

# The Buzz

## 23rd January 2026



**Brightstone C.E.  
Primary School**

**Learning and Achieving Through Love,  
Courage and Respect**

Dear parents, carers and children,

As part of the National Year of Reading: Go All In campaign, I have introduced a new page dedicated to this. See p6 of this week's Buzz.

I always enjoy popping into the classrooms to see what the children are up to. It was lovely to see some great teamwork in **Flower Bees**, when some children were doing a jigsaw puzzle together. They were really looking carefully at the pictures and colours on each piece to see if they fitted: "There's one with a little bit of moon on it!" "That one's got some duvet on it" and so on. Fantastic!

I also saw some great teamwork in **Honey Bee class** when they were drafting their rhyming couplets. Not only did they have to make the lines rhyme, but they were also considering the rhythm and the use of effective vocabulary. They certainly rose to the challenge, and produced some amazing poems, working independently while also helping each other where needed. Well done, Honey Bee class.

When I popped into **Ivy Bee class**, it was great to see the effective vocabulary being used when editing their narrative pieces for *The Man Who Walked Between The Towers*. They were considering which words and phrases would be most effective and where they could be placed in the sentence, and then thinking about how to insert direct speech to move the narrative on. Great work, Ivy Bee class!



As I walked to open the gate on Tuesday morning, I was intrigued to see a trail of sand leading across the playground and along the path. I was very curious as to how it got there and why it was there. All was revealed later on when **Bumble Bee class** excitedly told me that it was Sunny the meerkat, who was visiting from the Kalahari desert and must have brought some of the desert sand with him!

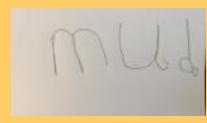
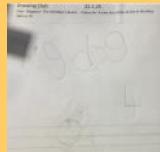
### Class news



"WHAT A DAY we had in **Bumble Bee Class** on Tuesday! Sunny the Meerkat came to visit and we had THE BEST TIME! The children had already planned the day out for Sunny and took turns to complete different activities with him. They made soooo many presents for Sunny, including a lunch box, paintings and a bed to sleep (on the plane) in. Some of the children found some real sand from the Kalahari Desert! Others went hunting for his friends, as they knew Meerkats travel in groups/gangs and so his family might be about. It was such an exciting day and the children did us proud, showing Sunny a day in the life of Brightstone CE Primary :)" Miss Sztypuljak



"Some of the **Flower Bees** are really excited to write by themselves now. Olive wrote a book including a page about her holiday. Molly wrote a label for her big dog and Bodhi showed me that he could spell mud (and form the letters really well too)." Mrs Cousins



### Reminders

**Hair accessories and socks** must be in the school colours. **Water bottles** must only contain water.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

With best wishes, Mrs Lennon and the Brightstone team



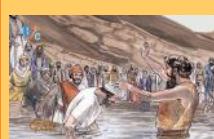
# Collective Worship

This half term, the theme is People Jesus Meets. This week, we have been learning about John the Baptist. Our value this week is hope.



Have you ever been to a baptism or christening? Have you been baptised or christened? Sometimes a baptism can happen around a font in a church. Sometimes older people are baptised in a pool in the church and sometimes in a river, like the River Jordan here.

Two thousand years ago, John the Baptist, who was Jesus' cousin, baptised lots of people in the River Jordan. One of the people he baptised was Jesus himself.



Why had people come to John to be baptised?

How did the people who were watching Jesus being baptised know that they were witnessing a very special moment?

What emotions do you think the people on the banks of the river felt as they watched?

Why did John think that it should be Jesus baptising him?



Lord Jesus,  
We are sorry for anything that we have said or done

that may have hurt others.  
Give us hope for the future by washing away what is past.  
Fill us with your power to live in a way that is pleasing to you and loving towards others.  
Amen



## Inclusion

Welcome to our inclusion section! Each week, we will be sharing a Makaton sign and Widgit symbol, to help with our inclusive ethos.

