



Dear Families,

Welcome to the Christmas newsletter. It has been lovely this week seeing the Christmas lights at the front as I come in and leave each day. Though it is different, there has been a great atmosphere in classrooms as children have gone about a week of activities - a massive thank you to FOB for their time and focus. The raffle was a genius idea that looked amazing, the online Pantomime caused a lot of laughter and Jingles bought cheer and gifts around the Academy.

I don't know what January will bring but my team will be meeting on the morning of Monday, 3rd January 2022 and we will send out any updated information to you, if needed, that day.

In the meantime, have a lovely Christmas Holiday everyone. Look after yourselves and those around you and I wish everyone the best possible 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Walton

Brookside Academy Anti-Bullying Policy Consultation

Dear Families,

We are currently reviewing our Anti Bullying Policy. As part of this review I would love to hear your thoughts about the current policy and things you feel that we could do to move this forward.

According to children at our Academy instances of bullying are very rare, and often based around children falling out and struggles dealing with changes in friendship status. But children value Friendship above everything else in school so when it goes wrong it has a huge impact upon them.

79% of children put Friendship as their Number 1 choice to the question - What is the best thing about our Academy in March 2021.

Bullying is a very emotive word and it needs careful support and understanding. For anyone who has been or felt bullied you know what impact it can have on your wellbeing so it is something that needs to be central to how children grow and develop. It is also about supporting and developing children so that when they become adults they can behave in ways that help them and others. As you will know in recent times social media has added a complexity to this issue. But deep down I am confident that good education and family support are the crucial factors in tackling bullying and supporting wellbeing.

We also have to acknowledge that children are far from the finished article and they make mistakes (as do adults). They need to see and understand the consequences of these mistakes but also be given the support to learn from them and change to more positive behaviours.

Your thoughts on our current policy would be very welcome. You can find the policy on our website under Information for Parents/ Policies/ Anti Bullying Policy or via this link <https://www.brooksideacademy.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Anti-Bullying-Policy-NEW-November-2020-Final.pdf>

Please email any questions or comments you would like us to consider when updating this policy so that we can ensure that it impacts upon the curriculum we teach and the support we give to all our children.

Email: office@brooksideacademy.co.uk Subject: Anti Bullying Policy

Thank you, Brian Walton

Dates for your Diary:

20.12.21 to 03.01.22 Christmas Holidays

04.01.22 Children return to School and Nursery

08.02.22 Safer Internet Day

Please check our Website for further events throughout the year: <https://www.brooksideacademy.co.uk/calendar/>



£2252

RAISED!

Thank you to everyone for supporting this event!

Brookside Sports Timetable 2021-2022

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00 -10.30	Nursery	Specialist Provision	Specialist Provision	Specialist Provision	Early Years (9.00-10.30)
10.30-12.00	Nursery	Year 1	Year 2	Coaches Planning	Early Years (10.30-11.30)
<i>Lunch</i> (1@ 11.40-12.10) (2@11.55-12.25) Duty 2 @ 12.30-1.30 1@12.15-1.15	Lunch Clubs (1)12.15- 1.15 (2)12.30.1.30	Lunch Clubs (1)12.15- 1.15 (2)12.30.1.30	Lunch Clubs (1)12.15- 1.15 (2)12.30.1.30	Lunch Clubs (1)12.15- 1.15 (2)12.30.1.30	Lunch Clubs (1)12.15- 1.15 (2)12.30.1.30
1.30- 3.00	Year 3	Year 5	Year 6	Year 4	Enrichment



We use email and text as our main means of communicating with parents and carers. If you have not provided us with an up-to-date email address or mobile phone number, please do so. You may be missing out on important information.



Thank you to everyone who has checked/updated their school children's Data Collection and Parental Consents on the SIMS Parent App. Please can we ask that all parents complete this as soon as possible Thank you!

