



Dear Families,

It's the final newsletter of the academic year and as always, I feel it is time to reflect on a fantastic year.

I was asked recently - what makes Brookside such a great school? It didn't take me long to answer:

You only have to stand at the gates in the morning to feel the buzz of our community, the small interactions of greetings, the hive of activity as the day starts. A year in the life of our school is full of moments - big and small but all important. In particular, I was blown away by the Year 6 - Brookside's Got Talent show. The range of incredible acts was amazing... many of them leaving the room in either tears, laughter or jaw dropping awe. This was one night in many this year - Christmas performances, curriculum evenings, parents' evenings, early years' sessions, governors' awards, class assemblies, sports day, class trips, camp, the Pensioner's Christmas party... I could go on and on.

We also have incredible and committed staff. The skill levels and knowledge of the people who work at Brookside are off the scale and I know they are proud to work, here which adds to the commitment and special feel we have.

We are an inclusive school. We do everything we can to make Brookside feel like a place of belonging. What I do know is when I talk to children here they understand inclusivity and equity with a maturity that is often well beyond their age.

Lastly, we had our final moment - the Year 6 leavers' assembly. It was emotional, but also joyous - a celebration of what makes Brookside the best place. Incredible Children, a wonderful community and a sense that we are part of something special.

Have a wonderful Summer break everyone and I look forward to doing it all again next year.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Walton

### **BTCT MAT Update**

As you know, after careful due diligence, Governors at Brookside Academy made the decision to join the Bridgwater and Taunton College Trust (BTCT). We have been working very closely with the BTCT Multi Academy Trust (MAT) ensuring a smooth transition takes place. We now expect that the full transfer will take place for the 1st of September. We are very excited about the many opportunities this will open up for Brookside next year, including:

- Access to our own Mini Bus from September - with drivers;
- Access to three fully staffed Alternative Provisions (APEX centres) - including farm, wellbeing and holistic education;
- Working closely with 8 other schools - sharing best practice and supporting staff development;
- Accessing a comprehensive training and support programme for teacher development (Growing Great Teachers);
- A supportive School-to-School improvement programme (Growing Great Schools);
- Bespoke and personal support in finance, human resources, IT, grounds and other key areas.

We expect nothing to change in terms of branding, uniform, curriculum or staffing.

## Staff Changes for September 2024



This year we also say goodbye to some fantastic people who will all be beginning new adventures:

Mrs Difford has been an integral part of the development of our specialist provision over the past 5 years, she has worked across the provision, taking time to think about how she can maximise learning outcomes and personal development opportunities for all the children in her care. She has built many fantastic relationships with vulnerable families, taking time to listen and offer support. She has enjoyed many successes with the teams she has worked with and we look forward to seeing the great work she will achieve in her new role.

Mr Gilborson has worked across both mainstream and specialist provision. He has shown a great ability to understand what children need beyond their academic goals, thereby building up so many positive relationships with children, staff and professionals. It is wonderful to see how he strives to bring learning to life for the children he teaches, particularly the provision he has built up in Kingfishers. He genuinely wants the best for those around him. We wish you every success in your new role.

Mrs Strachan has worked mainly in Year 2 this year, but has also taught across the rest of the Academy. We wish you all the very best as you move on to a new role.

Mrs Samuels has been an incredibly valuable member of the pastoral team here at Brookside for the past 5 years and will be sadly missed. She has offered such fantastic support and advice to many families, as well as offering similar support to the staff across the Academy.

Mrs Samuels is always ready with a smile and a listening ear, and has an amazing affinity to turn a negative into a positive. We wish you well in your new role closer to home.

Miss Shave has worked across the Academy making not only a difference to the academic success of children but also nurturing and supporting children to become the best version of themselves that they can be. Whether on camp, in class or in extended schools Miss Shave works her magic and encourages children to succeed. Miss Shave has been an amazing addition to our team at Brookside and we wish you well with your training next year to become a teacher.

