

# The Buzz

## 10th May 2024

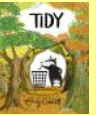


Learning and Achieving Through  
Love, Courage and Respect

Dear parents, carers and children,

What a lovely sunny week we have had! It seems that spring has finally sprung, and the children have been enjoying spending time outdoors.

In Bumble Bee class, **Y1/2** have been learning about fractions this week, as well as continuing their learning journey about Tidy by Emily Gravett. We acted out the story amongst the trees on the field in role as Pete the badger, before writing a diary entry explaining what they, as Pete, had been doing when tidying the forest. They had some fantastic ideas and produced some great pieces of writing. Next week, they will be writing in role as one of the animals to persuade Pete to stop destroying the forest with his excessive tidying!



**GOOD LUCK**  
You'll smash it!

**Y6** are doing really well this week, and Mrs Sharp and Mrs Johnstone are very proud of them in the run-up to SATs next week. They have been carrying out some mock SATs and general revision, and are taking it all very positively. We wish them all the very best next week. A message for the Y6 children: don't do any revision this weekend; just relax and enjoy the sunshine.

Talking of the weekend, we have a busy two days ahead of us. Tomorrow sees **Wolverton Folk and Blues Fair**; this is a fun event for all the family. The BSA are running the refreshments tent; thank you for all your very kind donations of delicious cakes. We look forward to seeing you there!



Sunday then brings the annual **Walk the Wight**. Many children are taking part in the schools' version, starting from Freshwater Bay to complete their 'virtual' walk all the way to the Needles. Several staff are also taking part, either walking the whole walk or half of it. We wish everyone the very best of luck!

Following filming of our bell ringing club last week, **BBC South Today** are aiming to broadcast this on Monday 13th at 6.30pm. We have also been told that it may also be quite possible that snippets could run during breakfast news bulletins and at 1.30pm. Radio Solent might also run the story during their breakfast show. They have also said that as they are a news programme, schedules can change in response to breaking stories, but that is the current plan. This is very exciting!



Thank you to all those who have signed up for the **country dancing**. We will start rehearsals next week, in readiness for Shorwell Midsummer Fair after half term.

Now that the weather has warmed up, some children have starting bringing **hats** to school, which is great. Please ensure that these are named to avoid any getting mislaid.

I hope you have a lovely weekend in the sunshine.



With very best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brighstone team

## Collective Worship - Service

This week, we have been thinking about the importance of 'looking at the heart'.

Some children re-enacted the story of David becoming king. Samuel had been tasked by God to find the next king. He saw Jesse's sons, who were strong and brave, but God told him to choose David, the youngest son, as his heart was kind and true. Because of this, David would make a good king and serve God and the people.

We talked about how you can't judge a book by its cover, and that it's what's inside that counts.

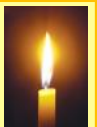


What special part could you do to serve God and each other?



### God's Plan, Our Prayer

Father God,  
You have great plans for all of us!  
Help us by your Spirit, to serve you with our whole heart,  
As we each play our special part.  
Amen



"Serve one another in love."

Galatians 5.13



## 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 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Option 1	Pizza	Beef Bolognese	Roast Pork	Chicken Curry	Breaded Chicken
Option 2	Veggie Bolognese	Veggie Burrito	Quorn Roast	Macaroni Cheese	Veggie Fingers
Dessert	Cookie	Cake	Jelly	Choc Shortbread	Cake

### Poetry Corner

#### Only My Opinion

Is a caterpillar ticklish?  
Well, it's always my belief  
That he giggles, as he wiggles  
Across a hairy leaf.

Monica Shannon

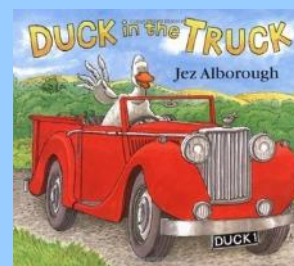


### Reading Recommendations

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

This week, Annie recommends:

I recommend this book because the duck is driving along the road and it gets stuck in the muck. Then all the animals come to help him and once they've got the truck out, the duck leaves them stuck in the muck!  
It's funny and a little bit sad because the duck leaves the animals in the muck.



