

The Buzz



Brighstone C.E.
Primary School

17th November 2023



Learning and Achieving Through Love,
Courage and Respect

Dear parents, carers and children,

It was another sea of colour in Golden Worship today for **Children in Need**. Children wore mufti and brought in their teddies to share their learning, in return for a donation. We raised an incredible £96.31! Well done to you all for your very generous contributions.



During Golden Worship this morning, a gift was presented to **Helen Chambers**, who has worked in the kitchens at Brighstone Primary School for 30 years! She has served children of children of children in her time here, which is amazing. Yvonne, Kelly and Kerry from Chartwells presented Helen with a bouquet of flowers and a voucher to say thank you for her dedication. We would also like to say a huge thank you from all of us.



This week, we welcomed a range of visitors to our school as part of **Inter Faith week**, with a focus on 'community'. We learnt about Judaism from Jonathon, we heard about Sylvia's multi faiths being a Buddhist, Quaker and Christian, we found out how Muslims serve the community from Mr Bahar, and listened to Harry and Rev Mark telling us about community in the Christian faith. During the day, Cllr Andre visited in her role as Chair of SACRE (Standing Advisory Council of Religion Education), as



well as Cllr Critchison, who talked to Ivy Bee class about being chair. They even got to have a go at wearing her chain! We pass on our thanks to our visitors for their interesting presentations.

On the theme of community, it was wonderful to see so many of our families attend the **Remembrance Parade and service** on Sunday. Many took part as a Beaver, Rainbow, Cub or Scout, and some took part as a pupil of the school. Thank you to Theo and Ellis who had the very important job of laying our school wreath on the memorial, and to Anna, Violet, Alice, Ruby and Charlie for reading a poem in the service.

It was also fantastic to see so many turn up to the **Pearl of Africa children's choir** at St Mary's Church on Friday evening. We were treated to a stunning spectacle of joy, where we couldn't fail to be uplifted by the exuberant performances. We thoroughly enjoyed our time with the choir, and we hope they will visit again next year!



Next Thursday sees another **Messy Church** session at the Methodist Church from 3.15pm. The theme is Advent, and lots of fun activities are planned, as well as an evening meal - all for free! If you haven't already done so, please fill in the form if you are able to attend (see the email sent home).

We have lots of **Christmas events** coming up, including many run by the BSA - please see the pages in this Buzz, the diary page, and the BSA Facebook page.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

With very best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team



Collective Worship - Trust

This week, we have been thinking about 'Knowing our friends will support us'.

A couple of children carried out a trust exercise, and talked about how they felt knowing that they had to rely on the other person, and that the other person had to rely on them.



Trust is...

Taking someone at their word

Relying on someone to support you

Unbreakable promises

Showing that you can be trustworthy

Treasuring good friends

Which line do you think is the best way of describing trust and why?

With your fingers to help you, think of up to five people who you trust and feel you could turn to for support in difficult situations.

Almighty God,

Be to me a solid rock to stand on,
a strong tower to shelter in,
and a firm anchor to hold me safe in the storms of life.

Amen



"Two people are better than one...

If one person falls, the other can reach out to help."
Ecclesiastes 4.9-10

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 are now NOT available

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Beef burger	Roast Turkey	Beef Bolognese	Fish fingers
Option 2	Tomato pasta	Veggie burger	Veggie pastry roll	Veggie Bolognese	Quorn nuggets
Dessert	Choc brownie	Crispy bar	Flapjack	Fruit cake	Ice cream

Poetry Corner

Space Poem

The sun is like
a gold balloon

the moon
a silver pearl

the earth is like
a marble blue

the milky way
a creamy swirl.

It stars are like
those little boats

afloat a sea
of night

the dark is when
a hand comes down

and switches
off the light!

