



Newsletter Date  
January 2025



# Brocks Hill News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope you have all had a wonderful and restful holiday and are ready for an exciting new term ahead. On behalf of the entire staff, I would like to warmly welcome you back to school.

The start of a new year always prompts us to reflect on the year that has passed and to think about our hopes for this coming year. 2024 certainly was a busy year with lots to be proud of. At the end of last term we received notification that Brocks Hill was ranked 2nd in Leicestershire for end of Key Stage 2 assessments in 2024.

We also were delighted to learn that last year's Y4 pupils scored significantly higher than national averages in Times Tables tests and last year Y1 pupils also scored significantly higher than national averages in their phonics screening. Huge congratulations to all of these pupils and special thanks to the staff and families that supported them.

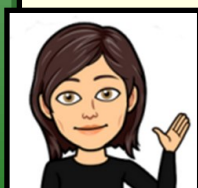
Brocks Hill continues to be a sporting school and we took part in a range of sporting competitions throughout the year. One notable success has been our football team who have qualified for LCFC quarter finals at their training ground in later this month. More of this exciting news later in the newsletter.

This term, we have many exciting events, projects, and learning opportunities planned. Please look at important dates for term ahead later in this newsletter. We also look forward to strengthening our partnership with you, our valued school community. Your continued support, involvement, and feedback are essential as we work together to provide the best possible learning experience for your child.

With good wishes for a happy and healthy 2025!

Warm regards,

Mrs Shilling







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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.

# Aspiration Active Celebration Event



Brocks Hill Pupils had a wonderful Aspiration Active day at Parklands Leisure Centre with activities including circus skills, wheelchair basketball and the climbing wall.



## Brocks Hill Football



BARCLAYS  
GIRLS' FOOTBALL  
SCHOOL  
PARTNERSHIPS  
© BY ENGLAND FOOTBALL

**EQUAL  
ACCESS  
SCHOOL  
2024**

What a successful Autumn Term it is has been for football at Brocks Hill! Both, boys' and girls' teams have done amazing in the fixtures they have played so far.

The girls' team have taken part in the Pokémon Cup, competing against schools from Oadby and Wigston. Showing incredible teamwork, resilience and determination, they finished in joint 4th place. They have also made a very positive start in the league, with a 1-1 draw with Langmoor, thanks to a late equalising goal from Sienna Kalyan and a wonderful last ditch save from Emily. The girls now have an exciting Spring Term ahead with more league fixtures coming!

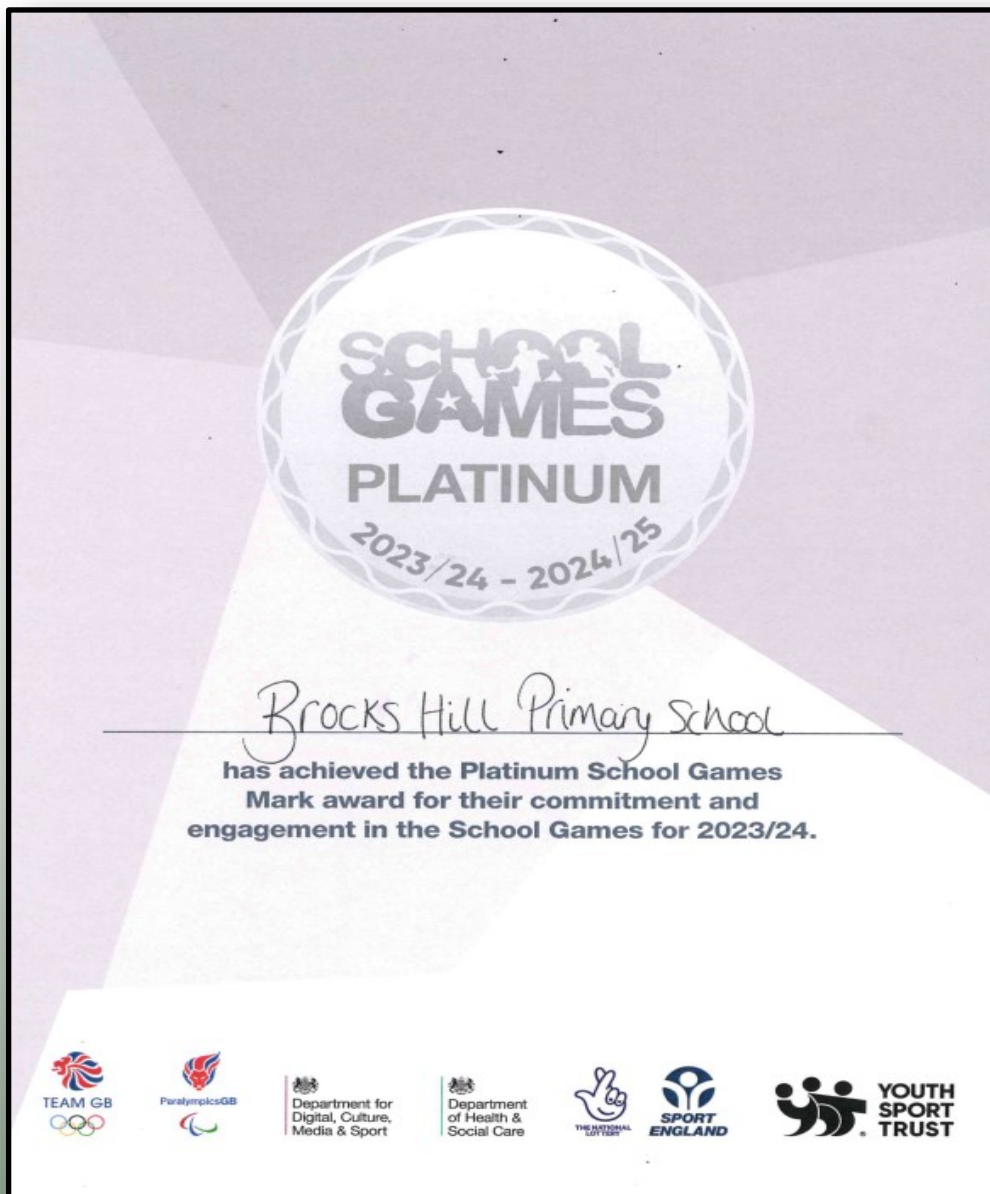
The Year 5/6 boys football team have also had a very successful Autumn Term. They won the Oadby and Wigston Pokémon Cup, seeing them progress into the county finals, where they narrowly missed out on a place in the semi-finals. As part of the Leicester City in the Community programme, they also topped the group during a tournament at the LCFC Women's training ground and will now progress to the finals being held at the new LCFC training complex – Seagrave, in January.

