

# NEWSLETTER

MAY

2026



## A MESSAGE FROM MRS GRIFFITHS

Welcome back

We hope you all had a lovely break and are ready for the new term. The sun has been shining this week and it's been wonderful to make the most of our outdoor area – there's nothing quite like seeing our children learning and playing in the sunshine.

We were all sad to say goodbye to Miss Carr at the end of last term, but she really did appreciate the wonderful send-off we gave her. It's a new chapter for Bracken Edge, but with our wonderful pupils, supportive school community and committed staff team, I am sure we will continue to see things grow and flourish.

Enriching experiences and school visits play a huge part of our curriculum, and we've got plenty planned for the next few weeks. Year 1 will be visiting Eureka, Year 4 are off to Jorvik, and Year 5 will be taking part in Into University sessions – just to name a few! Reception have also already visited Middleton Railway this week. We also love to make the most of our local area with regular visits to the local library, swimming pool and the beautiful Potternewton Park. We're so lucky to have these things on our doorstep – we really are 'the school in the park'.

We also have Year 6 SATs this half term, and I really want to acknowledge the hard work and dedication that our Year 6s have shown this year. The learning atmosphere in classrooms has been excellent, with pupils showing real maturity and independence. We've also seen brilliant engagement during after-school tutoring sessions. Thank you to both the pupils and staff for their commitment – you're doing us proud.

Let's hope the sun keeps shining and we continue to feel summer in the air.

Best wishes

**Mrs Griffiths**

# D A T E S

FOR YOUR DIARY

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April** – Year 4 trip to Jorvik

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April** – Survival adventure (select pupils)

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April** – Zoolab visit for Year 2

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May** – School closed, bank holiday

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 1 trip to Eureka

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May** – Kestrel Into University visit

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May** – Kingfisher Into University visit

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May–Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May** – Year 6 SATs week

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May** – Class Photos

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May** – School closes at 3:15pm for half term

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June** – School reopens



## LITE BITE COFFEE MORNINGS

Will be running on the following dates, more details to follow:

Fri 15<sup>th</sup> May 9am – Behaviours that challenge



facebook

We are now on Facebook!

Search 'Bracken Edge Primary School' and follow our page to stay up to date with school news.



**ClassDojo**

The Dojo prize this term is Adaptive Gaming

## SCHOOL DINNERS

In September the price of school meals will be increasing.

The price from September 2026 will be £2.90



School photographers will be in on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May to take class photographs.

# A MESSAGE FROM MISS CARR

Dear Bracken Edge families,

Thank you so much to everyone who made my final week at Bracken Edge so incredibly special. Now that I've had time to read through all of your cards, messages and pictures, I have been genuinely touched by your kind words and precious memories. I know I will carry them with me forever in my heart. You were all so generous with your thoughtful gifts and mementoes, and I am truly grateful for each and every one of them.

As I said at the Big Sing on 2nd April, it really has been an honour and a privilege to lead Bracken Edge and to do my very best for your children. I wish you all continued happiness and success, and I know that the whole school community will continue to thrive.

Thank you for everything.

With warmest wishes,

Miss Carr

## GOODBYE

We would like to say goodbye and thank you to Miss Essa who is leaving us this week to start a job at a nursery closer to home. Miss Essa has worked across Year 2 and we know she will be really missed by the children. We wish her all the best in her new role.

*Good  
Luck*

# YEAR 6 SATS

We wanted to take a moment to wish our wonderful Year 6 pupils the very best of luck with their upcoming SATs tests. The tests will take place from Monday 11th May to Thursday 14th May 2026.

We know how hard Year 6 have been working and we are incredibly proud of the effort and dedication they have shown. Remember, these tests are just one way to show what your children know - they don't define them or all the amazing things they can do.

Our top tips for the week:

Get plenty of sleep each night

Eat a good breakfast each morning

Do your best and don't worry - we believe in you!

Parents and carers - please make sure your child arrives at school on time each day during test week, well-rested and ready to do their best. Year 6, you've got this! We're all rooting for you.

# SATS BREAKFAST

During SATs week we will be offering a free breakfast to Year 6 children. Children can come into school at 8:30am and enjoy a hot breakfast to help them feel full and ease into the day.

Children will pre-order from the following menu:

Bacon or pork sausage bap

or

vegetarian sausage bap

and an orange juice drink.

The class teachers will ask the children to choose.

# REPORTING ABSENCES

If you need to report your child as absent please can you call the school number and press option 1 for the absence line and leave a message. Unfortunately Dojo messages/texts don't reach the attendance team in time. Alternatively you can call and speak to a member of the office team and they will record the absence.