Miss Hole has shown herself to be an amazingly adaptable practitioner in the time she has been at Brookside, from sport to Nursery to specialist provision, she has succeeded in all that she has done. We hope to see you back with us in the future!

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Bailey, our Finance Officer, who is leaving to take up a new post closer to her home, and Teaching Assistant, Mr Hughes—we will miss them both and wish them all the very best for the future.



We are delighted to inform you that we have appointed class teacher, Mr Laurence, who will be joining our Willows Specialist Provision team in September. Mr Laurence was previously Head of School at Polden Bower and has a wealth of experience in working with children who have SEN needs.

We are also excited to welcome Mrs E Marriott to our Willows Specialist Provision team. Mrs Marriott also has years of experience teaching within Specialist Provision settings.

We would also like to officially welcome Miss Chambers, who started teaching in Toucans class earlier this term.

And, last but certainly not least, we will be joined by new teaching assistants Mr Rogers and Miss Reeson. Mr Rogers has been working in Swifts class and will continue to work in the Willows next year. Miss Reeson will be joining the team in September.

2024/25 Classes		
Class	Year Group	23-24 Teacher
Giraffes & Crocodiles	Early Years	Mrs C Cross
Penguins & Zebras	Early Years	Miss E Ollier
Jaguars	1	Mrs R Foster
Tigers	1	Mrs Z Clist
Moles	2	Miss J Garcia-Perez
Otters	2	Miss C Stevens
Gophers	3	Miss J Bobbett
Meerkats	3	Miss E Bailey
Dolphins	4	Mrs J Moore & Mr A Ballard
Orcas	4	Mr J Sansam
Kangaroos	5	Miss M Thomas
Wombats	5	Miss K Carson
Koalas	6	Miss F Burge
Pandas	6	Mrs J Whatling
Jays	Mixed Specialist Provision	Mr A Laurence
Kingfishers	Mixed Specialist Provision	Miss E Chambers
Robins	Mixed Specialist Provision	Miss G Burns
Swifts	Mixed Specialist Provision	Mrs P Barrett
Toucans	Mixed Specialist Provision	Mrs E Marriott

## Important Information for the New School Year Opening Times and Attendance Policy Changes

Dear Parents and Carers,

From September the Academy morning opening times will change.

All doors will open at **8.45am** and close at **8.50am**. No unsupervised children should be on site before 8.40am.

I would also like to advise you that in September, once we have officially joined the Bridgwater and Taunton College Trust (BTCT) and due to new statutory Government guidance, there will also be some major changes to our Attendance Policy. Details of these changes will be sent out during the Summer Holidays to give you time to read and absorb the information, and understand what the changes will mean to you, before children return to school in September. The new Attendance Policy will be available on our website from September.

Yours sincerely,

Brian Walton

## World Junior Brazilian JiuJitsu Championships

Filip (Kangaroos class) took part in the World Junior Brazilian JiuJitsu Championships recently, along with his teammates from Gracie Barra Street Martial Arts Academy.

Filip gave an amazing performance, winning two tough fights taking him into the semi finals. He came up against a very tough opponent in the semis, gave a fantastic account of himself but unfortunately narrowly missed out on the win.

Despite not walking away with a medal on this occasion, his parents are incredibly proud of him. He showed the heart of a true champion and was incredibly gracious in his defeat. We have no doubt he will go on to achieve great success in the future. He proved he is worthy of competing on the big stages in this sport.

Not only are his parents proud of his performance in the sport, but also how far he has come in terms of attitude and character. He has grown no end, developing confidence, resilience, sportsmanship and skill.

Well done, Filip!

## Half-Marathon Charity Hike for The Youth Adventure Trust

Libby would like to share that, at the end of June, she took part in a half marathon charity hike to raise funds for The Youth Adventure Trust.

There was a 10k hike and a half marathon hike and Libby was very brave and choose to take part in the half marathon.

She walked 13.5 miles with a 600-metre elevation around Cheddar Gorge. She was the youngest participant in the Half Marathon Team and was the first to finish!

The teams raised £4000 for the chosen charity.

Well done, Libby!

