

Newsletter No. 85 - March 2024

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Dear Families,

Another term passes us by. I always feel that this is the term where you begin to see things come together, lessons learnt and progress shown. There has been some stunning work across the Academy this term. Amazing stories, incredible art work and some fantastic singing. Brookside has been a buzz of purpose.

I want to take this opportunity to say what an incredible achievement from our girl's football team - Local and then Somerset Champions! They went to the South West finals representing their county and continued to show grit, skill and a positive attitude. We are so proud of them. I'd also like to thank Mr Ball and Mr Perry for all their coaching. They have been amazing.

Finally, I'd like to draw your attention to the High Holborne Cup Final at Huish Park. It has many of last year's Year 6 boys in it. We always feel it is important that once children leave Brookside that we still hear about their achievements. Wishing them all the very best in the final!

Yours sincerely,

Brian Walton



Well Done to Kian, William and Freddie (Year 2) who represented Tor Rugby club, in a tournament, at the weekend.

Alongside their team mates they played five different games in the U7 Countywide Festival.

They consistently showed both skill and determination and were sportsmen throughout.

Italia would like to share with you her success from the weekend, where she secured 3rd place at the National League for Trampolining in the Age group 12+

Well done Italia, we are all very proud of you.



Gaming and Online Chat

Please read the following guidance in relation to lots of issues we are having with children and parents outside of school: https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/in-game-chat/

Girls ESFA Regional Football Finals - Saturday 16th March



After becoming Somerset champions, our Year 6 girls travelled to Keynsham to compete in the South West Regional Finals. The event hosted 10 county champions, which were split up into two pools of 5. The girls did themselves proud and battled to the end against some very strong opposition. To qualify was always going to be a tough ask, with only 24 schools throughout the country making it all the way to the National Finals. Results are attached below:

Somerset 1-1 Cornwall

Somerset 0-1 Dorset

Somerset 0-2 Berkshire

Somerset 0-0 Oxfordshire

Unfortunately, the girls finished 4th in their respective group, which wasn't enough to qualify for the Semi-Finals. However, they have created a piece of Brookside history by being the first team to compete in a football regional event. Well done girls, you should be very proud of what you have achieved.



Netball

The Brookside Year 6 Netball team put on a great performance at the League tournament recently. They were unlucky not to win their matches but they gained confidence in every quarter and worked tirelessly to try and seize victory from some rather excellent competition. They were a pleasure to take and should be rightly proud of their efforts - well done team!

These fabulous children took part in a netball tournament on Tuesday 12th and came 2nd in the Plate competition! They played brilliantly and have made so much progress over the course of the club's duration. I am excited for next year with the current Year 5's and hope that they will of course sign up again.

On Tuesday 19th we ended with a mini House Tournament.

Well done everyone!





Cross Country

Congratulations to Filip (Year 5) and Dexter (Year 4) who have been selected to represent the Mendip Cross Country team in April following their successes throughout the Cross-Country season.



A big achievement for Rueben and Willow in Year 4, who both completed their first race last Tuesday at Millfield.

Wellbeing Matters



Welcome to the Easter edition of Wellbeing Matters!

This year's Easter holiday starts on Thursday 28th with an Inset day at school for children going straight into the 4 day Easter weekend!

Regular readers of this section of the newsletter will know how much I love nature and believe in what a positive influence it can have on our wellbeing so you won't be surprised to read I am celebrating outdoor activities as we head through Spring towards summer.

Over the Easter holiday the Avalon Marshes are putting on various events which will be a great way to spend some time together. There is pond dipping at Ham Wall and Roman Masks and Mosaic Making at Avalon Marshes Centre. These events are always popular and don't cost a fortune so please check the website to book a place.



Spending time together as a family is great but it's also important to have some 'me' time so with that in mind, check out the Avalon Marshes website for activities which run when the children are back at school which you might like to try alone or with a friend. There are lots of guided walks, flower arranging and Well Woman group walks that you can book onto if any of those interest you.



FREE ONLINE WORKSHOPS FOR PARENTS & CARERS



SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD'S BIG FEELINGS



It was great to have so many parents show an interest in this free event which was due to take place in school in February. Unfortunately, the event was cancelled due to factors beyond our control but I am happy to say the Mental Health Support Team are running some online dates in April with a range of times to fit around your commitments.

If you would like to book a place on one of these online sessions, please click on the link in the flyer which you should have received by email.



Our first star is **Prinze-Zelassi from Otters**. He has shown continued determination with communication, especially when there is something wrong and he demonstrated high levels of empathy, recognising sadness in another child and approaching them to ask if they were ok.

Great work, Prinze-Zelassi!