This week, our word is:

want

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRF\\_O-76eP0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zRF_O-76eP0)

Makaton sign



Widgit symbol



## Poetry Corner

### Waiting at the Window

These are my two drops of rain Waiting on the window-pane.	John is rushing down the pane. James is going slow again.
I am waiting here to see Which the winning one will be.	James has met a sort of smear. John is getting very near.
Both of them have different names.	Is he going fast enough? (James has found a piece of fluff.)
One is John and one is James.	John has quickly hurried by. (James was talking to a fly.)
All the best and all the worst Comes from which of them is first.	John is there, and John has won! Look! I told you! Here's the sun!
James has just begun to ooze. He's the one I want to lose.	
John is waiting to begin. He's the one I want to win.	
James is going slowly on. Something sort of sticks to John.	
John is moving off at last. James is going pretty fast.	

A. A. Milne



## Reading Recommendations

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

This week, Quinn recommends *Scared to Death* by Anthony Horowitz.

It's a book that has 10 short sinister stories and it's really good. I have read four of them and I'm really looking forward to reading the rest. They are about things that go wrong, vampires and the supernatural. Out of the four I have read, my favourite one was 'You Have Arrived' which is about two thugs in a stolen car on a one-way ticket to hell. This is my favourite because it's really creepy and really funny.



## 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 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](#)

You can contact the NSPCC:  
Or call children's services 01983 823435

## Attendance Matters!



Week Commencing 19th January  
(Whole school attendance target: 96.5%)

Actual Attendance: **94.27%**

Late marks this week: 5



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



**DID YOU KNOW?** If you are 15 minutes late each day you will have missed a full 2 weeks of school in one year?

# Golden Book

Flower Bee	<b>Ella, Evan, Theo, Otis and Rae</b> for practising their target speed sounds every day.
Bumble Bee	<b>Lexi</b> for sharing and demonstrating what she has learnt in Music, at home. <b>Florence</b> for always putting 100% into every challenge asked of her in lessons and busy bee time. She has produced some super artwork and writing this week, especially for Sunny the meerkat. <b>Arthur</b> for showing such enthusiasm and independence when drawing and writing out what he'd like to do with Sunny the Meerkat. <b>Forbes</b> for spotting a large muddy mark on one of our book corner armchairs ( <i>not caused by him</i> ) and taking the time to clean it up during his own busy bee time. This showed such kindness and was hugely appreciated.
Honey Bee	<b>Poppy</b> for her hard work and conscientious attitude , particularly in spelling and times table work this week. <b>Holly</b> for her super engagement with our poetry writing work and enthusiastic contributions to our class discussions.
Ivy Bee	<b>Martha</b> for her systematic approach to understanding new Maths learning. <b>Allina</b> for her clear explanations and good understanding in Maths.
Bee-Haviour	<b>Jacob</b> for showing such kindness towards others every day, especially this week. Jacob saw that a member of the class was upset at the end of the day and knew he could cheer her up, even though it would mean he'd miss out on his turn with Sunny the Meerkat.
Sports Bee	<b>Freya</b> for always being ready to learn, putting 100% effort into lessons and working well on her own, in pairs and in groups.



# Focus on Attendance

With the children, we discussed how regular attendance helps them:

- Make strong progress in their learning, as learning builds day by day
- Feel confident, independent and part of their class community
- Build friendships and support their wellbeing
- Develop positive routines and life skills such as punctuality and responsibility
- Build strong habits that support success now and in the future

We talked to the children about what “regular attendance” means and the many benefits it brings. We also reminded them that we understand illness does happen, and if a child has a temperature, or if it could be an infection, then they need to stay at home and rest until they are better or the risk of infecting others has passed. However, it is often those days when children feel a little unsure or reluctant at first, but are able to push through and come into school, that can make a real difference. As always, if a child is not well enough to be in school, we will contact families and ensure they are sent home to rest.

