

The Buzz

13th February 2026



**Brightstone C.E.
Primary School**

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

Dear parents, carers and children,

On Tuesday, we celebrated **Pancake Day / Shrove Tuesday** (a week early!). The children enjoyed pancakes, ice cream and chocolate sauce for dessert, and we all took part in pancake races after lunch. They all had a flipping good time!



The term ended with a fantastically fun **disco**! They had been looking forward to it all day, and, once the time arrived, they entered the hall through golden streamers to be greeted with disco lights and colourful decorations. The children were all singing and bopping along to their favourite songs, and had a great time. Thank you to the BSA for organising it and decorating the hall, to Mrs Jones for being the DJ, and to members of staff for helping out. See photos on the BSA's Facebook page.

Class news

"Today, **Bumble Bee Class** had their class marble jar reward party. They chose to have a pyjama and toy party, with popcorn and fruit kebabs. Lots of fun was had!" *Miss Sztypuljak*



Ivy Bee have had a busy and creative time this week. We created our "Installation Art" out of everyday objects; explaining to the class what our 3D sculptures represented. Then we caught a plane to Makkah (or walked up to the hall) where we became pilgrims on their Hajj. We took turns to be tour guides explaining what happens at each point of the experience, which is a fundamental part of the Muslim faith." *Mrs Sharp*



Reminders

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

I hope everyone has a lovely half term, and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 23rd February.

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 The Children. Our value this week is dignity.



Some people brought children to Jesus for him to bless them and to pray for them, but the disciples scolded the people. Jesus said, "Let the children come to me and do not stop them, because the Kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

How would you feel if you were being taken by your parents to see someone famous or important or royal? Imagine that you are hoping to get a place at the front of the crowd and possibly a hand shake. All is going well until a big bodyguard steps in the way and blocks your view, and stops you from getting closer. How would you feel?



But something amazing happens. The important person sees what has happened and tells the bodyguard to move out of the way so they can talk to the children. What would be your emotions now?

Dear Jesus,
Thank you for showing the disciples that you love and welcome everybody, including children.



May we always remember the story we have heard today and at times when we feel pushed aside, remember that you think we are important. Thank you for the people in our lives who give us dignity and make us feel valued and special.

Amen



Inclusion

Welcome to our inclusion section! Each week, we share a Makaton sign and Widgit symbol, as part of our inclusive ethos.

This week, our word is:

holiday

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZCYb0dMHVgc>

Makaton sign	Widgit symbol

Poetry Corner

Take a Punt

Take a punt,	Try again,
Take a risk,	Don't be afraid,
Take a shot,	Nothing ventured,
Maybe miss.	Nothing gained.
Get back up,	Chase a dream,
Readjust,	Make it yours,
Take a breath,	Shatter ceilings,
Brush off dust.	Knock down doors.
Mend your heart,	Take a punt,
Search your soul,	Still believe
Set your sights,	Take a look
Set a goal.	What you've achieved.

by Ben Shires, CBBC presenter
(from the poetry book Beautiful Ambition)

Reading Recommendations

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

This week, Helena recommends *The Completely Chaotic Christmas of Lottie Brooks* by Katie Kirby.

I recommend this book because it's full of laughter and hilarious moments in Lottie's life. Her mum is stressed all the time and Lottie (12) has trouble with her little brother Toby (7 years old) and her baby sister Bella (6 months old). Her annoying siblings never shut up and are always getting on her nerves, particularly Toby. Bella can shoot poo out of her bum at 60 miles an hour. The whole Brooks family have many surprise people visiting and Lottie Brooks' mum has no idea about it, so Lottie buries her head in the sand and waits for the worst (the worst doesn't happen). It's written in the style of a diary. Read it to know about her hilarious antics!



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

0808 800 5000

Find out more

Attendance Matters!



Week Commencing 9th February
(Whole school attendance target: 96.5%)

Actual Attendance: 91.44%

Late marks this week: 6



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



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

Sporting news

Last Friday, some of our Year 2-5s travelled to The Bay Secondary School for a PEACH Basketball event. The children took part in lots of different basketball drills, including shooting, passing and dribbling and showed great determination throughout. To finish, there were games of Endball, where the children demonstrated brilliant teamwork during the matches. A great afternoon was had by all and all the children showed impeccable behaviour across the afternoon.



