

# The Buzz

## 26th November 2021



Brighstone C.E.  
Primary School

Learning and Achieving Through  
Love, Courage and Respect

Dear parents, carers and children,



We have had a busy week in school with some special visitors. Two Ofsted Inspectors visited us over two days for a Section 5 Full Inspection as part of their inspection schedule. I would like to say how proud we are of the children, whose fantastic behaviour and attitudes shone through. They continually demonstrate our school values of love, courage and respect, which all contribute towards a positive and respectful learning culture and ethos. Thank you to those of you who completed the Ofsted parent and pupil surveys; it is lovely to see so much positive feedback. Working in partnership with parents and carers is important to us, and crucial for developing the whole child, and we really appreciate your support for the school. It is also important for me to say a big thank you to all the staff here at Brighstone, who work tirelessly and enthusiastically to make Brighstone Primary School the best it can be for your children.

We are very excited to announce that we will be presenting 'Born in a Barn', our Nativity performance for this year. We have made the decision to present this performance in the church as per previous years, to enable the children to have the amazing opportunity to perform in front of a live audience again. (However, if Covid numbers rise, we may need to cancel the live performances and record the play instead. We will inform you nearer the time if this decision will need to be made.) We will hold three performances: Tuesday 14th December in the afternoon, and Wednesday 15th December in the afternoon and evening. To help with social distancing, we will need to limit the number of tickets per family; more information about this will be sent to parents next week.



Yesterday, Year Three went to Dinosaur Isle as part of their Science focus "Rocks and Soils". They hunted for fossils, footprints, and different rock types on Yaverland Beach and had a close up look at artefacts of skulls, bones, and fossils. They then visited the museum and read about the variety of dinosaurs that were found on the Isle of Wight and saw the Brighstoneus Simmondsi! They asked fantastic questions and were brilliantly behaved! Well done, Y3! (See our Facebook page for more photos.)



I hope everyone has a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday morning.

Best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team

## Collective Worship - Trust

This week's Collective Worship focus is: **Standing on God's Promises**

Trust is the foundation on which all good friendships are built. Sometimes our friends can't or won't be there for us, but the Psalmist reminds us that God will never disappoint us. Some Christians believe that God's promises are true and we can trust them. They are like a strong, sturdy platform that we can stand on.

Do not fear, for I am with you.

Isaiah 31.41

I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you.

Isaiah 41.10

Give all your worries to me because I care for you.

Peter 5.7



### Promises Prayer

Leader: God of Love... When we feel let down by others, we know...  
All: your promises can be trusted.  
Leader: When we need courage to face the future, we know...  
All: your promises can be trusted.  
Leader: When we feel lonely and sad, we know...  
All: your promises can be trusted.  
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 £2.15 per day.

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Sausage & Mash	Roast Chicken	Beef Lasagne	Fish fingers
Option 2	Veggie Bolognese	Veggie Noodles	Vegetable Pie	Veggie Curry	Veggie Burger
Dessert	Flapjack	Shortbread	Yoghurt cake	Brownie	Ice Cream

### Poetry Corner

Chimpanzee class have been writing and performing poems about their trip up to the downs, based on the poems in the book 'Where My Wellies Take Me'. Here are Erin's, Lauren's and Lucy's poems.



### Grammar and Spelling Matters

Each week we will include a mini grammar or spelling lesson so you know what your children are learning!

ADVERBS				
An <b>adverb</b> describes a verb, an adjective or another adverb. It tells us how, where, when, how much and with what frequency. An adverb can tell...				
<b>HOW?</b> quietly peacefully carefully slowly badly closely easily well fast quickly cheerfully	<b>WHERE?</b> above abroad far away back here outside backwards behind below down	<b>WHEN?</b> now yesterday soon later tomorrow yet already tonight today then last year	<b>HOW MUCH?</b> quite fairly too enormously entirely very extremely rather almost absolutely just	<b>HOW OFTEN?</b> always sometimes often frequently normally generally usually occasionally seldom rarely never

### Reminders

Only plain water (no squash or flavoured water) in reusable water bottles.

**Long hair must be tied back (both boys and girls), and hair must be kept away from eyes.**

Only fruit provided for snacks, and healthy items in lunch boxes.  
No dogs allowed on the school grounds, unless carried.

## Golden Book

Koala	Rufus - for sharing his knowledge and ideas about the difference between real and pretend.
Polar Bear	Lilli - for great work in English. Martha - for being a STAR in English and Maths.
Lemur	Poppy L - for challenging and pushing herself further in Maths.
Chimpanzee	Felicity - for pushing herself in Maths and showing tenacity.
Orangutan	Leo - for an amazing understanding and recall of how William I became a powerful king.
Sports Bee	Alice - for her amazing interpretation of The Hungry Caterpillar in PE.
Bee-Haviour	Jessica - for showing school values for being super kind and helpful in the classroom.

