



Brookland Junior School News

Friday 16th 2026



This Week:

In assemblies this week we have focused on the value of Peacefulness and the many ways that we create safe, peaceful spaces in our school. Mr A spoke to the school about playground games and football expectations and pupils thought about how we support all children to have a happy and fun playtime. We were wowed by Dylan McDermott (see below) and Year 4 delivered an exciting and meaningful assembly focusing on Harvest and Sukkot. We were impressed with Year 4s energetic singing, brilliant speaking across the hall and the appearance of life-sized fruits and vegetables! Thank you for the many, many donations of food and toiletries for the North London Food Bank Aid. It truly is special to see our community come together to support local causes. In our Friday assembly, we showed our support for 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign and reflected on the strength of our school community in being kind, compassionate and supportive with each other and having the courage to speak out if we see or hear any racist or unkind behaviours.



Dermot O'Leary visit:

We were extremely lucky to have a visit from author and presenter Dermot O'Leary on Tuesday (thank you Awstin and family for arranging!) The whole school was captivated by his presentation about Toto the Ninja Cat based on his blind cat. Everyone took part in a draw-along and attempted to draw Toto to the best of their ability! Thank you to all the families who supported the book sale via The Children's Bookshop.

"On Tuesday, I was able to sit with Dermot O'Leary when he was signing books. He then did an assembly about his books Toto and the Ninja Cat. He then showed us pictures of the real Toto cat. He showed us how to draw Toto and the Ninja Cat and showed us his books." Awstin 4JS "An author named Dermot O'Leary came in and told us all about his books. He was so funny. He has written 7 books about his cat. They all sound very interesting!" Aaliyah 5M On Tuesday, Dermot O'Leary came to visit our school. He is a famous BBC presenter and a famous author of Toto the Ninja Cat books. He talked about his cat Toto. He also told us what he got inspired at for the book. He was very funny & explained to us what each one of his books meant. Harper & Daniel 5P





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Also This Week:

On Thursday, we took the bus 112 to the North Finchley Mosque. In the Mosque, we had to take off our shoes in honour of respect to Muslims. When he was talking, he showed us different parts of the mosque, such as the 6 different clocks, which means one for every prayer. Then a normal clock for the real time. Tom 5P What surprised me is that Indonesia has the most Muslim people in the world. The mosque shows belief in Allah because it has the words of Allah and his scriptures. Najlah 5M The part that surprised me was when the man said that prophet Noah (PBUH) made the biggest/first boat ever! Zainab 5M



This week we took part in Cross Country. When we got there the field was packed with different schools. We were supportive of each other, although everyone was nervous but also excited. When the guest runner race started, we started getting into race mode. Year 4 girls started on a strong start and got 5th & 6th. The year 4 boys did well and so did the year 5 girls. Amazingly, the year 5 boys came 1st & 3rd. WHAT A RUN!!! Year 6 girls came 5th & 17th while the year 6 boys came 13th & 17th. It was really fun. Thank you to Mr A, Kabir & the supportive parents. Einat & Carmi

Parker & Poppy's Stall:

We raised £87.00 at the stall. It was one thing each and everyone loved it. We hope the school has everything the kids need. We love our school. It was an amazing experience. Poppy says: I enjoyed selling & making. Parker says: I am happy that we helped our school. I loved it.

Well done to our Brookland entrepreneurs and thank you very much!





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School Council:

On Tuesday the school council visited the impressive Houses of Parliament as special guests of the charity 'Inner Wings'. There was so much history and we watched a film about the how Parliament was made and the history of voting. We toured the Royal Gallery and saw many pictures of old Kings and Queens. Did you know that Henry VIII was the last royal to live in the Houses of Parliament (or the Palace of Westminster) as he thought it was too small? We walked across the area where Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the Houses of Parliament and we sat on the red seats in the House of Lords. We saw the golden throne where the King sits in the House of Lords and learned that government parties sit on opposite sides to each other. Many years ago, only men could vote but the suffragettes protested a lot and tied themselves to statues and soon women were allowed to vote too. On our way back we saw Downing Street and saw the guards on horseback. By Lila and Karen 5P and Samaira 6L



Year 4 Gardening:

Today, we collected the last of our bumper runner bean harvest from our Year 3 gardening topic last year! The children all collected the beans inside and now we are drying them out to create a seed library so that we can grow more runner beans in Spring.



TT Rockstars:

Our first TT Rockstars tournament of the year is now live! Children can practise their times tables for up to half an hour a day and earn points for their class. Certificates will be given out in assembly next week for children with the most effort in each class.

We are also inviting parents in to play maths games with their children next Friday 23rd October from 8.40 – 9.10. It's a great opportunity to see some of the games we use at school and get ideas for supporting your child at home.





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Talking to your child about what they do online:

We have just completed our Autumn 1 Online Safety (Digital Literacy) units across all year groups. Pupils have learned, at an age-appropriate level, about what information to keep private online, how to recognise that not everything seen online is real, the importance of limiting screen time and learning how to be a positive digital citizen. Earlier in the term, we had an online safety assembly reinforcing these messages as well as being critical thinkers about generative AI.