The boys have also managed to reach round 3 of the Rice Bowl Cup, a 9v9 cup competition, between schools across Leicester and Leicestershire.

The most recent game going to a penalty shootout, after goals from Romelle and Zayn in normal time drew us level at 2-2. 3 Successful penalties left it to our skilfull goalkeeper to make the vital save and see us through to the furthest stage a Brocks Hill team has ever made it in the Rice Bowl Cup.

Following this, the boys began their local league season with a 12-0 win against Langmoor. The team have lots to look forward to next term!

A huge well done to all boys and girls that have participated in these events!



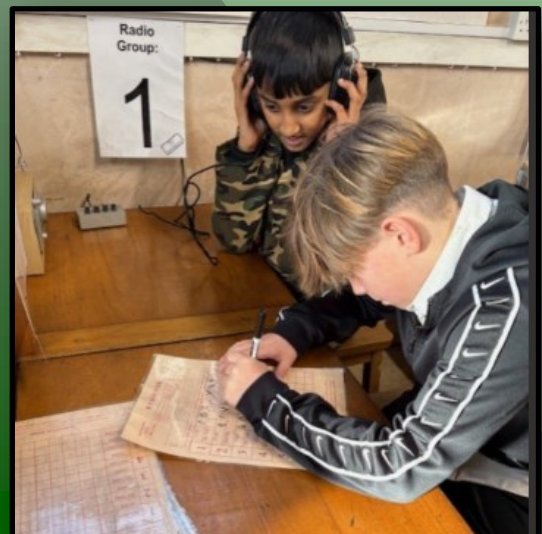
The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. Every year, the School Games adjudicators, judge each school against stringent criteria, in the areas of sports; participation, competition, staff and clubs, before determining the suitable award level. We are delighted to have been awarded the highest award possible for the third consecutive year.

Congratulations to all pupils and staff involved but especially Miss Patel for her constant hard work in developing PE.

## Year 6 Trip to Beaumanor Hall



Year 6 had a fantastic day learning about the vital role this building played during WW2. The pupils consolidated their learning on coding, rationing, evacuation and the Blitz.





## Eco Ambassadors

This beautiful Christmas tree donated by our Mrs Parmer after winning in a tree competition, and decorated by our lovely Eco Ambassadors.



## Christmas lunch and jumpers day

The children enjoyed a festive Christmas lunch dressed up in their amazing Christmas jumpers!



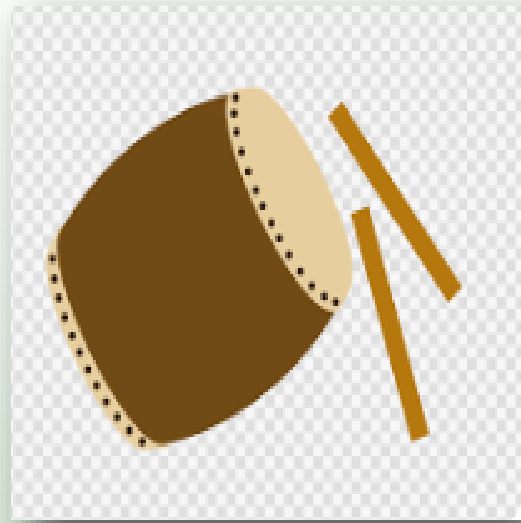
## Key Stage 1 Christmas concert



A huge congratulations to our KS1 children for their fantastic singing and dancing in our Christmas concert! It definitely put us all in the mood for the festive season.



## Staff News



It is with gratitude and sadness that we said farewell to the wonderful Mr Stokes. He has taught music at Brocks Hill Primary for the last 17 years! You Will be greatly missed Mr Stokes.



We also said goodbye our lovely Mrs Turner who has been part of our Wellbeing Team for over 10 years!. She has helped countless children, parents and staff with kindness and professionalism. We will all miss you Mrs Turner.

## A Huge Thank You from Oadby Food Bank

The Oadby Food Bank would like to say a huge thank you for all your donations which will make a massive difference to families this Christmas. (approximately 100 households)

[www.oadbyfoodbank.org.uk](http://www.oadbyfoodbank.org.uk)



**Who:** We are here for you if you live in Oadby and are struggling to feed yourself or your family.

**Where:** Oadby Trinity Methodist Church, LE2 4LA. The entrance is from the car park behind M&S, and is next to Zeph's café.

**When:** Every other Friday 11.30 -12.30  
(Evening by prior arrangement if you are working or training).

**Next dates: Fridays: 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024; 3<sup>rd</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> January and 14<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**Need food more urgently? – We may be able to help.**

**Text or call us on 0772 31 21 794**

