

The Buzz



8th September 2023



Learning and Achieving Through Love,
Courage and Respect

Dear parents, carers and children,

Welcome back to another school year! It was lovely seeing everyone looking so eager on Tuesday morning, coming in with big smiles. Everyone looks so smart in their uniforms, including our new PE top. Thank you for ensuring that your children are coming to school in the correct uniform, with hair accessories and socks in school colours. It makes such a difference. (Just a reminder that long hair needs to be tied back. Thank you.)



I am sure you will join me in wishing **Mrs Baker and her new husband** huge congratulations, and we all wish them a lifetime of happiness together.

You will notice that the content of our **Buzz** has slightly changed now. Following the parent survey in the summer term, we are minimising the different means of communication, to make it easier for you to find information. In the Buzz, you will continue to see my message, information about Collective Worship, the school dinner menu, Poetry Corner, Reading Recommendations (new feature!), SEMH, Safeguarding, contact information and diary dates, while all class and school news and photos, Golden Award winners, and all adverts from external organisations, will now be on our Facebook page, which is an open site. School information can also be found on our website.



You can still contact your child's class teacher via the class email address (please see your class newsletters), but for anything urgent, please contact the school office on 740285 or office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk. The majority of **communication** from the school will be via email, with texts being used to inform you about the Golden Book or anything urgent or short notice. If you would like anyone else added to the email list, as it would be pertinent for them to receive school information (such as other members of the family), please let Mrs Pelosi know.

On Tuesday 12th September between 5pm-6pm, we will be holding a **Meet and Greet evening**, which is an opportunity for you to meet your child's class teacher, talk about the learning that will be taking place throughout the year, and ask any general questions that you may have. Please sign in at the office. If you have anything in particular that you need to discuss about your child, please make a separate appointment.



We all recognise the importance of **reading**, and the academic, social and emotional benefits that it can bring. Reading for information and reading for pleasure all lead to greater life chances for children (please see further information about this on p3 of this Buzz). I don't know about you, but I always ensure that I have a book on the go, and always welcome recommendations from others; in fact, I am more likely to try books that I wouldn't necessarily have chosen for myself, but have subsequently transported me to wonderful new places. Many of our members of staff are regularly discussing and sharing books, so, to that end, I am introducing a new feature in the weekly Buzz and on Facebook: Reading

Recommendations. Children and adults are welcome to recommend any books that they have enjoyed. Please let me or Mrs Jones know so we can include them. Starting us off this week is Ms Bacon; please see p2 of this week's Buzz.

I hope you have a lovely weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday morning.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team



Collective Worship - New Opportunities



This week, we were exploring new opportunities. We looked at and discussed some mysterious doors and wondered where they lead to. We then talked about 'doors of opportunity' that we might encounter. Where might they lead? What opportunities might lie the other side? Do we open the door or keep it shut?



Can you remember a time when you did something new?

We talked about giving things a go and trying new experiences, because you never know what might happen!



How did you feel?

Dear God,

Thank you for all the opportunities that we have in this world.

Please help us always to have the courage to try new things

And to take the opportunities that come our way.

Amen.



School Dinners

Children in **Year R, 1 and 2** are entitled to a 'universal' **free** school meal everyday.

Children in Years 3-6 are charged at **£2.90** per day.

Baguettes now available on Tuesdays and Thursdays instead of JPs (ham, cheese or tuna)

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Macaroni Cheese	Chicken Curry	Roast Pork	Beef bolognese	Fish Fingers
Option 2	Tomato Pasta	Tomato Pasta	Tomato Pasta	Tomato Pasta	Veggie dippers
Dessert	Ice cream	Shortbread	Brownie	Flapjack	Pineapple Cake

Poetry Corner

Back to School

Summer is over, autumn in here.
 Back to school for a brand new year!
 Pack your things, on the bus you go.
 Make new friends and say hello!
 Reading, writing, learning more
 Than you ever did before!
 Adding numbers... 1, 2, 3
 So much to do, and learn, and see!
 I'm so glad to meet everyone,
 Get ready for a year of fun!



Reading Recommendations

Each week we will include a book recommendation from a child and/or adult. What will *you* discover?