## YEAR 2 ZOOLAB VISIT

Zoolab will be in school on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April to visit Year 2. ZooLab workshops bring learning to life through hands-on animal encounters, allowing children to meet a variety of fascinating creatures while learning about the environments they live in. Zoolab workshops have always proved extremely popular with the children so we know our Year 2 children will enjoy the session.

## THIS VISIT HAS NOW BEEN MOVED TO 18<sup>th</sup>

### MAY

Award-winning children's author Sophie Anderson will be visiting our school to talk to the children about *The House with Chicken Legs Runs Away*, her new book for 9–12-year-old readers, brimming with fairy-tale magic, friendship and extraordinary adventure.

During the hour-long event Sophie will take the children on a magical adventure through folk and fairy tales.

If you would like to purchase her new book, the paperback of *The House with Chicken Legs Runs Away* costs £8.99 and has been added to your child's Parent Pay. Please order on ParentPay by **8th May** as we can't take any orders after this date. Your child will receive their book on day of the visit and can have it signed by Sophie.



# TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES





Reception class visited Middleton Railway this week and took a ride on the train.

The children were so well behaved and did the school proud!  
Here are a few photos of them in the engine sheds, of the train and on the platform.




# AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

The clubs for this term are:



Day	Club	Years
Monday	Yoga	Key Stage 2
Monday	Gymnastics	Key Stage 2
Tuesday	Martial Arts	Key Stage 1
Tuesday	Girls Rugby	Key Stage 2
Wednesday	Football	Key Stage 2
Thursday	Skateboarding	Year 1 - 4
Thursday	3D Printing	Key Stage 2



Clubs do not take place on the first week of term.

Clubs currently cost £3 per session (except for 3D Printing which is £9 a session). Clubs must be paid for upfront via ParentPay (or via Artcamp directly) and places are offered on a first come first served basis. If your child does not secure a place they can be put on the waiting list and will be offered first refusal next half term.

We try to make the clubs procedure as fair as possible - by using ParentPay we are minimising the need to call the office or come in to school as we are aware that many parents cannot do that during the day.

There are limited spaces for each club due to staffing ratios. If your child did not get a place this time please let the office know and they will add your child to the waiting list.

ArtCamp will run the 3D printing club on Thursdays after school

# ARTCAMP'S

# MAGIC THURSDAYS

## AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

AT BRACKEN EDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL 



### DJ CLUB

- LEARN TO DJ & MIX MUSIC
- USE REAL PROFESSIONAL EQUIPMENT
- BE CREATIVE & HAVE FUN!

### 3D PRINTING CLUB

- DESIGN & PRINT YOUR OWN CREATIONS
- USE AMAZING TECHNOLOGY
- BUILD, CREATE & TAKE IT HOME!

  
**THURSDAYS**  
3:30 – 4:30PM  
**£9**  
PER SESSION

 SMALL GROUPS & EXPERT INSTRUCTORS	 FUN, CREATIVE, HANDS-ON SESSIONS	 BUILD NEW SKILLS & CONFIDENCE	 AMAZING AT ARTCAMP SCHOOLS EVERYWHERE!
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**PLACES ARE FILLING FAST!**  
**BOOK NOW TO AVOID MISSING OUT!**



## LET'S GET CREATING!

**HOW TO BOOK:**

-  VISIT [WWW.ARTCAMP.UK.COM](http://WWW.ARTCAMP.UK.COM)
-  CREATE AN ACCOUNT
-  SELECT BRACKEN EDGE AFTER SCHOOL CLUB
-  BOOK & SECURE YOUR PLACE!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL [JOHN@ARTCAMP.UK.COM](mailto:JOHN@ARTCAMP.UK.COM)

**ART CAMP** CREATIVE EXTRAORDINARY CONFIDENCE

# HOLIDAY CLUB

We are pleased to announce that ArtCamp will be running a holiday club at Bracken Edge. It will start in May half term and run Tuesday-Friday. Please visit their website for more information and to book.



BRAND  
NEW  
LOCATION!

## ART CAMP UK

CREATIVE HOLIDAY CAMPS

CREATIVE • ACTIVE • UNFORGETTABLE

 **BRACKEN EDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL** LS7

AMAZING CLASSROOMS • INCREDIBLE OUTDOOR SPACE

*Pygmy goats, hens & creativity everywhere!*



**CREATIVE WORKSHOPS**

PAINT, DRAW, SCULPT & MORE!



