Brookmead School

Bringing learning to life and life to learning

Together We Inspire, Challenge, Achieve

Friday 23 October 2026

Dear Brookmead Families

8 weeks into the school year - and what an amazing 8 weeks it has been! We have had such an amazing half term full of learning - thank you for all of your support along the way. During the past 8 weeks, the weather has changed from wonderfully warm, to rain and wind - autumn has truly arrived. THANK YOU so much for your donations for our Mufti Day today, we raised £336.00 which will go towards resources we need across the school to support our learning.

GOOD NEWS – BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

We firmly believe that bringing learning to life is a key part of ensuring learning remains memorable - we call this 'sticky' knowledge. Here is some of our learning from the past few weeks.



Above is a collage of some of the most recent learning in school:
Over the past few weeks **Year 1** went to Bekonscot and the Old School in Ivinghoe as part of their learning about the past.
Reception made ice lollies with fresh strawberries and water.
Year 3 had great fun being immersed in learning about the Stone Age in a workshop yesterday - even dressing up as part of the fun.
Years 4 - 6 had an author visit from Aaron Blecha yesterday and loved seeing some live 'illustrating' take place.



Shout out to our amazing **site team** - we had a Health and Safety Audit at Brookmead this week and are delighted to say we have come out very positively. It is a pleasure working with our site team so closely to ensure our site and procedures and policies are as they need to be. We were told we are very organised!

SHOUT OUT AND THANK YOU to our wonderful **PTA - FAB** - for raising funds for our nurture areas. Here is a photo of a new sofa, rug, bee cushion and Sully! All nurture spaces have had a revamp and are very cosy and comfortable for those moments when children need somewhere calm and reflective.



Thank **you**, our parent community, for all of the kind words of support following the letter we sent out about speaking politely to staff.



HARVEST FESTIVAL AND FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Well done **Year 4** for your beautiful presenting and singing at our whole school harvest celebration last week. **Thank you so much to our whole community** for your donations for our food bank - we have members of our community use this valuable resource so being able to come together to support each other is very important.

Well done to our **Year 6 House Captains and Deputy House Captains** for taking the donations up to the food bank on Monday this week - a very important role to represent our school.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH AT BROOKMEAD

We have been celebrating Black History Month at Brookmead through our assemblies. We learnt about Mary Seacole and the origins of the Motown Music record label - more about that later.

At Brookmead, we embrace, actively welcome and celebrate diversity. Our curriculum is deliberately designed to ensure our children are consciously exposed to diversity and are ready for all the World has to offer.

MUSIC IN ASSEMBLIES

What a wonderful few weeks of music we have had at Brookmead. We learnt about Motown Music and listened to a Motown Album (with a focus on Stevie Wonder and Diana Ross) on a record player. I brought in a record player and showed the children how you changed songs - looking for the lines on the album when placing the needle. We then progressed to examining a cassette player in the next assembly, and showing how difficult it was to find the song you wanted to listen to by using the forward and rewind buttons - we listened to Club Tropicana by Wham. The children were fascinated, and use of the visualiser to display on a large screen how these music players worked ensured all the children could see this clearly. In our celebration assembly today we sang along to Ghostbusters which was streamed through a speaker.



HOUSE CAPTAINS

Congratulations to all of our amazing Year 6 children who wrote speeches in preparation for presentations to be elected as house captains. We are delighted to announce the following children have been democratically elected to represent them by the children of Brookmead School:

Challenge

House captains - Theo J and Ruby K

Deputy - Imogen

Achieve

House captains - Emily and Ellis H

Deputy - Ellis C

Inspire

House Captains - Alex and Annabel

Deputy - Tia

Unity

House Captains - Elliott and Maddie M

Deputy - Cooper

ATTENDANCE



Class with the highest attendance in September 2026 is Year 3 - Mandela with 100%!

This is outstanding! WELL DONE MANDELA CLASS!!

YOU SAID	WE DID
Is there any way to raise the profile of PE at Brookmead?	Our PE Lead, Mr Tompkins, has introduced a once half termly PE Award. This is a VERY special award and one that only a few children will achieve each year across the school. One child per class each half term is selected for this award for keeping our PE Values of Teamwork, Participation and Respect. Congratulations to our first ever winners of this half termly award today. Everyone in our celebration assembly was so proud of you!

PE AND LIBRARY DAYS

Year Group	PE Days	Library Day
EYFS	Monday (starting after half term - **Monday 2 November**)	Friday
1	Thursday & Friday	Thursday
2	Wednesday & Thursday	Wednesday
3	Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday
4	Monday & Friday	Monday
5	Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday
6	Wednesday & Friday	Friday

TRIPS AND EVENTS - Autumn Term 2026

Click here to see the School Diary on our website

AT BROOKMEAD, WE LOVE TO ENHANCE OUR LEARNING WITH EXPERIENCES

HALF TERM	**HALF TERM**
November	**November**
Tuesday 3 November	SATS Information Evening for Y6 Parents - 4pm
Thursday 5 November	EYFS Walk to the Windmill
Tuesday 10 November	Year 4 Trip to Verulamium
Thursday 12 November	Year 6 Fabulous Finish - 9:15am
Friday 13 November	Bucks School Nurse Team - Flu Vaccinations for whole school
Monday 16 November	Year 5 Swimming - Week 1
Tuesday 17 November	Parent's Evening
Thursday 19 November	Parent's Evening
Monday 23 November	Year 5 Swimming - Week 2
Wednesday 25 November	Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop - details to follow
Friday 27 November	EYFS Fabulous Finish - 9:15am
December	
Thursday 3 December	Year 6 Trip to Cadbury World - details to follow
Tuesday 8 December	Christmas Tree Light Switch On - details to follow
Thursday 17 December	Christmas Lunch Day - book as normal with Fresh Start

END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES - Times tbc

Monday 14 December Year 1 & 2 Nativity - PM	**Tuesday 15 December** Year 1 & 2 Nativity - AM EYFS Nativity - PM
Wednesday 16 December Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert - AM Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert - PM	**Thursday 17 December** Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert - AM Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert - PM

TERM DATES 2026 - 2027

Click here to see Term Dates on our website

AUTUMN TERM 2026	
Monday 2 November 2026	**School opens for Second Half Term**
Friday 18 December 2026	School closes for Christmas Holiday - 3.20pm finish
SPRING TERM 2027	
Monday 4th January 2027	**School closed for pupils - staff training day**
Tuesday 5th January 2027	**School opens for Spring Term**
Friday 12th February 2027	School closes for Half Term - 3.20pm finish
Monday 22th February 2027	**School opens for Second Half Term**
Thursday 25th March 2027	School closes for Easter Holiday - 3.20pm finish
SUMMER TERM 2027	
Monday 12th April 2027	**School opens for Summer Term**
Monday 3 May 2027	**School closed for May Bank Holiday**
Friday 28th May 2027	School closes for Half Term - 3.20pm finish
Monday 7th June 2027	**School closed for pupils - staff training day**
Tuesday 8th June 2027	**School opens for Second Half Term**
Tuesday 20th July 2027	School closes - 3.20pm finish
Wednesday 21st July 2027	**School closed for pupils - staff training day**

Wishing everyone a really wonderful half term holiday full of running through leaves, woodland walks and cosy times with a mug of hot chocolate in hand. See you all back at school on Monday 2nd November,

Warmest regards



Mrs Esther Taylor
Headteacher