

NEWSLETTER



SEP
2026



A MESSAGE FROM MRS GRIFFITHS

Welcome back to the new term!

It's been wonderful to see how quickly children have settled into their new classes this term. The weather has allowed us to still make the most of our outdoor area and it's fantastic to see pupils engaging in play and learning together in the woodland area. We've welcomed lots of new children to Bracken Edge too, including new starters in Nursery and our new Reception cohort. It's been a real pleasure to see them making new friends and finding their feet.

We're looking forward to visiting St Martin's Church for Harvest Festival on 12th October and would love you to join us. Please let your child's class teacher or the main school office know if you can come.

As always, it's a busy half term ahead, so keep an eye on the diary dates and text messages.

Kind regards

Mrs Griffiths

Interim Headteacher



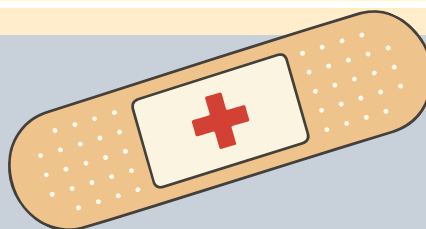
FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 12th October - Harvest Festival - St Martin's Church - 10am

Friday 23rd October - Training Day (school closed to pupils)

Wednesday 14th October - Parents Evening - 3:30 to 6pm
Sparrow - 1:30 to 6pm

Wednesday 11th November - Individual and sibling class photographs



Please can you ensure school is aware of any medical conditions, allergies or preferences your child has. If they have an asthma plan, allergy plan, inhaler, epipen or any other regular medication this needs to be signed in at the office and a medical form completed.

facebook



FOLLOW US

We are now on Facebook and Instagram.

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

Goodbye

We are saying goodbye to Miss Begum this week. Miss Begum has worked with us as a Teaching Assistant for the last couple of years. She is leaving to work in a different role at another school in Leeds. We wish her all the best in her new position and we know everyone will miss her here at Bracken Edge!

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND PARKING

Due to ongoing concerns, Leeds City Council now regularly ask Traffic Enforcement Officers to monitor the roads around school and issue parking fines to cars that are parked illegally – including waiting or stopping on or next to the entrance markings.

These officers are doing their job for the safety of our pupils and families and we expect that they be treated respectfully.

School are not involved in the deployment of these officers and cannot intervene if fines have been issued. If you are following the parking regulations around school, then you will not receive a fine.

We also ask that people park considerately on Harehills Lane, it is illegal to park on the zig zag lines or block the crossings.

TRIPS AND EXPERIENCES

We have lots of exciting trips and experiences coming up this academic year so look out for a letter coming home in your child's bag.



We have been making the most of the great weather and going on lots of Betty walks so far this term. The children love them as much as Betty!





EYFS have been awarded RHS gardening awards levels 1 & 2 for our vegetable garden. We are looking forward to starting working towards level 3 and beyond this year.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

YOU'RE INVITED

HARVEST FESTIVAL

**MONDAY 12TH OCTOBER AT
10AM - ST MARTINS CHURCH**

The Harvest Festival is expected to last around 45 minutes.

Parents are warmly invited to walk down to the church with us for the service. We will be walking down just after 9am.

*St Martin's Church, 2A St Martins
View, Potternewton, Leeds LS7 3LB*



We will be collecting tins/packets/jars (non perishable) items to donate to the foodbank at St Martin's, so please be generous if you are able. We will be taking all donations with us on the day

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

OUR STORIES • OUR STRENGTH • OUR COMMUNITY



Black History Month:

Our stories, Our strength, Our community

11.00am - 3.00pm, Saturday 3rd October

The Reginald Centre Community Hub & Library

Join us for an unforgettable day where we will be celebrating Black History Month in the community. We have some exciting adult and children's authors joining us to share their work and stories. We will hear from:

*Nick Manners Veronica Liburd Latifah Campbell Steven Benoni Blaine Robin
Odeth Richardson Jennie Alexander*

To support this special celebration, we have the amazing **Jermaine Sanka Richards** to host the day.