**ACTIVE FUN**

GAMES, TEAM CHALLENGES & OUTDOOR PLAY



**MAKE FRIENDS & MEMORIES**

CONFIDENCE, FUN & COMMUNITY



**UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES**

EVERY CHILD GOES HOME FEELING PROUD!

**MAY HALF TERM**  
**BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!**

**BOOK NOW:**

**WWW.ARTCAMP.UK.COM**

**IMPORTANT**

## **BREAKFAST AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (THE HIVE)**

After May half term the prices for The Hive are increasing due to the running costs increasing. New prices after May half term:

Breakfast Club - £5 a session

After school club - £6 until 4:30pm and £11 until 6pm



## **LANGUAGE OF THE MONTH - SHONA**

Each month we have a language of the month in school. Children can take part in class challenges and even win a prize.

This month, we're celebrating Shona; Shona is a vibrant Bantu language spoken by approximately 15–18 million people, primarily in Zimbabwe, where it is an official language, as well as in Mozambique and Botswana. Join in our class challenges to be entered into the Language of the Month prize draw!

Here are a few key phrases to get you started:

Hello – Mhoro

Goodbye – Sara mushe

My name is – Zita randu ndi

Give them a try around school!



## SUITABLE CLOTHING

Please can we remind all parents/carers that children should still come to school with a coat as the inclement weather means it often rains. As the weather gets warmer can children please come to school with a hat and sun cream applied.



## COATS

Every day a large number of coats are found out on the playground and brought into lost property. Most of which are unlabelled and not collected. Please remind children to collect their coats at the end of break time. Also if uniform/coats could be labelled this helps greatly.

**IMPORTANT**

## PARKING OUTSIDE SCHOOL

Please can parents/carers ensure that they park legally and respectfully outside school. We understand that parking is difficult but it is unacceptable to block residents garages. Cars cannot stop or wait on or near the zig zag lines either. If you park illegally there is a chance you will receive a parking fine as PCSO's are often in the area issuing tickets. We would also like to remind people that Elton Lodge is for residents only and parents/carers cannot use that car park at drop off/pick up.

## PARKING ON HAREHILLS LANE

We know that some parents/carers park on Harehills Lane and walk through the park to access school. Please can everyone be mindful of where they park. Cars should not stop or be parked on or near the zig zag lines as this blocks visibility to the crossings. Unfortunately there have been some reports of people parking on these lines and because of this there has been a near miss on the crossing. We want to ensure children and anyone using the crossings are safe.



# BOOK WISH LIST

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO  
DONATE A BOOK OR TWO TO  
BE READ AND LOVED BY  
BRACKEN EDGE PUPILS,  
PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE  
BELOW TO BE REDIRECTED  
TO OUR AMAZON PAGE. WE  
REALLY APPRECIATE EVERY  
BOOK BOUGHT.**



**OUR ENGLISH TEAM HAVE  
CREATED A LIST TO SUIT  
CHILDREN THROUGHOUT  
SCHOOL AND THESE ARE BOOKS  
WE KNOW THE CHILDREN WILL  
LOVE READING  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



**amazon**



## DOJO REWARDS



**ClassDojo**

At Bracken Edge children receive Dojo points to recognise positive behaviour. Each week, in Celebration Assembly, the class with the most Dojos wins a point. At the end of each half term the classes with the most points win the star prize!

Previous years prizes have included a mobile video game party, a silent disco and a bowling trip. What will this years be?

The children love the Dojo prizes and it helps encourage working together as a whole class to achieve the most Dojo points. We are asking for donations of £3 to help us cover the cost of these prizes. Please scan the QR code below to donate.

The next Dojo prize will be a tabletop gaming experience!



*thanks  
for your  
support*

# FUNDRAISING WITH NAME LABELS

## STIKINS® Name Labels

Stikins  
Actual Size



**SIMPLY STICK IN  
NO SEWING & NO IRONING**

Save time and money with  
one multipurpose name label  
for clothes, shoes, lunch boxes,  
and all school items



PLEASE QUOTE OUR  
FUNDRAISING NUMBER

2470

when you buy Stikins name labels  
and we will receive 30% commission



TO ORDER VISIT:  
**WWW.STIKINS.CO.UK**

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## Nursery Places

Nursery places  
available - 15 and 30  
hour places. Please ask  
the main office for a  
form.



A polite reminder  
that dogs are not  
permitted on the  
school premises,  
except for service  
dogs and Betty, our  
school dog.

