



11th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all our families as we begin another exciting year at Britannia Community Primary School. A special welcome goes to our new children, families and staff who are joining our community for the first time. We are delighted that you have chosen Britannia and look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

The start of a new school year always brings a sense of excitement and possibility. Walking around school over the past two weeks, I have been delighted to see classrooms filled with smiling faces, enthusiastic learners and children who are eager to embrace new opportunities. The positive attitude and enthusiasm shown by our pupils has been wonderful to see and has set a fantastic tone for the year ahead.

At Britannia, we believe that every child has the potential to achieve great things. Throughout this year, we will continue to work together to ensure that all children feel safe, valued and inspired. Our school values of Respect, Achieve, Inspire, Safe and Enthusiastic (RAISE) underpin everything that we do and help us create a community where everyone can thrive. These values guide everything we do, ensuring that every child feels safe, inspired, and confident to achieve their very best. Together, as staff, families, and pupils, we live our motto:

"Together we inspire and raise the future."

A Year of Growth and Opportunity

This week's assembly theme has been **"New Beginnings and Strong Foundations."** We will be continuing to encourage our children to think about the foundations they need to succeed, including kindness, resilience, friendship, responsibility and confidence. Just as strong foundations support a building, these qualities help children navigate challenges, seize opportunities and become positive members of society.

We know that children achieve their very best when home and school work together. Thank you for the support you provide each day by encouraging attendance, supporting learning at home and sharing in your child's successes. Your partnership is invaluable and plays a vital role in helping every child flourish.

Attendance Matters

Excellent attendance remains one of the most important factors in ensuring children achieve their full potential. Every school day provides valuable learning opportunities that cannot easily be replicated. A child with attendance below 90% is classed as persistently absent, and this is closely monitored by the school, local authority, and the DfE. Our attendance target for every child is **96%**.



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Families will receive regular updates through a traffic-light letter system, and we will always work with you if concerns arise.

We kindly ask families to:

- Ensure children arrive at school punctually each day at 8.45am.
- Avoid taking holidays during term time.
- Inform school promptly of any unavoidable absences.

By working together, we can ensure children benefit fully from every learning opportunity available to them.

Communication

We are committed to maintaining clear and effective communication with families. Please continue to use our school communication systems and contact the school office if you need urgent assistance. We believe that strong partnerships between home and school are the key to pupil success. Please remember our open-door policy: you are always welcome to get in touch. Teachers may not respond to emails during the school day as they are teaching, but will reply within 3–5 working days. For urgent matters, please contact the school office and they will pass on the relevant information.

If you have concerns or questions regarding your child, please contact the class teacher in the first instance. We value open communication and will always endeavour to work alongside families to achieve the best outcomes for children.

As always, I would encourage any concerns or queries to be raised via the appropriate channels in school rather than using the class WhatsApp groups.

PTFA and Community

Our PTFA is a vital part of school life, raising much-needed funds and bringing our community together. If you would like to get involved, please join us — new members and volunteers are always welcome. Details of the first meeting will be shared soon so please come along.

This year, our parents panel will re-form. The panel will consist of a number of parents who are interested in taking a more active role in school life to support the school in driving improvements and making changes. Meetings will be held each term and if you think this is something that you would like to be involved in, please let the school office know. Ideally, we would like a representative from each year group.

Importance of Reading

Reading is at the heart of learning at Britannia. Please support your child to read every day at home and record this in their reading record. Daily reading develops life chances, builds resilience, and supports academic success.

Key Reminders for Parents

- Doors open at 8:45am, and registers are taken at 8:55am.



- Collection: Reception finishes at 3:20pm, Years 1–6 at 3:25pm.
- Children must wear full school uniform, with correct PE kit on PE days.
- Only school book bags are needed — no rucksacks.
- Children may bring a water bottle (water only).
- Plain stud ear-rings and a wrist watch are the only jewellery allowed. Smart watches are not permitted in school.
- Nail varnish, coloured hair pieces and false nails are not permitted in the uniform policy. We would ask that these are kept for holidays and weekends only.
- Toast and fruit are available at playtime (toast via ParentPay).
- Please ensure all contact details are up to date, and that you have downloaded the SchoolSpider App for communication.

Looking Ahead

The coming year promises to be filled with exciting learning experiences, educational visits, performances, sporting events, community celebrations and opportunities for children to develop their talents and interests.

We are particularly looking forward to celebrating a range of cultural, religious and national events throughout the year, helping our children develop an appreciation of the diverse world in which they live while promoting our British Values of democracy, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance.

Thank you for your continued support and trust. We are privileged to work with your children every day and are excited about the journey ahead. Together, we will ensure that every child is encouraged to be ready, respectful and safe, whilst striving to achieve their very best.

I wish all our families a happy, successful and enjoyable year ahead.

Yours sincerely

Natalie Longstaff
Headteacher
Britannia Community Primary School