This week, Ms Bacon recommends:



A cosy, heart-warming read

Once a celebrated author of short stories now in his twilight years, Anthony Peardew has spent half his life collecting lost objects, trying to atone for a promise broken many years before. Realising he is running out of time, he leaves his house and all its lost treasures to his assistant Laura, the one person he can trust to fulfil his legacy and reunite the thousands of objects with their rightful owners. But the final wishes of the 'Keeper of Lost Things' have unforeseen repercussions which trigger a most serendipitous series of encounters...

Safeguarding

If you have a concern about a child you can call the police on 999 if you feel they are at risk of immediate harm
 Contact us: safeguarding@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
 Speak with our DSL Mrs Jones in the school office
 You can contact the NSPCC:

Contact the NSPCC Helpline

If you have any concerns at all about a child's safety or wellbeing, don't hesitate to contact us.

Call us or email help@nspcc.org.uk

0808 800 5000

Find out more

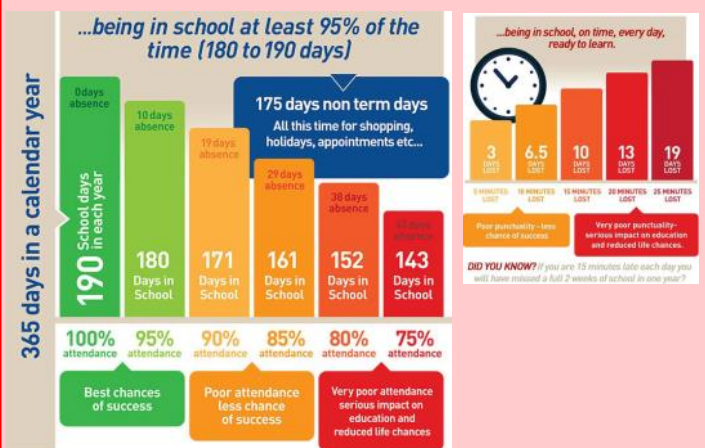
Or call children's services 0300 300 0117

Attendance Matters!

Week Commencing 4th September
 Whole School attendance target: **96.5%**

Actual Attendance: 96.10%

Late marks this week: 5



Reading

Do you enjoy reading? If so, what sort of books do you enjoy? What does your child enjoy reading? Were you an avid reader as a child but not so much now as an adult? Do you read for pleasure or just for information? Do you have a preferred genre or are you happy to mix it up?

We have a big focus on reading at Brighstone. We all recognise the importance of reading with and to children, no matter what their age or reading ability.

Parents who engage their children in books prepare them to become committed and enthusiastic readers: they can transform their attitudes to reading. Their children learn to focus and share the enjoyment of the story; they learn how stories start and finish, and how a plot unravels and is resolved; they learn that books can transport them elsewhere.

Second, book-related talk introduces children to language that they might not hear in ordinary, especially the vocabulary of the book itself. This primes them to understand what they read later, in their leisure reading and across the curriculum.

Research has shown how many words children would have heard by the time they were 5 years old:

Never read to, 4,662 words; 1–2 times per week, 63,570 words; 3–5 times per week, 169,520 words; daily, 296,660 words; and five books a day, 1,483,300 words.

Extensive international research shows that being a frequent reader is associated with a range of academic, social and emotional benefits; children who read more achieve more. Also, for many, reading is a form of relaxation, a place to escape everyday challenges, a source of entertainment. Reading allows readers to adopt new perspectives, develop empathy and become more socially conscious.

We provide lots of opportunities for children to read, listen to, talk about and enjoy books in school, and we welcome your support in encouraging your children to read and talk about books at home. They will be coming home with different books to enjoy, which they can read to you, and you can read to them!

We will be resuming our book recommendations for children and adults; if you or your child have any recommendations, please let us know and we will include them in the Buzz and on Facebook! What will *you* discover?

If you have any questions or suggestions about any of the above, please contact me via the school office.

Thank you,

Mrs Lennon



SEMH

Social, Emotional & Mental Health

Why are age ratings important?

Many families still love watching stuff together, but we're all using phones and tablets more and more. Children's screen time is growing and children themselves are deciding what to watch at an ever-younger age. So giving straightforward advice that helps families decide what to watch with confidence is more relevant than ever. Helping children learn how to choose for themselves is increasingly important, so that they can view what's right for them, whatever they watch.



