

The Buzz

9th January 2026



Brightstone C.E.
Primary School

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

Dear parents, carers and children,

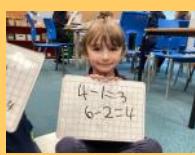
Happy New Year to everyone! I hope everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and New Year.

Everyone has settled back into school really well. So well, in fact, that our Golden Worship was chock-a-block full of awards this morning! As I walk around the school, there is a busy, purposeful and calm atmosphere, with children focused and engaged in their learning. Well done.



Class news

"What a busy first week back we have had in **Bumble Bee Class**! In English, we have started our learning journey about 'Meerkat Mail'. The children have made some super puppets and acted out the story, as well as written their own questions for Sunny. In Maths we have been recapping subtraction and remembering to count backwards. In Art and Design we have also been exploring different materials to draw with. It got rather messy when the charcoal came out, but we learnt lots about tone and texture!" Miss Sztypuljak



"**Ivy Bee class** are currently reading *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* - the story of Philippe Petit's daring tightrope walk between the old Twin Towers buildings in New York. We tried to feel what it must have been like to transport the tightrope cable up to the roof of the South Tower and then walk (untethered!) on it a quarter of a mile up in the air. When we had a go along skipping ropes on the hall floor, it's amazing how many of us wobbled and had to really concentrate! But hopefully, it will inspire us to create some detailed and emotive writing!" Mrs Sharp



There is a **BSA meeting** on Monday 12th January at 7pm (see the poster for further details). This will be held in Honey Bee classroom. All are welcome, either regulars or first-timers. Please do come along to listen to and share ideas on how we can continue to organise events and fundraising opportunities. We would love to see you there, either in person or via Teams (the link will be sent out on Monday). If you are coming along in person, please enter via the main front door.



Our whole school **attendance** is below national expectations, which has a detrimental affect on children's education and wellbeing. We will be having a big focus on improving attendance, to ensure that children's life chances are the best they can be. See p4 of this week's Buzz.

Reminders

Water bottles must only contain water. Hair accessories and socks must be in the school colours. Thank you for your understanding.

I hope everyone has a lovely weekend.

With very 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 Simeon and Anna. Our value this week is hope.



It was the custom for Jewish parents to take their firstborn baby son to the temple to dedicate him to God. The time had come for Mary and Joseph to do this. It was a very special occasion for the new family.

Simeon, who was a good, God-fearing man, was waiting for the Lord to send the special One into the world to save everyone. When he saw Jesus, all his hopes and dreams had been fulfilled.

Anna, who was by now very old, had also been waiting and praying. She was overjoyed when she saw Jesus. She gave thanks to God, and told everyone she met about what had happened.



Blessing

Lord Jesus,
May the light of your love
burn brightly in our hearts today
and bless our school with your presence and
peace.
Amen



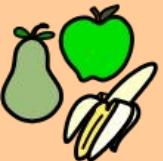
Inclusion

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:

fruit

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TqRCiuvaEoo>

Makaton sign	Widgit symbol
	

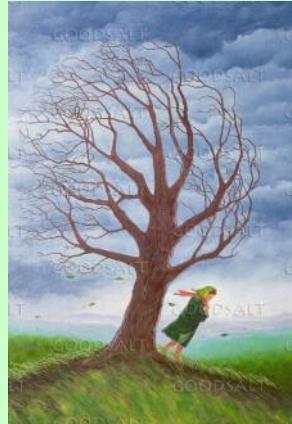
Poetry Corner

Who Has Seen the Wind?

Who has seen the wind?
Neither I nor you:
But when the leaves hang trembling,
The wind is passing through.

Who has seen the wind?
Neither you nor I:
But when the trees bow down their heads,
The wind is passing by.

Christina Rossetti

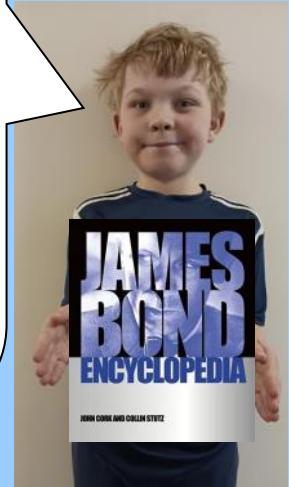


Reading Recommendations

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

This week, Bram recommends the James Bond encyclopaedia that he got for Christmas from his Uncle George.

I recommend this book because it has all the characters, weapons, equipment and cars from James Bond. I like reading about the ones that I haven't watched yet, but I have watched lots of them already. It's a good book and it's really long so it will take quite a long time to read it.



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 01983 823435

Attendance Matters!



