



Broad Oak Primary School

Newsletter

Thursday 18th September 2025

Broad Oak Lane East Didsbury M20 5QB 0161 445 6577 admin@broad oak.manchester.sch.uk www.broad oak.manchester.sch.uk

A Word from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new school year! I hope that you all enjoyed some quality family time over the summer break and that your children are settling well into the new school year.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of the new families that have joined our school this term. We hope that you and your children are feeling welcomed into our school family.

As you will all be aware there were some issues with school comms at the beginning of the term. We hope that these issues are now resolved and that you are receiving email communications through Arbor. As the year progresses we aim to move to Arbor for all communications, bookings and payments providing one app for all parental interactions with school. If you are experiencing any issues with the Arbor app, please speak to a member of the admin team.

On Tuesday 30th September we will be holding our sponsored Kindness Walk. Your child should have brought home a sponsor sheet last week, if this is not the case please speak to your child's teacher. As last year, the funds raised will be split between NSPCC and contributing towards improvements to the outdoor areas at school.

On Monday 6th October we will be holding our Harvest Festival. We kindly ask for donations of tinned items that will be donated to our local food bank. A list of the sort of items the food bank are in need of can be found later in this newsletter.

As some of you will be aware, when our term dates were first published Friday 24th October was due to be an INSET day. This has now been cancelled and school will be open as usual. If you have already booked travel arrangements on this day, please contact a member of the admin team with proof of travel.

Finally, Mrs. Walmsley will be retiring later this month after 25 years at Broad Oak. Her final day at school will be Wednesday 24th September. I know that she will have been a significant person for many of you and your children, having worked in our Nursery helping to settle our young people into school life and helping to establish the foundations to allow your children to thrive at our school. Mrs. Walmsley will be greatly missed but I know that you will all join me in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

Best wishes,

Mr. Kevin Corteen.
Headteacher.

Attitude

Behaviour

Courage

Determination

Enthusiasm

Friendship

Resilience

Star of the Week:

Congratulations to those children that have been chosen as Star of the Week in our Celebration assemblies over the last two weeks. We are all very proud of you!

This week:

Elm - Idris, Pine - Nicole, Ash - Madelief, Beech - Elliot, Hazel - Ashanta, Rowan - Eliza, Aspen - Inaaya, Spruce - Albert.

Last week:

Elm - Hana, Pine - Reid, Ash - Kesia, Beech - Ioan, Hazel - Ben, Rowan - Gabe, Aspen - Ilyas, Spruce - Ava.

Attendance:

Our attendance target for this academic year remain at **97%**.

Our whole school attendance figure for 2024-25 was **94%**.

Attendance across the first two weeks of term has been hampered by a number of families not returning to school on time due to family holidays.

As parents and carers know, this can result in a fine of £80 per parent per child. Our main school priority this academic year is to significantly improve our attendance percentage.

Average attendance to the week ending 12.09.25 was **92.9%**

The following classes had attendance above our school target of **97%** W/E 12.09.25:

Elm - 100%, **Ash** - 98%.

HARVEST FESTIVAL



**We are now collecting items
for our Harvest Festival
on Monday 6th October.**

Please send any donations into school with your child.

We are collecting the following items:

Coffee, Tea, Sugar, Long-life milk, Rice, Tinned meat: (corned beef, ham, spam), Fray Bentos pies, Chickpeas, Jam, Tinned fruit, Custard, Rice pudding, Sweetcorn, Tinned potatoes & Tuna.

LIKE.
SHARE.
COMMENT.



FOLLOW.
LIKE.
RETWEET.



GET THE
WHOLE
PICTURE.



**Keep up with news
and events at
Broad Oak Primary School
by following us on
Facebook (Facebook.com/
BroadOakPS),
Twitter (@BroadOakPS) and
Instagram (@broadoakps).**

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Saplings enjoyed trying out the different instruments in our music room this week.



