Broomgrove Infant School

Newsletter Number 1 (6 pages) Autumn Term **4th September 2026**

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a wonderful start we've had to the new academic year at Broomgrove Infant School! A huge welcome back to all our returning children and families, and an equally warm welcome to our new children and their families joining us for the first time. It has been absolutely superb to see our school community come together again, with great learning happening straight away from day one.

One of the most heartwarming aspects of these opening days has been watching our older children step up and support our new Reception children with such kindness and patience. The transition into school is such an important milestone, and it's been truly special to witness the care our children show one another. The talk in the staffroom has been nothing short of glowing – all the adults have been so impressed by the children across the school. Their listening skills, their confidence, and most importantly, their genuine excitement to learn has been absolutely wonderful over these last two days. It really does set a positive tone for the year ahead, and we are so excited to see all that they will achieve together.

This half term promises to be full of engaging activities and celebrations. We have our Books and Biscuits events coming up, which are always such a joy and a brilliant way to foster a love of reading within our community. We're also supporting the MacMillan coffee morning at the Junior School for Year 2– a wonderful opportunity to support such an important cause whilst bringing our school community together. Our individual school photographs will be taking place, capturing special moments we'll treasure, and we're looking forward to our Harvest collection, which reflects our values of gratitude and generosity. Additionally, we'll be holding our School Council elections and appointments, giving children a voice in school life and the chance to take on meaningful roles, as the school celebrates 60 years.

Before we finish, I'd like to add a polite reminder regarding jewellery for PE lessons. Children are not able to take part in PE lessons whilst wearing jewellery, including earrings. Your child will need to either be able to remove and replace their own earrings, or ideally, not attend school wearing any earrings on PE days – this includes clear plastic studs. If you're considering having your child's ears pierced, please do bear in mind that they will need six weeks after piercing before they're able to remove their earrings, so it's worth timing this carefully around the school calendar.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership. Wishing you all a wonderful weekend.

Alison Grigg

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY Please add the dates to your diary or family calendar	
Monday 7th September	Rock Steady Starts
Friday 11th September	Stunning Start Year 2
Wednesday 16th September	Forest school – Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge's class
Thursday 17th September	Books and Biscuits 2.30pm Mrs Hunt's class in the school hall
Friday 18th September	Books and Biscuits 2.30pm Mrs Mahmood and Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge classes in the school hall
Monday 21st September	Books and Biscuits 2.30pm Mrs Besant's class in the school hall
Tuesday 22nd September	Books and Biscuits 2.30pm Mr Bennett's class in the school hall
Wednesday 23rd September	Forest school – Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge's class
Monday 28th September	Harvest Celebration week
Tuesday 29th September	Individual School Photographs with family groups after school in the Junior school.
Wednesday 30th September	Forest school – Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge's class
Friday 2nd October	*MacMillan Coffee Morning – Year 2 children and parents and carers invited to attend the Junior school*
Wednesday 7th October	Forest school – Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge's class
Wednesday 14th October	Forest school – Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge's class
Tuesday 20th October	Parents Evening 3.20 – 5.50pm
Wednesday 21st October	Forest school – Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge's class
Thursday 22nd October	Parents Evening 3.20 – 5.50pm
Half Term 26th October – 30th October	
Tuesday 3rd November	**Boomgrove Fireworks**
Wednesday 4th November	Forest school – Mrs Mahmood's class
Wednesday 4th November	Flu Immunisations – 1st Session
Wednesday 11th November	Forest school – Mrs Mahmood's class
Friday 13th November	Children in Need
Wednesday 18th November	Forest school – Mrs Mahmood's class
Wednesday 25th November	Forest school – Mrs Mahmood's class
Thursday 26th November	Non-Uniform Day for the Christmas Fair
Friday 27th November	INSET DAY
Wednesday 2nd December	Forest school – Mrs Mahmood's class
Thursday 3rd December	BSA Christmas Fair
Monday 7th December	Reception/ Year 1 Nativity Performance Mrs Besant's class – 2.30pm
Tuesday 8th December	Reception/ Year 1 Nativity Performance Mr Bennett's class – 2.30pm
Wednesday 9th December	Reception/ Year 1 Nativity Performance Mrs Hunt's class – 2.30pm
Wednesday 9th December	Forest school – Mrs Mahmood's class
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Thursday 10th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 11th December	Year 2 Fabulous Finish. Theatre Production visiting school
Monday 14th December	Rock Steady Concert – 9.30am
Monday 14th December	Flu Immunisation – 2nd Session (if any pupil missed 1st Session)
Christmas Holiday 21st December – 1st January	
Monday 4th January	Return to school

Headteacher's Award

Broomgrove Infant School's Behaviour Policy, focuses on rewarding positive behavior. Children from across the year will be invited to spend time with Mrs Grigg in her office and share their school experience, while drinking a cup of hot chocolate. The Autumn term will focus on Year 2, moving to include the other year groups in the following terms.