### Higos Half Marathon Hike



Congratulations, this activity is your longest walk on Strava!

Distance  
**13.56 mi**

Elevation Gain  
**1,967 ft**

Moving Time  
**4:37:16**

Steps  
**30,700**





# What we've been up to recently ...

## Nursery—Nursery Rhymes in French, Euros 2024, etc ...



In the Baby room, we have had lots of new babies settling in. They have all been busy exploring the room by crawling and cruising around the furniture and using aids such as the walkers to manoeuvre around. We went for a ride in the baby bus to watch and support the sports day. We have been making the most of

the nice weather outside in the garden using our physical skills to balance on the beams, climb the steps of the slide and exploring the sandpit, using the spades to fill our buckets to make sandcastles. We have been exploring the water play by washing dolls with sponges.

In toddlers, we have been busy listening to nursery rhymes sung in French and some of us have been learning some phonic sounds ready for our transition to Pre-School.

We enjoyed having our parents in for stay and play sessions where we explored many activities linked to Goldilocks and The Three Bears and had lots of fun playing outside in the sunshine.

We have been joining in with some Euro 2024 activities too, some of us have decorated football shirts and we have been making flags and bunting.

In Pre School, We have been exploring all things Number, Letters and Colour.

With school readiness on our minds the staff have been holding conversations with the children regarding their emotions, friendships, and future teachers.

The children are extremely excited for the next stage in their development.



## Early Years—Funky Fingers, Knights and Castles, Respect ...

Early Years would like to say a great big, "THANK YOU!" to The Manager and Staff of The Works in Clarks Village. They very kindly donated us resources for Funky Fingers. We are so incredibly grateful to them.



The children learnt all about 'Knights and Castles'. We looked at different castles from around the world and looked at a Knights armour. The children used blocks and stickle bricks to make their own castle.

In Maths we looked at positional language, 1:1 counting and number bonds. In our Skills lessons the children practiced their number formation, drew 'Aliens' from an art tutorial, they had a lesson all about how to respect each other and themselves and used a stick and their imagination to create a picture using their stick as a broomstick or a Stick man or a paintbrush.





## Year 1—Creativity Week ...

What an exciting week we had! We spent every day being amazing artists – our teachers are very proud of the incredible drawing, colouring, painting and collaging we have done!

Each year group focussed on a different country and we chose the UK! We started the week by drawing pictures of what comes to mind when we think of the UK, and we also spent time collaging Union Jacks with different materials like card and tissue paper!

We have also spent time learning about artists from each country within the UK! We learned all about tartan and the children were amazing at weaving their own out of lots of different bits of fabric, wool, pipe cleaners and ribbon! We learned all about Banksy and created our own graffiti name labels, practicing our bubble writing and then making them stand out with a newspaper and a card border! We also had the chance to go outside and create our own natural artwork, just like the artist Andy Goldsworthy.

We loved showing all our amazing artwork off to other year groups in the school when we held our exhibition at the end of the week, and we really enjoyed seeing all the brilliant artwork the other year groups made too!





