4 days each week and Mrs Cherry will continue to teach the class one day each week. We are so grateful to Mrs Cherry for the excellent work she has invested in this class.

Family Support

Family Hubs have been established to support families, children and young people across Leicestershire. Working with partner organisations our Hubs provide a one-stop shop and offer advice, information and resources to help families navigate every stage of life; from pregnancy, through your child's early years, later childhood and into young adulthood. For further information see <https://www.familyhubsleicestershire.org.uk/>



Important dates for this term



2nd December	Year 1 Coombe Park Visit
6th December	Foundation Stage Church Visit
6th December	Class 12 Assembly
10th /11th December	Foundation Stage performances
11th December	Christmas Lunch & Christmas jumper day
13th December	Class 9 Assembly
13th December	FoBHS Christmas Fair and LOROS Reindeer Run
16th December	Year 4 Mandir visit
18th / 19th December	Year 1 and Year 2 performances
18th December	Year 6 Beaumanor Hall visit
20th December	School closes at 3.15/3.20 for Christmas





Driving children to school is seen as the most convenient choice for parents with busy lives. Many parents take the view that by driving their children to school they are keeping them safe. Yet the combination of each individual decision means an increase in vehicle traffic and congestion particularly at the school gate.

Many children now miss out on the opportunity to develop vital road safety skills with their parents on the way to school. They fail to build up confidence and learn the ability to manage risk walking around their local community. Walking can improve overall fitness levels in children and adults. It is a cheap low impact way to exercise. Getting active in our daily lives can have a big impact on health issues such as obesity.

We realise that there are some parents/carers who have no alternative but to drive their children to school, however, many are driving short distances where walking is a real option. Even those who have to drive to school can do their bit by parking away from the school entrance and walking for part of the journey.

What can you do to help keep everyone safe around the school gates?

Please don't:

- **Block the road - emergency vehicles and other traffic may need access**
- **Park on yellow lines, zig-zags or block the school entrance**
- **Park on the pavement, across dropped kerbs or residents' driveways**
- **Park opposite or within 10 metres of a junction**

Park where you will cause inconvenience to other road users

These changes make a real difference to the congestion around schools, making the school run less stressful and far safer for everyone. Not only that but they will help your child's education. Research has shown that children who walk or cycle to school are more receptive to learning at the start of the school day than those who travel to school by car.

Attendance

As you will be aware, schools are not able to authorise term time holidays. I need to inform you of changes made by Leicestershire County Council to the Penalty Notice regarding unauthorised leave during term time. These changes come into force on **Monday 19th August**. Please see guidance below. Any term time holidays after this date will be subject to these new rules.

Penalty Notices for unauthorised absences: What you need to know about the changes.

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for unauthorised absences that occur after 19th August 2024.

5 Consecutive Days of Term Time Leave.

Penalty Notice fines will be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days, and for fewer days where this has happened before.

10 Sessions of Unauthorised Absence in a 10-week period.

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions of absence in a 10-week period.

Per Parent, Per Child

Penalty Notice fines will be issued to each parent, for each child who was absent.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave will result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days.

Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Second Offence (within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child when paid within 28 days.

(No option to pay at £80 level)

Third offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or irregular attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued. The case will proceed to the Magistrates' court.

Magistrate's fines can be up to £2,500 per parent, per child.



Please consult your school's attendance policy and speak with your school if you are thinking of taking your child out of school during term-time. It is likely you will need to make a written request to take your child out of school and any leave of absence will need to be agreed by your Headteacher before it is taken.

Knowledge organisers

Knowledge organisers are a summary of the key facts and essential knowledge that pupils need about a unit of work or a curriculum subject. All the information is broken down into easily digestible chunks.

Knowledge organisers can be used for any subject or year group, from the humanities such as history and English to maths and science.