Our next star is----- **Brayden-Dre from Swifts**. He stands out as a star because he is so helpful and kind towards others. If there is one thing the world needs more of it is kindness, so thanks Brayden-Dre, you are a star!

Share this with children, grandparents, friends and neighbours and harvest the happiness for months to come.

Thanks for reading. Send me your thoughts, comments and suggestions via the office any time.

Adrian Ballard, Wellbeing Lead

What we've been up to recently ...

Nursery—Lifecycles, Cookies, Exploring and more ...

In the baby room this half term, we have been making the most of the weather by getting out and about. Our older children have been exploring the garden using their physical skills to climb the steps of the slide and manoeuvring around the garden on our three wheeled trikes; the younger children have been using the walkers to help them become more mobile and explore more of their environment. We have been making Easter cards for our families using paint; exploring ice with our hands and fingers, and baking cookies. We have recently started using the school hall on a Wednesday morning to explore a wider variety of resources and different environments; we have been exploring the school grounds using the pirate ship; seeing the ponies through the fence, and utilising the sand pit and Forest school areas.

In the Toddler room this half term, the children enjoyed exploring World Book Day and themed activities. Many of us enjoyed dressing up throughout the week. We enjoyed exploring 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' tuff tray, and Gruffalo activities. Some of the children got together to write our own story and helped with the illustrations, this was a great activity for the children to explore their own imagination, language and literacy skills.

We have updated our display boards, we have one about different foods and what food we like to eat, which is a big discussion in the Toddler room at the moment. Our seasons board is now 'Spring' so we are adding Spring additions to this board including Easter activities.

As the weather has been improving we have enjoyed our outdoor environment more, from exploring the Academy park area to walking around the Academy site. We are enjoying helping the adults with little jobs around the Academy, including taking the shopping list to the office each week.

In the Preschool room this half term, we have been exploring all things to do with lifecycles!

The children have engaged beautifully, sharing their knowledge whilst learning new and exciting facts. We have looked at The Butterfly; Ladybird; plant and Frog lifecycles.

During phonics we have been carrying out environmental nature walks, some of which have been called 'earwigging.'

The new and improved nature area and tadpole look out has become an absolute favourite, sparking many conversations using new vocabulary, mark making skills and teachable moments.

We have covered many learning areas, from cutting and sticking to plasticine modelling. It has been an exciting time, watching our beans and cress develop and grow.

We wish you all a lovely Easter.

From The Nursery Team



Early Years—World Book Day, the Seasons and more ...

WOW WOW WOW!!

Just look at these amazing dressed potatoes. The grown-ups in Early Years were blown away by the amazing talent and creativity shown with the dressed potatoes brought in by the children on world Book Day. Well done everyone!!



We have also been learning about how to care for our environment, reducing waste, reusing and recycling. We shared the stories of 'Somebody swallowed Stanley' and 'The Messy Magpie'. The children already have excellent knowledge about ways to help care for our environment, which is wonderful to see.

We were very busy during free-flow times, exploring musical instruments, small world play with the farm and animals, we re-used a piece of cardboard packaging to make a road for the toy cars and we painted our clay creations from forest school. One of our Bee Challenges was to draw a picture of ourselves and write our name. Most of us can confidently write our name correctly now, which is an amazing achievement!

During Bee Explorers one Friday afternoon, we enjoyed playing with the small world castle, trains and tracks and we re-used more cardboard packaging to create fantastic houses .



Year 1—World Book Day, Plants and Beans! ...

Wow, what a wonderful day we have had to celebrate World Book Day. The children all looked fantastic and the potato creations have blew us away. It was been a wonderful day celebrating all things book related and the children particularly loved getting the chance to go upstairs and listen to different teachers reading stories.



Alongside the excitement of World Book Day we have also been beginning to work on measurement in Maths. We have used language such as bigger, smaller, taller and longer to compare items before moving on to using non-standard units to measure objects. We discovered a problem when our teachers gave us different sized cubes, so then we had to learn how to use a ruler.

We have also started learning about plants, we went on a walk in the sunshine to look for wild and garden plants. We have also planted some beans in our classes that we are observing closely and will hopefully be able to bring home soon.



Year 1 continued ...

In Maths we have been learning about measuring and comparing mass and capacity! We really enjoyed using the scales to see how many cubes different items from around our classroom weighed. We realised that even though some objects are bigger than others, it doesn't always mean they will weigh more.



We moved onto measuring capacity. We had a really fun lesson outside where we were measuring how many cups of water would fill different sized containers such as saucepans, containers and jugs.



In English this week we have been reading Jack and the Beanstalk, a story that most of us were already familiar with. We wrote a letter to the giant, drew a story map, acted out the story and then re-wrote the story into our books in our most beautiful handwriting, concentrating on full stops, capital letters and finger spaces. The children did so well with re-telling the story, making sure to include all the small details.