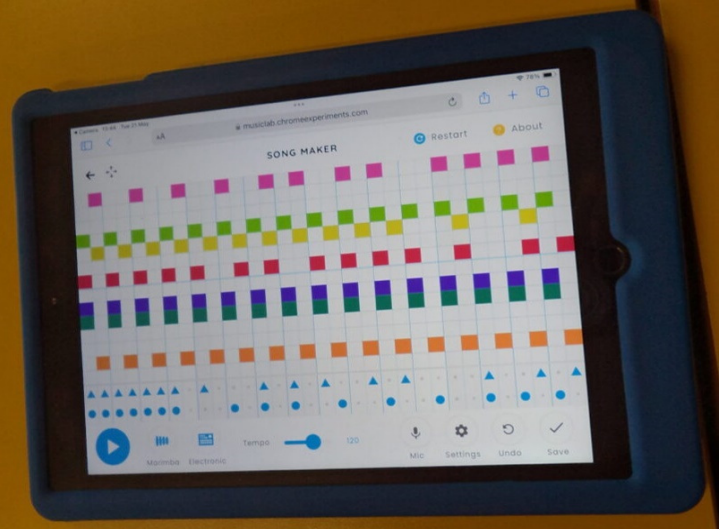
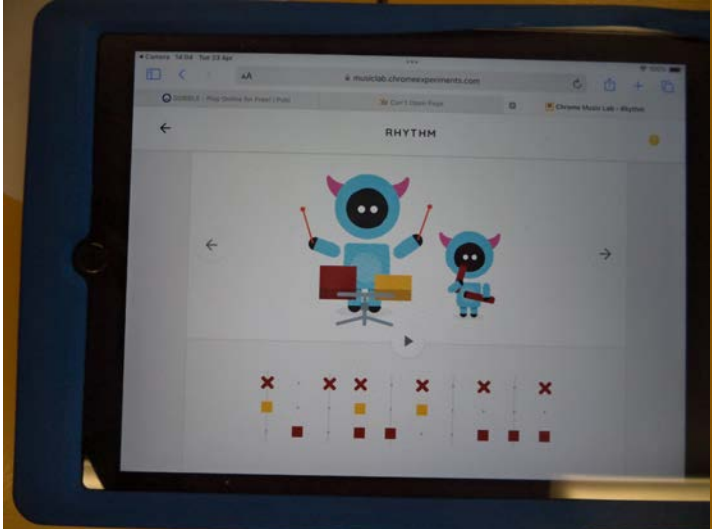
## Year 2—Growing Potatoes and Composing our own Music!

In Science, we excitedly watched our potatoes grow, looking at plants and beginning to look at categorising the food we eat into groups.

We completely loved composing our own pieces upon Chrome Music Lab in Computing and we are brilliant at appraising others work with both 'What went well' and 'Even better if'.

Our Geography landed us in Africa, as we zoomed into Zambia and arrived in a small village called Mugurameno. I wonder if you can tell anyone at home about this village? Can you name something that is different? Or something that is the same?

We were also very lucky to have a visitor for PSHE. She taught us all about feelings and even brought her own puppets to meet us!





## Year 3— Roman Day

On Roman Day, we attended Roman Army school and learnt about what life was like for a Roman child and the strict training routine they had to do to become the most successful armies ever!

After break, we learnt about mosaics and how they were a sign of wealth in the Roman times. We had a go at making our own mosaics.

After lunch, we trooped out onto the school field DAX, SIN, DAX, SIN (right, left, right left) watching out for our enemy. They always start their march on their right foot as the left is considered unlucky. We put everything we'd learnt in Roman Army School into practice, marching proudly around the school with our shields. Whist on the playground, we practiced different formations the Testudo formation (which is Latin for tortoise), the Orb and the Wedge.

Before long, we were absolutely exhausted and ready for a break. (How did the Roman soldiers do it all day?!) Luckily for us, next it was the moment we'd all been waiting for... the feast! We gorged on Roman delights such as cheese, tomatoes, olives and grapes.

A fun and exciting day was had by all!





## Year 4—Creativity Week

During Creativity Week, we were inspired by Japan, learnt lots about their culture, and completed lots of amazing pieces of artwork. We started our week researching to find out all about the country of Japan. The children took what they had found out and created a poster in small groups. The children all worked brilliantly as a team and produced informative and creative posters.

We then created some beautiful pieces of artwork inspired by the cherry blossom in Japan. We used water colours to create the background and painted out cherry blossom branches on top. After this we started another piece of work inspired by 'The Great Wave' by Hokusai. For this piece we used pencils and oil pastels to add vibrant colours.

We also had a go at some origami making paper fish and frogs. We also used paper folding to make patterned fans and we created Japanese inspired pictures by dripping paint on to salt.

Finally, we looked at Japanese wooden prints and then made our own inspired by the animals and nature which feature in the artwork. We also learnt some numbers in Japanese and wrote them out to create our own scrolls.

We had an amazing week learning more about different cultures and styles of artwork.