### Whole school dates

Friday 3rd December:	Mufti Day for Christmas tombola
Friday 10th December:	BSA Christmas Fair
Tues 14th December:	Afternoon performance of the Nativity
Wednesday 15th December:	Afternoon and evening performances of Nativity
Tuesday 21st December:	Last day of term
Tuesday 4th January 2022:	Back to school

### Friday 3rd December

**Children are invited to wear their own clothes to school for donations to the Christmas Fair Tombola:**

**R, 1, 2 - Chocolate  
3, 4, 5, 6 - Bottles**

## Let's talk school attendance

Our current whole school attendance is 95.48%. This is below the **Government expectation of 96%**. In light of this we will be taking a much more rigorous and robust approach to attendance and lateness as of Monday 29th November. At Brighstone Primary School we have high expectations and so we would like our average to be above 96.5%.

A reminder that children should attend school if they are well enough to do so. **Medical appointments** should be made outside of school hours. As you will see on the next page, absences add up to lost learning time and missed opportunities.

We will be doing **weekly checks** (instead of termly) on **individual attendance** percentages and **late marks** of pupils, and families whose child's attendance is causing concern will be invited to attend attendance meetings with the Headteacher and Family Liaison Officer so that we can work together to improve attendance.

We know that your child's attendance is important to you too and that there are occasions when children really are too poorly to attend school. However, **persistent absence (below 90%)** will be referred to Education Welfare and could result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) being issued.

A reminder that **illness should always be reported to the school office by 8.30am** every morning your child is absent from school and followed up by an email explaining the absence so that it can be authorised. We would also like to remind you that **holidays** during term time are not authorised and will be referred to Education Welfare which could result in a FPN.

### Useful Information

School Office - 01983 740285

School Office email: [office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@brighstoneprimary.org.uk)

Family Liaison Officer: [m.jones@brighstoneprimary.org.uk](mailto:m.jones@brighstoneprimary.org.uk)

NHS ADVICE: <https://what0-18.nhs.uk/.../child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool>

Isle of Wight School Nursing Team: 0300 123 5224



## Why good attendance matters

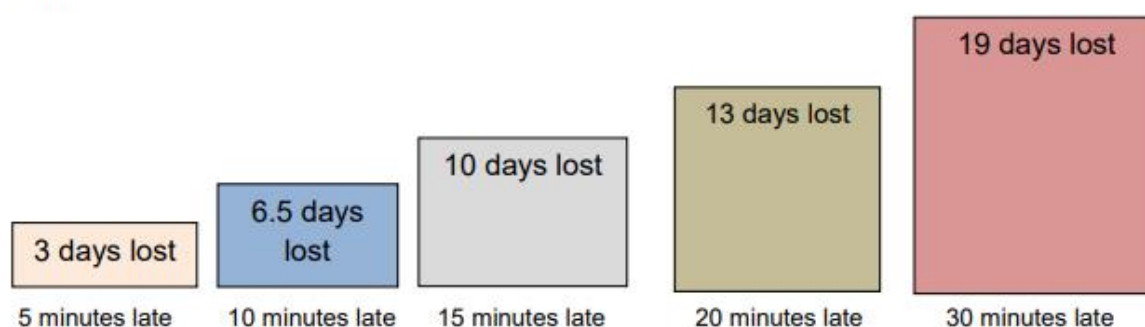
Regular school attendance is an important part of giving children the best possible start in life. The aim should be to attend 100% of the time.

Students who miss school frequently can fall behind with their work and do less well in exams. Good attendance also shows potential employers that a young person is reliable.

Research suggests that students who attend school regularly could also be at less risk of getting involved in antisocial behaviour or crime. Below is a table showing how children's percentage attendance equates to the amount of school time missed.

Attendance during one school year	Equivalent Days	Equivalent Sessions	Equivalent Weeks	Equivalent Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	18 Sessions	2 Weeks	54 Lessons
90%	19 Days	38 Sessions	4 Weeks	114 Lessons
85%	29 Days	58 Sessions	6 Weeks	174 Lessons
80%	38 Days	72 Sessions	8 Weeks	228 Lessons
75%	48 Days	96 Sessions	10 Weeks	288 Lessons
70%	57 Days	114 Sessions	11.5 Weeks	342 Lessons
65%	67 Days	134 Sessions	13.5 Weeks	402 Lessons

It is also important to arrive at school on time. If a child arrives late to school every day, their learning begins to suffer. Below is a graph showing how being late to school every day over a school year adds up to lost learning time over one academic year.



Working together we can improve opportunities for our children!