

Broxbourne CE Primary School

Newsletter

HEADTEACHER UPDATE

Welcome Back!

I hope that you and your families had a refreshing and enjoyable summer, and that the break provided an opportunity for rest, restoration and precious time together. We know that returning to school after the summer holidays can take a little adjustment, but it has been a real pleasure to welcome our children and families back this week and to hear about all that they have been doing and enjoying over the summer.

A particularly warm welcome goes to our new families who have joined us in EY2 this week. We are delighted that you are now part of the Broxbourne family. We look forward to welcoming our EY1 children and families next week as they begin their very first steps in their school journey with us.

Broxbourne is a special place, and I would encourage everyone to take the time to introduce yourselves to families who are new to our school. Those small gestures of welcome and friendship make such a difference and help our new families to feel that they belong from the very beginning.

A Purposeful Start

Although it has been a short first week, there has already been a strong sense of purpose throughout the school. The children have settled back into routines remarkably quickly, and it has been lovely to see classrooms filled with learning, conversation and enthusiasm.

Our collective worship theme this week has been “Make Your Mark – Be a Ripple”, exploring how one small act of kindness can spread outwards, just like ripples on water. We have challenged our children to think about the marks they leave on the people and places around them and, in particular, how their kindness can spread throughout our school.

The children have been challenged to help fill our school with colourful footprints of kindness, noticing and celebrating the ways in which they have made a positive difference to someone else. It has been an uplifting way to begin the year and a reminder that each of us has the opportunity to make our school an even more caring and welcoming place.

Clubs Begin Next Week

Our after-school clubs begin again next week, with our sports clubs and choir getting underway.

Please remember that places need to have been booked in advance. We are looking forward to seeing these opportunities get underway once again and providing our children with a rich range of experiences beyond the classroom.

Dream, Believe and Achieve with God



Autumn Term Issue 1

4th September 2026





Welcome to Miss Natalie Smith

We are delighted to welcome Miss Natalie Smith, our new Early Years Leader, to Broxbourne. Natalie has already made a very positive start, and we look forward to working with her as we continue to develop and strengthen our provision for our youngest children.

Meet the Teacher – Wednesday 16th September

Our parent information session, Meet the Teacher, takes place on Wednesday 16th September.

These sessions provide an opportunity for you to:

- meet your child's teacher;
- find out about the key aspects of the year ahead;
- understand how you can support your child's learning at home;
- hear about the curriculum and expectations for the year; and
- ask any questions you may have about your child's year group.

Timings will follow next week and we look forward to seeing many of you there.

Hear Our Prayer – Thursday at 9.00am

Our first Hear Our Prayer group of the year takes place next Thursday 10th at 9.00am in the school hall.

Hear Our Prayer is a safe, supportive and welcoming space where parents and families can come together to pray for those within our school and for people and situations both near and far.

Whether you have joined us before or this will be your first time, you are very welcome. There is no expectation to pray aloud or to have any previous experience of prayer.

You are also very welcome to remain afterwards for our Collective Worship at 9.30am.

PTA AGM – Friday at 9.10am

Next Friday at 9.10am, we will hold our PTA Annual General Meeting in the school hall.

Please do come along if you are able. It would be fantastic to see a strong turnout as we hear about the invaluable work our PTA has undertaken for the school and our children and vote in the committee for the coming academic year.

Our PTA makes such a significant contribution to life at Broxbourne, providing opportunities and resources that enrich the experiences of our children. Thank you to all those who give their time, energy and enthusiasm to the PTA. Your generosity and commitment make a genuine difference to our children and to school life.



A New Beginning

As we reach the end of our first, short week, it has been a pleasure to see everyone coming back together. There is already a real sense of energy, optimism and possibility as we begin a new academic year.

A new school year is a reminder that every day brings a new beginning. New friendships will be formed, new things will be learned, challenges will be overcome and opportunities will arise. Most importantly, we have the opportunity to make a positive difference to those around us.

The Bible reminds us:

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?
Isaiah 43:19

As we begin this new year together, let us look forward with hope and anticipation to all that lies ahead, knowing that every child and every adult has an important part to play in making our school the very best it can be.

I hope you have a thoroughly enjoyable and restful weekend. We look forward to welcoming everyone back for our first full school week next week, and especially to welcoming our youngest children and their families as they begin their journey at Broxbourne.

With best wishes,
Paul Miller

CLUBS THIS TERM

DAY	CLUB	TIME	DAY	CLUB	TIME
Monday	Y3&Y4 Football Club	3-4.00pm	Wednesday	Y1-Y6 Warren Club*	Lunchtime
	Y5&Y6 Netball Club	3-4.00pm		Y3&Y4 Netball Club	3-4.00pm
Tuesday	Y3-Y6 Choir Club	3.10-4.30pm		Y5&Y6 Football Club	3-4.00pm
	Y1&Y2 Multiskills Club	3-4.00pm	Thursday	Y1-Y4 Mini Tennis	3pm-3.45pm

*by invitation only



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW HOUSE CAPTAINS AND SPORTS AMBASSADORS

A huge congratulations to the following pupils who have been elected by their respective houses as House Captains for this academic year:

- **Green Hedgehogs:** Poppy and Zachariah
- **Blue Badgers:** Amelia C and Harry
- **Yellow Foxes:** Harrison and Olivia
- **Red Squirrels:** Mikail and Freddie

Very well done to everyone who put themselves forward as a candidate at this morning's House Hustings.