## Year 5– Vikings and Creativity Week

We designed and constructed our Viking weapons and artefacts. We had to consider which materials would be best for our items and decide how we might reinforce them to make them strong. There were some incredibly creative and innovative ideas. Mrs. Donnelly, very kindly took individual photos of the children in their costumes with everything they had made – they brought these home at the end of the year in their folders. We had a brilliant time making a Viking encampment, electing a King, Queen and their regents. We held a 'Thing' to name our tribe and built a store for weapons and valuables. We also constructed a jail for those Vikings who broke the law.

Despite being so busy with the Vikings, we also found time to keep a scientific observation diary on our classroom visitors (butterflies – Painted Ladies). We were very lucky in Kangaroos to see three of the butterflies emerge – one on Mrs. Moore's desk (we had to get that back in the net very quickly!). We did release them; they all flew off into our trees and bushes around the site.



During Creativity Week we explored the country of India. We designed a traditional Indian outfit and sketched a National Emblem of India, which we then painted with watercolours. We learnt some traditional Indian dance moves and worked in groups to create our own simple Indian dance.

Children went out in groups to make Coconut Barfi, which is a traditional Indian sweet. Whilst we did this, the children who were in the classroom wrote a recipe for Coconut Barfi and sketched Indian landmarks. Miss Carson and Mrs Moore were really impressed to see the children put their sketching and shading skills to work, applying lots of techniques that we have learnt in our Art lessons this year. Then we taste tested our Coconut Barfi and some traditional Indian snacks. This was so exciting we forgot to take photographs! The children were excited to eat some snacks they have tried previously and many were surprised by the new and different flavours they enjoyed!

Next we ventured out to the playground to collect lots of different natural greenery – such as leaves that had fallen off of trees. We then used these, along with lentils, pasta and tissue paper to create some brilliant collages of the Indian flag!

Then we learnt about the Taj Mahal and its purpose as a tomb for the Emperor's favourite wife. Did you know, he wanted to create a second, black Taj Mahal for his own resting place but the people of India revolted because the first one cost so much money! We then constructed our model, ready for painting and decorating. We made a huge amount of mess but had great fun. We painted our Taj Mahal's white to look like white marble. We then tried to replicate the delicate decorations on the outside, some of which were made from precious stones and jewels.

Even though we were really busy, we still made time for a visit from HSBC. They talked to us about being savvy with our savings and to make sure we are always looking for the best deal to ensure we get the most for our money!

Finally, we took part in a whole school look around where we visited a class in each year group to see what they created! It was fantastic to see the hard work and amazing creations of all the other children in the school. We hope you enjoy seeing our hard work!





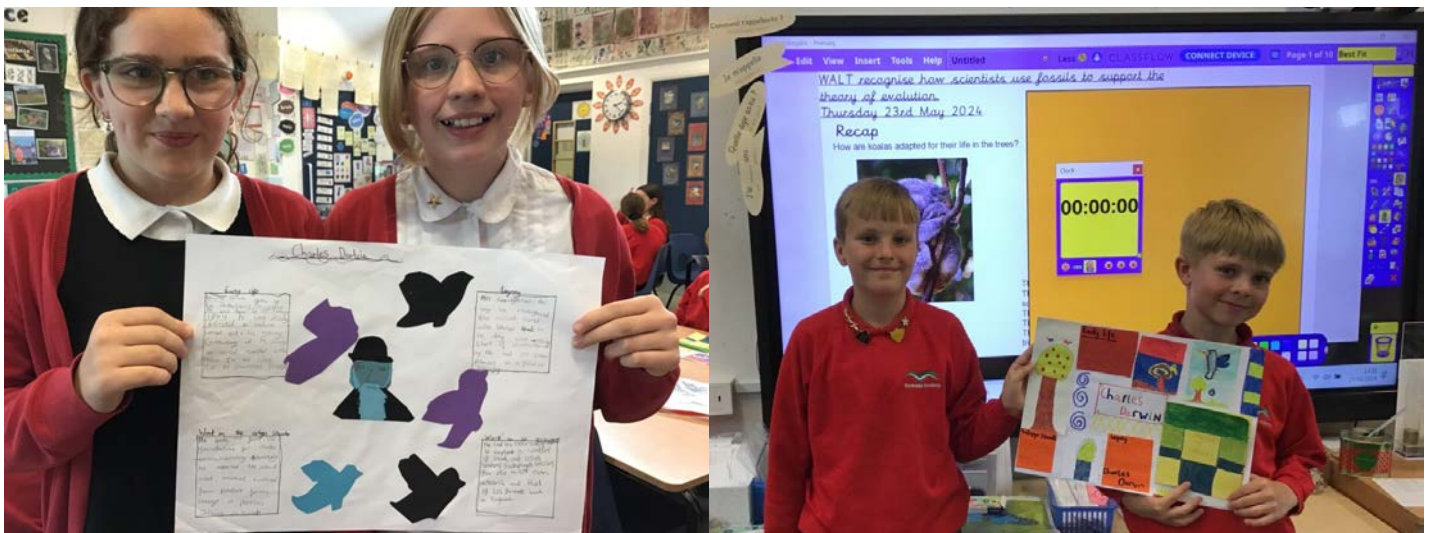
## Year 6— Pizza, Charles Darwin and more ...