11.00am - 3.00pm | Browse and support a fantastic range of local makers, artists and small businesses showcasing unique handmade products and crafts.

11.20am - 1.20pm | Author Talk & Q&A

Be inspired by a special author talk exploring stories, experiences and contributions that celebrate Black history and heritage, followed by an audience Q&A.

2.15pm - 3.00pm | Hearts Steel Band

Enjoy the uplifting sounds and rhythms of a live steel band performance, bringing energy and atmosphere to this community celebration.

FREE EVENT Everyone's welcome. Come along to learn, connect and celebrate black culture, history & achievement with us. No need to book.



🐦 📘 📷 📺 @LeedsLibraries





BRACKEN EDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

FUN RUN



COME AND JOIN US!

SATURDAY 10 OCTOBER 2026 2-4PM

TOP OF POTTERNEWTON PARK

RAISING MONEY FOR PLAYGROUND FUN!

HOW MANY LAPS CAN YOU DO?



DONATE HERE!

FOR MORE INFORMATION EMAIL BEPS@BRACKENEDGE.ORG.UK

GET READY FOR AN AMAZING ADVENTURE! 🎉

We're absolutely THRILLED to announce our very first Bracken Edge Fun Run – and we want YOU there! 🏃‍♀️ 🏃‍♂️

When: Saturday 10th October, 2-4pm

Where: The beautiful Potternewton Park 🌳

This is going to be an incredible afternoon of fun, fitness and community spirit! Whether you're a speedy sprinter or prefer a leisurely jog, there's something for everyone. Bring the whole family and let's make some fantastic memories together!

Ready to join us? ➡️ 📱

Simply follow the QR code or pop into the main office to register – we can't wait to see you there!

Get donations and all money goes towards playground equipment !

Let's make this first Fun Run one to remember! 💪 ✨



AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

The clubs for Autumn Term 2026 are:

Day	Club	Years
Monday	Gymnastics	Key Stage 2
Tuesday	Skateboarding	Years 2, 3 & 4
Wednesday	Football	Key Stage 2
Thursday	Basketball	Key Stage 2

More clubs to be added shortly.

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.



SPOOKILY SPECTACULAR

OCTOBER SPECIAL

BRACKEN EDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

26-30 OCTOBER 2026

MON 26 • FOREST SCHOOL

Den building • Fire making • Nature art
with Amanda Panda

**ART PROJECT LED BY
THE AMAZING BANU**

Details coming soon

TUE 27 • MUSIC, RAP & SINGING

with Bradon

**ART PROJECT LED BY
THE AMAZING BANU**

Details coming soon

WED 28 • MONSTER MOVIE-MAKING

with Mick

**ART PROJECT LED BY
THE AMAZING BANU**

Details coming soon

THU 29 • HALLOWEEN FASHION DESIGN

with Jay

**ART PROJECT LED BY
THE AMAZING BANU**

Details coming soon

FRI 30 • BIG ART DAY

Ice creams • End-of-week party

RESIDENT ARTIST • BANU

AGES 5-12 • 8:30AM-3:45PM

£39 PER DAY • £175 FOR THE WEEK

BOOK NOW

WWW.ARTCAMP.UK.COM



SEND information videos

Helping more families access SEND information in Leeds

Scan a QR code or click "Watch videos". Languages are listed below.

Introduction to the Leeds Local Offer

Available in:



- British Sign Language (BSL)
- Farsi
- Polish
- More languages coming soon



[Watch videos](#)

Introduction to the Leeds Parent Carer Forum

Available in:



- Urdu
- Farsi
- Slovak
- Polish
- Tigrinya
- Romanian



[Watch videos](#)

Introduction to SENDIASS

Available in:



- British Sign Language (BSL)
- Cantonese



[Watch videos](#)

Quick guide to EHCP needs assessments and plans

Available in:



- Slovak
- Farsi
- Urdu
- Pothwari
- Tigrinya
- Romanian



[Watch videos](#)

Quick guide to SEND Support (Leeds SENDIASS)

Available in:



- Slovak
- Farsi
- Urdu
- Pothwari
- Tigrinya
- Romanian



[Watch videos](#)

SEND Support Suite (Urdu)

- Definitions used in SEND
- Broad areas of need
- Graduated Approach
- Reasonable adjustments
- Preparing for and attending SEND meetings



[Watch videos](#)



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.



amazon



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



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 term the classes with the most points win the star prize!