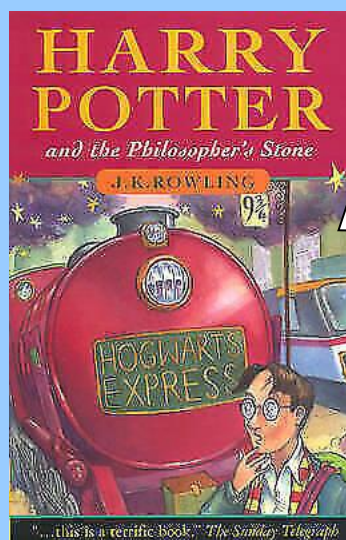


James Carter

Reading Recommendations

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

This week, Helena recommends:



I like it because it's frightening and scary but I just want to carry on. At the beginning, his parents die because of Voldemort and he went to live with the Dursleys. He went to Hogwarts and met Ron and Hermione.

It is adventurous, frightening and interesting.

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

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!



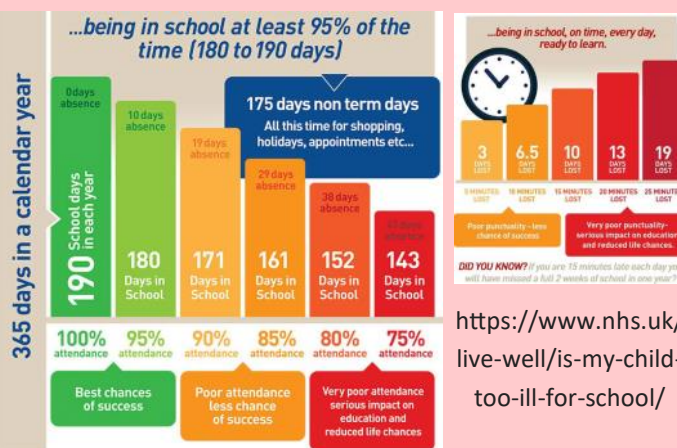
Week Commencing 13th November

Whole School attendance target:

96.5%

Actual Attendance: **94.09%**

Late marks this week: 7



<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Golden Book

Bumble Bee	<p>All of Reception Class for beginning to come into some of our school worships and events, joining in with answering questions and singing.</p> <p>William for working hard on sharing equally between two in maths and becoming independent. Tristan for making thoughtful contributions during Inter Faith day and for calmly applying maths strategies in his maths quizzes (drawings and jottings).</p>
Honey Bee	<p>Alyssa for courage and fitting in so well in her new school/class. Henry for fantastic expression in nativity rehearsals and working hard in lessons.</p>
Ivy Bee	<p>Leland for joining and settling in with Ivy Bee class in such a positive & cheerful way. Ariana for independently applying her knowledge of equivalent fractions when sequencing ones with different denominators. Leigh for an excellent piece of writing which showed the emotions of a woman who went over Niagara Falls in a barrel.</p>
Bee-Haviour	<p>Autumn for showing respect and love during wet break on Tuesday doing puzzles with Mrs Jones.</p>
Sports bee	<p>Jacob for showing the school games values during all PE lessons!</p>

Photos to follow next week!

SEMH

Social, Emotional & Mental Health



We have been looking closely at our behaviour expectations this week.

Children know that we have behaviour expectations so that they are able to learn and we are able to keep them safe. They have also been reminded of our golden rules that link with our school values.

Love: Show love to yourself and others through kindness

Courage: Have the courage to be honest and make the right choices and have a go

Respect: Show respect for yourself, others and the world around you

Please discuss our behaviour expectations with your children and see if they are able to tell you our golden rules linked to our school values.

Online Safety



Fortnite: Chapter 2 has finally landed! With a whole host of new in-game features including a brand-new map, more water-based activities, upgraded character skins and a more streamlined arsenal of weapons, this Fortnite is promising to be the best yet. Almost all of the changes are cosmetic which means the concept of the game remains the same, with players still aiming to be the last man standing. Players will no doubt find the game much more enjoyable with so much more to explore. For parents and carers however, it pays to remain vigilant.



What parents need to know about

FORTNITE



BATTLE ROYALE

Battle Royale games have become very popular over the last couple of years, and most tend to follow a very similar setup. Taking Fortnite as an example, 100 players drop into a map, loot buildings for weapons and armour and attempt to beat all the other players to be crowned victor at the end. If you've ever seen the Hunger Games movies, you'll have an idea of what this entails. Each game can take up to 20 minutes (assuming you last to the end) and can be restarted relatively quickly once 100 free players have been found.