In DT this week we enjoyed 2 cooking sessions! We made carrot and cheese bites and strawberry and banana milkshakes. Making these involved practicing our grating and chopping skills and everyone all did very well, and mostly enjoyed tasting the end result!



We have enjoyed observing our beans growing, and children will be able to bring these home on Wednesday to continue looking after them at home.

Year 2—Puppets, Life Cycles and 'Chitting' Potatoes ...

In English, we have been learning all about past tense and how to write a paragraph using the past tense. We have continued reading our class book 'Flat Stanley' and predicting what would happen next. We are really enjoying Flat Stanley, ask us some questions about him! We then wrote a diary entry, making sure to include all the diary writing features that we have been learning about.

In Maths, we have focused on weight as part of our measurement learning. We have learnt how to read scales, including those with missing numbers, and comparing different weights. We know all about the different units of measurement, including kg and g. We have also been practicing adding and subtracting using formal column method, as well as sharpening up our skills in arithmetic.

We are continuing to work super hard creating our puppets in our Art/DT project. This week we have started to use a material called 'modroc' to start shaping and forming our puppet's heads. They are coming together nicely and we are really enjoying watching them develop and come alive from our original ideas!



In computing we are gaining more confidence using our new programme J2E to build pictograms. We are excellent data collectors, can confidently enter this into the graph and we can analyse the results to tell you which one has more or less, most or least.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our Forest school sessions, which unfortunately have come to an end for us in Year 2.

Currently, we are thoroughly enjoying 'Mindful Bubbles' a video that helps to improve our concentration skills and focus.

Year 3— Time, South America and branching databases ...

During Science week we celebrated the theme 'Time' by looking at our reaction times. The children were set a series of challenges that tested their reaction times. The first was a sight reaction, the second was a sound reaction and the third was a touch reaction. They had a lot of fun finding out who had the quickest reactions.



In geography this term, we have been learning about South America and its human and physical features. We started by learning the 12 countries of South America and used clues to help us identify which was which. We then labelled the continent correctly in our books. We also did some research on the main geography of Brazil and UK and found out key information about the population, size and capital cities. We were amazed to find out that Brazil alone was 35 times bigger than the UK! WOW! We ended the unit by deciding where we would rather live.



In computing this term, we have been learning about branching databases to classify objects by their attributes. A good branching database must have objects split into equal groups on the first question and each question must have a yes or no answer. We have also been learning all about rocks, how they are formed and their properties. We started by looking closely at different types of rocks and describing their properties using scientific language. Once we knew how to make a branching database, we then classified rocks in Science using key vocabulary that we had learnt.



In our English lessons we have been reading "The Worst Witch" by Jill Murphy. The children have really enjoyed the story so far. We have designed our very own broomsticks for a witch or wizard. We all came up with some amazing designs with some very interesting added features. We then wrote persuasive adverts to sell our brooms to other witches and wizards.

Year 4—Prehistoric Britain, British Science Week and lots more ...

We have been learning about prehistoric Britain in our latest History topic of Changes in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age. We have looked at how early humans first developed stone tools, perfecting their craft and creating simple yet powerful tools that were ideally suited to the harsh and ever-changing environments of prehistoric Britain.

We have been learning about how we are able to know anything about this time when we do not have any written records. The children have explored how different artefacts can tell us more about the past but that they often provide us with more questions than they do answers. We have been particularly interested in learning about a skeleton discovered from the Mesolithic period that has been nicknamed the Cheddar Man. The Cheddar Man was a Mesolithic hunter-gatherer (fully modern human) with dark skin and blue eyes. He was about 166 centimetres tall and died in his twenties over 10,000 years ago. Scientists have been able to discover incredible things about him, including the fact that as at the time, humans had not yet begun farming, he was lactose intolerant.

We have discovered that the Bronze Age followed the Stone Age and is the time that metal was first introduced to Britain and people began living in roundhouses and wearing clothes spun from wool. By the end of the Neolithic period, many people had begun to live on small farms in a contrast to their nomadic origins but when bronze arrived, they were able to clear more land. It is believed that it was the Beaker people (amongst others) who brought this new skill and knowledge with them from mainland Europe, transforming Britain's landscape as larger farms meant that the land could support a much greater number of people.

To help reinforce this knowledge, in English we have been reading Stone Age Boy an illustrated children's book by Satoshi Kitamura. The story follows a boy who trips over in the woods once day and finds that he has fallen down, down, down into the past and into the time of the Stone Age. We have been writing diary entries and developing our descriptive writing and have written our own Stone Age Boy inspired stories.