#Hot Chocolate Awards

Be amazing

Allergy Awareness

Broomgrove Infant School is an allergy-aware school.

We have children attending our school with serious nut allergies. We know that you understand how severe these allergies can be and appreciate your support in helping us keep all children safe, healthy and happy.

When preparing snacks and packed lunches, please take extra care to ensure that foods containing nuts are not brought into school. Common tree nuts include, but are not limited to:

- Almonds
- Brazil nuts
- Cashews
- Hazelnuts (filberts)
- Macadamia nuts
- Pecans
- Pine nuts (often found in pesto pasta sauce)
- Pistachios
- Walnuts

Peanuts can also cause severe allergic reactions.

These nuts can be found in a wide range of foods, including chocolate spreads, cereal bars, cakes, biscuits and

Bike and Scooter Safety Reminder

If your child rides a bicycle or scooter to and from school, we kindly ask that they dismount before entering the school grounds and walk alongside it until they leave the premises.

This is an important safety measure to help prevent accidents and injuries. During drop-off and collection times, the school grounds can become very busy with children, parents, carers and staff moving around. Riding bikes or scooters in these areas can increase the risk of collisions, trips and falls, which could result in injury to the rider or to others.

We would be grateful for your support in reminding your child to follow this expectation each day. By working together, we can help ensure that our school remains a safe environment for everyone.

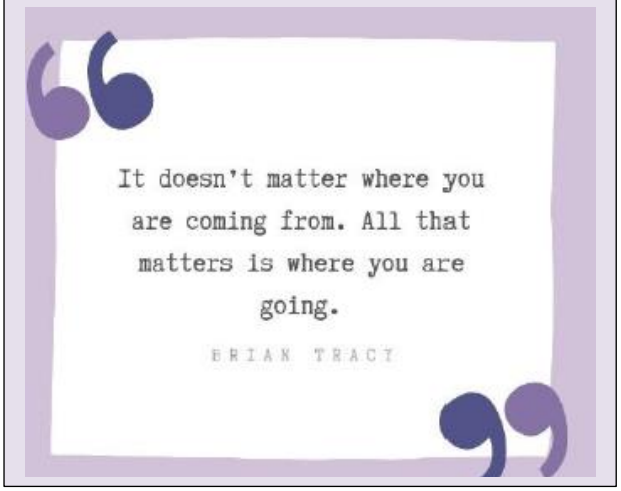
Self-Care September 2026

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	1 Find time for self-care. It's not selfish, it's essential	2 Notice the things you do well, however small	3 Let go of self-criticism and speak to yourself kindly	4 Plan a fun or relaxing activity and make time for it	5 Forgive yourself when things go wrong. Everyone makes mistakes	6 Focus on the basics: eat well, exercise and go to bed on time
7 Give yourself permission to say 'no'	8 Be willing to share how you feel and ask for help when needed	9 Aim to be good enough, rather than perfect	10 When you find things hard, remember it's ok not to be ok	11 Make time to do something you really enjoy	12 Get active outside and give your mind and body a natural boost	13 Be as kind to yourself as you would to a loved one
14 If you're busy, allow yourself to pause and take a break	15 Find a caring, calming phrase to use when you feel low	16 Leave positive messages for yourself to see regularly	17 No plans day. Make time to slow down and be kind to yourself	18 Ask a trusted friend to tell you what strengths they see in you	19 Notice what you are feeling, without any judgement	20 Enjoy photos from a time with happy memories
21 Don't compare how you feel inside to how others appear outside	22 Take your time. Make space to just breathe and be still	23 Let go of other people's expectations of you	24 Accept yourself and remember that you are worthy of love	25 Avoid saying 'I should' and make time to do nothing	26 Find a new way to use one of your strengths or talents	27 Free up time by cancelling any unnecessary plans
	28 Choose to see your mistakes as steps to help you learn	29 Write down three things you appreciate about yourself	30 Remind yourself that you are enough, just as you are			