Yesterday, our U9 football team hosted St Thomas of Canterbury in the last league game of the season. After St Thomas took the lead in the opening thirty seconds, our team dug in and showed great resolve to get back in the game, equalising via a smart finish from Noah H. St Thomas restored the lead, but again Brightstone equalised - this time through a great team goal finished



by Tristan. There was great play all over the pitch, with some brave blocks and tackles from the defence, lovely passing from the midfield and strikers and some outstanding saves from Noah B in goal, including a wonderful penalty save! However, St Thomas did grab a third goal before the end of the game to finish as 3-2 winners, but it was a performance for everyone to be proud of!

Mr Goldsmith



🎉 🌟 Attendance H.E.R.O Campaign (Here Everyday Ready On-time) Winner Announced! 🌟 🎉

This half term, every child had the opportunity to become an Attendance Hero. For each full week in school, children earned an entry into our prize draw. We know that illness can't be helped, so this meant that every child had a chance to win by showing great commitment whenever they were able to attend ❤️

We are absolutely delighted to announce the winner of our Attendance Hero Campaign for this half term is Alice from Year 5! She had six entries in the draw this half term having not missed one day of her learning 🎉 🌟

Our attendance focus this half term has been all about aspirations. Children have been talking about why regular attendance is so important, understanding that coming to school regularly helps them build a strong education and opens the door to exciting futures. We've heard dreams of becoming a 🛣️ pilot, 🦒 zookeeper, and even an 🏆 Olympic runner! Regular attendance is one of the first steps towards achieving those amazing goals.

As a reward, they have won an amazing family pass to Tapnell Farm Park 🐄 🚜 🎟️ We hope you have a wonderful time making special memories together!

Thank you to all of our pupils and families for supporting great attendance this half term. Every day really does make a difference. Let's keep aiming high and reaching for our dreams next half term!

🚀 A huge thanks to Tapnell Farm Park for supporting our campaign this half term! The prize for next half term is a family pass for Blackgang Chine - Land of Imagination 🦕 🦖 A huge thank you to them too as the children are very excited!

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.





Like Our Pages!



Facebook & Instagram

**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



Located in school entrance car park

**We can't
take...**

Duvets or
Cushions,
Off Cuts,
Carpet or
Curtains



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

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!



"Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body."
– Richard Steele

LittleYellowStar

"I do believe something very magical can happen when you read a good book."

-J.K. Rowling



Remember to send in photos of you reading! We'd love to see them!

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 Schools



See p9 for the menu changes on Tuesday 10th and Thursday 12th February for Pancake Day and Lunar New Year.

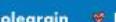
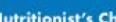
AUTUMN/WINTER 2025 MENU

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   OPTION 2 BBQ Vegetable Wrap with Potato Wedges   OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	OPTION 1 Beef Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta   OPTION 2 Vegetarian Bolognese with Wholewheat Pasta    OPTION 3 Tomato Pasta Fresh, homemade Tomato Sauce with Penne Pasta  	OPTION 1 Roast Pork with Roast Potatoes and Gravy OPTION 2 Roast Quorn with Roast Potatoes and Gravy 	OPTION 1 Chinese Sticky Lemon Chicken with Wholegrain Rice   OPTION 2 Cheesy Vegetable Hotpot 	OPTION 1 Fish Fingers with Chips OPTION 2 Quorn Dippers with Chips 
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   
DESSERT	Crunchy Apple Slice 	Strawberry Shortcake Mousse	Apple Crumble with Custard 	Chocolate Ice Cream	Oat Cookie 

AVAILABLE DAILY
Fresh fruit, salad, yoghurt and water



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
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

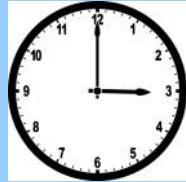
The school day is as follows:

8.25am: Gates open

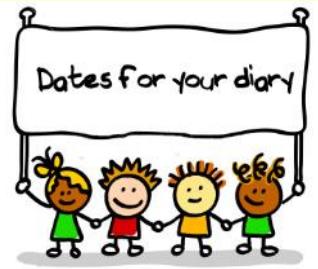
8.30am: School starts

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 (PJs or costumes. More details to follow)
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 4: Monday 1st June 2026

Day 5: Monday 27th July 2026