



Message from Mrs Fellows

Happy new year to you all! I hope you've had a fabulous holiday and enjoyed the festivities. I think we were all feeling tired in December, so I'm hoping that we all got the rest we needed to start the new year ready to work hard and make great progress.

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for some of the lovely comments and emails that we have received about our Ofsted report. We are very proud of the result and keen to celebrate that we are a good school with high expectations!

During this half term, we will continue to encourage your children to read regularly. Reading is so important. Studies show that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational performance. Evidence suggests that children who read for enjoyment every day not only perform better in reading than those who don't, but also develops a broader vocabulary, increased general knowledge and a better understanding of other cultures. If you can spare 15 minutes each day to read with your child, it will really make a difference.

Over the next week, your child will come home with a year group newsletter- please take the time to read this. It explains to you what your child will be learning this term and this will then help you to talk to them about what they've been doing in school. It also gives practical information about PE days etc.

Finally, in the current cost-of-living crisis, I want to remind our families that we are here to help. If you need any help or support, please just get in touch and we will do what we can to help you.



WE NEED YOU!

Here at Brook, we value the importance of regular reading with our children and aim for every child to be listened to, by an adult, at least once a week.

Some families find this extremely difficult, so we are working really hard to provide this opportunity in school. This is where you need your help! We are looking for parents, who would be able to offer a small amount of time to listen to our pupils read.

If you are able to give any of your time, please visit or call the school office to discuss arrangements.

We would really appreciate your help!





PE days

Please ensure children come to school in their PE kit on the days listed below – Black or navy shorts/joggers, white t-shirt, navy/black hoody and black pumps. This is our PE uniform, where children are still smart. We should not be treating these days as mufti days. Thank you for your support.

Reception	Friday
Year 1	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 2	Monday and Wednesday
Year 3	Thursday and Friday
Year 4	Tuesday and Friday*
Year 5	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 6	Thursday and Friday

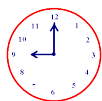
* Please ensure pupils have costume/trunks, swimming cap and towel

4LF will be swimming the first half of the term

4AC will be swimming the second part of the Spring Term



In the Autumn Term, we have handed out 1017 badges to the children in Key Stage One and Two that have taken an active route to school. The active journeys taken is 87% across the school. Could we get this to a higher percentage in the Spring Term?



Please be advised that the gates to the playground will now remain open until 9am.

Children are expected to be in school for when the bell goes at 8:50 however we are keeping the gates open longer to try and prevent the high influx of late children going through the front office.

Please try to ensure that your children arrive to school on time.

We have now signed up for tax free childcare!
please visit the website below for more information and how to apply



 UK Government

Help for Households

Get up to £2,000 each year with Tax-Free Childcare

You may not realise you can claim

Check if you're eligible today

Go to childcarechoices.gov.uk

Childcare
Choices



You have until the 15 January 2023 to apply for a Reception class place.

You can visit our website via the link below which will explain how to apply and there is also a link to the Dudley MBC admissions page.



Diary dates 2023



Friday 17 th February 2023	End of Half Term
Monday 20 th - Friday 24 th February 2023	<u>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Monday 27 th February 2023	Children return to school
Thursday 2 nd March 2023	Dippy's family show 6:30 - 8:30pm - More details to follow!
Monday 13 th & Wednesday 15 th March 2023	Parent's evening - more details to follow
Friday 31 st March 2023	End of term
Monday 3 rd April - Friday 14 th April 2023	Easter holidays
Monday 17 th April 2023	Inset day - school closed to children
Tuesday 18 th April 2023	Children return to school
Monday 1 st May 2023	May day - School closed to children
Monday 8 th May 2023	King's coronation bank holiday
Monday 29 th May—Friday 2 nd June 2023	<u>HALF TERM HOLIDAY</u>
Monday 5 th June 2023	Children return to school
Friday 21 st July 2023	Children break up for Summer holidays at the end of the day
Monday 24 th July 2023	Inset day - school closed to children
Tuesday 25 th July 2023	Inset day - school closed to children

Last terms attendance:
12/12/22–16/12/22

3RT were the highest attendees in KS2 and 2HD were the highest in KS1.

Well Done!

Rec SD	92.86%
Rec H/W	88.28%
1CR	95.32%
1ZH	90.33%
2EB	94%
2HD	96%
3RT	94.80%
3W/H	93.33%
4AC	91%
4LF	92.67%
5C	93%
5HI	94.33%
6AH	92%
6HT	93.67%
School Total	92.93%
Target	96+%

Inconsiderate parking and speeding

Unfortunately, last term we had a number of complaints regarding the inconsiderate parking and speeding on George Street, Oak Park Road and Oak Field Close.



Please respect our community and think before you park. Please do not block driveways, access to houses or park on grass verges. We had an on call NHS worker unable to leave their house because of inconsiderate parking.

Please drive slowly and do not speed to protect our community.

Thankyou.

Brook Buddies

Brook Buddies runs every morning and evening. Why not join us for breakfast or some after school fun? Our session times and 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-5:30pm - £8.00

THANK YOU



We received a lovely card from our lollipop lady, Sue, thanking our parents and children for the lovely presents and cards she was given before the holidays.

That was a very kind gesture and we would like to thank our children and families for doing this!



Thank you so much to the parents and children for my lovely christmas presents and cards very much appreciated hope everyone had a good time and I wish you all a healthy and happy new year.

Best wishes,

Sue (lollipop lady)