



# BROOKE HILL ACADEMY NEWS

## A SNAPSHOT OF OUR WEEK.

Welcome back! It has been lovely to have happy, smiling little faces back in school. Monday was a buzz of catching up with friends and getting settled back into school. Children are now back into the swing of routines and into the throws of new topics. Year 3 and 4 are getting ready for their Viking day in a couple of weeks to get their topic off with a bang!

Our Always Award winners have finally had the raffle drawn. The children who always show excellent manners, attitudes and conduct in and around school are awarded a raffle ticket each week. At the end of every half term, 11 raffle tickets are drawn and the lucky winners receive invitations for hot chocolate and marshmallows in The Woodlands. This is refreshed every half term to give as many children the opportunity as possible.

This term, we have welcomed Mrs Woods who will be working within school as part of our team. We are very much looking forward to working with her and hope she will be happy here.

We are working hard on our environment this year. You may have noticed we have updated the signage at the front of school and we are creating some beautiful displays in school. Mrs Bartlett and Mr Smith are creating, building and painting between them and the children are loving watching the projects evolve, often choosing to spend their lunchtimes helping. Please ask your child about them and come in at the end of the day and have a look. Currently there is a lovely Book Nook in Year 1 and 2 and a beautiful display in the KS1 entrance.

As always, have a lovely weekend and enjoy the fireworks.

Anna O'Shaughnessy



## w/c 6th November

**MON -**, French Knitting, Outdoor & Adventurous, Creative/Messy Play, Story Telling & Curry after school clubs, FDS KS2 Football

**TUES** -KS2 Football Club, Oak class Parents' Evening

**WEDS** - School Photographers in, KS1 Gymnastics & Rec/KS1 FDS football clubs only, Oak class Parents' Evening

**THURS** - Soft Toy Making KS2 Gymnastics, KS2 RYDA Street Dance clubs only

**FRI** -

Please note that school-led after school clubs finish at 4.15pm, this term.

## HOUSE POINT TOTALS FOR THIS WEEK



Stocks

Castles

Horseshoes

Acorns

314

361

233

267

# PRIDE OF BROOKE HILL AWARD

Apple Class - Brodie

Willow Class - Oliver & Ela

Maple Class - Jack

Acer Class - Ruby S

Chestnut Class - Emma

Rowan Class - Rose

Redwood Class - Matilda

Elder Class - Ellis

Hazel Class - Toby

Oak Class - Rafferty



Whole school attendance - 96.6%



Attendance is something we celebrate each week in our Celebration Assembly on a Friday.

We are required to collate and update the attendance figures for the local authority each week.

Going forward we will be monitoring attendance closely to ensure that we are hitting the targets given to the school by the DFE.

Attendance letters for term 1 are in the process of being sent out.



**WAS YOUR CHILD BORN BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2019 AND 31 AUGUST 2020?**

If so, your child will be eligible to start primary school in September 2024

Rutland residents must submit an application to Rutland County Council by the closing date of 15 January 2024

If you live in Rutland, you need to submit your application for a primary school place to Rutland County Council, even if you wish to apply for a place at a school in another local authority area.

A letter has been posted out by Rutland County Council to all parents/carers of eligible children, known to the authority, and who are resident in Rutland, detailing the primary school application process. If you live in Rutland but do not receive a letter you must contact Rutland County Council's Admissions Service as soon as possible:

Telephone: 01572 722577  
Email: [admissions@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@rutland.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.rutland.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.rutland.gov.uk/admissions)

If you do not live in Rutland you must contact the Council where you live for further information.



## Poppy Appeal



If you would like to support the British Legion Poppy Appeal we will have poppies and other items, such as rulers, snap bands, pencils, reflectors etc available next week. They will be in the Reading Shed every morning before school. There is a suggested minimum donation of £1 per item.

## Flu Immunisations

The Community Immunisation team will be in school on Tuesday 21st November to administer the nasal spray flu vaccine to the children, from reception to year 6. If you wish your child to receive the vaccine you must complete the on-line consent form, which can be found at [www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk](http://www.leicsandrutlandimms.co.uk).

The code for Brooke Hill Academy is LE137358. Full information can be found in the letter to parents sent via ParentMail.

The consent system will close two working days before the vaccination session. You will not be able to submit a consent form on the day.

If you have not completed the on-line consent your child will not receive the vaccine.