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

**0808 800 5000**

**Find out more**

Or call children's services 0300 300 0117

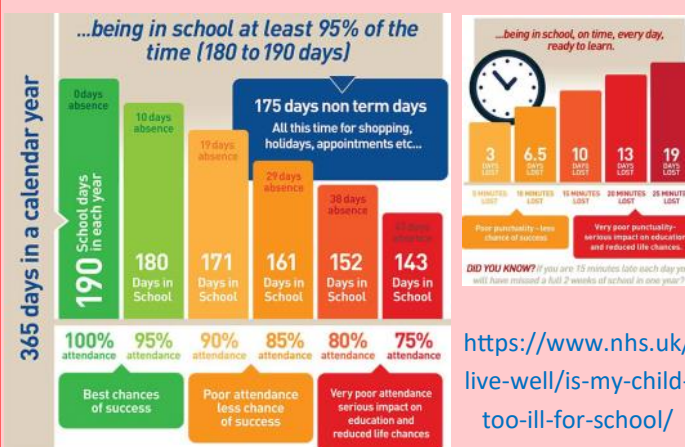
#### Attendance Matters!

Week Commencing 7th May 2024

Whole School attendance target: **96.5%**

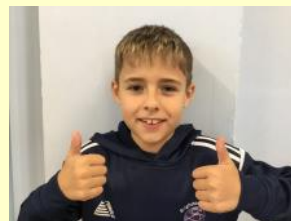
Actual Attendance: 94.76%

Late marks this week: 4



# Golden Book

Bumble Bee	<b>Tahnee</b> for watching Mrs Dunn using a knife and having a go herself. <b>William</b> for his excellent problem solving in fractions, when the whole is greater than 1. <b>Annie</b> for her love of learning in fractions work this week. She has worked very independently and represented various fractions of 12 using an egg box and counters.
Honey Bee	<b>Alexander</b> for fantastic independent work when dissecting a flower and naming the functioning parts.
Ivy Bee	<b>Jared, Max C, Wilbur, Caspar, Nico, Devon and Jude</b> for attending the early morning tutoring group with enthusiasm and a positive willingness to learn.
Bee-Haviour	<b>Molly</b> for being super kind when her friend was upset.
Sport Bee	<b>Tahnee</b> for always putting in lots of effort and showing the School Games Values in PE.



# SEMH

Social, Emotional & Mental Health

## junior parkrun

junior parkrun is a free 2k run,  
9:00 every Sunday morning at  
Seaclose Park in  
Newport

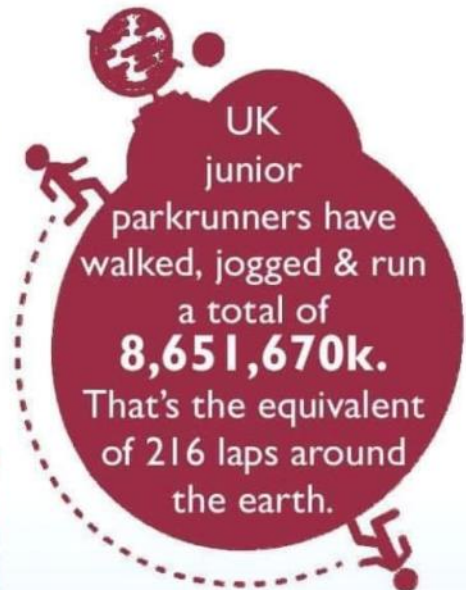



#DFYB


Don't forget your barcode!


To get your barcode, register at:


[parkrun.org.uk/medina-juniors](http://parkrun.org.uk/medina-juniors)





 junior parkrun is for children aged between 4 & 14, their friends, relatives, parents & carers.

 There's no time limit & no one finishes last!

 You don't even have to run or be fast - it's all about taking part.

 Adults can run with their children.