Week Commencing 5th January
(Whole school attendance target: 96.5%)

Actual Attendance: 91.09%

Late marks this week: 17

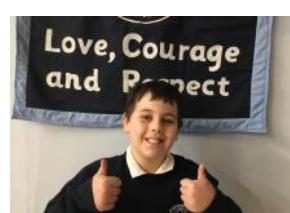


<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



Golden Book

Flower Bee	Aksajan for trying new foods e.g. fruit in his DT lesson. Olive, Cleo and Arthur for making great progress with their reading at home as well as at school.
Bumblebee	Thomas for settling in so well to Bumble Bee Class. We are so pleased he has joined us. Arthur G for always taking his learning home with him and extending it further. Tahnee for making a meerkat book during her 'own learning' time. She included writing and pictures and enjoyed sharing it with the class. Also, for remembering a lot about her learning in RE and for sharing good ideas in Music. George for remembering a lot about his learning in RE. Flora for working hard on her signing and communication skills.
Honey Bee	Erin for a lovely positive start to the term, super warm attitude and hard work. Ellen for settling in so well to Honey Bee class.
Ivy Bee	Luna and Henry for expressive and powerful "fearsome" movements in dance. Quinn for a consistently excellent reading record book regular reading and detailed comments. Maddie for the effort she has been putting into Maths lately and the understanding this is generating.
Bee-Haviour	Autumn for consistently showing our school values and exemplary learning behaviours in everything she does.
Sports Bee	Molly and Olive for brilliant focus, effort and partner work during dance.



Focus on Attendance

This term, we are placing a strong focus on school attendance and the importance of being in school every day. You may have recently received a text message from us either congratulating you on your child's excellent attendance last term, or highlighting that we would like to see an improvement.

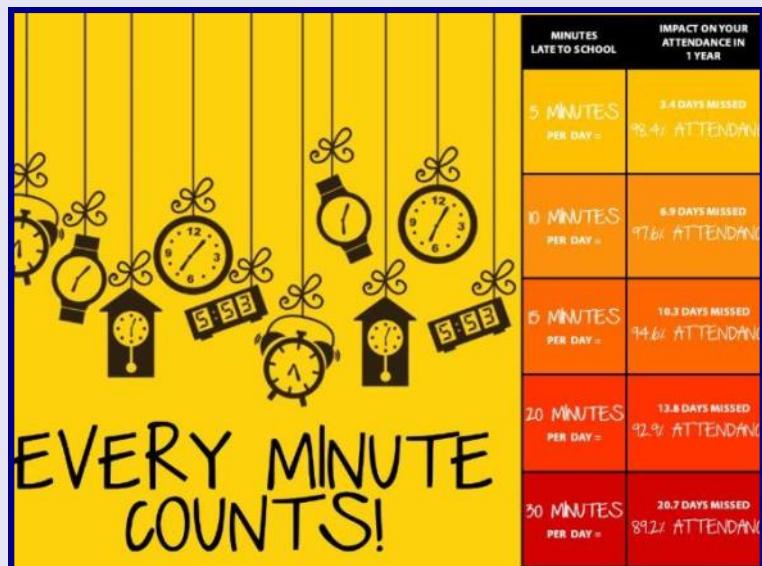
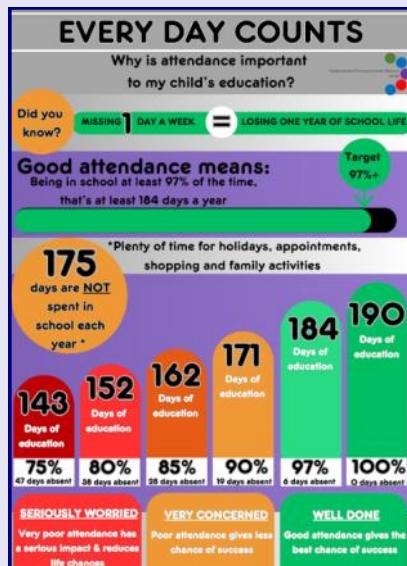
We want to reassure parents and carers that these messages are intended to be supportive and encouraging. Regular attendance plays a vital role in children's learning, wellbeing, and overall success at school.