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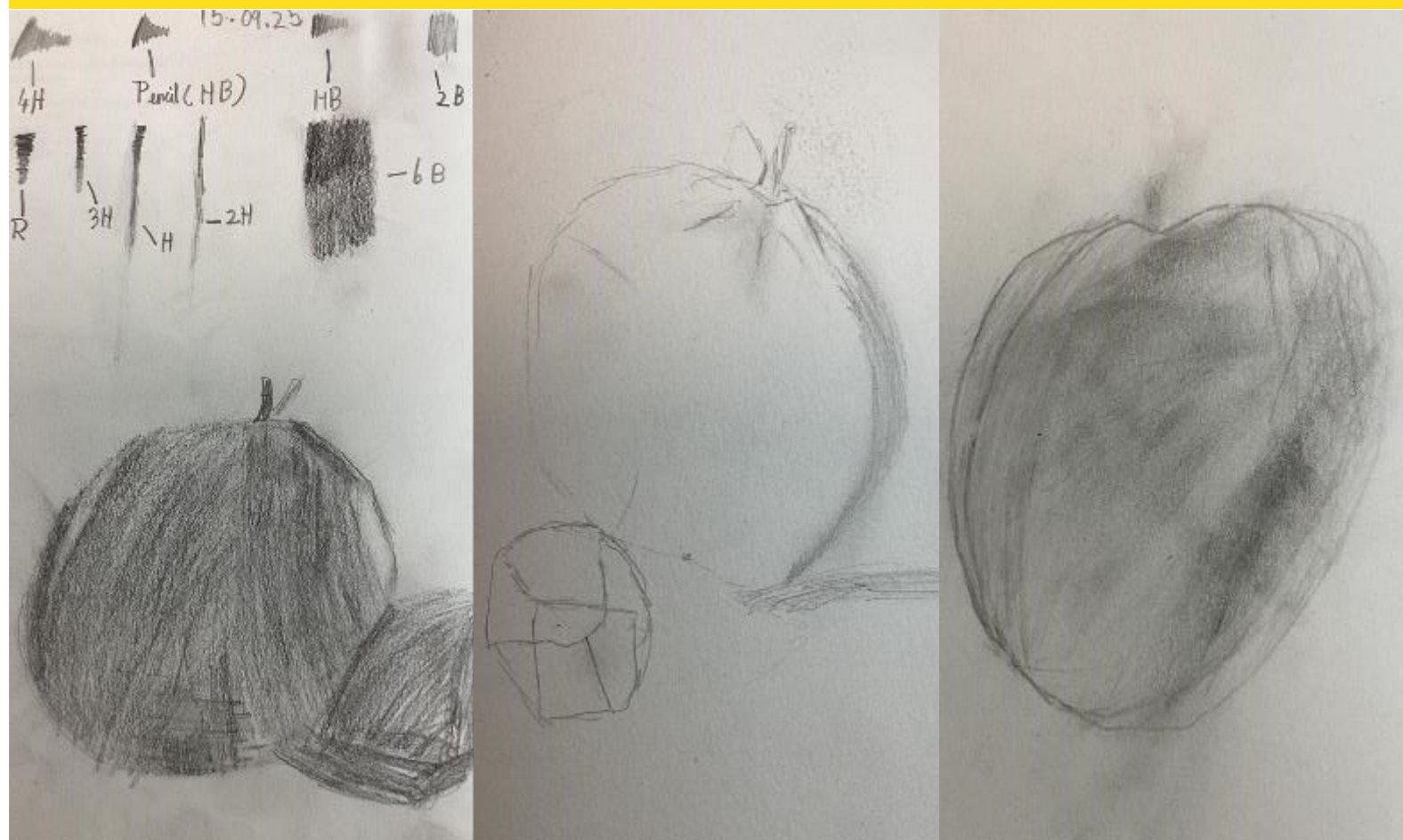
Friendship

Resilience

In the first week of this term Beech completed the Broad Oak Hearts Trail.
We saw some wonderful wildlife!



Over the last few weeks Beech have been exploring sketching and shading.
We have been using a range of techniques to create objects that look 3d.



