

# The Buzz



## 19th October 2023



Learning and Achieving Through Love,  
Courage and Respect

Dear parents, carers and children,

Where would society be without community? The wonderful little community in our school, the village and local area all work together to support each other and strive for the best it can be. Last weekend, **Rev Jackie** ran the Great South Run, raising funds for our school. She smashed her target of £500, raising a magnificent total of £535! A huge thank you to Jackie for supporting our school in this way, as well as to all her very generous donors. What superstars you all are.

I would also like to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to our **wonderful BSA**. Every parent/carer whose child attends our school automatically becomes a member of the BSA, and there are many parent and staff volunteers at the various events that take place throughout the year. However, there is a small group in the BSA who carry out all the main organisation of these events and activities, without whom the BSA wouldn't be viable, and without which our children wouldn't have so many amazing experiences, and the costs of school trips and residential would-n't be subsidised. The BSA AGM took place on Monday, where we said a huge thank you to Katherine, who has been chair for the past couple of years, as well as Franki as secretary and Sarah as treasurer. You have been fantastic, and have helped the BSA to raise an incredible £10,000 for our children this year. You will have received a letter today from Richard Palmer, who has kindly agreed to take on the role of chair, following in Katherine's footsteps. Sarah will be continuing as treasurer, and Jenny will be secretary. Please do take the time to read Richard's letter, to find out how you too can become involved to help our school and our children.



Today, the **Y6 children** found out the results from their leadership applications. We had a very high standard of letters and emails, and we are delighted to announce the following leadership roles. The roles of librarians and buddies were also opened out to Y5 children.



Y6 Leadership Roles			
<b>Head Pupils</b>	Arya and Charlie	<b>Buddies</b>	Caspar, Tom, Anna, Poppy L, Christopher and Lucy W
<b>Sports Captains</b>	Max C, Jude, Lucy B and Max B	<b>Librarians</b>	Lucy B, Jared and Lucy W
<b>Hive Captains</b>	Fraser, Toby W, Nico and Leigh		



I am also delighted to share the wonderful news that **Mr and Mrs Aram** are expecting their second child! We wish them huge congratulations, and we look forward to hearing the pitter-patter of tiny feet soon. Information about the class teacher will be shared nearer the time.

Auditions were carried out this week for the main parts in this year's Nativity '**Lights, Camel, Action: Strictly, the Nativity**'. Parts have been allocated and rehearsals start after half term as part of an after-school club. How exciting!

The children are very excited for the **school disco** today, and their **pumpkins** look amazing! What a talented bunch you are.

I hope you have a lovely half term, and I look forward to seeing you all again on the morning of Monday 6th November.

With very best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team



# Collective Worship - Thankfulness

This week, we have been thinking about Counting Your Blessings.

What do you think the words 'count your blessings' mean?

Sometimes, lots of things seem to go against us, and it can make us feel a bit low and 'down in the dumps'. When this happens, it can be easy to be negative. However, if you are able to 'count your blessings' by actively finding lots of things to be thankful for, it can make you feel much more positive.

What can you be thankful for?

How many can you name in 30 seconds?



Can you make up your own prayer using the **BLESSINGS** acrostic?

Dear God,  
We have so many blessings to be thankful for.  
**B**rothers and books and badgers  
**L**etters and lettuces and leopards  
**E**lephants and eggs and .... Etc...  
**A**men

'Always give thanks for everything to God the Father' Ephesians 5.20

## 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 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Hotdog	Turkey chilli	Roast beef	Sausage pasta	Fish fingers
Option 2	Veggie dog	Macaroni cheese	Cheesy veg crumble	Veggie sausage pasta	Quorn nuggets
Dessert	Cake and custard	Choc biscuit	Marble cake	Carrot cake	Ice cream

## Poetry Corner

### The Autumn Leaves

In autumn  
the trees wave in the wind  
and the leaves come tumbling  
down,  
                  down,  
                          down,  
                                  down.

Here they come,  
hundreds and thousands of leaves  
in yellow, red,  
hazel,  
gold  
and  
chocolate brown.

Wes Magee



## Reading Recommendations

Each week we will include a book recommendation from a child and/or adult.

This week, Charlotte B recommends:



Ivy and Olivia are sisters, and one of them, Olivia, gets frightened because she figures out that a lot of people are vampires. Olivia got scratches down her arm from a hedge, but when they wiped the blood off with a tissue, they realised that she is a vampire. Ivy is a normal girl.