More info here: <https://www.theschoolrun.com/parents-guide-movie-age-ratings>

The IMDB app has a “parents guide” section for parents/carers to check if they approve of what their child wants to watch.



Online Safety

Gaming

Choosing age-appropriate games

It's important to pay attention to the age minimums for the video games your child plays. However, there is sometimes contradicting information. For example, Clash of Clans is rated Everyone 10+ on the Google Play app store, but Supercell – the makers of the game – have set the minimum age of the game to 13 and over because it features a chat function and in-app purchasing.

Therefore, it is important to understand what the ratings mean and why these may have been categorised in this way. Below you'll find a list of the main age ratings you'll find and links to find out more about how each rating is used to classify games to make an informed choice on which games are suitable for your child.

PEGI ratings – What do the labels mean?

These are primarily used in Europe and Asia.

PEGI 3 – suitable for all ages

PEGI 7 – suitable for young children

PEGI 12 – suitable for children 12 and over

PEG 16 – suitable for children 16 and over

PEGI 18 – Only suitable for adults



More info [here](#)

If your message is **urgent** or about **attendance** contact Mrs Pelosi in the **office**:
01983 740285
office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
Office Hours 8am - 4pm

If you would like to speak with the **Headteacher** Mrs Lennon, you can find her at the school gate every morning or you can call 740285 to make an appointment with her



For **general enquiries** you can call or email the office, text the school messaging service or send a message to our school **Facebook** page: <https://www.facebook.com/BrighstoneCEPrimarySchool>
Our Facebook page is open so you do not need a personal account to view it

If you have concerns about your child's **learning** and progress, email the class teacher in the first instance and allow at least 1 working day for a reply:

Years R, 1 & 2 - teacher.bumblebee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
Years 3 & 4 - teacher.honeybee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
Years 5 & 6 - teacher.ivybee@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

If you have concern regarding **safeguarding** or your **child's mental health and wellbeing** please contact Mrs Jones. You can speak to her on the playground every morning, call into the school office or email m.jones@brighstoneprimary.org.uk
safeguarding@brighstoneprimary.org.uk

Our **Newsletter** is published every Friday with key information for parents and carers. You can find it on our school website: <https://www.brighstoneprimary.org.uk/category/the-buzz/>

Contact us



If you have a **safeguarding** concern about a child outside of school hours you can call the police on 999 if you feel they are at risk of immediate harm or contact Children's Services on 0300 300 0117

School Day Timings

From September 2023, the school day is as follows:

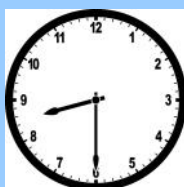
8.25am: Gates open

8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close

Many thanks.



Key dates this year

2023-2024 academic year

- Tuesday 12th September: Meet and Greet Information Evening - meet the teachers 5pm - 6pm
- Wednesday 20th September: Y1-Y4 - Marwell Zoo
- Friday 22nd September: Y6 UKSA Test the Water
- Thursday 5th October: Flu vaccinations
- Saturday 7th October: BHS Autumn Show
- Thursday 19th October: Last day of term
- Friday 20th October: School closed for staff development day
- Monday 23rd October - Friday 3rd November: Half term
- Monday 6th November: Back to school
- W/C Monday 13th November: Inter Faith week
- Tuesday 21st November: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6pm
- Wednesday 22nd November: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 5pm
- Tuesday 19th December: Last day of term
- Wednesday 20th December - Monday 1st January: Christmas holidays
- Tuesday 2nd January: Back to school
- Friday 9th February: Last day of term
- Monday 12th - Friday 16th February: Half term
- Monday 19th February: Back to school
- Tuesday 5th March: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6pm
- Wednesday 6th March: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 5pm
- Thursday 7th March: World Book Day
- Thursday 28th March: Last day of term
- Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April: Easter holidays
- Monday 15th April: Back to school
- W/C 13th May: Y6 SATs
- Friday 24th May: Last day of term
- Monday 27th - Friday 31st May: Half term
- Monday 3rd June: School closed for staff development day
- Tuesday 4th June: Back to school
- Friday 12th July: Reports go home
- Tuesday 16th July: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6pm
- Thursday 25th July: Last day of term
- Friday 26th July: School closed for staff development day

Term dates are also available on our school website.