Attitude

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Courage

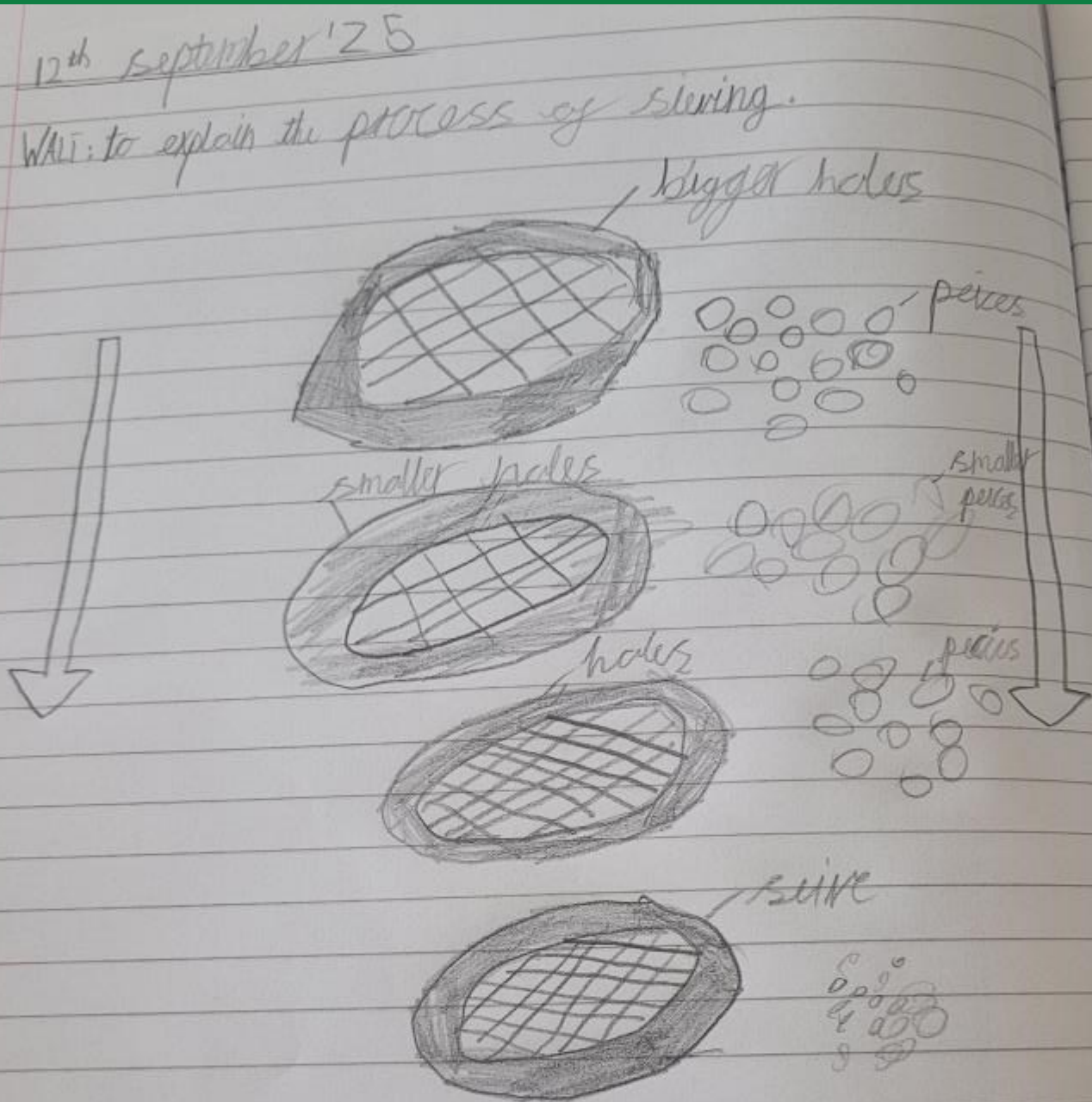
Determination

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This week in Rowan, we have been learning about what methods are used to separate mixtures and solutions. We have been experimenting using sieves and filter paper. We have used our findings in our experiments to explain the process.