The speeches were compelling, exceptionally well prepared and delivered with real confidence and enthusiasm. To have been chosen by your fellow house members is a fantastic achievement, and all of our candidates should feel extremely proud of the way they represented themselves.

We would also like to congratulate our Sports Ambassadors for this academic year: Charlie, Elisa, Aiden and Aerin.

Following applications on the first day of term, our new Sports Ambassadors took part in interviews this morning with Miss Hawthorne and I. We were extremely impressed by the eloquence, composure and enthusiasm they demonstrated throughout the process. Very well done to all four of you.

Our House Captains and Sports Ambassadors will be getting to work from next week, taking on important responsibilities in supporting school life, encouraging others and helping to make this a successful year for everyone. Our House Football Tournaments will then commence the following week with details following in next week's newsletter giving them an immediate opportunity to put their leadership skills into action.

We are incredibly excited about the year ahead and, with such a talented and enthusiastic Year 6 cohort, we are looking forward to seeing our new leaders rise to the occasion and make a really positive contribution to our school.



REMINDER!!

MEET THE TEACHER INFORMATION EVENING - EY1-YEAR 6 **WEDNESDAY, 16th SEPTEMBER**

This year's Parents' Information Evening will be on Wednesday, 16th September.
We hope all parents/carers will be able to come along.

Your child's class teacher will give an introductory talk in the classroom about the curriculum for the year, including trips and general information on homework, reading, PE etc. Individual appointments with your child's class teacher will be available for all parents in mid October.

This is an evening for parents/carers ONLY and we are unable to accommodate any children on this occasion, including younger siblings.

Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 parents will also provide an overview regarding Sex & Relationship Education (SRE), within their class talk.

The times of the presentations are as follows:

4.30pm—Year 4

5.00pm—Year 1

5.30pm—EY1 / EY2

6.00pm—Year 2 & Year 3

6.30pm – Year 5 & Year 6

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

Please ensure this is returned by Friday, 11th September

Thank you.





AUTUMN ADVENTURES ON TWO WHEELS – FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Looking for a fun, affordable way to get everyone moving this autumn? Our **Free Cycle Library** makes it easy for the whole family to borrow bikes and enjoy cycling together.

From little riders to grown-ups, there's something for everyone. Borrow a bike, build confidence, and **discover your own Autumn Adventure on Two Wheels.**

Book here: <https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/J5TQER/>

Autumn Adventures on Two Wheels

Our Cycle Library helps families try cycling without the upfront cost. Borrow bikes for adults and children, travel together, and discover an easy, healthy way to get around this season.

Cycle into Autumn Together

Scan to book

Hertfordshire

YEAR 6

Crucial Crew

Tuesday, 8th September

YEARS 3 & 4 SWIMMING

Swimming commences this term on Friday, 11th September. Please also note that both classes will be brought back to the school. Collection at the coach will not be permitted.





CAN YOU HELP? – FENCING NEEDED!

We are currently looking for some wire fencing for the school, similar to the type shown in the photograph below, which is commonly used by councils and on commercial sites.

Before purchasing new fencing, we thought we would ask our school community to see if anyone may be able to help. Perhaps you have some spare fencing at home, or your workplace is replacing or disposing of fencing that could be donated to the school.

If you have anything suitable, or work for a company or organisation that may be able to help, we would be extremely grateful to hear from you.

Please contact the school office if you think you may be able to assist.

Thank you for supporting our school – you never know what might be sitting unused in a garden, yard or workplace that could be put to very good use here!



PTA AGM FRIDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2026 9:10am IN THE SCHOOL HALL

Friday, 11th September is our PTA AGM and we hope you can join us after drop off for a swift meeting in our school hall. The meeting starts at 9:10am. All are very welcome. We extend this invitation to all of our new parents to hear about the amazing work our PTA do in support of our school and the difference this makes.

Please collect a nomination form should you wish to be considered for a role.

Please speak to a member of the PTA should you wish to know more about what is involved beforehand.

Completed nomination forms should be emailed to pta@broxbourne-pri.herts.sch.uk or can be handed in at the School Office FAO the PTA by Monday, 7th September.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Your PTA

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents and carers with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with their children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. For further guides, hints and tips please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips on Supporting Children with SELF-REGULATION

Children need to learn to understand and recognise their emotions, while finding healthy ways to process them. Emotional self-regulation, however, depends heavily on age and development. While very young ones or children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) may find it particularly challenging to self-regulate, nurturing these important skills can be hugely beneficial. Here are ten top tips for supporting children with their self-regulation.