To help celebrate and encourage good attendance, we also introduced a whole school campaign for this term:

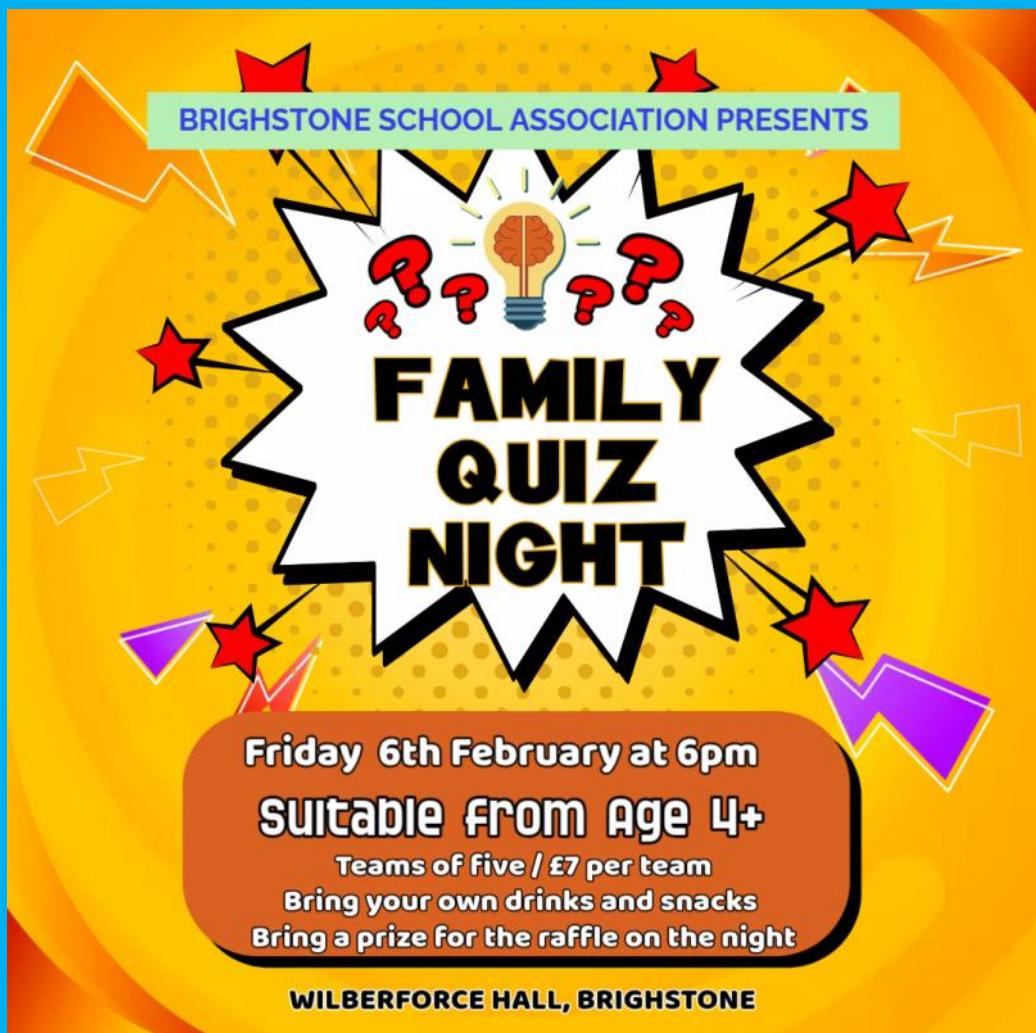
## Be an attendance HERO (Here Everyday Ready On time)!

- For each full week of attendance, children will earn an entry into a draw - this gives children the opportunity to have up to 11 entries in the draw this term
- At the end of the term, one lucky winner will be chosen to receive a grand prize

We appreciate that there can sometimes be challenges, and we encourage families to speak to us if there are any worries or barriers to attendance, we are always here to help.

Thank you for your continued support in helping every child have the best chance to learn, grow and succeed.





The Brightstone School Association now receive 30% commission from Stikins every time you buy your new name labels.

