



# Brookland Junior School News



Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2026

## This Week:

Although this week has brought distressing events in our borough into sharp focus, just a few moments with our wonderful children brings joy, hope for the future and reminds me what a privilege it is to be part of their journeys growing into thriving, confident, successful young people, making the most of the opportunities of each day. As always, this has been a busy Brookland week with so many different learning experiences, in and beyond school, focused effort from everyone and many achievements to celebrate.

**4JS what a fabulous class assembly!** Your families and the whole school loved every minute of your entertaining and very interesting tour of all things French and were so proud of your confidence, your positive energy, your teamwork and how grown up you are getting! Great singing in 3 parts with all the actions, so many fabulous costumes, engaging characters, brilliant drama, expert tech support and a lot of fun! Well done 4JS!



*Yesterday on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April, we went to Tower Bridge as part of our DT topic about bridges. When we got there, we split into 2 groups. One went with Miss Roghey and the other with Mr A. Firstly we went to the boiler room where they explained to us how 24-7, they used to fill it with coal & this would make steam. Then we went to the engine room where we saw how the steam powers a large engine that had a spinning wheel but on the other side there was a pump pumping water into a tank and they would use that to open the bridge but today it was powered by electricity. On the walkway we firstly looked at other monuments of the city (Big Ben, The Shard, the Walkie Talkie & the Gherkin) and then we went over the glass area which we all lied down on. We had an awesome trip!!! Jonathan & Yonatan 5R*





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## Also This Week:

### **Year 3 St Lucia Day:**

Today in the Three's, we were swept away by the sights, sounds, and flavours of the Caribbean as we celebrated a joyful Caribbean Day! 🌴☀️

The day was packed with fun from start to finish. In the morning, the children explored delicious Caribbean foods, creating their own colourful fruit kebabs and tasting traditional breads such as bun and hard-dough. The children's curiosity and enthusiasm were wonderful to see!

Outdoors, the excitement continued as the children tried their hand at Caribbean cricket, enjoying lots of laughter, movement, and sunshine. Indoors, their creativity shone brightly as they produced stunning artwork using acetate printing transfer techniques – the finished pictures looked absolutely fabulous!

Throughout the day, the children also learned about *fair trade* and enjoyed listening to engaging Caribbean stories, helping to bring the culture to life in a meaningful way.

It truly was an *amazing* day filled with exploration, creativity, and joy. The children thoroughly enjoyed every moment, and it was a pleasure to see them learning through such rich and exciting experiences. 🌈🇧🇧

*We played cricket & it was so fun. I made a fruit kebab in rainbow order. It was delicious, my favourite was the strawberries. We also tried some yummy breads: homemade banana bread from Miss Buckley's mums' auntie. The second bread had raisins in it and other ingredients. The third bread was the yummiest. We put cheese & butter on it. We also did a beautiful sunset artwork. I loved that sooooo much!!!!* Marli 3SH *I enjoyed making fruit kebabs and trying all different breads. I also enjoyed doing the art for St Lucia and I also liked playing cricket with my classmates. It was really fun trying all the different things.* Ivy 3SH *St Lucia Day was very fun. First, we got outside and we got to play some cricket, piggy in the middle & skipping. Then we made a fruit kebab. It was very yummy. Finally, we make a St Lucia art work.* Bella 3SH *I enjoyed eating different types of bread & giving your opinions on it. We also started our day by doing Caribbean sports which included playing piggy in the middle, skipping & cricket. I liked trying cricket for the very first time. I think I am a good batter. We even did St Lucia Art which had a lot of colours & looked really good.* Nasr 3SH



*Year 5 had their second Flying with Physics sessions this week and we actively experienced forces in our life; gravity, friction and air resistance. It was an enjoyable day but also very inspiring to experience force and its powerful effect in our daily lives.* 5AM





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## Breakfast Club:

Children in Breakfast Club made bread with our chef, Jimmy.



## A Very fond farewell to a much loved and dedicated teacher:

Very sadly for Brookland, Mrs Capelan is moving to Bristol for family reasons and her last day with us will be next Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. Mrs Capelan has been a highly talented, deeply committed and truly special member of our team for 23 years and has made a long-lasting impact for so many of our children during this time. The quality of her PE teaching, her support for Brookland sports teams and events, her planning for our dance and gymnastics curriculum and the care she shows for each and every child has been outstanding. We are all going to miss her very much. Her professional journey from Brookland parent to classroom teaching assistant, through her level 4 and level 5 teaching qualifications to the expert PE practitioner she is now has been a testament to her love for her role, her passion for PE in our school and her dedication to ensuring our children can be the Best they can Be. She has also helped our children with their writing skills and learning Spanish as well as being a much loved friend and colleague for so many staff over the years. I know you will want to join me in wishing her all the best for the next chapter of her life as she moves away from London but mainly in thanking her for all she has done for our school, staff, families and of course our wonderful children.

## The Children's Booker Prize 2027:

This is a new award from the Booker Prize focusing on children's literature. I'm looking forward to following along with the award process in the Autumn. The adult judges were announced this week (including the owner of The Children's Bookshop, Muswell Hill) An amazing competition for three children's judges was also announced. What an exciting opportunity to be part of the final award panel! I've learnt a lot from judging the UKLA Book Awards and had a lot of fun.

I've attached the information and entry form. The deadline to apply is 2nd June. Let me know if you're thinking about it or need help.

Miss Davies

[reading@brooklandjnr.barnetmail.net](mailto:reading@brooklandjnr.barnetmail.net)





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## Governor Spotlight: Lisa Weinbrenn

### Interviewed and Written by our Junior School Councillors

Lisa has been a school governor since 2019 and is Chair of the Safeguarding Committee as well as being on the Strategy committee for Brookland Infant and Junior Schools.