SIMS Parent App

We have a convenient way for you to **access, review and request changes** to the data held on you and your children, as well as see key term dates and other information. You are able to access our new SIMS Parent app and website at your own convenience via smartphone, tablet or PC – anytime, anywhere.

What will you find in SIMS Parent:

- School term, inset dates and contact details available at the click of a button.
- Access to update your contact details, so we always have the most up-to-date information in case of emergency.
- Access to update Parental Consents for your child.
- Your child's attendance data.
- Your child's end of year report will be available here at the end of the Summer term 2022.

If you have more than one child at school, you'll have access to this information for all your children, from the same app. (Please note that this is not applicable to our Nursery children as their records are held on a separate system; please contact the Academy Office if you would like to make changes to the personal information we hold for Nursery children.)

Getting started with SIMS Parent

We have sent all parents, who have parental responsibility, an activation email to their main email address. Simply click on the link from your tablet, PC or smartphone to activate your account (the registration process changed in September—see the latest guide on how to register below). If your email address has recently changed, please let us know by contacting the Academy Office.

Please contact the Academy Office if you have any difficulty activating SIMS Parent.

**** IMPORTANT — PRIMARY ADMISSIONS INFORMATION ****

Please apply now if your child is due to start school for the first time in September 2022

The admissions process for school place applications in September 2022 has begun and the Somerset County Council website is now live for parents/carers to make their on-line applications.

Somerset County Council will **not** be sending letters to parents/carers of children due to **start** school in September 2022 to inform them to apply. Applications should be made by the closing date given below.

Children due to Start School for the First Time in September 2022 — How to Apply

For children due to start school for the first time (those who turn four before September 2022), the closing date for applications is **15th January 2022** and the national offer day is 19th April 2022.

Parents can apply online now at: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/apply-to-start-school/>

The primary admission guide for the 2022 admissions process can be found on the Somerset County Council website: www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions. Parent/carers are advised to read the guide thoroughly before making an online application.

Head Lice Advice for Parents and Carers

Unfortunately, head lice are a common part of primary school life and schools no longer check children's hair. Anyone can get head lice and contrary to popular belief, having head lice is nothing to do with your personal hygiene.

Symptoms

Itching, although it is possible to have head lice without symptoms, so it is best to take a look.

How to check

Head lice are tiny and fast! Look behind ears, close to the scalp, at the back of the neck and under fringes. Adult head lice are 2 - 4mm long, immature lice are even smaller.

What are head lice

Head lice are live insects. Their empty eggs are called nits. Lice are wingless insects that hold on to the hair, feeding from the blood in the scalp. They spread through head-to-head contact, they do not jump. Adult females live for up to a month and lay around five eggs a day.

Our School procedure

If Lice are seen in a child's hair this advice letter will be sent home on that day to the whole class. If the Lice are a continuing issue for an individual child, then we will speak to the parent/carer directly.

How to get rid of head lice

Wet combing:

1. Wash hair using ordinary shampoo.
2. Lightly towel dry the hair.
3. Apply a conditioner to make combing easier (this also makes it harder for the louse to cling on).
4. Using **a comb designed for this purpose** part hair into small sections and comb hair from the scalp to the end.
5. Wipe the comb each time and check for live lice.
6. Repeat until you are sure the whole head is combed.
7. Thoroughly rinse the hair and comb.
8. Comb every **three days for at least two weeks** until no more lice are found.

Medicated treatments:

These are available from pharmacies – please follow the treatment's instruction leaflet.

Prevention

Check your child's hair weekly – don't wait for there to be symptoms. This is by far the best way to prevent head lice. Make it a weekly habit!

Please ensure that if your child has long hair it is tied back/up.

There are a number of head lice prevention products available i.e. Vosene shampoo for kids, tea tree sprays, etc.

Remember:

If you find head lice, check and treat the whole family at the same time.

Inform the school, baby-sitters, friends etc.

Lice only live on human heads they will not live on bedding or clothes.

They cannot jump or fly.

They are only caught by head to head contact.