 Adults & children can volunteer too.

 We move to Appley for the summer & run beside the beach!



Medina I.O.W. junior parkrun



# Online Safety

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](https://nationalcollege.com).

## What Parents & Educators Need to Know about HELLDIVERS 2



### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Within weeks of release, Helldivers 2 had become one of 2024's biggest gaming success stories. The sequel to a top-down shooter from 2015 has smashed sales expectations, owing to its frantic gameplay and tongue-in-cheek humour. However, the game comes with several risks to younger players, as indicated by its 18+ rating.

#### PEGI 18 RATING



Due to its intense violence and the presence of in-game purchases, Helldivers 2 carries a PEGI 18 rating. While players are generally fighting fantastical enemies like bugs and robots, their characters can be killed in various gruesome ways, up to and including dismemberment. It's certainly worth considering whether such a game is appropriate for younger players.

#### IN-GAME PURCHASES

In Helldivers 2, players can use real money to buy in-game currency, with which they can unlock cosmetics and new weapons. At the time of writing, all the in-game items can be acquired without spending so much as a penny – but excited young players wanting to keep up with their friends may still feel the temptation to purchase new weapons more quickly, rather than laboriously earning the in-game currency through play.

#### VOICE CHAT AND MESSAGING

Helldivers 2 is always played online with others, who often use voice chat or in-game texts to coordinate, strategise or just joke around. This does mean that children who play without their friends will be put in contact with strangers. Unfortunately, this represents a roll of the dice, as the game can't control how people treat each other online. However, you can easily report other players for abusive behaviour via the game's 'Social' tab.

#### FRUSTRATION TRIGGER

The thrill of barely scraping through a dangerous mission in one piece is integral to Helldivers 2's appeal. To accentuate this feeling of achievement, the game includes some very difficult levels that could prove to be too hard for some players – even those who are legitimately old enough to play. Losing streaks can be incredibly annoying, so repeatedly failing in missions could easily provoke frustration or anger in younger players.

#### LACK OF ACCESS



The game is available on PC and PS5, but not (as yet) on other consoles. Some people will naturally be disappointed they can't get involved and might look for similar alternatives to play on their own console – alternatives which may contain similar levels of violence and gore but lack the same balanced approach to user misconduct and in-game purchases as Helldivers 2.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

#### GIVE IT A GO FIRST

Helldivers 2 is a third-person shooter with intentionally humorous elements, but much of its comedy is rooted in satire which may go over the heads of some players. Consider playing the game first yourself – while shooting bugs and robots feels too unrealistic to be upsetting, seeing your character get torn to pieces may be too much for young players.

#### SET EXPECTATIONS

At the time of writing, Helldivers 2 costs £34.99. It could turn out to be an expensive and wasteful purchase if a player gets irritated and gives up shortly after receiving the game. If a young person tends to become frustrated easily, it's worth considering whether Helldivers 2 is really the game for them.

#### CONSIDER ALTERNATIVES

If playing on Xbox – where Helldivers 2 isn't available – consider something like Halo: The Master Chief Collection as an alternative. One of its game modes – Firefight – replicates Helldivers' mechanics to some degree. Alternatively, younger players may be better suited to the more light-hearted Deep Rock Galactic, which sees them play as fantasy dwarves in space, involving far less gruesome violence.

#### KEEP AN EYE ON PAYMENTS

Many titles offer in-game purchases, but Helldivers 2's are comparatively cheap. You'll still need to monitor your payment information (or use a prepaid card on the account), in case your child buys the in-game currency in bulk; on the whole, however, the game's selling methods are far less egregious than most similar titles on the market.

#### MONITOR COMMUNICATION & ADJUST SETTINGS

Thanks to an in-game "Ping" system (allowing players to highlight important details without speaking), communication isn't as integral to Helldivers 2 as it is in other games. You can turn off the chat options in-game on PC, or on the PS5's own settings, and feel more secure in the knowledge that your child won't be speaking to people they don't know.

#### Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Editor in Chief of GGRecon, and has been working in the games media industry for five years. As well as being an avid long-time gamer, he is also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his work has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar and many more.





See you at  
Wolverton!





*Brighstone  
CE  
Primary  
Presents...*

## SCIENCE DAY 2024

MONDAY  
22ND  
JULY

After the spectacular success of our Science Day last year, parents, grandparents and friends are invited to come and speak about what they do, and how science is involved, with one of our classes.

Last year we welcomed: vets; a fishmonger; an aerospace engineer; a water drainage expert; a wind turbine designer; a food technologist and enjoyed a visiting natural history museum.

ALL contributions are welcome than you- even if you participated last year. We'd love to host you in a different class.

Please contact Mrs Denness via the school office.

## Respect Charter

### at Brighstone C.E. Aided Primary School

At Brighstone C.E. Aided Primary School, we believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to learn and work. We strive to ensure that our school offers a warm and nurturing environment. All members of the school community and visitors should demonstrate mutual respect, to feel safe, work together and to use restorative approaches as the foundation of our practice. Any behaviour that may lead to feelings of harassment, alarm or distress to members of our community, will not be tolerated and action taken.

#### Expectations

- That all adults set a good example to children at all times, showing them how to get along with all members of the school and the wider community.
- That no one - staff, governors, parents, carers, volunteers or children - be subjected to abusive behaviour or any form of threats from visitors on the school premises.
- That physical attacks and threatening behaviour, abusive or insulting language, verbal or written (including on social media), to staff, governors, parents, carers, volunteers, children and other users of the school premises will not be tolerated and may lead to a ban from school premises and/or police action.

#### Types of behaviour that are considered serious and unacceptable

This is not an exhaustive list but seeks to provide illustrations of such behaviour:

- Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone
- Physically intimidating; e.g. standing very close
- The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- Physical threats
- Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- Swearing and name calling
- Pushing
- Slapping, punching, hitting or kicking
- Racist, homophobic or other hateful behaviour
- Sexist comments or sexual innuendo
- Disrespecting religion or belief
- Inappropriate communications (posting on Social Networking sites, emails or letters, etc.) which could bring the school into disrepute or be deemed as bullying, harassment and/or a hate-related comment

The school reserves the right to take any necessary actions to ensure that members of the school community are not subjected to any form of abuse in line with policy and procedure. If you choose to engage in these behaviours you may be asked to leave the site or the police may be called.

**Thank you for your understanding and support**



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

Please be reminded that all children need to wear the correct PE kit on PE days.  
The correct PE kit is also needed for sports clubs.  
Socks and hair accessories must be in the school colours.

### School Day Timings

The school day is as follows:

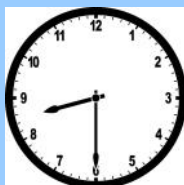
8.25am: Gates open

8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close

Many thanks.



## Key dates this year

### 2023-2024 academic year

- Saturday 11th May: Wolverton Folk and Blues Festival
- Sunday 12th May: Walk the Wight
- W/C 13th May: Y6 SATs
- Friday 24th May: Last day of term
- Monday 27th - Friday 31st May: Half term
- Sunday 2nd June: Northcourt Manor Open Gardens (helpers needed!)
- Monday 3rd June: School closed for staff development day
- Tuesday 4th June: Back to school
- Saturday 15th June: Shorwell Midsummer Fair
- Wednesday 18th - Friday 21st June: Y6 residential in London
- Friday 5th July: Sports Day
- Tuesday 9th July: Transition Day
- Friday 12th July: Y6 Leavers' Service at Portsmouth Cathedral
- Friday 12th July: Reports go home
- Tuesday 16th July: Parents Evening 3.15pm - 6pm
- Friday 19th July: Sports Day (back-up day)
- Friday 19th July: Summer Sizzler
- Monday 22nd July: Science Day
- Wednesday 24th July: Forest Day
- Thursday 25th July: Last day of term; Y6 Leavers' Service in St Mary's Church
- Friday 26th July: School closed for staff development day

Term dates are also available on our school website.