IS FORTNITE ADDICTIVE?

Fortnite is at the forefront of gaming addiction discussions because it is so popular with young people. But whether it actually contributes to gaming addiction is up for debate. WHO (World Health Organisation) have classified gaming as a legitimate addiction, but this is not solely a concern with Fortnite. Signs of addiction can include irritability when not playing, lying about the amount of time played and a preoccupation with thoughts of the next gaming session. Realistically, it must be down to parents and carers to recognise these symptoms and act accordingly if they think they are developing.



FREE TO PLAY... OR IS IT?

While Fortnite is technically free to play (in that you can download and play it without paying) it does come with the caveat that spending money on things like skins and emotes in-game is heavily pushed to players. The currency used in-game is called 'V-Bucks' and can be bought with real money through the game's online store. It's worth remembering that these purchases are absolutely not necessary, are cosmetic only and that V-Bucks can be earned in-game with enough play time.



SEASONAL UPDATES

Every 10 weeks or so Fortnite is updated with a new season. This essentially adds new things like skins and emotes to the game, while also sometimes changing up the game map in interesting ways. These seasons are free to everybody and don't require additional money to play, though battle passes for each season can be bought with V-Bucks. A battle pass will typically allow a player to earn experience faster and gain fun in-game items by completing a host of daily challenges.



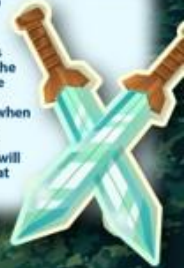
CROSSPLAY IS AVAILABLE

One of the wonderful things about Fortnite is that it can be played cross-platform. This means that no matter what platform a person plays on (PC, PlayStation 4, Xbox One etc) they can play with friends who own the game on a different platform. To do this, an Epic Games account must first be created online (which is free) and then linked with your platform account. Doing this removes the age-old boundary of not being able to play together because you don't have the same console and opens up a whole new world of playing online with friends.



IS FORTNITE VIOLENT?

Fortnite has been rated by the ESRB (Entertainment Software Ratings Board) as teen, as it contains cartoony violence and the weapons and acts depicted in the game are some way removed from their real life inspirations. Characters don't draw blood when shot and instead of dying, they are simply beamed up off the map. Naturally, players younger than the recommended age limit will want to play the game and that should be at the discretion of parents and carers.



Top Tips for Parents

BUYING V-BUCKS

As mentioned, Fortnite does contain in-game purchases and microtransactions in the form of V-Bucks which can be bought with real money. If you do decide to let your young one spend money in the game, be sure to delete your card information afterwards as it can be very easy to purchase more items at the press of a few buttons. It's important to set a limit on any purchases (as mentioned they are absolutely not necessary to play the game) and a suggestion would be capping the spending at around £50 - this is the normal retail price of a game.



GAMING WITH STRANGERS

Fortnite Battle Royale is an online game, and as such, there is a chance that young children could come into contact with strangers who are randomly placed into their groups in a game. It's difficult to predict what another person might say or do in a game, so it's a good idea for friends playing together, to be grouped together. The only real countermeasure to interacting with strangers offered by Fortnite is to turn off all mic communications, which can be done in the game's settings. Using outside chat apps, like Skype or Discord while playing, is a great way to make sure you know who you're talking to and that nobody else is listening in.

LIMIT TIME, BUT BE FLEXIBLE

A game of Fortnite can last up to 20 minutes, so be flexible when it's time to put it away. The approach of 'one more game' as opposed to '10 more minutes' will stop any complaints that a match is still ongoing. Better still, play with your child and take it in turns that way you're helping control the time played and can keep an eye on what they're experiencing.



TALK TO OTHER PARENTS / CARERS

If you're concerned about play time or spending money in the game, talk to other parents and carers of your child's friends. If you approach as a collective, it will be easier to know when their friends are online and you don't have to worry about who they're playing with. It can also help curb expectations on spending money on battle passes and skins if you stick together.