The best way to help keep our children safe and prepared for the online world at home is through regular, open conversations. Try asking about their favourite games, videos, or who they are messaging on apps like WhatsApp (if they have their own devices) as a normal part of your family routine.

By approaching their digital world with interest rather than worry, we can help to create a safe space where they feel comfortable turning to you, if they ever run into something upsetting or confusing.

Establishing clear digital boundaries and consistent online routines helps to keep all our children safe and happy.

I have added a link from National Online Safety from our website about encouraging open discussions about young people's digital lives:

<https://www.brooklandjuniorschool.co.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=984&type=pdf>

Mr Khan
Assistant Head



Jelly Beans:

Please note that Jelly Beans will be closed on **Monday 2nd November** for staff training. If your child usually attends Jelly Beans on Mondays, or if you were planning to book a session on this date, please make alternative childcare arrangements. Thank you for your understanding.



Holiday Activities:

[KidsFun.London](https://www.kidsfun.london/) is a new directory of hundreds of family days out and activities in the Capital - including [91 free event and activity ideas](#). As it's been built by a Brookland parent, it has a strong North London emphasis and might provide some fun ideas for October half term.



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[Update from Barnet Council's Domestic Abuse & VAWG Team:](#)

Since the new Barnet Domestic Abuse Support Hub (BDASH) launched in April 2026, we have seen an increase in the number of victims and survivors of domestic abuse receiving specialist trauma-informed support in the borough.

The service is for anyone aged 16+ who lives in Barnet and is experiencing current domestic abuse from a partner, ex-partner or family member.

We accept self-referrals and practitioner referrals online and via our duty line. For support visit [Barnet Domestic Abuse Support Hub \(BDASH\) | Barnet Council](#) or call 020 8359 4096 Monday – Friday 9am to 5pm.

We will be sending posters explaining how to get help to each setting and ask you to display these for staff and/or parents.

For more information on support in Barnet, please visit our website: [Help and support for domestic abuse | Barnet Council](#) and also [the attached flyer](#).

[STEM Dorado Magazine:](#)

The latest issue of STEM Dorado Science, our free science magazine for children aged 6–14, is now available.

Volume 16 takes young readers from plants that can help make medicines to RNA therapies, skin science, microbes as tiny factories, blackbird research, coding, mathematics, aviation and the fascinating world inside plant cells. It is packed with colourful science stories, experiments, puzzles, quizzes and hands-on activities contributed by scientists and educators from leading institutions.

Free to read and download:

https://online.fliphtml5.com/dqwze/SD_Science-vol-16/

We would be delighted for Barnet families, schools and young science enthusiasts to explore the issue and we thank you in advance for including it in your upcoming school circular.

Dr Alina Chakraborty

Editor-in-Chief, STEM Dorado Science Magazine

Co-Director, STEM Dorado Tutorials Ltd

Director, STEM Dorado Ltd





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Next Week:

Black History Focus Week- looking forward to a historical puzzle adventure from Miss Roghey and another of Mr Knight's famous assemblies!

Monday 19th October: Headteacher's Award Assembly & tea

Tuesday 20th October 9am in the hall: 5P Vikings Class Assembly; parents are warmly invited and please stay for coffee if you can.

Tuesday 20th October: Year 3 trip to St Jude's Church

Tuesday 20th October: PA PJ party & Movie Night for year 3 & 4. Thank you to our new PA Team for making this possible.

Wednesday 21st October: PA PJ party & Movie Night for year 5 & 6.

Thursday 22nd October: Year 4 Anglo Saxon Day in school

Friday 23rd October: Headteacher's tour for prospective parents.

Friday 23rd October 8:40-9:10: We would like to invite parents in to play maths games with their children. It's a great opportunity to see some of the games we use at school and get ideas for supporting your child at home.

Further Ahead:

Week of 26th October is Half Term Holidays - School Closed

Friday 31st October: Deadline for Y6 secondary school online applications for Sept 2027 (please ask at the office if you would like any help with this)

Monday 2nd November: Back to School everyone!

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

PERIOD: Monday 12th October - Friday 16th October

Class	3AH	3B	3G	4A	4JS	4S
ATTENDANCE%	90.80%	99.05%	98.89%	94.19%	91.61%	93.87%
PUNCTUALITY%	98.0%	93.81%	98.52%	99.03%	99.45%	99.03%

Class	5K	5M	5P	6A	6D	6L	Whole School
ATTENDANCE%	99.33%	95.45%	93.33%	97.33%	92.75%	96.21%	95.17%
PUNCTUALITY%	99.67%	98.70%	98.33%	95.67%	93.48%	96.21%	97.61%

Well done to **5K** for having the highest attendance this week.

Congratulations to **5K** for having the highest punctuality this week.

Mrs Lake



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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	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)	• 11 November • 13 January 2027 • 10 March 2027	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	• 18 November • 20 January 2027 • 17 March 2027	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs, outside Middlesex University adjacent to Hendon Fire Station, 91 The Burroughs, NW4 4BL	• 9 December • 10 February 2027	4pm to 7pm
High Barnet, Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	• 21 October • 16 December • 17 February 2027	4pm to 7pm