

News This Week...

Trip to Boulter's Lock

Year 5 enjoyed their day on Tuesday when they visited Boulter's Lock in Maidenhead. There were a few cloudy moments, but the day stayed dry and the children were able to look at a real working lock and saw so many boats going up and down the river. The local wildlife was very welcoming, with even a few squirrels coming to say hello (or maybe they wanted to share some lunch!)



Book Fair

We are delighted to once again have the book fair in school next week. It is a 3 for 2 book fair and it will be on every day after school from Tuesday onwards, so please do pop along if you can and grab a bargain.



Site Safety

Please make sure that children do not ride their bikes or scooters on our playgrounds at collection or drop off times, even young siblings. These are very busy spaces, so please also keep your children with you at all times.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend.

Richard Ferris
Headteacher



Attendance Stars

Classes with the highest attendance this week:

1st Place – Falcons (99.6%)

2nd Place – Foxes (99.3%)

3rd Place – Lions (97.6%)



Important changes for term time absences

We would like to make all our parents aware of changes announced by the government regarding the penalties for taking children out of school for holidays during term time.

From August 2024, the fine for school absences across the country will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days. This rate is in line with inflation and is the first increase since 2012. Further information can be found here:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

All our [term dates can be found on our website](#) for your convenience and we publish these as soon as they are confirmed in order to help parents and carers arrange holidays, appointments and other visits accordingly.

Short Story Writing Competition

Bracknell Library are running a free short story contest for children to celebrate the Bracknell Book Fair on 20 July. Entries are invited of up to 500 words on the theme of Magic Animals.

The competition is divided into 2 age categories:

- children in years 3 or 4
- children in years 5 or 6

How to enter

Entry is open to Bracknell pupils in years 3 to 6. You must submit your story by Thursday 20 June at 1pm to:

- your teacher (participating schools only)
- any Bracknell Forest library
- online in Microsoft Word or PDF format by email to bracknell.library@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Entries must include:

- a typed or handwritten short story (maximum 500 words)
- the child's full name, school, age and school year
- be signed by a parent or guardian with their contact details (phone and email)

All entries must be submitted in English.

The guest judge is [Julie Pike](#). She is the author of the children's magic and adventure stories, *The Last Spell Breather* and *Flame Chasers*.

Prizes

A winner and a runner up will be selected from each category. They will get prizes of Julie Pike's books, a book token and other book merchandise. A shortlist of 20 stories will each get short feedback notes of encouragement from Julie.

Winners and runners up will be announced before the Bracknell Book Fair. All shortlisted stories will be on display in Bracknell library. Winners and runners up will receive their prize from Julie Pike at 10am in the library on the day of Bracknell Book Fair.

Diary Dates

JUNE 2024	
From Monday 3 rd	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
Monday 3 rd – Friday 21 st	KS2 Swimming Lessons (Year 3-5 only)
Tuesday 18 th – Monday 24 th	Book Fair in School (3 for 2 offers) every day from 3.15pm
Monday 24 th	Year 6 visit to South Hill Park
Tuesday 25 th	Year 6 Enterprise Fete
Wednesday 26 th – Friday 28 th	Year 6 Residential Trip to PGL Liddington
Saturday 29 th	FRoGS Summer Fair 1.00pm-4.00pm
JULY 2024	
Monday 1 st	Year 3&4 Trip to Dr Choc's Chocolate Factory, Windsor
Tuesday 2 nd	EYFS & KS1 Drama Workshop (Nursery-Year 2) – 9.00am-11.00am
Wednesday 3rd	INSET DAY – Children not in school
Wednesday 3 rd & Thursday 4 th	Year 6 Transition Days to Secondary School
Thursday 4 th	Year 1&2 Trip to Littlehampton
Friday 5 th	Nursery Transition Session 'Getting Ready for Big School' – 1.45pm-2.45pm in Gold Hall
Tuesday 16 th	Year 6 Production for parents (afternoon and evening performances)
Friday 19 th	Year 6 Water Day
Monday 22 nd	Year 6 Prom – 6.00pm-8.00pm
Tuesday 23 rd	Year 6 Graduation Assembly – 10.00am
	End of Summer Term – school finishes at 2.15pm

Please note that these dates may be subject to change and we will always do our best to give as much notice as possible if changes do occur.