CAN DEVELOP SOME IMPORTANT SKILLS

It's often overlooked just how good gaming can be for young people. Fortnite encourages team play, quick and complex problem solving and communication; that's not to mention the lightning fast reflexes gamers can develop. While taking breaks to do other activities is of course important, there are benefits to screen time which might not be immediately obvious.



PLAY THE GAME YOURSELF

There's no substitute for sitting down and playing the game yourself to learn all about it. Fortnite is available for free on almost anything you can imagine, even your smartphone, so there's never been a better time to get involved and see what all the fuss is about. You never know, you might even be able to impress your children when you show them your impressive Victory Royale tally!



Meet our expert

Mark Foster has worked in the gaming industry for 5 years as a writer, editor and presenter. He is the current gaming editor of two of the biggest gaming news sites in the world, UNILAD Gaming and GAMINGBible. Starting gaming from a young age with his siblings, he has a passion for understanding how games and tech work, but more importantly, how to make them safe and fun.





Brighstone School Association

PRELOVED CHRISTMAS JUMPERS

We would love to be able to have a preloved Christmas Jumper sale again this year.

If you have any good quality jumpers that your children have out grown, please donate them to our cause.

The sale rail will be up from 1st December by the office.

Wear your Christmas Jumper to school day will be on 14th December.

Please place clean donations in the collection box in the school foyer.

Made with PosterMyWall.com

Brighstone School Association

Pre-order Christmas Wreaths

£10

Collect at our Event on 15th December

The BSA are taking pre-orders for our homemade Christmas Wreaths

Orders to be placed by Sunday 10th December

If you would like to place an order please email us: brighstoneschoolassoc@gmail.com and drop your money in a named envelope to the office. Alternatively you can pay online at pta-events.co.uk/brighstoneschoolassociation/

Brighstone School Association

Mufti Day

Friday 8th December

In return for wearing your own clothes/sports clothes (if you have PE) please bring in an item that you would like to find in a Christmas Hamper

Your items will then be made up into hampers for our Christmas Raffle

Made with PosterMyWall.com



Brighstone School Association

Secret Present Room

Monday 4th December

Happening during the school day

We are giving the children an opportunity to purchase small gifts in our Secret present Room

If you would like your child to take part, please complete the form being sent home and return it to school by Wednesday 29th November in a named envelope with the correct money. You can also pay online using the link below.

www.pta-events.co.uk/brighstoneschoolassociation

Each gift will be wrapped ready to go under the tree

E3 per gift

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E3 per gift

Secret Present Room Return Slip

Childs Name

Childs Class

Presents required:

Adult:

Mother Qty

Grandmother Qty

Father Qty

Grandfather Qty

Other (please state male or female) Qty

Child:

Younger Brother (Under 11) Qty

Older Brother (Over 11) Qty

Younger Sister (Under 11) Qty

Older Sister (Over 11) Qty

Total gifts required:

Money enclosed:

Please note all forms and money to be returned by Wednesday 29th November. Alternativity please log in to our PTA-events page to pay online.

Thank you for Supporting the BSA

Please note that your child's name will be collated on a list by the BSA this is to enable us to bring your child to the Secret Present Room to choose their gifts. This list will be destroyed after the event.

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

The school day is as follows:

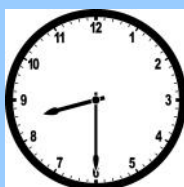
8.25am: Gates open

8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close

Many thanks.



Key dates this year

2023-2024 academic year

- Tuesday 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
- Friday 8th December: Mufti in return for a gift for a hamper (BSA)
- Sunday 10th December: Stars of Wonder concert in St Mary's Church at 7pm
- Tuesday 12th December: Nativity (afternoon)
- Wednesday 13th December: Nativity (evening)
- Thursday 14th December: Christingle service (2pm)
- Friday 15th December: Christmas Disco and Craft Market (BSA)
- Tuesday 19th December: Last day of term; Christmas Dinner Day; Christmas Jumper Day
- 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.