Head lice are not fussy about the length of hair or how clean it is.

Useful websites for further information:

www.onceaweektakeapeek.com and www.nhs.uk

If you require further support please contact our Pupil well-being officer, Mrs Clair Hughes, either via the Academy Office or email office@brooksideacademy.co.uk

Free School Meals

Children who attend a Somerset County Council school, whose parents or carers receive certain benefits may be entitled to free school meals. Only the benefits listed here qualify you for free school meals for your children. These are the benefits:



- Universal Credit with an annual household income of less than £7,400 after tax
- Income Support (IS)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income related) - not Contribution related
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA) - not Contribution based
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit.
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190, as long as the family is not also in receipt of Working Tax Credit.

If you have recently become unemployed, but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals. Please phone the Children and Young People's Team on 0300 123 2224 for advice.

Children must be in school all day and they will be provided with a meal at lunchtime which is paid for by the school.

It is the responsibility of the parents or carers to register their entitlement and request free school meals for their children.

Children in nursery do not qualify for a free meal until they start school, but applications will be processed so that when your child starts school, you will already be notified whether they qualify for a free school meal or not.

Forms are available from the Brookside Academy Office or you may also apply online at: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/free-school-meals/>

Uniform Reminder

The school uniform is very simple and reasonably priced. We expect the children to wear it: White or red shirt/blouse or polo shirt, Brookside sweatshirt or cardigan (a plain, low-cost, red sweatshirt or cardigan is acceptable), grey or black skirt or trousers/shorts, red & white summer dress, black shoes. PE kit is red t-shirt and black shorts and warm joggers and trainers for the Winter. A warm, waterproof coat in wet/cold weather. Hair should be natural in colour and not of an extreme style (Mohicans, skin-heads, or tramlines, are not acceptable).



Every child should have a book bag and a PE bag. We give each new Early Years child a book bag before they start school. Sweatshirts, cardigans, PE kit and book bags can be ordered via the 'Uniform' link on the Academy Website. **ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE CLEARLY NAMED – PLEASE.**

Absence from School

Attendance at school is vital to your child's learning and development.

Children's progress will be affected if they are absent.

We have a statutory obligation to investigate any child's attendance that falls **below 90%** or **below the 10 session absence threshold** (10 or more half day absences within a 12-week period). Evidence of medical appointments, e.g. Doctor's/hospital/Dentist appointment cards/letters, etc., is required.

If your child is ill, please notify us before 9.00am via the **Studybugs** app, which is available to download from: [studybugs.com](https://www.studybugs.com).

Please inform the school beforehand if your child has to attend an appointment.

We are not able to authorise holidays in term time..

Children who arrive or leave school during the day **must** be signed in or out at the Academy office.

Brookside Academy Terms and Holidays 2021/2022 Academic Year



September 2021 M 6 13 20 27 Tu 7 14 21 28 W 1 8 15 22 29 Th 2 9 16 23 30 F 3 10 17 24 Sa 4 11 18 25 Su 5 12 19 26					October 2021 M 4 11 18 25 Tu 5 12 19 26 W 6 13 20 27 Th 7 14 21 28 F 1 8 15 22 29 Sa 2 9 16 23 30 Su 3 10 17 24 31					November 2021 M 1 8 15 22 29 Tu 2 9 16 23 30 W 3 10 17 24 Th 4 11 18 25 F 5 12 19 26 Sa 6 13 20 27 Su 7 14 21 28				
December 2021 M 6 13 20 27 Tu 7 14 21 28 W 1 8 15 22 29 Th 2 9 16 23 30 F 3 10 17 24 31 Sa 4 11 18 25 Su 5 12 19 26					January 2022 M 3 10 17 24 31 Tu 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 Th 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 Sa 1 8 15 22 29 Su 2 9 16 23 30					February 2022 M 7 14 21 28 Tu 1 8 15 22 W 2 9 16 23 Th 3 10 17 24 F 4 11 18 25 Sa 5 12 19 26 Su 6 13 20 27				
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Key:

	School Holiday
	Bank Holiday
	Term Time
	Inset Day for School and Nursery
	Inset Day for School only
	Inset Day for Specialist Provision only
	Inset Day for Nursery only

Term dates summary:

Term 1: 06 September – 21 October 2021 (34 days)
 Term 2: 01 November – 17 December 2021 (35 days)
 Term 3: 04 January – 18 February 2022 (34 days)
 Term 4: 28 February – 08 April 2022 (30 days)
 Term 5: 25 April – 27 May 2022 (24 days)
 Term 6: 06 June – 26 July 2022 (37 days)

TOTAL = 194

Bank and public holidays 2021/22

Christmas Day Bank Holiday	27 December 2021*	May Day Bank Holiday	02 May 2022
Boxing Day Bank Holiday	28 December 2021*	Spring Bank Holiday	02 June 2022**
New Year's Day Holiday	03 January 2022*	Queen's Platinum Jubilee	03 June 2022**
Good Friday	15 April 2022	Summer Bank Holiday	29 August 2022
Easter Monday	18 April 2022		

*Replacement Bank Holiday day when the bank holiday falls on a weekend

**The Government have moved the Spring Bank Holiday from 30th May 2022 to the 2nd June 2022 and they have created an additional Bank Holiday on 3rd June 2022 to create a four-day weekend to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee



Welcome to Brookside Academy

Thank you for visiting us; we are looking forward to working with you.

In order to provide the best learning environment possible, schools across Street are committed to the wellbeing of all members of our community, this includes children, parents / carers and staff. We expect all staff and visitors to treat children and colleagues with the courtesy and respect they would expect to receive themselves. In addition, it is important that adults should set a good example to children at all times.

We expect all visitors to

- Respect the caring ethos at each school
- To follow all safeguarding guidelines
- To approach members of staff for assistance with any issues in an appropriate manner.
- To work with the school in the correction of child's actions, especially where it has, or could lead to, conflict, aggressive or unsafe behaviour

Unacceptable conduct includes

- Verbal abuse which includes swearing and shouting
- Any form, or threat of, violence
- Aggression
- Harassment
- Derogatory comments linked to gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation or any other personal characteristic
- Possessing, abusing, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco or controlled substances on the school site
- Sending abusive or threatening emails, texts, phone messages or letters to anyone within the school community
- Disruptive behaviour which interferes with areas such as classrooms or office areas
- Using social networking sites to single out individuals, bully or to distribute untruthful or malicious information or comments

In the event that these expectations are not met visitors may be asked to:

- Stop and consider changing their actions
- Leave the school site
- Refrain from contacting members of staff

In the event of serious or persistent breaches of these expectations we may:

- Send parents a legally approved warning letter
- Withdraw permission for visitors to enter the school premises.
- In the case of bullying, untruthful or malicious comments on social networking sites, the schools may request that the comments are deleted. The governing bodies and individuals in liaison with their professional associations may also consider legal action.

This code is supported by our Governing Body and all schools in Street.

All staff and visitors have the right to work in a safe environment without fear of intimidation, abuse or assault.

Brookside Holiday Activity Club

Monday 20th - Thursday 23rd December

Daily 9.00am - 3.00pm @ £24 per day
Wrap around care available from 7.30 – 9.00am
And from 3.00 – 6.00 pm @ £4.20 per hour

We are offering a Christmas themed four days:



- Christmas decorations
- Christmas cakes
- Party games/music
- Christmas films

IT'S CHRISTMAS!!!

Alongside the above, we offer opportunities for children
To choose from a range of free play activities such as:
Outdoor activities, Cooking, Wii, iPads, Arts & Crafts.

It is advisable to book in advance to secure a place for your child

Booking is required either via:

<https://brooksideacademy.magicbooking.co.uk/Identity/Account/Login>

(Payment taken on booking)

Fully inclusive, all children from reception age
To KS3 are welcome.