## Photographs

Wrates School Photography, will be in school on Wednesday 8th November, to take photographs of all the children. You will be able to purchase the photos of your child. If you do not want your child to have a photograph taken, please inform their class teacher, or the school office before Wednesday.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO EVERYONE WHO HAS HAD A BIRTHDAY THIS WEEK.**

**LAILAH, TAYLA, OLIVIA, ISABELLA, NOAH AND WILLIAM**

## VACANCIES FOR PARENT GOVERNORS

**WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR NEW PARENT GOVERNORS TO JOIN OUR FRIENDLY GOVERNING BODY. OUR GOVERNORS COME FROM A RANGE OF DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE BUT ALL SHARE A COMMON INTEREST OF WANTING THE BEST POSSIBLE EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN IN OUR SCHOOL.**

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING A GOVERNOR PLEASE EMAIL**

**SLT@BROOKEHILLACADEMYTRUST.EDUCATION**

## Diary Dates

**Friday 10th November** - To commemorate Remembrance Day we are inviting children who are members of uniformed organisations, such as Beavers, Cubs, Rainbows, Brownies etc to wear their uniform to school on the day.

**Friday 17th November** - To celebrate Children in Need Day we are inviting children to wear yellow and/or spots for a donation to the charity. All donations should be made via the donations page on ParentPay which can be accessed at:-

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=12700>



## Year 3/4

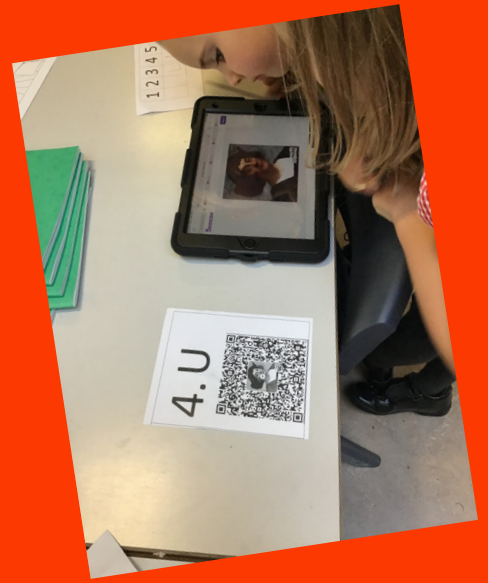
**Ironically enough, the French topic for this term is talking about the weather! Il y a du soleil will hopefully be spoken about more than “il pleut”, but we certainly don’t mind saying “il fait froid” when we have our big coats on.**

**Redwood Year 4 children have also started their Forest School sessions, so we cross our fingers for good weather when they are up in the woodland.**

## Year 1 and 2

It has been lovely to welcome the children back this term. Our topic this term is 'Explorers'.

To start off the children's learning, they had fun taking part in a treasure hunt to find out which significant individual they will be learning about. They used the ipads to scan QR codes then listened to videos to find out information about 'Columbus'.



## YEAR 5&6

Year 5 and 6 have hit the ground running this term with our topic on South America. We have looked at the variety of countries and cities located there and talked about the climate. We have also learnt about some of the endangered animals on the continent.

We have been learning how to write persuasively in our English lessons and we will be putting our knowledge into practise next week when we create a persuasive tourism leaflet, based on South America.

We have all enjoyed seeing our friends again after a couple of weeks off and can't wait to see what the rest of the term brings!



# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom; it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio to build custom levels and games, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### CONTACT WITH STRANGERS

Roblox encourages players to communicate online (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as scammers, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The in-game chat has some filters, but isn't perfect: players can still send harmful messages to others – such as general hostility – while predators can reach out to children directly.

### PUBLIC SERVERS

Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players will instead be on public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction. Some games and servers, therefore, will put children more at risk of contact from strangers than others.

### ONLINE DATERS

These are also called 'ODers' and are quite common in Roblox. An ODER is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online dating is against the Roblox community guidelines, but this usually doesn't deter ODERs. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

### IN-APP PURCHASES

Roblox is actually free to download and play, but bear in mind that there are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, and some private or VIP servers also have a cost.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### SET PARENTAL CONTROLS

Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, as that allows Roblox to automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

### DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING

Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

### PRIVATE SERVERS

If your child has genuine friends who they play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

### MONITOR SPENDING

If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have two-factor authentication on your payment accounts also makes it harder for your child to spend money inadvertently.

### DEALING WITH STRANGERS

At some point in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with others safely in the digital world.

## Meet Our Expert

Clare Godwin (a.k.a. Lunawolf) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2015, providing websites with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lunawolf Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Sources: <https://www.theweek.co.uk/2020/07/21/roblox-over-half-of-us-kids-playing-virtual-games-for-hilo>  
<https://corp.roblox.com/parents/>