

The Buzz



1st December 2023



Learning and Achieving Through Love,
Courage and Respect



Dear parents, carers and children,



“Pinch, punch, first of the month.” “White rabbit, white rabbit, white rabbit.” There are long-standing traditions that signify the start of the month, which are said to bring good luck to those who utter them. However, on the first day of December, there is another, very exciting way to start the month: opening the first little door of the **Advent** calendar. Hands shot up in the air this morning when I asked who had opened their Advent calendar this morning. They told me about the chocolates and pictures behind the door (I don’t know about you, but I miss the days of the traditional Advent calendars without the chocolate, when we got excited to see the picture rather than the chocolate!). Over the next few weeks, we will be immersing ourselves in lots of Christmas activities in school. It is so easy to get caught up in the commercialism and busy-ness of it all, but it is important to also try to take time to pause, reflect, and spend time with friends and family, while also considering the true meaning of Christmas.

A letter was emailed home today with further information about our **Nativity**, including details about costumes and tickets. We also have our whole school trip to see Hook, the **pantomime**, in Portsmouth on Thursday, and other very exciting events, including our **Christingle** service and the **BSA Christmas disco and market**. See p10 for the diary dates. Our two head pupils, **Charlie and Arya**, are going to be local celebrities, as they have been asked by Reverend Jackie to turn on the Christmas tree lights at the opening of the Christmas Tree Festival in the Lights of Love service in St Mary’s Church on Wednesday 6th at 7pm. They are absolutely delighted to be asked. What an honour!

On that note, if anyone is able to spare a bit of time to help out at the **Christmas Tree Festival**, please pop into the church and write your name for a time slot on the list by the door. Thank you.

The **School Council** are going to be developing a new school garden that is more easily accessible. This will be in the area next to the old Reception classroom (now called the Busy Bee room). In line with developing our eco-credentials, they would like to use reclaimed materials for the planters. If you have any old wooden crates, wooden planks, or any other receptacles that could be used for planters, please contact the school office. Many thanks.



On Tuesday morning, Year 4 welcomed **Ed Stolliday from Chartwells**. In his role as a nutritionist, Ed talked to the children about being 'Sugar Savvy' and how much sugar is in many of the common food choices that we make. They also made healthy chocolate hummus - sounds delicious! See Facebook next week for further information and photos.

We have been having a few children arriving **late** recently. Whilst we understand that sometimes events conspire against us, leading to occasional lateness, it is imperative that children are in school on time so they don’t miss the time to greet their friends, settle into class and miss any of their learning. Thank you for your support with this.

I hope you have a lovely weekend.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team

Getting your child to school on time really matters

If in a school year your child is late everyday	Your child would have lost approximately	Or they would have missed approximately
5 Minutes	3 days from school	16 lessons lost
10 Minutes	5 days from school	32 lessons lost
15 Minutes	8 days from school	48 lessons lost
20 Minutes	11 days from school	63 lessons lost
30 Minutes	16 days from school	95 lessons lost

Collective Worship - Trust

This week, we have been thinking about ‘Standing on God’s Promises’.

We have been thinking about how we can trust our friends. However, even though people can sometimes be unreliable, the Bible tells us that God will never disappoint us.

The Bible tells us that when we pray to God, we will be listened to and will receive strength when we are facing hard times. He promises that nothing, absolutely nothing, can separate us from his love.

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

“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.

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Sausage and mash	Roast pork	Packed Lunches	Fish fingers
Option 2	Tomato pasta	Cauliflower cheese	Veggie roast	Panto	Quorn nuggets
Dessert	Apple bake	Jelly	Shortbread	Trip	Shortbread

Poetry Corner

Dormouse

"Now winter is coming,"
The dormouse said,
"I must be thinking
Of going to bed."
So he curled himself up
As small as he could,
And went fast asleep
As a dormouse should.

Lilian McCrea



Reading Recommendations

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

This week, Martha recommends this graphic novel:



I recommend this book because it is actually quite funny. It's got loads of cartoons in one book. The characters are all really funny as well. It's got lots of different stories in it, and the different seasons.

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!