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together

Growth Mindset



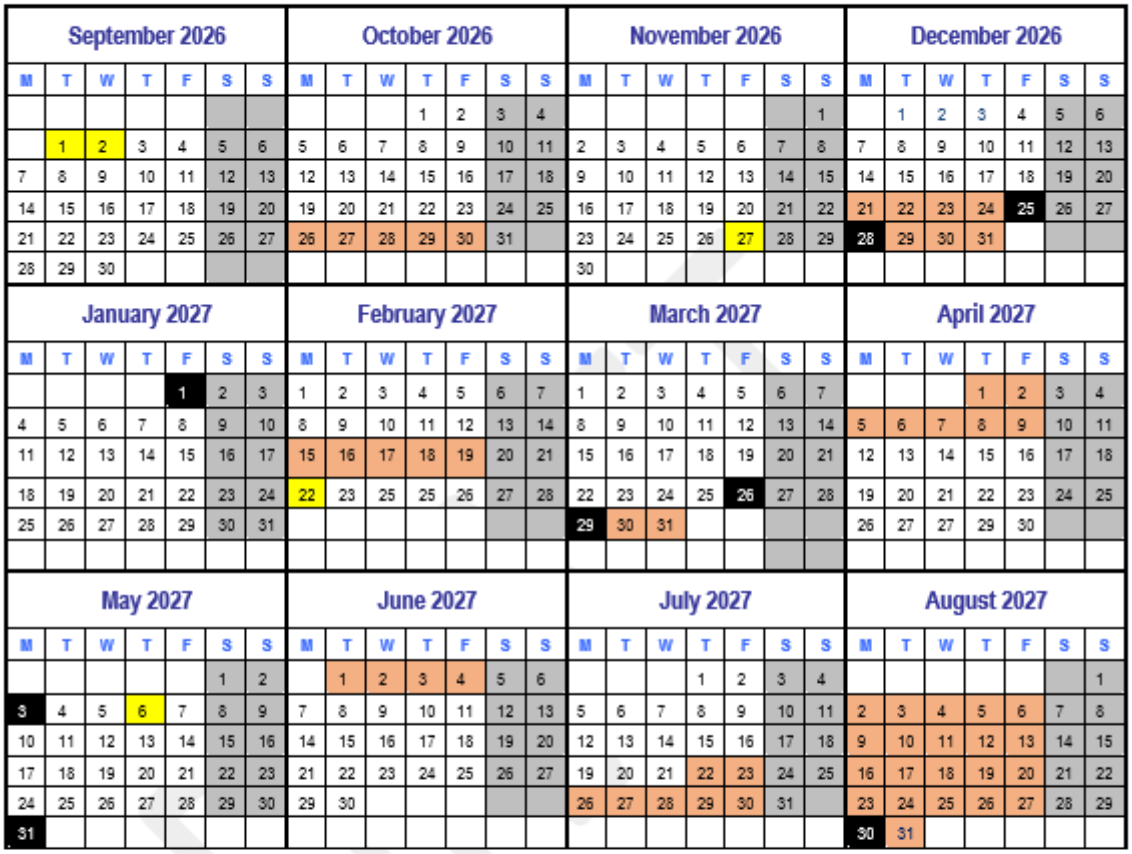
Attendance Matters: All absence must be reported on the first day. If we do not have a reason for absence your child will receive an unauthorised absence mark. This data is monitored by The Department for Education on a regular basis.

Attendance Percentages:

Mr Bennett	92.59%%
Mrs Besant	96.43%%
Mrs Hunt	94.34%%
Mrs Rout and Mrs Hawkridge	96.15%%
Mrs Mahmood	97.41%
Whole School	95.27%

Well done to Mrs Mahmood's class, for achieving the best attendance this week.

Essex County Council School Term and Holiday Dates for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools - Academic Year 2026-2027



September 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December 2026						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	25	25	26	27	28

March 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

April 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	27	29	30		

May 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
29	30					

July 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2027						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

= Schooldays = School holidays = Bank holidays

= Weekends = INSET

In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term:	Tuesday 1 September 2026 – Friday 18 December 2026 *Half Term 26 October – 30 October*	74 days
Spring Term:	Monday 4 January 2027 – Thursday 25 March 2027 *Half Term 15 February - 19 February*	54 days
Summer Term:	Monday 12 April 2027 – Wednesday 21 July 2027 *Half Term 31 May – 4 June, and May Bank Holiday - 3 May*	67 days
		195 days

Essex County Council

Helping parents to understand the changes to fines for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools in September 2024

Who may be fined?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

First Offence

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

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

Increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.

National Threshold

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the U code (late after registers have closed).

For example: a 5 day holiday would meet the national threshold.

The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

Second Offence

(within 3 years)

The Second time a Penalty Notice is issued for unauthorised absence the amount will be:

£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.

Third Offence and Any Further Offences (within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns. This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2,500.

Cases found guilty in the Magistrates' Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education'.