Quote our number 2722 when you place an order. A great way to keep your child's belongings safe and to support the school!

<https://www.stikins.co.uk>

## Like Our Pages!



Facebook & Instagram

Search for  
Brightstone School  
Association

It's never too late to keep  
up with our latest news!

Parents,  
**Family members**  
& friends of Brightstone  
Primary School  
Does your place of  
work offer the Match  
Funding Scheme?

Get in touch with us if your employers could  
help our BSA fundraisers via email at  
[brightstoneschoolassoc@gmail.com](mailto:brightstoneschoolassoc@gmail.com)

## BSA Astra Recycling Clothing Bank

We take...

Clothes,  
Shoes,  
Bed Linen,  
Accessories  
(Such as  
belts, hats  
& handbags)  
Soft Toys



We can't  
take...

Duvets or  
Cushions,  
Off Cuts,  
Carpet or  
Curtains

Located in school entrance car park

Proud to support  
The National Year  
of Reading 2026.

GO  
ALL  
IN.

**The National Year of Reading: Go All In** campaign is an exciting initiative designed to inspire a **love of reading** and encourage everyone to fully immerse themselves in books and stories. By promoting **reading for pleasure**, sharing a wide range of texts, and celebrating reading in all its forms, the campaign aims to boost **confidence, creativity, and comprehension**. Go All In encourages children to **explore new genres**, take risks with their reading choices, and **develop lifelong reading habits** that support learning across the curriculum and beyond. Reading is essential for **developing language, imagination, and understanding of the world**. It supports children's vocabulary, comprehension, and communication skills, while also helping to build concentration and confidence. Regular reading encourages **curiosity, empathy, and creativity**, and lays a **strong foundation for success** across all areas of learning and throughout life.

Reading doesn't just mean books. It includes stories, ideas and information in print, digital and audio – from graphic novels and lyrics to articles, podcasts and games.

We are always encouraging reading for pleasure, and we will plan some events throughout the year as part of this national campaign. We welcome and value your support in this. Watch this space!

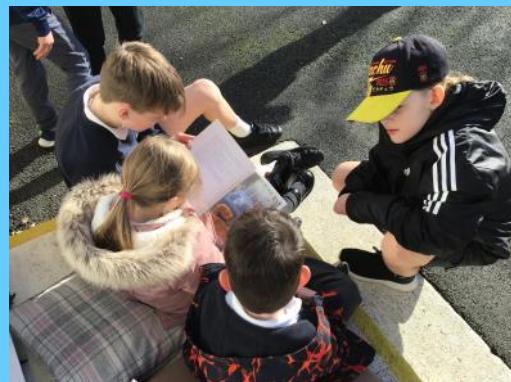
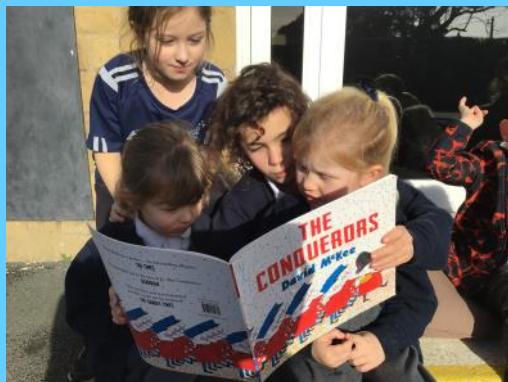
We were delighted to receive this from Alice, William and family! It looks like you had a lovely, relaxing afternoon.

*"Inspired by the Year of Reading after seeing it in the Buzz on Friday we packed our books in our van when we took it out for the day last weekend instead of iPads, and the four of us had a lovely relaxing afternoon reading; long may it continue! Looking forward to seeing what events will come out of this campaign."*

We look forward to seeing what other reading activities everyone gets up to. Please do send them in !



At lunchtime today, it was lovely to see some of the older children reading to the younger children in the sunshine.