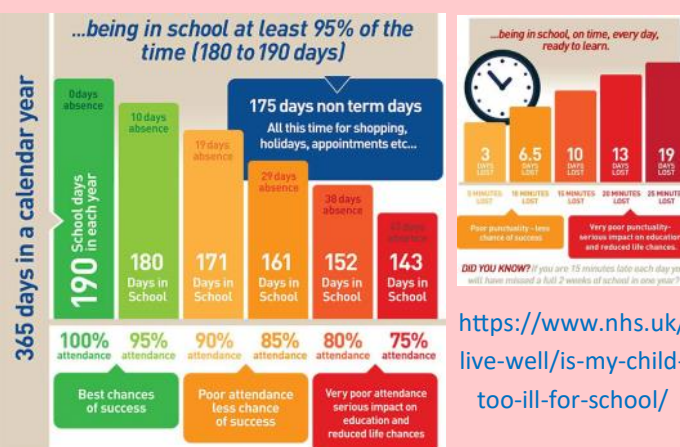
Week Commencing 27th November

Whole School attendance target:

96.5%

Actual Attendance: **94.66%**

Late marks this week: 20



Golden Book

Bumble Bee	<p>Hudson for coming into school with a big smile and always being so enthusiastic to have a go at different things.</p> <p>Max F for his enthusiasm during maths and English this week.</p> <p>Ellie for her fantastic science work, thinking about the changing seasons and what we see in autumn.</p> <p>Holly for always working hard but particularly trying hard with her spellings in her writing.</p>
Honey Bee	<p>Alice and Fred C for showing a love of learning when constructing their castles in Design Technology (DT).</p> <p>Quinn for showing all round great behaviour and putting his all into every lesson.</p>
Ivy Bee	<p>Grover for the effort he has put into creating his piece of writing about seeing the tight-rope walker (the character in our story book).</p> <p>Toby W for precision maths calculations.</p>
Bee-Haviour	<p>Georgia for showing perseverance during choir practice.</p>
Sports bee	<p>Flo and Freddie K for demonstrating fantastic dribbling skills during Basketball in PE.</p>



SEMH

Social, Emotional & Mental Health

Let's take action to be Happier and Kinder, Together

Visit <https://actionforhappiness.org/>

December Kindness 2023

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
 4 Support a charity, cause or campaign you really care about	 5 Give a gift to someone who is homeless or feeling lonely	 6 Leave a positive message for someone else to find	 7 Give kind comments to as many people as possible today	1 Spread kindness and share the December calendar with others	2 Contact someone you can't be with to see how they are	3 Offer to help someone who is facing difficulties at the moment
11 Buy an extra item and donate it to a local food bank	12 Be generous. Feed someone with food, love or kindness today	13 See how many different people you can smile at today	14 Share a happy memory or inspiring thought with a loved one	8 Do something helpful for a friend or family member	9 Notice when you're hard on yourself or others and be kind instead	10 Listen wholeheartedly to others without judging them
18 Ask for help and let someone else discover the joy of giving	19 Contact someone who may be alone or feeling isolated	20 Help others by giving away something that you don't need	21 Appreciate kindness and thank people who do things for you	15 Say hello to your neighbour and brighten up their day	16 Look for something positive to say to everyone you speak to	17 Give thanks. List the kind things others have done for you
 25 Treat everyone with kindness today, including yourself!	26 Get outside. Pick up litter or do something kind for nature	27 Call a relative who is far away to say hello and have a chat	28 Be kind to the planet. Eat less meat and use less energy	22 Congratulate someone for an achievement that may go unnoticed	23 Choose to give or receive the gift of forgiveness	24 Bring joy to others. Share something which made you laugh
				29 Turn off digital devices and really listen to people	30 Let someone know how much you appreciate them and why	31 Plan some new acts of kindness to do in 2024

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together



Online Safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalonlinecollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Schools Need to Know about THE ONLINE SAFETY ACT

The Online Safety Act was passed into UK law in October 2023, with the aim of establishing major new layers of protection for children when they're online. The government has pledged "a zero-tolerance approach to protecting children from online harm" – and the act certainly includes more powerful legislation which should help to safeguard young people in the digital world. Our guide summarises the key points for schools...

WHAT THE ACT WILL DO

HARMFUL CONTENT

Social media sites must rapidly remove illegal and/or harmful content such as bullying or harassing comments; pornography; and content that supports extremist activity or encourages or depicts violence, suicide, self-harm or eating disorders. If they fail to do so, they can be fined up to 10% of their global revenue while their executives may even face jail time.