1. DESIGNATE A TRUSTED ADULT

It's vital that children feel safe and know that there's someone they can always go to for help if they need it. Schedule consistent times for the child to develop a relationship with this person – ideally through play and games – allowing trust to grow and ensuring that the child is more likely to come forward if anything is wrong, rather than hiding their emotions.

2. MEET CHILDREN HALFWAY

Unless you know where a child is developmentally and tailor your approach to their needs, you're less likely to have an impact. In particular, younger ones and children with SEND can struggle to self-regulate and instead rely on others to help them. We call this 'co-regulation'. Rather than offering strategies for self-regulation, it could be better to start co-regulating with a trusted adult first.

3. FACTOR IN THEIR BASIC NEEDS

Remember that for a child to develop emotional regulation skills, their basic needs must be met first. Children who are hungry, tired, cold and so on – as well as those who have experienced adverse childhood experiences – may struggle to self-regulate. Before you develop strategies with any child, make sure they feel safe, secure and comfortable in themselves.

4. REMAIN PATIENT

If a child is struggling with their emotions, it can often become difficult to stay calm. Remember that dysregulation is beyond their control, so a display of frustration or anger could negatively impact the situation. Instead, children need to be met with comfort and understanding to help them manage these problematic feelings.

5. BE 'A DYSREGULATION DETECTIVE'

While some children can tell you why they become dysregulated, many others can't. You could investigate potential triggers by observing the child and talking to their family. When the child becomes dysregulated, note down details like the time, what they're doing and who they're with – the trigger may be someone they sit near, an unmet sensory need or something else entirely. Once we identify some triggers, we can help to avoid or overcome them.

6. USE SUITABLE LITERATURE

There are some wonderful books that can help you teach self-regulation to children. Reading these with a child can be especially powerful. Take time to discuss the content: ask questions about what feelings the characters had, why they felt that way and what strategies helped them. It can also be useful to refer back to snippets of these books at appropriate moments.

7. TRY SENSORY RESOURCES

An overlap between sensory needs and emotional regulation is possible. Children may struggle to self-regulate if they're experiencing sensory overload (a noisy classroom, for example). Positive sensory input can help calm them down. Use resources such as weighted blankets and fibre-optic lights. Of course, what works for one child might not work for another – so it's important to offer a choice of resources to discover which they prefer.

8. NURTURE INDEPENDENCE

If you feel it's appropriate, let children try out these strategies alone. Always offer them a choice: they could listen to music when they're feeling stressed, for example, or they could write down their worries or draw something to represent how they feel. This may take time for the child to get used to, so be patient. Encourage them to share any helpful strategies with a trusted adult.

9. MODEL GENUINE FEELINGS

Children learn a lot just from watching grown-ups. Don't be afraid to show your own emotions and self-regulation strategies. While you'll obviously want to avoid sharing anything too personal with children, they should still see us experiencing and handling our own feelings. Tell them how you are feeling, then show them how to respond in a healthy manner.

10. FORMULATE A PLAN

As much as we try to prevent children from experiencing dysregulation, it's always wise to have an appropriate plan for when it does happen. Discuss this strategy with the child (if appropriate) and their family. The best approach for an individual child is often a bespoke one; it's hugely important to know in advance what might help and what could worsen the situation.

Meet Our Expert

Georgina Durrant is an author, former teacher, Special Educational Needs Coordinator and the founder of the award-winning SEN Resources Blog, where she shares activities, advice and recommendations for parents and teachers of children with SEND.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College



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SCHOOL AMAZON WISHLIST

We are delighted to share our Amazon School Wishlist, which is updated regularly with items that we would love for our school to help enhance the learning and play experiences of all our children.

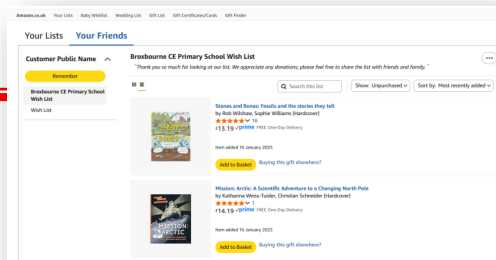
Our wishlist now includes not only books and classroom resources, but also a range of sports and play equipment for the children to enjoy during lessons, breaktimes and lunchtimes.

We would be incredibly grateful if parents, grandparents, friends and relatives would consider purchasing an item from our wishlist to benefit the children of our school.

Please also feel free to share the wishlist link with family and friends via email or social media. Every contribution, no matter how big or small, makes a real difference.

With schools currently facing considerable financial pressures, support through our Amazon Wishlist helps us to provide additional resources and equipment that may otherwise be difficult to fund.

Thank you, as always, for your continued generosity and support of our school and children. https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/409ZC1Z2CE2K?ref_=wl_share



BIRTHDAY BOOK THANK YOU

Joni—Year 1—We're Going on a Treasure Hunt

Abel—Year 4—Skandar & the Phantom Rider

REMINDER: Birthday books should be new and age appropriate for the year your child is currently in.

We hope you both had a lovely day!

If you wish to donate a birthday book, please send in via your child and we will put in the library for everyone to enjoy. Thank you.