It is a really good book. There are lots of books in the series. I have just finished Switch and I am now reading Fangtastic.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk)

**0808 800 5000**

**Find out more**

Or call children's services 0300 300 0117

## Attendance Matters!

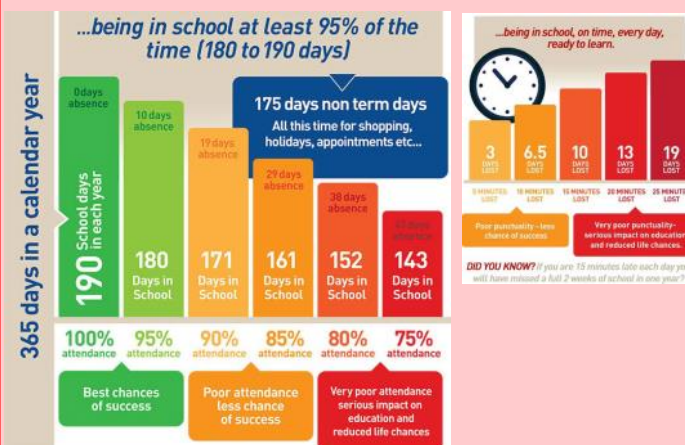
Week Commencing 16th October

Whole School attendance target:

**96.5%**

Actual Attendance: **97.77%**

Late marks this week: 0



# Golden Book

## Outside Achievements



Love

Courage

Respect



Social, Emotional & Mental Health

### **Free and low-cost half term activities at Isle of Wight Council museums and libraries**

[Discover free and low cost things to do this half term on our website](#)

Activities include:

- Mythical Monsters Clay Days at Newport Roman Villa
- Monster modelling and mascot making at The Museum of Island History
- Dino Day at Lord Louis Library Newport
- Bat Hospital visit at Ryde Library
- Weaving workshop at Freshwater Library
- Lots more workshops and clubs

### **Don't go hungry. Get support with food if you need it – open to all residents**

[Find out more about getting hold of affordable food on our website](#)

Did you know?

- Community pantries and larders are free to join.
- Anyone can use them to top up their weekly shop - you don't need to be on benefits.
- Join up and for £5 a week, receive over £15 worth of food.
- You don't need a referral, just contact a pantry or larder directly to join.

#### **East Cowes Community Pantry**

Community Spirited, Vectis Road, East Cowes, PO32 6HN

01983 296592

Opening hours:

Tuesday, 1:30pm to 3:30pm

Wednesday and Thursday, 10:30am to 12:30pm

#### **Ventnor Community Pantry**

Baby Box, Victoria Street, Ventnor, PO38 1EJ

07961 959003

Opening hours:

Tuesday 3pm to 6pm

Saturday 11am to 2pm

#### **Ryde Community Pantry**

Oakfield CE Primary School, Appley Road, Ryde, PO33 1NE

01983 563732

Opening hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

3.00pm to 4.30pm

#### **Newport Community Pantry**

The Pyle Street Pantry, 98 Pyle Street, Newport, PO30 1UH.

[pylestpantry@gmail.com](mailto:pylestpantry@gmail.com)

Opening hours:

Wednesday 11am to 1pm and 5pm to 7pm

#### **Pan Community Larder for East Newport residents**

Downside Community Centre, Furrongs, Newport, PO30 2AX.

01983 248170

Opening hours:

Tuesday and Friday 12pm to 2pm

#### **General cost of living support**

Use the Isle of Wight Council's [cost of living web pages](#) to see what's available near you. You can also call them on 01983 823134.

Contact Citizens Advice Isle of Wight on 0800 144 88 48 or [enquiries@iwcab.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@iwcab.org.uk). Their advice is free, confidential and independent. They can help with debt, benefits, legal advice and much more.

Contact [The Footprint Trust](#) for free advice or call them 01983 822282.

Use the [connect4communities website](#) to see what other support is available in your area.

The government [Help for Households website](#) has information about help with childcare costs, benefits and many other schemes.

# Online Safety

## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# WHATSAPP

UK AND EUROPE  
**16+**  
13+ REST OF THE WORLD

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients; not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

#### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes – encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

#### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

#### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

#### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

#### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

#### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

[CLICK HERE](#)

#### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.

#### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.

#### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.

#### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.

#### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.

#### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.

#### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.



Brighstone School Association

# Preloved Uniform Sale

Next Sale from

**25th September 2023**

The sale rail will be up by the school office.  
Money will be collected in the donation box.

 Unwanted uniform donations welcome.  
Please place in box in office foyer the week before each sale.

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Brighstone School Association

# End of Term DISCO

Thursday 19th October

KS1 - 4.30PM - 5.15PM  
KS2 - 5.30PM - 6.15PM

Please send money in a named/Year group envelope to the office or pay online @ [pta-events/brighstoneschoolassociation](https://pta-events/brighstoneschoolassociation)

**TICKETS £2.50 EACH**  
**FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL**

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:

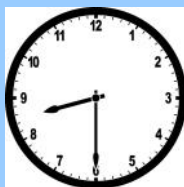
8.25am: Gates open

8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close

Many thanks.



## Key dates this year

### 2023-2024 academic year

- 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
- Thursday 7th December: Pantomime in Portsmouth - information to follow soon
- Tuesday 12th December: Nativity (afternoon)
- Wednesday 13th December: Nativity (evening)
- Thursday 14th December: Christingle service (2pm)
- 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.