The theme of British Science Week this year is time. We looked at different ways that people in the past have kept time. We learnt about pendulums and had a go at creating our own pendulums. We timed them to see how long they kept swinging for. We were then set with a challenge to try to create a pendulum that would stop after 30 seconds. We added different size card to our pendulum to affect the timings.

Last Thursday, we were very lucky to be invited to Millfield to watch a science show all about liquid nitrogen. We saw amazing experiments, created and tried ice cream and even saw a huge explosion. The children all really enjoyed the show!

In history we have been learning about the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. We looked at the cave art left behind from the Stone Age which has been found in different countries. Using charcoal and oil pastels, we created art work inspired by cave paintings.



Year 5- Crumbles and World Book Day

The children came into school in some amazing costumes for World Book day and many of them brought a creative potato for the competition – there were some amazing designs.



The children have been working with Crumbles in their computing lessons over this half term. We have been very lucky that a school in Taunton has leant us these coding and programming kits. We have programmes on our computers to make lights flash in a sequence, then we attached a motorised wheel. We made a man 'disco dance' by sticking a picture of a man on the wheel and programming our crumbles to make the man dance, whilst the light was flashing different colours. We have also connected a switch to our circuit so that we could control our programme on a loop.



Year 6—Trip to Millfield and

We had a very warm walk to Millfield where we got to meet some Longleat Keepers and some delightful creatures. We asked lots of pertinent questions about the animals as we have spent a lot of time learning how to classify them and will be learning about adaptations in the forthcoming weeks as well. Our favourite part, was of course, handling the animals.



Year 6 faced one of their toughest challenges yet in last week's DT lesson: how to make a motorised vehicle. Making the chassis and the circuit was the easy part, but putting them together and making it move, proved to be almost too tricky for the Year 6. They were not put off however and tinkered and modified over and over until they got their cars to move down the corridor. The next challenge was to make a body and attach it, whilst still having a moving vehicle. There was many a broken elastic band along the way and I think we used a mountain of masking tape as well as a river of glue, but the pleasure on the faces of the children, when their car cruised (well...not quite) down the corridor, was the most rewarding sight to see, this year so far! Incredible work Year 6 – well done; your teachers are extremely proud of you!



Year 6—World Book Day



Wonderful potato characters from Year 6 – it was so hard to find a winner in amongst these quirky spuds! Well done to Molly G in Pandas and Bea G. in Koalas!



Some of last year's Year 6 boys are playing in the High Holborne cup final at Huish Park, Yeovil Town FC in April. Brookside are hugely proud of their achievement and are pleased to promote the match and fill the stadium with as many supporters as we can.



Our U12 Wells City team has fought their way to the finals of the prestigious High Holborne Cup! 🜋 👏

Mark your calendars because on **Thursday, April**18th, at 18:30, they'll be taking Merriott Youth Rhinos at none other than **Huish Park in the Yeovil FC**stadium!

It's a momentous occasion for our club, and we need all the support we can get to turn the stadium into a sea of blue amidst the green.

Entry is FREE for kids!

We're still ironing out the details, but adult entry is expected to be around £5 (to be confirmed).

Save the date and let's pack the stands and cheer our young Blue Army to victory! ***

Dates for your Diary—Summer Term 1:

27.03.24 Reverend Ana delivering an Easter Assembly to Years 4 and 6

28.03.24 Inset Day—School and Nursery closed

28.03.24 Friends of Brookside Easter Egg Trail at Brookside Academy 10:00-12:00

29.03.24 to 12.04.24—Easter Holiday

15.04.24 Children return to School

16-19.04.24 Fizz Pop Science Workshops for Nursery to Year 6

18.04.24 Year 1 trip to Puxton Park

23.04.24 Year 4 trip to Magdelen Farm

23.04.24 Reverend Ana visiting Year 5 Classes

24.04.24 Early Years 1st visit to Pizza Express

01.05.24 Early Years 2nd visit to Pizza Express

06.05.24 BANK HOLIDAY

07.05.24 Early Years visit to Haynes Motor Museum

09.05.24 Year 3 Trip to Mary Anning Museum, Lyme Regis

15.05.24 Reverend Ana visiting Nursery and Early Years

16.05.24 Year 2 Sharing Assembly 14:45-15:10 (letter to follow)

20-23.05.24 Scarf Life Bus visits for Nursery Pre-school to Year 6

21.05.24 Whole Class & Year Group Photos being taken of Early Years, Year 6 & all Specialist Provision children

23.05.24 Year 1 Sharing Assembly 14:45-15:10 (letter to follow)

27-31.05.24 HALF-TERM HOLIDAY

03.06.24 Children return to School

3-7.06.24 Koalas and Pandas Residential visit to YHA Adventure Okehampton

Please check the School Calendar on our Website for further events throughout the year: https:// www.brooksideacademy.co.uk/calendar/



'NO SCOOTERS' REMINDER

We would like to remind you that we **DO NOT** allow children to ride their scooters (or bicycles) anywhere on our Academy site—there are notices to this effect on our pedestrian gates. Increasingly, we see children riding scooters on our Nursery path; including when parents and children are queueing along the path for morning drop-off and end of day pick-up—please refrain from doing this, as it is dangerous. If scooters (and bikes) must be brought onto site

then please dismount outside the Academy and walk them onto site. If they need to be left on site, they should be secured in our bike/scooter shelter at the front of the school or they can also be left in the storage container outside the Nursery door.