Great Hollands Primary SCHOOL FAIR

Saturday 29th June 2024
1-4pm

£1 ENTRY
Children Free

- ☆ BERKSHIRE REPTILES
- ☆ BUNGEE TRAMPOLINES
- ☆ LIVE MUSIC ☆ TOMBOLAS
- ☆ RIDES & BOUNCY CASTLE
- ☆ BIRDS OF PREY/OWL EXPERIENCE
- ☆ SIR WHIPPY ☆ HOOK A FROG
- ☆ BOTTLE HOOPLA
- ☆ SWEETS & TREATS
- ☆ FACEPAINTING
- ☆ RAFFLE ☆ BBQ ☆ COCONUT SHY
- ☆ AND MUCH MORE.....



NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

CELEBRATING THE WHOLE EDUCATION COMMUNITY

19TH JUNE 2024



On **Wednesday 19 June** it is National 'Thank A Teacher' Day.

This year, we're celebrating not only our outstanding teachers but also the wonderful support staff.

We would like to give students, parents and fellow staff the opportunity to say 'thank you' to those that have made a positive difference to them this year.

If you would like to thank one of our Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Cover Supervisors, Examination staff, Reception staff, Admin staff, Site staff, Technicians, and/or Canteen staff at one of the Maiden Erlegh Trust schools, please complete the form below and we will ensure that your expression of gratitude is passed on to the relevant member of staff.

[Thank a teacher form](#)

Supporting Your Children Workshops

To book a space please email your full name to Inge.Taylor@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

These sessions are universal (not specific for SEND) and for adults supporting children not the children themselves so please arrange childcare if needed

Each course is a standalone 2-hour session - please be aware that spaces are offered on a first come first served basis and parents should not just turn up

Once you have completed an enrolment form your space will be confirmed

Please only book onto the sessions if you are going to be able to attend to avoid other parents missing out on the opportunity to have a place or let me know if you can no longer attend.

Helping children to overcome anxious thoughts and worries.

A 2-hour session looking at:

- What happens when children become anxious?
- Impact current events have had on children's mental health.
- Techniques for helping children deal with their fears / worries.



Wednesday 19th June 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Thursday 26th September 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Monday 7th October 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Managing Behaviour in a Positive Way

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Gain insight into your parenting style / relationship with your child.
- Learn or revisit positive ways of managing behaviour!
- Strategies to deal with unacceptable behaviours.



Thursday 20th June 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Monday 16th September 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Tuesday 5th November 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Supporting Children to get a Healthy Night's Sleep

A 2-hour session looking at:

- The different sleep issues facing our families.
- Tips on how to get a good night's sleep.
- Help children develop good sleeping habits.



Tuesday 11th June 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Monday 9th September 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Parenting pre / early-teens in a Positive Way (aged 10 – 13)

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Gain insight into the impact of your parenting style!
- Positive techniques for managing older children's behaviour.
- Boosting your relationship and communication with your child.



Wednesday 2nd October 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Encouraging Resilience – Keep Calm and Bounce Back

A 2-hour session looking at:

- How to build natural resilience.
- Encouraging positive social skills.
- Encouraging children out of their comfort zone and not to give up.



Wednesday 3rd July 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Monday 30th September 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Wednesday 23rd October 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Reducing Sibling Rivalry

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Encouraging a more harmonious sibling relationship
- Learn / revisit techniques for children to cope with being a sibling.
- Boosting children's emotional literacy



Tuesday 25th June 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Thursday 7th November 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Single Parent, Separated and Blended families – supporting children to cope with different family dynamics.

A 2-hour session looking at:

- Different family dynamics and how they can work.
- Parental conflict resolutions
- Being the best parent that you can be for your child



Wednesday 26th June 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm

Tuesday 24th September 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

9.30 – 11.30 am

Supporting a smooth secondary school Transition (YR 5/6 parents)

A 2-hour session looking at:

- What the transition involves
- The positives and concerns of transitioning to a new setting
- Boosting your child's ability to have a smooth transition



Please let me know if you would like to go on the waiting list for future sessions

Supporting a smooth transition from Year R to Year 1 and beyond

A 2-hour session looking at:

- What's involved in transition from reception to year 1.
- The best ways to support the transition.
- Boosting your child's resilience to cope with the change



Monday 24th June 2024

@ Bracknell Open Learning Centre

6.30 – 8.30 pm