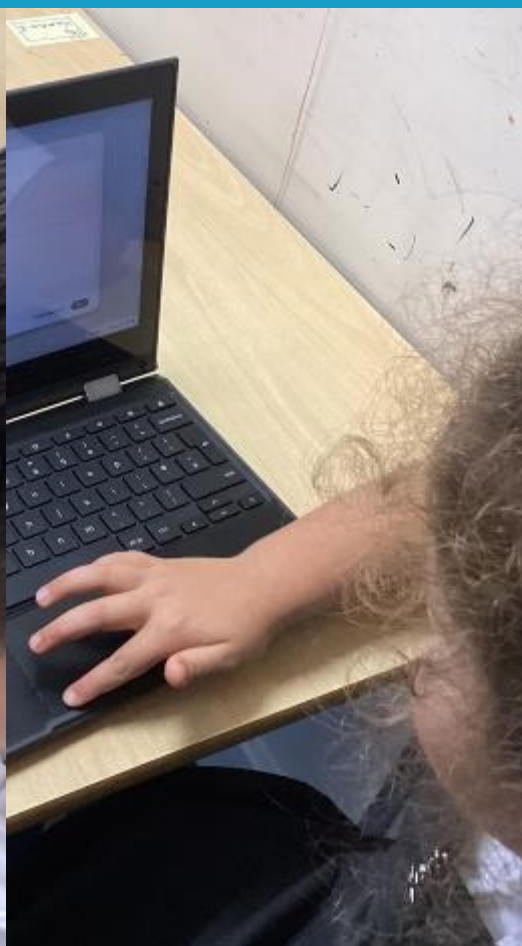
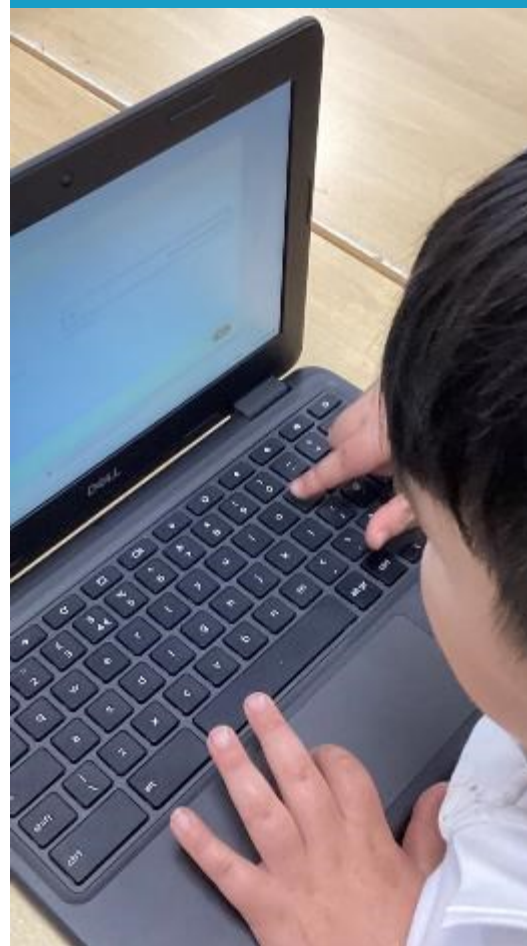


A sieve is when you try to separate something for example if i had made a mixture ^{that} had marbles and sand ~~and~~ also ^{pieces} so i would put the ~~solution~~ in the sieve and shake because the holes are big enough for the sand and ~~pieces~~ would fall through the holes and the marbles would stay.

This week, Pine have been exploring different ways of moving on our gymnastics equipment.



This week, Pine logged into the computers for the first time and accessed the Sketchpad website.



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- ✓ Experienced and caring staff
- ✓ Forest Crew for all ages
- ✓ Full wrap-around care (Nursery-Year 6)
- ✓ New EYFS space with whole role play area!