# BRIGHTSTONE CE AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

## School Admissions

**Every day is an open day**

**You are invited to have a tour of our wonderful school at a time that suits you. We welcome visits for Reception 2026 intake, and we also currently have spaces in Years 2, 3 and 4.**

**Please contact the school office to arrange a visit and an informal chat.**

### **Contact Us :**



01983 740285



office@brightstoneprimary.org.uk



[www.brightstoneprimary.org.uk](http://www.brightstoneprimary.org.uk)

You are also welcome to visit Brightstone Preschool. They offer childcare from 0-4, provide our wraparound care (breakfast and after school club) and offer a holiday club.



Learning and Achieving through Love, Courage and Respect



# School Dinners

Children in **Year R, 1 and 2** are entitled to a 'universal' free school meal every day.

Children in Years 3-6 are charged at **£3.35** per day.

Please note the dates to see which week to look at.



**ARE YOU A WINNER?**

**Every Thursday, check under your plate for a winner sticker!**

1. Clear your plate
2. Check if you have a sticker
3. If you do, show a member of kitchen staff
4. Collect your prize

Chartwells



**AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU**

**WEEK 1**  
W/C 03/11/2025, 24/11/2025, 15/12/2025, 19/01/2026, 09/02/2026, 09/03/2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>HOT DISHES</b>	<b>OPTION 1</b> Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges   <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 2</b> BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges   <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 3</b> Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	<b>OPTION 1</b> Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta   <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 2</b> Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta    <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 3</b> Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	<b>OPTION 1</b> Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes and Gravy <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 2</b> Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy  <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 3</b> Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	<b>OPTION 1</b> Chinese Sticky Lemon Chicken with Wholegrain Rice   <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 2</b> Cheesy Vegetable Hotpot  <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 3</b> Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	<b>OPTION 1</b> Fish Fingers with Chips <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 2</b> Quorn Dippers with Chips  <b>OR</b> <b>OPTION 3</b> Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  
<b>DELI</b>	<b>OPTION 4</b> Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings   Ham, Cheese or Tuna Baguette with Mixed Salad 				
<b>DESSERT</b>	Crunchy Apple Slice 	Strawberry Shortcake Mousse	Apple Crumble with Custard 	Chocolate Ice Cream	Oat Cookie 
<b>AVAILABLE DAILY</b> Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water					
					

 Vegetarian  Vegan  Oily Fish  Fruity!  Wholegrain  Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.

## AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU

## WEEK 2

W/C 10/11/2025, 01/12/2025, 05/01/2026, 26/01/2026, 23/02/2026, 16/03/2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1 Macaroni Cheese OR Veggie Burrito with Wholegrain Rice	Pork Sausages with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy OR Vegetarian Sausage with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy	Roast Chicken with Roast Potatoes and Gravy OR Sweet Potato, Chickpea and Herb Roast with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Chicken and Vegetable Korma with Wholegrain Rice OR Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Pasta Salad	Battered Fish with Chips OR Quorn Dippers with Chips
	OPTION 2 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta
	OPTION 3				
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD					
DELI	OPTION 4 Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings	Ham, Cheese or Tuna Baguette with Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings	Ham, Cheese or Tuna Baguette with Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD					
DESSERT	Chocolate Caramel Crunch	Banana Flapjack	Chocolate Brownie	Raspberry Jelly	Strawberry Ice Cream



### AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



▼ Vegetarian    ♡ Vegan    ✦ Oily Fish    🍉 Fruity!    ⚡ Wholegrain    ❤ Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.

## AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU

## WEEK 3

W/C 17/11/2025, 08/12/2025, 12/01/2026, 02/02/2026, 02/03/2026, 23/03/2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1 Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Pasta Salad	Chicken and Broccoli Pasta Bake with Garlic Bread	Roast Gammon with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	BBQ Chicken with Rainbow Rice	Fish Fingers with Chips
	OPTION 2 Veggie Meat Feast Pizza with Pasta Salad	Macaroni Cheese	Vegetable Pastry Slice with Roast Potatoes and Gravy	Spanish Vegetable Rice	Quorn Dippers with Chips
	OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta	Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD					
DELI	OPTION 4 Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings	Ham, Cheese or Tuna Baguette with Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings	Ham, Cheese or Tuna Baguette with Mixed Salad	Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD					
DESSERT	Chocolate Marble Cake	Apple Crumble with Custard	Lemon Cookie	Crunchy Chocolate Mousse	Strawberry Jelly



### AVAILABLE DAILY

Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



▼ Vegetarian    ♡ Vegan    ✦ Oily Fish    🍉 Fruity!    ⚡ Wholegrain    ❤ Nutritionist's Choice

Our menu is subject to change. Please be assured that all notified medical diets and allergy requirements will be safely catered for.



## Respect Charter

### at Brightstone CE Aided Primary School

At Brightstone CE 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

- o 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.
- o 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.
- o 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:

- o Shouting, either in person or over the telephone
- o Speaking in an aggressive/threatening tone
- o Physically intimidating, e.g. standing very close
- o The use of aggressive hand gestures/exaggerated movements
- o Physical threats
- o Shaking or holding a fist towards another person
- o Swearing and name calling
- o Pushing
- o Slapping, punching, hitting or kicking
- o Racist, homophobic or other hateful behaviour
- o Sexist comments or sexual innuendo
- o Disrespecting religion or belief
- o 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

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@brightstoneprimary.org.uk](mailto:office@brightstoneprimary.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/BrightstoneCEPrimarySchool>  
Our Facebook page is open so you do not need a personal account to view it

If you would like to contact your child's class teacher, you can email them at the following email addresses. Please allow at least one working day for a reply. For anything urgent, please contact the school office.

Year R - teacher.flowerbee@brightstoneprimary.org.uk  
Year 1/2 - teacher.bumblebee@brightstoneprimary.org.uk  
Year 3/4 - teacher.honeybee@brightstoneprimary.org.uk  
Year 5/6 - teacher.ivybee@brightstoneprimary.org.uk  
The Nest resourced provision - thenest@brightstoneprimary.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@brightstoneprimary.org.uk](mailto:m.jones@brightstoneprimary.org.uk) [safeguarding@brightstoneprimary.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@brightstoneprimary.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.brightstoneprimary.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

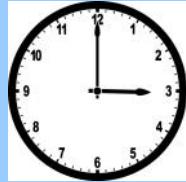
The school day is as follows:

8.25am: Gates open

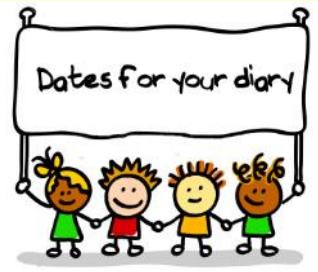
8.30am: School starts

3pm: School ends

3.10pm: Gates close



Many thanks.



### **School Term Dates for 2025-2026**

Friday 13th February:	Last day of term
Monday 23rd February:	Back to school
Thursday 5th March:	World Book Day
Friday 13th March:	Chance to Shine Cricket Engagement Day (details to follow)
Monday 16th March:	Scholastic Book Fair all week
Tuesday 17th March:	Parents Evening (details to follow)
Wednesday 18th March:	Parents Evening (details to follow)
Friday 27th March:	Last day of term
Monday 13th April:	Back to school
Mon 11th - Thurs 14th May:	Y6 SATs
Friday 22nd May:	Last day of term
Monday 1st June:	INSET day - school closed
Tuesday 2nd June:	Back to school
Tuesday 7th July:	Transition Day
Wednesday 8th July:	Sports Day
Friday 10th July:	Reports sent home
Tuesday 14th July:	Parents Evening
Friday 24th July:	Last day of term

Please note that the school will be closed on the following days in this academic year:

- Day 1: Monday 1st September 2025
- Day 2: Tuesday 2nd September 2025
- Day 3: Wednesday 3rd September 2025
- Day 4: Monday 1st June 2026