



Brent Knoll Primary School Newsletter

Friday, 10th January 2025



Dear Parents/Carers It was lovely to see the children return this week, and we hope everyone was able to enjoy their Christmas break. We now look forward to settling down to new learning and the prospect of positive outcomes for all our children. On the subject of outcomes, it was great to see the school doing so well again, compared to all the others in Somerset, when the 'league tables' were published in December. Well done, again, to all involved in last year's Year 6 success: <https://www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type?step=default&table=schools®ion=933&geographic=la&for=primary> Kind regards, Chris Burman

Apart from providing what we hope was some pre-Christmas cheer, the various activities held before the end of term raised £1750 for school funds. Thank you again to everyone who made the events possible and so successful. The funds raised will go to support the purchase of resources that would not be funded from the main school budget.

As you many know, our breakfast club now starts at 7.45 am each morning, and the afternoon wraparound club ends at 5.15pm. Places can be booked on Parent Pay. Please ask if you need help to make bookings, or just want more advice. Our other after-school clubs also started this week, but again please ask if your child is interested in joining one from next week.

Most themed clubs, such as basketball or Spanish, still have a session price of £2 per week. Full details can be found on Parent Pay.

The new term brings new topics and this week teachers will have shared their plans for the term ahead with the children. The first part of the year certainly brought about some very impressive 'homework' in the form of models, as well as topic-themed food and lovely pieces of writing and art. Hopefully, this type of creative homework will continue, but the essential support offered at home is regular reading. Older children will also be expected to practise the times tables.

Our busy Y6s are almost on the home run towards ending their time in primary school - and preparing to take their SATs. For parents wanting to know more about SATs, we have a meeting in Camelot Class - after school at 3.15pm - on Wednesday 15th January. Previous meetings have always proved popular and useful as a way to support our children.

We are selling tickets for the Brent Knoll Wassail, which takes place next Saturday evening. Some of our children are taking part, but all are welcome to participate in this ancient tradition. For the price of a £5 ticket, there comes entry, live music, a burger and drink. Doors open at 6.15pm.

There was 100% in the school on the first day of term, which was a terrific start to the new year. Whilst some absence can't be avoided, please do encourage children to come in, even if they might feel a little bit 'off-colour' in the cold weather. Please also check with the school office if you want to confirm how much time off might be needed following sickness. Not all sickness requires 48 hour absence.

ATTENDANCE

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Children are required by law to attend school 190 days per year. The Government states that every pupil's attendance should be at least 93%.

How do YOU measure up?

Attendance	Days Absent	Weeks Absent	Lessons Missed
95%	9 Days	2 Weeks	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days	4 Weeks	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days	6 Weeks	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days	8 Weeks	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days	10 Weeks	250 Lessons
70%	57 Days	11.5 Weeks	290 Lessons
65%	67 Days	13.5 Weeks	340 Lessons

89% & Below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

95%-90%
Cause for concern

100%-96%
Excellent