# ATTENDANCE

**OUR WHOLE SCHOOL  
ATTENDANCE IS 92.3%**



## ATTENDANCE LEAGUE TABLE SPRING TERM 25-26



CLASS	ATTENDANCE %
Sparrow	96.2
Fox	95.3
Bluebell	94.3
Wren	93.8
Kestrel	93.2
Dove	93
Kingfisher	92.7
Poppy	92.1
Foxglove	92
Daffodil	92
Nightingale	91.8
Nightjar	91.7
Robin	91



# ATTENDANCE

Above is March's overall attendance. Well done Sparrow class!

## Punctuality Matters

Gates close at 8:55am. If you arrive after this you must enter via the office. Children arriving after 9am must sign in at the office and will receive a late mark.



## PUNCTUALITY

Every school day counts, yet every minute is just as important!



5 minutes late per day means your child could lose 3 days of learning!



10 minutes late per day = 6.5 school days per year



15 minutes late per day = 10 school days per year



20 minutes late per day = 13 school days per year



30 minutes late per day = 19 school days per year

# ATTENDANCE

## Fast Track Initiative

We continuously use supportive methods to improve attendance. We are looking to improve barriers to attendance and how we can support families.

Every term we will be running a Fast Track Initiative in partnership with Leeds City Council.

Fast Track is a time-focussed approach to tackling irregular school attendance.

All pupils with 10 unauthorised absence sessions (5 school days) recorded over a 10- week period will be placed on this initiative.

Parents will be notified in writing.

A pupil's daily attendance will be robustly monitored for a four week period. During this period, if there are any further unauthorised absences recorded parents will be requested to attend a School Attendance Panel meeting to discuss.

Following this, if no improvement is made within the specified timeframe, the case will be referred to the Local Authority for a fixed penalty notice to be issued.

What is an unauthorised absence? If parents do not tell the school the reason, or if the school believes the reason is not acceptable, then the school may record that day as unauthorised.

Please remember we are always here to support you. If there are barriers to attendance we should know about, talk to us

Miss Ahmad - School Attendance Officer

# PASTORAL AND SAFEGUARDING NEWS

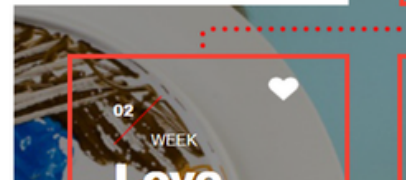
**parentgym**  
FOR PARENTS WHO CARE

PARENT GYM

## Six-week programme

Parent Gym is a programme made up of six two-hour sessions, with 'missions' to complete between sessions. Each programme has up to twenty parents and one Parent Gym coach.

The Parent Gym programme has been designed by leading psychologists, drawing on parenting research. All sessions are designed to be highly interactive and participative.



Our school's cluster are running parentgym in Bracken Edge the week commencing 10<sup>th</sup> March for 6 weeks. If you are interested please speak to Mrs Lunn or find out more information at [Home - Parent Gym](#)

# COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Leeds  
Family  
Hubs

we are  
child  
friendly  
Leeds

## SEND Parent Carer Monthly Drop Ins

Are you a parent or carer of a child with special educational needs and/or disabilities or waiting for your child's needs to be assessed? Are you struggling to navigate SEND systems or understand your child's needs and behaviours at home? Do you have questions about your options or where to turn next?

Join us for our monthly drop in at The Reginald Centre to meet our Family Hub SEND Co-Ordinator Amanda. You can access information and advice about the services, support and resources that are available to Families with children with SEND in Leeds

### Upcoming dates:

- Monday 20th April
- Monday 18th<sup>th</sup> May
- Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> July
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September
- Monday 12th October
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November
- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December

### The drop ins take place at:

Moor Allerton Community  
Hub  
King Lane  
LS7 5NY

**Drop-in times are: 9.30-12pm**

# COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

Leeds  
Family  
Hubs



## SEND Parent Carer Monthly Drop Ins

Are you a parent or carer of a child with special educational needs and/or disabilities or waiting for your child's needs to be assessed? Are you struggling to navigate SEND systems or understand your child's needs and behaviours at home? Do you have questions about your options or where to turn next?

Join us for our monthly drop in at The Reginald Centre to meet our Family Hub SEND Co-Ordinator Amanda. You can access information and advice about the services, support and resources that are available to Families with children with SEND in Leeds

### Upcoming dates:

- Tuesday 7th April
- Tuesday 5th May
- Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June
- Monday 29<sup>th</sup> June
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Tuesday 1st September
- Monday 5th October
- Monday 2nd November
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December

### The drop ins take place at:

The Reginald Centre  
Community Hub  
263, Chapeltown Road  
LS7 3EX

**Drop-in times are: 9.30-12pm**