

# Broke Hall Primary School



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2026 Newsletter 10

## Message from Mrs. Fairs:

Here we are, over halfway through another school year. Where does the time go? Next week is the start of British Science Week and this year we are giving it our full focus (we alternate this with World Book Day every other year). This year's theme is "Curiosity – what's your question?" This blends beautifully with our school value of Curiosity. So, could we grow food on the moon? Which pegs are best at holding the washing on the line? What makes the best hankie when you have a cold? This, and many other burning questions are waiting to be answered. I wonder what the children will discover.

Mrs. Fairs

## Dock Stories

You may remember that back in the Autumn Term, Year Five went on a cruise around the docks as part of a joint history and geography study organised in conjunction with the Ipswich Maritime Trust and Heritage Harbour Project. We are delighted that the project has been extended (launched by Griff Rhys Jones, no less) and we were lucky enough to take part in some pilot sessions exploring notable characters from Ipswich's past; using specially created maps and generative AI to build images of twenty-year-old Edward Caley – the chief surveyor in the building of the wet dock.

You can explore more of Ipswich's past and the wider project using six, specially commissioned VR binoculars located at the Buttermarket, Christchurch park, Cornhill, Customs House, James Hehir Building and Paul's Silo and by clicking here: <https://allaboutipswich.com/digital-ipswich/> where you can download a map of the binocular sites.

There is also an app you can download for free, called Dock Stories Ipswich from your usual app store.



## Sporting successes

Pupils from across the school have been competing in various sporting events over the past few weeks. Hot on the heels of our inclusive panathlon bowling victory, another group of Key Stage 2 pupils beat 21 one schools in another blistering display in the alleys. Pictured are our Year Six basketballers who put in a fine performance last week and also competing in another panathlon contest were a different group of Key Stage 2 athletes. Well done to all.



## Staffing Update

At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to two long standing members of our school community, Mrs Stanford our SENDCo and Safeguarding Lead and Mrs Rudland a member of our support staff team.

Mrs Stanford has been at Broke Hall, supporting our children with SEND for over 31 years. We are very grateful for the dedication, care, and support she has given to our pupils and families during this time. Her work has made a positive difference to so many children in our school community. We are grateful for her tireless efforts and thank her for her valuable contribution to Broke Hall.

We are also very thankful for the support, care and commitment that Mrs Rudland has shown to our pupils and staff during her time with us. Mrs Rudland has played a key role in supporting children's speech and language development, and she will be greatly missed. We wish her a long and happy retirement.

I am pleased to inform parents that Mrs Noon, our Deputy Head, is a qualified and experienced SENDCo and she will be taking over this role from Mrs Stanford. Mrs Rudland is working closely with our key workers to ensure continuity in our support of the children that she currently works with in school. Mrs Fairs will lead the be the Designated Safeguarding Lead supported by the rest of the school's safeguarding team, which includes Mrs Noon, Mrs Abbott and Sally Mann.

On Monday, we will be welcoming Mr Francis to our admin team. Mr Francis is joining us as an apprentice, and we are sure that you will make him feel welcome should you have any dealings with the office.

## Author Visits

This year we are marking World Book Day with a number of author visits over the next couple of weeks. On Thursday, the Nursery children had a fabulous morning with author Harriet Howe. She read her new book called 'Follow the leader' and the children made their own animal headbands and worked in teams to put pictures of the animals back together!

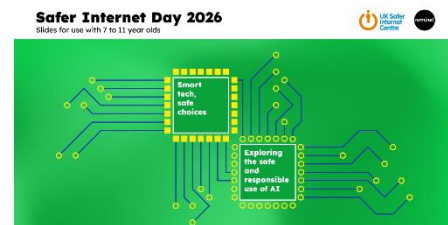


## Internet Safety

Thank you to the parents of children in Years 4, 5 and 6 who were able to join us for our internet safety workshops. The theme this year was looking at the many uses of AI and the dangers of the potential misuse. Lots of valuable discussions were had over the three afternoons. If you were not able to attend the session, the slides can be found on the Online Safety section school website, along with other useful information for parents – [click here](#).

Top Tips for parents and carers from the UK Safer Internet Centre include

- Enjoy going online together and talk regularly about your family's online lives
- Understand where AI technology is being used and the impact it can have
- Recognise what safe and responsible use of technology looks like
- Stay informed
- Know where to go for help if something goes wrong



### Building works complete

As you will have noticed, the scaffolding has finally been removed from around the school. We are all very glad to have our space back. The roof is now ship-shape and the solar panels have been repositioned to maximise their energy-capturing potential. This project has cost around £400,00 and has been funded by the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF). The Trust has successfully secured £1.3 million in bids from the government since 2021 that has enabled us to carry out fire safety improvements, asbestos removal, boiler and heating replacements as well as the roof refurbishment.



In September, Broke Hall will be fifty years old and this building work to improve the fabric of the school means that it will continue to serve the community for another fifty years at least.

### Sustainability news

Having solar panels is just one way Broke Hall is helping the planet. It is estimated that by 2030, the world population of 7 billion will demand three times as many resources as the planet can supply. That's why Broke Hall have joined the Our School, Our World programme which aims to help schools and communities learn about sustainability, climate change and the environment. We have just won the Bronze Level award which recognises the steps we have already taken, including:

- A whole staff shift in thinking and understanding around sustainability issues
- The inclusion of environmental themes as contexts within existing curriculum plans
- A shift in thinking behind purchasing decisions. We

have stopped purchasing single-use glue sticks, have switched plastic pens for pencils and have removed single-use plastic from the school lunch delivery.



**Our Schools,  
Our World**



The first step to change is changing ourselves – we all have a choice to do things differently, to change our habits and transform to world we play a part in creating.

### Safety and respect for neighbours

The school has been contacted with concerns about the conduct of some of our children on the way home from school. These children have been reported to be kicking a ball in the road and playing on people's drives. Please remind your child about road safety and respect for property. If you are walking home with them, you will obviously be able to ensure that this does not happen. Thank you for your support.

Term dates for your diary	
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Under 10 girls' football festival (pm)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Dentist to visit Reception, Year 1,2,3 and 4.
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Under 11 boys' futsal tournament (2:30-5:30)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day – non uniform day
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Year 1 to Ipswich Transport Museum Under 11 girls' futsal tournament (2:30-5:30)
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	EYFS Easter Share event Year 3 to the Food Museum
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	HSA Easter hampers Parent Consultation evening
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultation evening
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	End of term
<b>Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (inclusive) Easter Holiday</b>	
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	Term begins for children