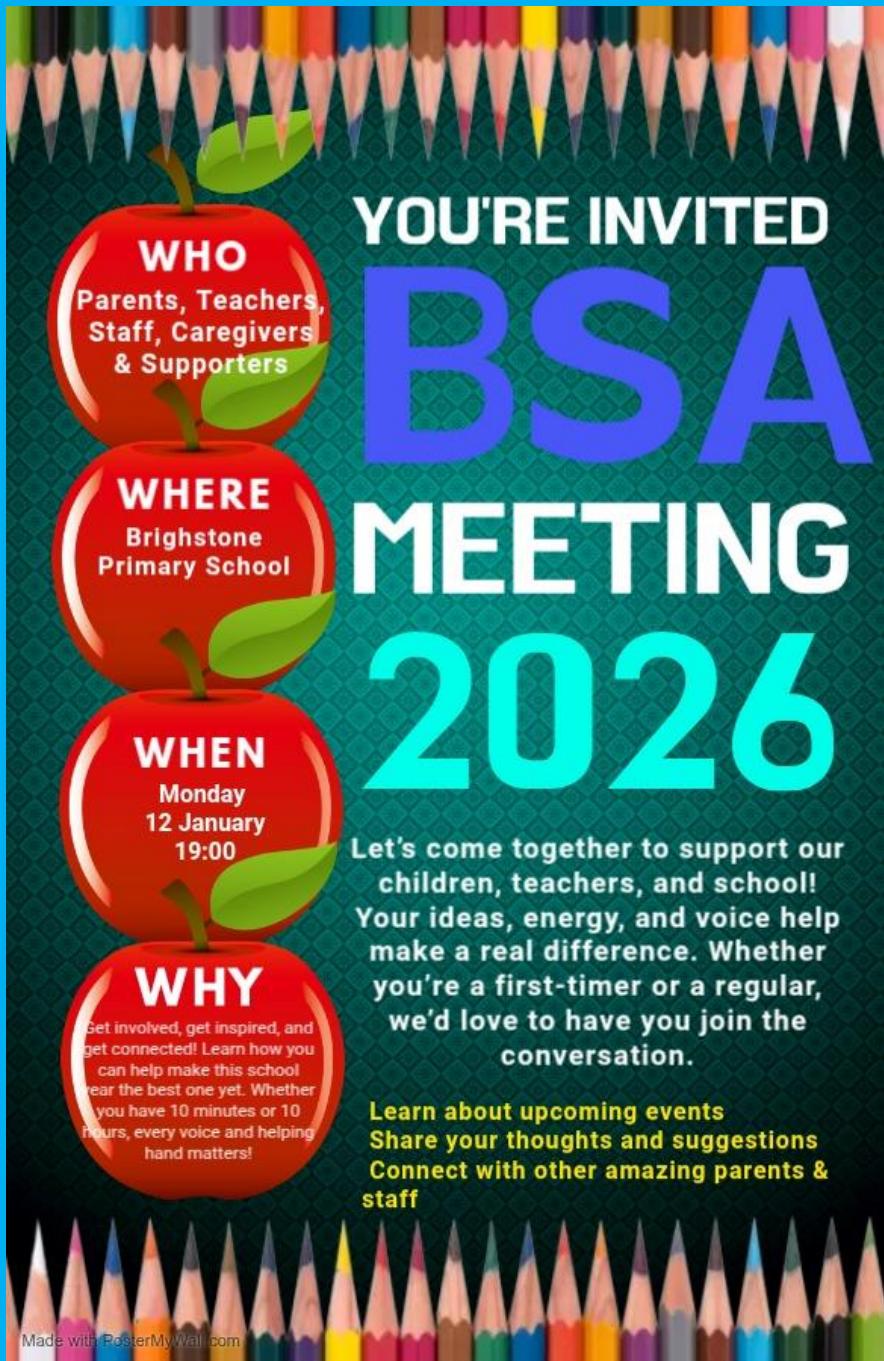
Why Attendance Matters:

- Every school day counts. Even missing a small number of days can add up and affect your child's learning over time
- Children who attend school regularly are more likely to make strong progress academically and feel confident in their learning
- Being in school every day helps children build friendships, develop routines, and feel a strong sense of belonging
- Good attendance supports positive habits that are important for later life, including secondary school and future employment.

We understand that children are sometimes unwell, and health always comes first. However, where attendance can improve, we are keen to work in partnership with families to support this. If you are experiencing any difficulties that are affecting your child's attendance, please speak to a member of staff. We are here to help.

Thank you for your continued support in helping every child to attend regularly and make the most of their time at school.





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

Quote our number 2721 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>

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

Like Our Pages!



Search for
Brightstone School Association

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

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



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

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
HOT DISHES	OPTION 1 Cheese and Tomato Pizza with Potato Wedges   OR OPTION 2 BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges   OR OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	OPTION 1 Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta   OR OPTION 2 Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta    OR OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	OPTION 1 Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes and Gravy OR OPTION 2 Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy  OR OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	OPTION 1 Chinese Sticky Lemon Chicken with Wholegrain Rice   OR OPTION 2 Cheesy Vegetable Hotpot  OR OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	OPTION 1 Fish Fingers with Chips OR OPTION 2 Quorn Dippers with Chips  OR OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  
DELI	OPTION 4 Jacket Potato with a Choice of Toppings   Ham, Cheese or Tuna Baguette with Mixed Salad  DESSERT Crunchy Apple Slice  Strawberry Shortcake Mousse				
HOT DISHES ARE SERVED WITH TWO VEGETABLES AND FRESHLY BAKED BREAD					
DELI DISHES ARE SERVED WITH MIXED SALAD					
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 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

- 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

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
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 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

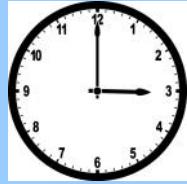
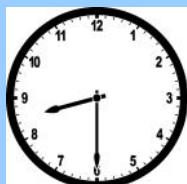
The school day is as follows:

8.25am: Gates open

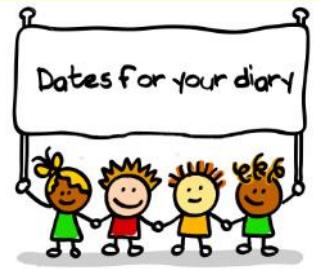
8.30am: School starts

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
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
- Day 5: Monday 27th July 2026