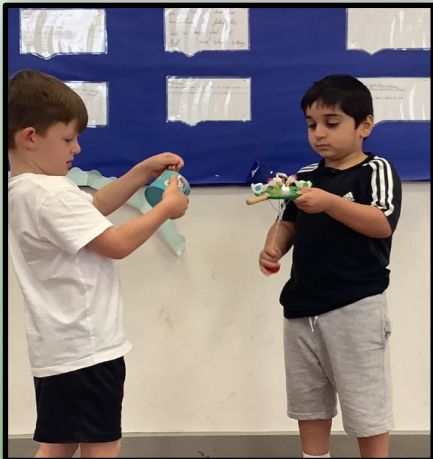
They will include:

- key vocabulary
- key places and people
- useful diagrams (as required for the topic)
- key dates for a subject like history (e.g. when the two World Wars were)
- stem sentences

Please note that these are available on the website (in the Curriculum section under each Year group). They are also regularly emailed out for your information.

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Year 1 History 'Toy workshop'



Year 1 had the best time enjoying the History Toy Workshop last term.



Art

Class 10's amazing art work from their visit to Beauchamp collage. Inspired by a 3m high praying mantis.



Sports

What a great way to start the Morning with our fun and exciting Before school tennis club!

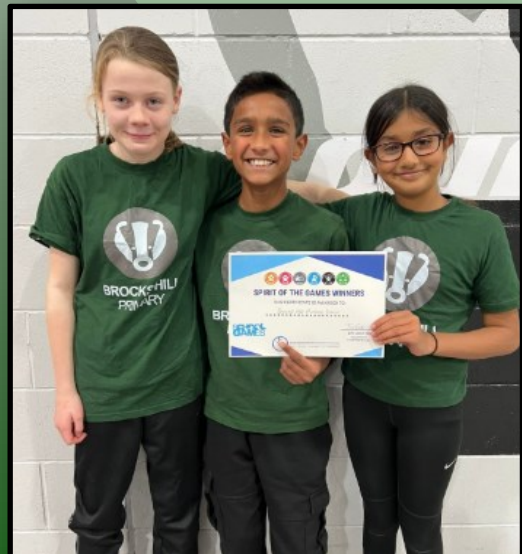


A great time was had by all at the Paralympic Legacy Festival at the Wigston Academy. We were blown away by our children's wheelchair abilities. What an empowering experience!



Athletics

Year 5 and 6 competed in the Area Athletics Competition at Beauchamp College, not only were the children 'Spirit of the games' winners but also finished the competition in 2nd place!



Year 5 Residential



Breakfast time



Must get to the top!



Heading for the Zip line



Problem solving



Who's turn is it next?



Satisfied smiles!

Some amazing pictures of the children from the residential having a great adventure!



A fantastic time was had by year 5 at Caythorpe Court. Exciting activities such as abseiling, climbing, zip line and archery tag were enjoyed by the children, deep in the beautiful Lincolnshire countryside. They even managed to learn outdoor survival skills and make fire!

Oadby Food Bank



12 days of Christmas food bank collection ...

Monday 2nd December 2024

On the first day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
U.H.T. (long life) Milk

Tuesday 3rd December 2024

On the second day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Breakfast cereal (not huge packets please)
Tinned meat / tinned fish

Wednesday 4th December 2024

On the third day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Packets of long grain rice/ dried pasta

Thursday 5th December 2024

On the fourth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Jars of sauce, e.g. sweet and sour, curry or pasta sauce

Friday 6th December 2024

On the fifth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Packets of dried lentils (500g packs preferred)

On the sixth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Cooking oil

On the seventh day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Tinned fruit or puddings / rice pudding / custard

On the eighth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Tea bags / instant coffee.

On the ninth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Long life fruit juice, squash

On the tenth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Jam/marmalade/other spreads

On the eleventh day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Ketchup / mayonnaise / chutney

On the twelfth day of Christmas Brocks Hill brought to us
Biscuits, Chocolates.

Please **don't include** toys, or other items such as clothing, bedding or household furniture as we cannot store or use these. For toys, please see <https://www.toysonthetable.org.uk>

Thank you so much, from all at Oadby Food Bank!

Merry Christmas

We hope all our friends and families have a wonderful time celebrating this joyous season, and wish you all a very happy new year!

Joy to the World