Thank you for your help with this serious matter.



We were absolutely overwhelmed by your generosity at our Christmas Concerts. You helped us to raise a staggering £737.81, for which the Great

Ormond Street Hospital charity are truly grateful. Thank you so very much to everyone who kindly donated.

Great Ormond Street Hospital Children's Charity. Registered charity no. 1160024

Thank you to everyone for their generous donations on Red Nose Day. Together we raised an amazing £382.57. The money will be pent by Comic Relief to help people living incredibly tough lives, both at home in the UK and



across the world's poorest countries.



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.





September 2023					October 2023					November 2023								
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Term 1: 04 September – 20 October 2023 (35 days)
Term 2: 30 October – 15 December 2023 (35 days)
Term 3: 02 January – 9 February 2024 (29 days)
Term 4: 19 February – 28 March 2024 (29 days)
Term 5: 15 April – 24 May 2024 (29 days)
Term 6: 03 June – 24 July 2024 (38 days) TOTAL

Christmas Day Bank Holiday Boxing Day Bank Holiday New Year's Day Holiday Good Friday

Bank and public holidays 2023/24
25 December 2023 Easter Monday
26 December 2023 May Day Bank H
Ol January 2024 Spring Bank Hol
29 March 2024 Summer Bank H Easter Monday May Day Bank Holiday Spring Bank Holiday Summer Bank Holiday

01 April 2024 06 May 2024 27 May 2024 26 August 2024

Brookside Sports Timetable 2023-2024							
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
9.00 -10.30	Specialist Provision x 4 slots (9.00-9.45)			Nursery	Swimming		
10.30-12.00	(9.45-10.30) (10.30-11.15) (11.15-12.00)	Year 1	Early Years (10:15-11:45)	Year 2	Planning		
Lunch (1@ 11.40-12.10) (2@11.55-12.25) 2 @ 12.30-1.30 1@12.15-1.15	Lunch Clubs (1)12.15- 1.15 (2)12.30.1.30						
1.30- 3.00	Sports Intervention	Year 6	Year 5	Year 4	Enrichment		



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 8.45am via the **Studybugs** app, which is available to download from: 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.

Free School Meals

Children who attend a Somerset Council school, whose parents or carers receive any of the following are entitled to free school meals:

- Income Support (IS)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Universal Credit with an annual household income of less than £7400 after tax
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190

Only the benefits listed above qualify for free school meals. If you have recently become unemployed, but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals.

Non-Benefit related additional eligibility criteria:

Children of families who don't receive these benefits may also qualify for free school meals if the family's annual household income is no higher than the following:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with one child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with two or more children.

In addition to these thresholds, families must hold no more than £16,000 in capital and savings.

- And the parent or carer meets any of the following criteria:
- you are a Zambrano or Chen carer
- families who have no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights
- families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- you hold a British National (Overseas) BN(O) passport
- you are a spousal visa, work visa or student visa holder
- you have no immigration status.

Please phone the Entitlements Team, County Hall, 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 apply online at: https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/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, skinheads, 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. Parents/carers will receive a text reminder if their child isn't wearing the correct uniform.



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 2024.

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 App is not available for our Nursery parents, as their children's 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.)



SIMS PARENT APP

A COMPLETE GUIDE ON HOW TO REGISTER

Step 1: You will receive an email from noreply@sims.co.uk, click ACCEPT INVITE.

Step 2: The Activate Your Account screen is displayed. The Invitation Code field is already filled with the unique code from your email. Enter your email address as Username and click the Next button.

Step 3: Confirm your identity by entering the date of birth of one of your children at Brookside (in the format dd/mm/yyyy).

Step 4: At the 'Create a Strong Password' screen, create a password for the new account you are creating and click the Next button.

Step 5: Once your account has been created, you will receive an email at the email address you registered. Click the Verify My Email button.

Step 6: Click the Sign In button on the screen confirming your email address has been validated.

Step 7: At the Register your account for SIMS Products screen, enter your newly created username (i.e. your email address) and password, then click the Sign in button.