Year 6 made pizza as part of their DT cookery module. They researched the history of pizza and looked up some interesting facts, then designed their own pizzas before making them, cooking them and, of course, eating them!



After the intensity of SATs, the children enjoyed a much slower pace. We have taken the time to catch up on some science, geography, history, music, computing, PSHE and French.

They have loved choosing who they want to work with and where they want to sit and how they want to present their research! It has honestly been a joy to watch their creative skills come to life again and we all learned lots of interesting facts about Charles Darwin – I bet you didn't know that he dropped out of medical school because he couldn't stand the sight of blood! You do now!





### Dates for your Diary—Autumn Term 1:

**25.07.24 to 02.09.24** SUMMER HOLIDAYS

**03.09.24 & 04.09.24** INSET Days—School and Nursery closed

**13.09.24** Friends of Brookside (FOB) Welcome BBQ

**18.09.24** Year 1 and 2 'Meet the team' Curriculum Meetings for Parents and Carers 17:45-18:30

**19.09.24** Flu Vaccinations for all Year R to Year 6 children

**19.09.24** Year 3 and 4 'Meet the team' Curriculum Meetings for Parents and Carers 17:45-18:25

**19.09.24** Year 5 and 6 'Meet the team' Curriculum Meetings for Parents and Carers 18:30-19:15

**23.09.24** 1st Open Day Tours for New Intake Sept 2025 Parents 09:30 and 13:45

**03.10.24** 2nd Open Day Tours for New Intake Sept 2025 Parents 09:30 and 14:00

**13.10.24** 'Wear it Yellow Day' for St Margaret's Hospice Care

**16.10.24** Autumn Parents' Evening (5-minute video appointments) 15:30-18:30

**17.10.24** Autumn Parents' Evening (5-minute face-to-face appointments) 15:30-18:30

**23.10.24** Year 6 at Wells Literary Festival (am only)

**28.10.24 to 01.11.24** Half-term Holiday

**04.11.24** INSET Day—School and Nursery closed

**05.11.24** Children return to School and Nursery

Details  
to  
follow

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

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### Brookside Sports Timetable 2024-2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00 -10.30	Specialist Provision x 4 slots (9.00-9.45) (9.45-10.30) (10.30-11.15) (11.15-12.00)	Year 3		Nursery	Swimming
10.30-12.00		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	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	Sports Intervention	Year 6	Year 4	Year 5	Enrichment