ANIMAL CRUELTY

Content featuring cruelty to animals is now prohibited, even if it originates from abroad (where the law may be different). Again, it is the platform's responsibility to remove this.

MORE TRANSPARENCY

Sites must be transparent about the hazards that any children using them could encounter – by publishing risk assessments for their platforms, for instance.

HOSTING MISLEADING ADVERTS

Scams and fraudulent adverts must be blocked or removed, or the hosting companies are liable to be fined.

NON-CONSENSUAL SHARING

It's now easier to convict online abusers or people who share intimate images without consent, while legislation on the criminality of deepfakes has been clarified. The new laws also relate to any individuals who even threaten to share such images. This should help to protect women and girls in particular online.

REPORTING AND FILTERING

Sites should have easy reporting mechanisms for children (or their parents and carers) to flag up problems quickly. They must also provide options to filter out unwanted content.

AGE-RESTRICTED MATERIAL

Sites must prevent children from accessing age-inappropriate material. This includes enforcing age limits and implementing robust age verification.

What this means for you

The act has some specific implications for schools: it's essential that leaders understand the new legislation's scope and limitations. The act is certainly a positive step, but as artificial intelligence and other advances in tech continue to produce new challenges, schools will still need to remain extremely vigilant.

KNOW WHERE TO GET HELP

Look out for the Code of Conduct that Ofcom is creating in response to the Online Safety Act. Note that the new legislation doesn't mean an instant change: many of its elements will only come into force at the end of 2023. An Ofcom consultation on "protecting people from illegal harms online" will be running until February 2024.

REMEMBER THE ESSENTIALS

Remain mindful of your organisation's own online activities: the legal duty for schools to maintain appropriate software monitoring and filtering, for example, will not change.

WATCH FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

There are some issues on which the legislation remains less clear for now: whether it's possible for Ofcom to scan encrypted private messages (such as on WhatsApp) has yet to be resolved, for instance – making this an area where, for the moment, young people have less legal protection.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

Staff should learn how to raise concerns with tech companies whose platforms contain anything upsetting or unpleasant. Students also need to be made aware of the newly strengthened laws relating to cyber-bullying, sexting or posting inappropriate content. Young people do make mistakes online – so the clearer their understanding of the possible consequences, the better.

ENGAGE WITH PARENTS

Schools should also explain to parents and carers the new possibilities that the Online Safety Act affords them in terms of protecting their children. Many parents may have previously felt that there was little they could do about changing online platforms' content; they now have a far greater level of support when complaining about a company or the behaviour of an individual.

Meet Our Expert

Luke Barnard is Senior Deputy Headteacher and Director of Safeguarding for the St Boniface's family of schools. He is a regular speaker at conferences and writes for TES (among other journals) on school leadership, pastoral care and safeguarding. In 2022, he was named Pastoral Leader of the Year at the National Awards for Pastoral Care in Education.



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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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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.



**Brighstone School
Association**

Christmas DISCO & MINI MARKET

Friday 15th December
Market Times 4:30pm - 6:30pm

MARKET INCLUDES:

- Mulled Wine
- Craft Stall
- Reindeer food
- Raffle tickets
- Refreshments
- Homemade Wreaths

DISCO DETAILS:

- KS 1 (including reception)
4.30pm - 5.15pm
- KS2 5.30pm - 6.15pm

Disco Ticket - £2.50

Includes:
Drink/Treat/Christmas Santa Hat

**Please send money in an envelope to the office with your
childs name and year group on or pay online@
pta-events/brighstoneschoolassociation/**

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:

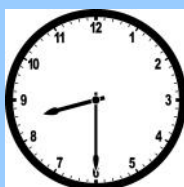
8.25am: Gates open

8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close

Many thanks.



Key dates this year

2023-2024 academic year

- Thursday 7th December: Pantomime in Portsmouth
- 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 (1.30pm)
- Wednesday 13th December: Nativity (6pm)
- Thursday 14th December: Christingle service (2pm) and Christmas Jumper Day
- Friday 15th December: Christmas Disco and Craft Market (BSA)
- Tuesday 19th December: Last day of term; Christmas Dinner Day; Christmas Mufti
- 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.