Step 8: The first time you use your SIMS ID account, you will be prompted to Set Security Questions.

Answer all three security questions, then click the Save and Continue button to launch your SIMS Online Service.



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:

- Wash hair using ordinary shampoo.
- 2. Lightly towel dry the hair.
- Apply a conditioner to make combing easier (this also makes it harder for the louse to cling on).
- 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.
- Repeat until you are sure the whole head is combed.
- Thoroughly rinse the hair and comb.
- 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 www.nhs.uk

If you require further support please contact our Medical Lead, Mrs Clair Hughes, either via the Academy Office or email office@brooksideacabemy.co.uk



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 of 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.

Should my child go to school/nursery today?

https://nhssomerset.nhs.uk/my-health/parent-zone/?#7

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox

Until all spots have crusted over Conjunctivitis

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed Diarrhoea & Vomiting

48 hours from last episode

Glandular Fever

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed Hand, foot & mouth

No need to stay
off but school
or nursery
should be
informed

Impetigo

Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after starting antibiotics

Measles or German Measles

4 days from onset of rash

Mumps

5 days from onset of swelling

Scabies

Until after first treatment

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after starting antibiotics Slapped Cheek

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed Whooping Cough

48 hours after starting antibiotics



Flu or Covid-19

Until recovered

Head Lice

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed **Threadworms**

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed **Tonsillitis**

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed







Talking to your child about their online experiences is the best way to stay informed and address any problems that may arise. To help with this, parental controls are settings that let you decide what your child can see online. Along with privacy settings, they help keep children safe from things like inappropriate content, cyberbullying, and online dangers.

Internet Matters provide this very useful set of step by steps guides, which help parents understand controls for the devices you have at home:

https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls

#LearnForLove

Discover the secrets to healthy family relationships and wellbeing



New online learning for all Somerset residents worth £100 -

- Baby on the way? Manage your emotional and physical health and build strong bonds with your baby
- Parents, grandparents and caregivers: learn more about your amazing child and what makes them tick
- Teenagers: learn about your wonderfully complex mind and emotions

This free service is commissioned by Connect Somerset, a partnership between Somerset Council, Somerset NHS, Early Years settings, Schools, Colleges and the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprises.







3 easy steps to start your learning journey now:



Use the QR code on your phone, or go to: bit.ly/LearnForLove

dragon

Enter code 'dragon'



Choose your topics for learning – as many as you like!

Respecting your privacy: All you need to access the courses is an email to log in and track progress. We don't use this email address for anything else and we don't share it with anyone.





is your child 5-19 and are you

looking for confidential help and support?

STREET

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 - Spm and sonly available by using a UK noble number Voru 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.





iks to the government for

Street & Glastonbury Group Dates

Friday	19th	January	10:00 to 12:00
Friday	15th	March	10:00 to 12:00
Friday	19th	April	10:00 to 12:00
Friday	17th	May	10:00 to 12:00
Friday	21st	June	10:00 to 12:00
Friday	19th	July	10:00 to 12:00

If you have a child with additional needs and or disabilities 0-25 come along for a cuppa and chat with other parent carers.

The groups are a place to make new friends and share experiences and ask any questions you may have.



@ Brewers Fayre,Morland Rd, Glastonbury,BA6 9FW





The Salvation Army Goswell Road

We are able to serve the community in this way due to the generous donations we receive, thank you!



Each of our food parcels contain none perishable items, fresh food and Aldi shopping vouchers.

If you are able to help please drop off donations

Monday – Wednesday 9am-1pm or Friday 9am – 1pm.

If you would like to drop off at another time please contact us on the number below and we will happily arrange a time that suits you.

We also take cash donations to help with the cost of the fresh food items and Aldi shopping vouchers.

PHONE number: 07511313339





Community Inclusion and Activity Team Family Club



Drop in club for families who have a child / young person with a disability and / or additional need. Siblings are welcome.

Activities include:

- Arts and crafts
- Outside play area
 - Bike riding
 - Indoor games
- Sensory activities
 - . Lego

All parents/carers must be in attendance with children.

No need to book, just turn up!



The Mendip School

Edmond Rack Road, Prestleigh, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, BA4 4FZ.