Previous prizes have included a video game party, a silent disco and a Gootopia workshop.

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 Boom Chikka Boom party!



*thanks
for your
support*

FUNDRAISING WITH NAME LABELS

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Actual Size



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and we will receive 30% commission



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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



Every Day Counts



Why every day counts

We know that sometimes absences are unavoidable, but it's important to understand how quickly they can add up and impact your child's learning.

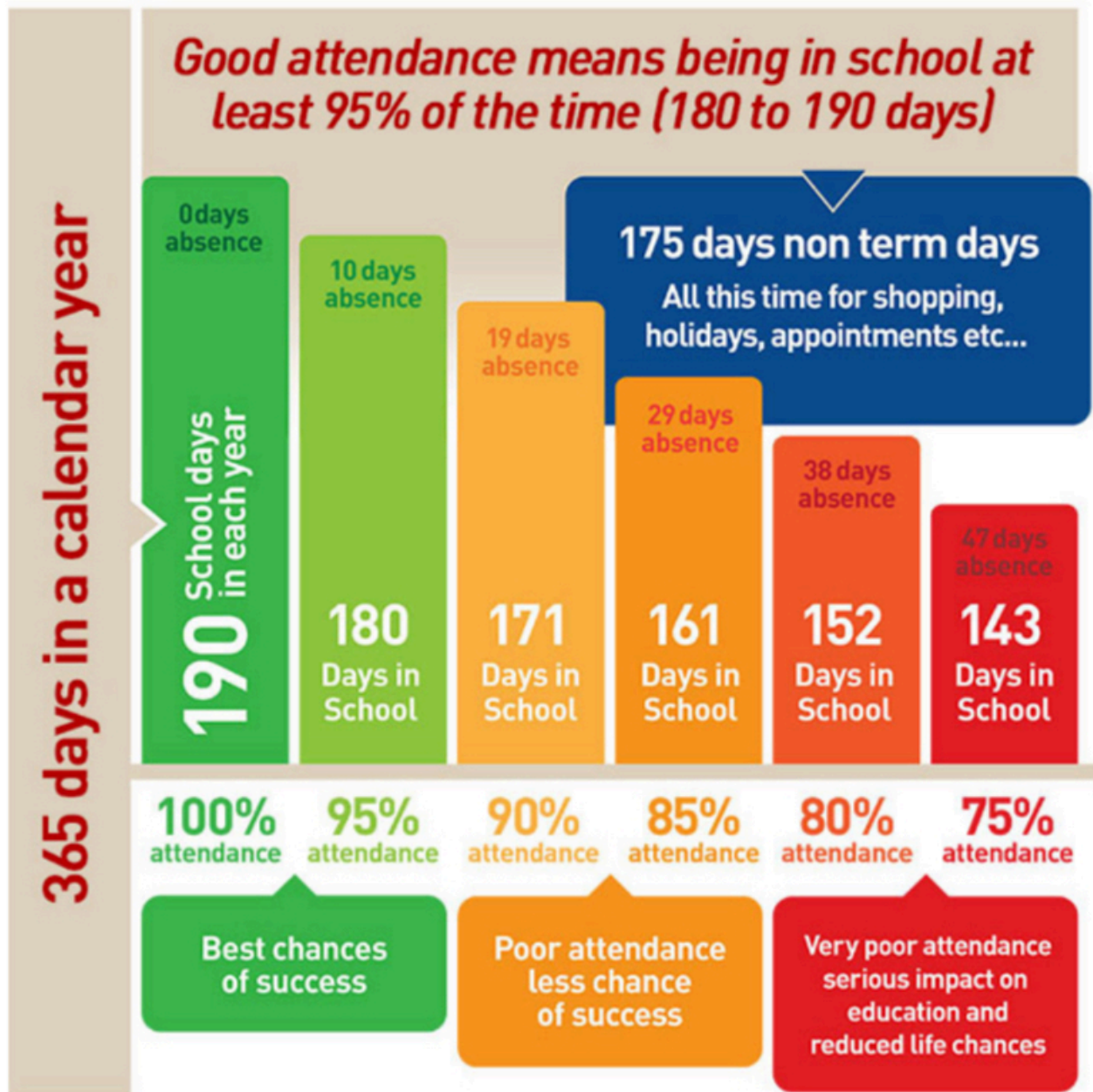
Here's what the numbers really mean:

- 95% attendance = 10 days missed = 2 weeks of lost learning
- 90% attendance = 19 days missed = 4 weeks of lost learning
- Persistent absence starts at 90% – that's just one day off every two weeks

When children miss school, they don't just miss lessons – they also miss time with friends, important routines, and opportunities to build their confidence.



ATTENDANCE



Did you know? A two week holiday in term time means the highest attendance you can achieve is 94.7%.



ATTENDANCE



Our drive to improve attendance continues!
This year, we'll be building on last year's progress with an even stronger focus on attendance across the school.
You play a vital role in your child's attendance

Here's how you can support us:

- ✓ **Arrive on time every day** Our register closes at 9am. Being on time helps your child settle into learning and sets them up for a successful day.
- ✓ **Only keep children home when genuinely unwell** Minor colds, headaches or feeling 'a bit tired' don't usually require absence. If your child is well enough to be up and about at home, they're well enough to be in school.
- ✓ **Book medical appointments outside school hours** Where possible, please arrange dentist and doctor appointments during holidays or after school. If this isn't possible, try to book appointments at the start or end of the school day to minimise time missed.
- ✓ **Don't take holidays during term time** Holidays during term time are not authorised and can result in penalty notices. Please plan family holidays during the school breaks.
- ✓ **Contact us on the first day of absence** Please call the school office by 9am on the first day your child is absent and let us know the reason. This helps us keep accurate records and ensures we can support your child appropriately.
- ✓ **Talk to us early if you're struggling** If you're facing challenges with your child's attendance – whether it's anxiety, transport issues, or something else – please speak to us as soon as possible. The earlier we know, the more we can help.

Thank you



Free School Meals Information

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are writing to inform you about important changes to Free School Meal (FSM) eligibility announced by the Department for Education, .

Who will benefit from the expanded Free School Meals? From September 2026, eligibility will be expanded so that all households receiving Universal Credit will qualify for Free School Meals. The new eligibility criteria will apply from September 2026, meaning families receiving Universal Credit will be able to access Free School Meals from the 2026/27 school year.

PASTORAL AND SAFEGUARDING NEWS

How to apply?

Although eligibility will be automatically available to all families receiving Universal Credit, parents and carers will still need to apply.

If you think the new criteria applies to your household and either parent/carer are in receipt of Universal Credit, please provide school with your full name, address, date of birth, and National Insurance number in order to check eligibility. Please also provide the name and date of birth of the child/children you are enquiring about.

Providing this will act as consent for these details to be passed to the Welfare and Benefits Service. They will then be able check eligibility, and if confirmed, put your child's free school meal in place for September 2026

**PLEASE SPEAK TO THE OFFICE TEAM OR
MISS AHMAD AND MRS LUNN**



PASTORAL AND SAFEGUARDING NEWS



At Bracken Edge we work with the 2gether cluster, for more information please visit <https://2gethercluster.org.uk>

FAMILY SUPPORT PRACTITIONER

At the 2gether Cluster, we provide family support services to families with children that attend one of our cluster schools.

Our family support practitioner will work with you in the following ways:

Support is tailored to your individual needs.

Meetings will be either on a one-to-one basis, with both parents, parents and children together or the family as a whole. Parents/carers will feel encouraged and empowered to overcome barriers which may be impacting the lives of their children.

Sessions can take place in your home, school or a community setting.

Sessions will usually take place once a week for around an hour, but this will be decided with your practitioner when you meet. The support plan will be set out with you and this can be adapted throughout to meet your family's needs.