**What is your favourite holiday destination?** My favourite holiday destinations are Italy and Thailand.

**What was your favourite book as a child?** My favourite book is Apple Bough by Noel Streatfeild.

**Why did you choose to be a governor?** I chose to be a governor for Brookland because my children went to this school and being a governor sounded interesting.

**What is your job as a governor? Are you on committees?** My job as a governor is to discuss with children to see if they feel safe and happy at Brookland.

**Has there been a time when you felt nervous about being a governor?** Sometimes I feel nervous because it feels like everyone knows something but me.

**What is your job when you're not a governor?** When I am not a governor I am an interior designer.

**What's the best part about being a governor?** I find that the best part about being a governor is meeting children and teachers at this school.

**Tell us about your lunch today?** It is deeeeeelicious!



## Keeping everyone safe on the school site:

Thank you for all you do as our parent body to help everyone be safe and feel safe on our school site. Thank you for not propping open the school gates and for leaving the school site promptly at the end of the day. Mrs McCafferty and I would like to ask that if you are at school other than drop off and pick up times that you use the routes that we would expect a visitor to use around the site so for example the Infant School do not have unfamiliar adults walking through where the children are learning or playing. Please follow the paths around the outside of the premises, not cutting through the main school site.





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## Next Week:

**Years 3, 4 and 5 will be completing some tests** in Maths, Reading and Spelling. We do these tests each year to give the children practice in how to manage testing; being able to do their best in silence, with a time limit and a mixture of topics on the paper and for staff and children to know who might need support with working in this way. The tests also help teachers to pick up any areas which might need more practice before the end of the school year. The results of these tests do not affect the teachers' judgements about the children's attainment levels which they will share with you in their end of year reports. These judgements will be based on their bookwork, contributions during lessons and learning throughout the whole year.

**Monday 4th May: BANK HOLIDAY SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Tuesday 5th May:** Year 4 Ranger Stu animal show visit in the hall

**Friday 8th May 9am: 5A Class Assembly in the hall on Nowruz parents warmly invited and do stay for coffee if you can**

**Further Ahead: This week is National SATs testing Week for Year 6**

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May:** Mrs Knight Block Printing with 3SH

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May:** Mrs Knight Block Printing with 3B

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> May:** Mrs Knight Block Printing with 3G

## Golden Sentences:

*In the modern world, social media, mobile phones & iPads are everywhere in society; they are used daily. Furthermore, children rely on their screen for school, entertainment and relaxation. Although, some people think social media helps children, others think it can become addictive. This shows a balanced argument is needed.* Charon 6P

*Many people think children should have a limit to screen time to play fun games but other people think to let them just be children. Today we will be predicting and discussing the for and against.* Ella 6D

*Children under 16 should not have phones. It is going to become an addiction to them and it might be hard to get off. However; children can be doing homework or spending time with family instead.* Salmah 6P

*In conclusion, children should be allowed their phones in case of emergency and also take regular breaks from screens and avoid screens before bedtime while also balancing screentime with reading, outdoor play & family time.* Yasmine 6D

*Jessica was an ordinary girl, inquisitive, good-natured. One gloomy morning Jessica stumbled upon a magnificent, majestic wardrobe as dark as the night sky and her curiosity got the better of her. She decided to open the mysterious wardrobe but as she did it, she suddenly got sucked in, she felt all her blood rushing to her head & for a second or two she felt weightless.* Leah 4K

*When he opened the wardrobe, he was blinded by glowing shiny sparks. As he could not see, he tripped up and no longer could feel the hard wooden wardrobe anymore.* Zakary 4JS

*The red, old wardrobe looked unusually creepy for 2026 Air-B&B. It started to look more menacing as he walked through the wardrobe for longer. He wondered "I wonder when this weird pathway will end."* Noah 4JS



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## ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

PERIOD: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Class	3B	3G	3SH	4JS	4K	4S
ATTENDANCE%	100%	99.67%	93.33%	98.57%	98.28%	97.93%
PUNCTUALITY%	95.67%	99.33%	98.0%	99.64%	99.31%	99.31%

Class	5A	5AM	5R	6D	6L	6P	Whole School
ATTENDANCE%	94.0%	97.33%	98.52%	99.33%	97.67%	96.67%	97.59%
PUNCTUALITY%	96.67%	99.0%	98.15%	96.67%	99.10%	93.67%	97.75%

Well done to **3B** for having the 100% attendance this week.

Congratulations to **4JS** for having the highest punctuality this week.

Mrs Lake

### Free Dr Bike sessions in Barnet

Free Dr Bike sessions run by qualified bicycle mechanics. Members of the public can take along their bicycles to have a free, full safety check, including checks on the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required.

Location Name	Location Description	Date	Time
Finchley, Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 13 May</li> <li>• 8 July</li> <li>• 9 September</li> <li>• 11 November</li> <li>• 13 January 2027</li> <li>• 10 March 2027</li> </ul>	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20 May</li> <li>• 15 July</li> <li>• 16 September</li> <li>• 18 November</li> <li>• 20 January 2027</li> <li>• 17 March 2027</li> </ul>	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs, outside Middlesex University adjacent to Hendon Fire Station, 91 The Burroughs, NW4 4BL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 June</li> <li>• 12 August</li> <li>• 14 October</li> <li>• 9 December</li> <li>• 10 February 2027</li> </ul>	4pm to 7pm
High Barnet, Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 17 June</li> <li>• 19 August</li> <li>• 21 October</li> <li>• 16 December</li> <li>• 17 February 2027</li> </ul>	4pm to 7pm