2023

16th September, 14th October, 18th November and 9th December

2024

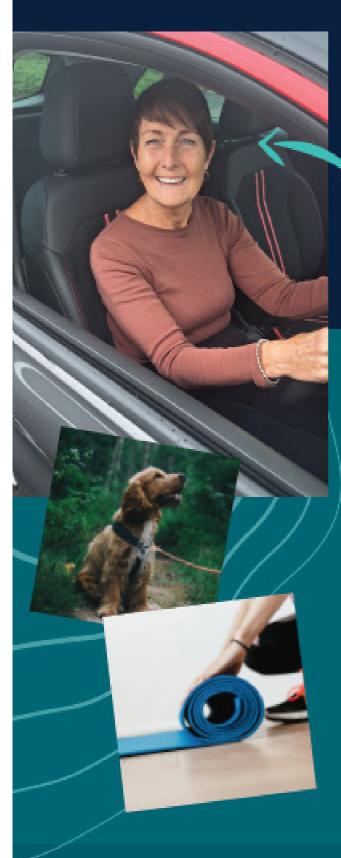
13th January, 10th February, 9th March, 27th April, 18th May and 15th June.

£3 per child Maximum charge £6 per family

For more information, please email CIATeam@somerset.gov.uk







SUE

- Dog walker.
- Pilates enthusiast.
- SomersetVolunteer Driver.

People across Somerset need your help to attend essential medical appointments.

With no transport of their own, and some having treatments relating to cancer or cardiology, a volunteer driver with a friendly face like Sue is exactly what they need.

Our drivers also support adults and children in Somerset with journeys relating to social care.



Think you can help too? Find out more about the role and apply here: www.volunteering.somerset.gov.uk/drive

Alternatively, email **gemma.ruffle@somerset.gov.uk** or call **97855 285464** to make a difference in your community.





Issue 4

TLE Active Camp Newsletter

February 2024

Quality coaching at Affordable Prices

BOOKING FOR THE FASTER HOLIDAYS ARE NOW OPEN!

We are very excited to let you all know that the bookings for our Easter Active Camps both weeks (April 2nd to 5th, and April 8th to 12th) is now OPEN!

We will be running camps at:

- Bucklers Mead Academy (Yeovil)
- Catcott Primary (Bridgwater)
- · Countess Gytha (Queen Camel)
- · Fairlands Middle School (Cheddar)
- · Shepton Infants (Shepton Mallet)
- St Benedicts (Glastonbury)
- · Wookey Primary (Wookey)

Each venue has a number of activities. They have access to:

- Nerf
- · Laser Tag
- Archery
- Circus Skills
- Tri Golf
- Football

We also have the two inflatables that visit each site during the week.

Please check to see which camps are running on the week you need as Countess Gytha and Wookey are alternate to each other, wheread the others are running both weeks.

Please visit: www.tlesportscoaching.co.uk to book.





For more information visit: tlesportscoaching.co.uk



Easter at RSPB Ham Wall

Easter Feast - Family Nature Trail

Join us on an exciting Easter adventure as we see how many different animals are attending an Easter feast along the trail. But, oh dear, Miranda the Mute Swan can't remember what ingredient she should be bringing, can you help her find out what it

29 Mar - 24 Apr 2024, 10am-3pm Date £3.50 per pack (inc. small prize) Cost

Family Pond Dipping Sessions There's a secret world hidden all around us full of amazing creatures. What will you find lurking just below the surface?

Will it be a ferocious Dragonfly Nymph, a cunningly disguised Caddisfly Larvae or a shimmering Stickleback?

5 Apr 2024, 11am-4pm £5 - £6 inc. booking fee

Wildlife Explorer Backpacks

Unleash your inner explorer! Grab one of orneasn your inner explorer! Grab one of our wildlife explorer backpacks and dive into the enchanting world of nature! Each backpack has a pair of children's binoculars, magnifying glass, bug pot, ID guides and seasonal activity sheets to turn your outing into an unforgettable adventure.

Daily, 10am-2pm Date £3.50 per backpack Cost

Facilities and Location

Car Park and Toilets: 5am-8pm Info Point 10am-4pm Catering Klosk: 10am-4pm, Guaranteed opening on weekends. Open on weekdays when a volunteer is available Selling hot and cold drinks, pre-packaged snacks and ice creams.

Address: RSPB Ham Wall, Meare nr.
Glastonbury, BA6 9SX

Contact ham.wall@rspb.org.uk

Find out more https://events.rspb.org.uk/hamwall









Family Holiday Activities

EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER

Book online at wellscathedral.org.uk/holidays



Spring into life

April 2024

Celebrate Easter and Springtime with our family trail (available throughout the holiday) and our themed craft activities!





Follow our Easter crosses trail, collecting beads to make your own cross necklace.







Follow our Easter story trail then make your own Easter garden to tell the best part of the story.



Get Growing Thursday 4 April

Decorate a mini pot and get planting!



Spring into life Friday 5 April

Celebrate new life with our spring themed crafts.