Please note cancellations require 48hrs notice for refunds

Brookside Academy, Brooks Road, Street BA16 0PR





**is your child
5-19 and are you**
looking for confidential
help and support?

A safe and easy way to contact
your School Nursing Team

Just send a text or scan me

07480 635 515

Disclaimer. This is not an emergency service; it operates Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm and is only available by using a UK mobile number. Your messages are stored on our secure system and can be seen by the School Nursing Team who run our ChatHealth Service. Although this is a confidential service, in the event of an safeguarding issue the School Nurse has a duty of care to act on this and may escalate the concern.



Improving
LIVES



Street Community Library in its new premises at 6 Leigh Road

STREET LIBRARY

IS OPEN FOR ALL!



A warm welcome awaits you at your newly refurbished Street Community Library in the Parish Rooms, 6 Leigh Road, Street

OPENING HOURS

Mon & Fri 9.30-5, Wed & Thu 9.30 – 4.30, Sat 9.30 – 1

Browse at your leisure the expanded range of adult and young people's fiction, non-fiction and reference books, maps and guides, DVDs and spoken word CDs or reserve from LIBRARIES WEST's enormous catalogue of titles...

... and books are just the beginning!

LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP IS FREE and entitles you to
FREE computer use (advance booking recommended)
FREE in-library use of ANCESTRY.COM Library version
FREE online access to eBooks, eAudiobooks, digital newspapers, magazines and comics

Or just pop in for

Local and community information
Events, reading groups and poetry club
Children's activities (Lego Club, Storytime, craft days etc)
Photocopying and printing
Digital support for phones, computers and devices
The Digital Den: Nintendo Switch, 3D printer & 3D pens

Street Library

6 Leigh Road, Street, Somerset BA16 0HA

Tel: 0300 123 2224

email: Strlib@somerset.gov.uk

www.somersetlibraries.co.uk

Facebook.com/StreetLibrarySomerset

The Library continues to maintain Covid-safety measures, with open windows for ventilation and recommended use of free hand-sanitiser and recommended wearing of masks for adults

This leaflet has been produced by THE FRIENDS OF STREET LIBRARY (Charity Reg Number: 1185093) in support of Street Community Partnership Library

Find out more at www.FoStL.org.uk



CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL 2021

CAN YOU HELP TO BRING LIGHT TO CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY THIS CHRISTMAS?

We are collecting New Toys to be distributed to families through local agencies. Each family will receive a hamper of food and new toys.

If you would like you donate a new unwrapped toy or food to this years appeal please drop it off at the Salvation Army Hall Goswell road Street

Mon- Friday 9am-1pm

If you would like to donate outside of these times please contact us 01458 448963 and will happily meet you at a time to suite you.

DUE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY WE ARE ONLY ABLE TO ACCEPT NEW TOYS FOR THIS APPEAL



FANCY SOMETHING NEW FOR '22?

Woodwind lessons available at school
for Year 3 and older
in
Clarinet, Flute, Recorders and Saxophone

To book a **free** taster session or
for more details, contact

Mary Hooper
mary.hooper@virgin.net
07732 948311

THE WINTER READING CHALLENGE IS BACK!

STARTS WEDNESDAY 1 DECEMBER AND FINISHES ON
SUNDAY 16 JANUARY 2022

WILD WORLD
Heroes

WINTER
MINI CHALLENGE



WORKING TOGETHER TO
INSPIRE YOUNG
READERS TO STAND UP
FOR OUR PLANET

THE
READING
AGENCY



We're excited at Street Library! The Winter Mini Reading Challenge is back! Register online (www.wintermini.org.uk) to access rewards/games etc. Read at least three books to unlock a virtual badge and certificate. Pop into the library and take a look at our fantastic range of children's books. If you have any questions about the challenge please come into the library, email us – strlib@somerset.gov.uk or phone 0300 123 2224.