EYFS OPEN DAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2025

2pm

Broad Oak Lane,
East Didsbury
M205QB

Get in touch today!

growingtogether@broadoak.manchester.sch.uk

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Community . Creativity . Achievement



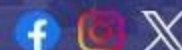
Open Evening

Tuesday 23rd September 2025
6 pm - 8 pm



Parrs Wood High School
Wilmslow Road, East Didsbury
Manchester, M20 5PG
0161 446 8640

www.pwhs.co.uk



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What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

SNAP STREAK

97

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

SNAPCHAT

AGE RESTRICTION
13+

With over 900 million active monthly users and billions of 'Snaps' sent each month, Snapchat is a popular messaging app among children and young people. It allows users to share fun, spontaneous pictures and videos with friends and family while using playful filters. One of Snapchat's unique features is that pictures, videos and messages are only viewable for a short period of time.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Snapchat's use of artificial intelligence (AI) includes features like the 'My AI' chatbot and AI-powered filters, offering interactive experiences that can be fun but also pose risks. These tools may share unfiltered or inaccurate responses, promote unrealistic beauty standards, and collect personal data. Advanced filters and deepfake-style lenses can distort reality, potentially leading to manipulation, impersonation, or inappropriate content.

SCREEN ADDICTION

Snapchat boosts user engagement and daily use with features like streaks (daily Snapchat exchanges between you and a friend). When a streak's been going for a few days, users will see a 🌟 emoji. The number alongside it shows the number of days, but if users miss a day and break the streak, the only way to restore it is to pay. This encourages daily use habits, and frequent notifications can keep users returning to the app even more often.

SEXTORTION

Because Snapchat's disappearing messages feature may foster a sense of safety, users may become targets of sextortion. For example, a predator may pressure someone into sending nude images, then somehow capture those images to threaten and intimidate the victim. This might involve claiming they will share the images with friends or family unless money is paid.

SNAPCHAT+

Snapchat+ is the platform's premium subscription service, offering early access to new and exclusive features. In June 2025, Snapchat introduced a new tier called Lens+, giving subscribers access to hundreds of lenses and AR experiences for playing, creating, and sharing Snaps. These paid features may encourage young users to spend money to access exclusive content, increasing the risk of overspending or feeling pressured to make in-app purchases.

ACCESSIBILITY

Snapchat is now accessible from a web browser, meaning children can use it on a laptop or tablet without downloading the app. This can make activity harder to monitor, reduce the effectiveness of parental controls, and increase the risk of unsupervised communication or exposure to inappropriate content.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Some content on Snapchat isn't suitable for children. The hashtags used to group content are determined by the poster, so even an innocent search term could still yield age-inappropriate results. The app's disappearing messages feature also makes it easy for young people to share explicit images on impulse – so sexting continues to be a risk associated with Snapchat.

Advice for Parents & Educators

ACCESS THE SNAPCHAT FAMILY SAFETY HUB

Created with guidance from Common Sense Media, Snapchat has developed a Family Safety Hub that explains how the app works and how to use its in-app protections for teens. It's recommended that you review this guidance before allowing a child to download Snapchat. Remember, the app is only intended for children aged 13 and over.

BLOCK AND REPORT

If a stranger connects with a child on Snapchat and makes them feel uncomfortable by pressuring them to send or receive unwanted or inappropriate images, the child can tap the three dots on that person's profile to report or block them. There are options to state why they're reporting that user, with a tailored reporting section under the 'Nudity and Sexual Content' category. In this category, there's the option to report somebody for threatening to leak sexually explicit images, or 'nudes'.

ENCOURAGE OPEN DISCUSSIONS

Snapchat's risks can be easier to handle if you nurture an open dialogue. Talk about scams and blackmail before letting children sign up. If they're lured into a scam, encourage them to tell you immediately. Talk openly and non-judgementally about sexting, emphasising its inherent risks. Furthermore, explain how popular 'challenges' on the platform can have harmful consequences.

USE PRIVACY SETTINGS TOGETHER

Sit down with the children in your care and explore Snapchat's privacy settings as a shared activity. You can help them adjust who can contact them, view their stories, or see their location on Snap Map. It's a good opportunity to explain why some settings are safer than others, reinforcing their understanding of online boundaries. Encourage them to regularly review these settings, especially after app updates or changes in their friendship groups.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian Government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page at: <https://nationalcollege.com/guides/snapchat>

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