Scan to book:

Or drop in on the day (subject to availability £2.15 per child /£1.10 if eligible for free school meals; accompanying adults FREI Please note: children must be accompanied by a responsible adul





Forest & Farm Club

Holiday sessions at Core Creative
Education Environmental
Education Centre

When - Mon 8th & Tues 9th April 2024

Where - Limemead Farm, Halstock Dorset BA22 9QU

Time - 10am-3pm

Cost - £30 per child, per day (£20 siblings)

Somerset Discount £15 per child, per day (siblings £12.50)

Email office@coreprojects.org.uk to book

Tel - 01935 891248

- Animals
- Forest School
- Seasonal Crafts
- Campfires
- Woodlands Explore
- Games & Activities









2nd April- 19th April Check our website for details

121 Lessons	10:00-13:00
Fun with Floats	13:00 - 13:45
Public Swim	14:00 - 14:45



THURSDAY
28TH MARCH
10AM TILL 12PM
BROOKSIDE
ACADEMY

TRAIL CRAFTS REFRESHMENTS

WELLS
CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
ENTERPRISES

CEDARS HALL

Please book a slot to start the Easter Egg Trail before the **26**th March, **9**pm:

HTTPS://FRIENDS-OF-BROOKSIDE.SUMUPSTORE.COM/CATEGORY/EASTER

Youth Cricket Season 2024



When: U10's (Year 1 - 4 inclusive) U11's (Years 5 and 6) U13's (Years 7 and 8)

U15's (Years 9 and 10)

Email streetcc2@outlook.com

Every Tuesday 18.15 -19.30 Victoria Club, Street. £3 per session, pay as you go.

Every Wednesday 18.15 - 19.30 Victoria Club, Street, £3 per session, pay as you go.





& Racketball Club



- our court booking system
 If you would like to have a look at our facilities or wish to try a taster session, please

 $\underline{victorias quash street@gmail.com}\\$

4 CHURCH CHALLENGE

10-mile Circular route, starting and ending at St Andrews Church.



Sponsorship forms & information packs are available at the following locations St Andrews Church Compton Dundon Holy Trinity Church, Walton Street Mission Church

- Holy Trinity Church, Street, Compton Dundon Post office
- G A Doble Civil Engineering Ltd

For more information please call Louise on 07971 123726





Forest & Farm Club

Holiday sessions at Core Creative **Education Environmental Education Centre**

When - Tues 28th & Weds 29th May 2024

Where - Limemead Farm, Halstock Dorset BA22 9QU

Time - 10am-3pm

Cost - £30 per child, per day (£20 siblings)

Somerset Discount £15 per child, per day (siblings £12.50)

Email office@coreprojects.org.uk to book

Tel - 01935 891248

- Animals
- Forest School
- Seasonal Crafts
- Campfires
- Woodlands Explore
- Games & Activities







Tennis Coaching opportunity - Prime Video LTA Youth Girls

Dear Parents,

Prime Video LTA Youth Girls

Prime Video LTA Youth Girls is a beginner's tennis course, encouraging the next generation of girls to start their Tennis journey.

We have been running the LTA Prime Video for girls' initiative over the last 2 terms where children sign up to a block of Tennis coaching for £35 through the LTA website and receive a free Tennis racket, T shirt, Tennis balls and wrist bands.

We are running another block of Tennis coaching over the Summer term and wondered if your daughter might be interested in signing up for the equipment and coaching.

We are running a special 3 hour session on Sunday 21st April in the Millfield Prep Sports Hall (BA6 8LD) from 9-12 noon which will cost £35 and then the block of coaching after that will run for 7 weeks every Saturday during term time (excluding the 2 Saturdays that fall in half term) and will run from 10-30-11.30 with a competition focus and will cost £70 for the term.

In order for your child to receive the Tennis racket and other equipment from the LTA, I would be very grateful if you would consider signing up for both the 3 hour camp and the 7 week Saturday block of coaching via both the links below (using the appropriate age groups).

3 hour camp for ages 4-8

https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/Rally/MillfieldPreparatorySchoolSportsFacilities/Coaching/BookCourse/7a3f6e07-314a-4d67-87c0-d87881c7a503

7 week block on a Sat 10.30-11.30am for ages 4-6

https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/MillfieldPreparatorySchoolSportsFacilities/BookCourse/482ed227-4d23-4581-8cd8-758a49785ee3

7 week block on a Sat 10.30-11.30am for ages 6-8

 $\underline{https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/MillfieldPreparatorySchoolSportsFacilities/BookCourse/43b14411-e9e4-4c30-a1a7-2c8ec8f992d5}$

For any girls that have been part of the Prime video initiative and would like to do the 3 hour Camp on Sun 21st April from 9-12, just email me and I can send you a different link to sign up.

Any problems with the links, just let me know (<u>thomas.s@millfieldschool.com</u>) and look forward to seeing your girls on the Tennis courts soon.

Kind regards,

Sarah