We use email and phone 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 2024							October 2024							November 2024						
M		2	9	16	23	30	Mo		7	14	21	28		M		4	11	18	25	
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		We		2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		Fr		4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su	3	10	17	24		
December 2024							January 2025							February 2025						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27		M		3	10	17	24	
Tu		3	10	17	24	31	Tu		7	14	21	28		Tu		4	11	18	25	
W		4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29		W		5	12	19	26	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th	2	9	16	23	30		Th		6	13	20	27	
F		6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31		F		7	14	21	28	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		4	11	18	25		Sa	1	8	15	22		
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		5	12	19	26		Su	2	9	16	23		
March 2025							April 2025							May 2025						
M		3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28		M		5	12	19	26	
Tu		4	11	18	25		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		6	13	20	27	
W		5	12	19	26		W		2	9	16	23	30	W		7	14	21	28	
Th		6	13	20	27		Th		3	10	17	24		Th	1	8	15	22	29	
F		7	14	21	28		F		4	11	18	25		F	2	9	16	23	30	
Sa	1	8	15	22	29		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa	3	10	17	24	31	
Su	2	9	16	23	30		Su		6	13	20	27		Su	4	11	18	25		
June 2025							July 2025							August 2025						
M		2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28		M		4	11	18	25	
Tu		3	10	17	24		Tu		1	8	15	22	29	Tu		5	12	19	26	
W		4	11	18	25		W		2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	
Th		5	12	19	26		Th		3	10	17	24	31	Th		7	14	21	28	
F		6	13	20	27		F		4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29	
Sa		7	14	21	28		Sa		5	12	19	26		Sa	2	9	16	23	30	
Su	1	8	15	22	29		Su		6	13	20	27		Su	3	10	17	24	31	

#### Key:

- School Holiday
- Bank Holiday
- Term Time
- Inset Days (School & Nursery are closed)
- Inset Day for School only (Nursery is open)

#### Term dates summary:

Term 1: 03 September – 25 October 2024 (39 days)  
 Term 2: 04 November – 20 December 2024 (35 days)  
 Term 3: 06 January – 14 February 2025 (30 days)  
 Term 4: 24 February – 04 April 2025 (30 days)  
 Term 5: 22 April – 23 May 2025 (23 days)  
 Term 6: 02 June – 23 July 2025 (38 days) **TOTAL = 195**

#### Bank and public holidays 2024/25

Christmas Day	25 December 2024	Easter Monday	21 April 2025
Boxing Day	26 December 2024	May Day Bank Holiday	05 May 2025
New Year's Day	01 January 2025	Spring Bank Holiday	26 May 2025
Good Friday	18 April 2025	Summer Bank Holiday	25 August 2025

### 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.

We have a new, safer system for reporting your child's absence due to illness.

It's called **Studybugs**.


Please sign up on [studybugs.com](https://studybugs.com) or download the free Studybugs app so you have it ready.

**studybugs.com**



Carrier 7:50 AM

Cancel Reporting Sick Post



What seems to be the problem with Michelle?

She's in bed with mea

Tell Hogwarts she's measles ☒

Absence Guidance >



## 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 GUIDE FOR NEW USERS**

### **A COMPLETE GUIDE ON HOW TO REGISTER**

**Step 1:** You will receive an email from [noreply@simms.co.uk](mailto:noreply@simms.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:

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](http://www.onceaweektakeapeek.com)

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

If you require further support please contact our Medical Lead, Mrs Clair Hughes, either via the Academy Office or email [office@brooksideacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@brooksideacademy.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 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.**



# 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





Navigating the internet can be challenging for children. Distinguishing between real and fake content, avoiding negativity, and handling mistakes can be tough. To address this, the NSPCC have introduced six positive online habits. These tips empower parents to discuss online well-being with their families, to help develop informed, confident, and happy internet use. Their new Positively Online campaign offers content, videos, and a quiz to support parents in guiding their children through the online world:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-wellbeing/positively-online>

# #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.



# Self-care summer toolkit



## **Self-care summer toolkit for primary schools, secondary schools and further education staff and students**

The summer holidays are practically here for many, which whilst a time to relax, recharge and take a break, some can find it difficult to switch off during the summer, and young people may struggle with the loss of structure and not seeing their friends every day.

It's important for teaching staff and students to look after their mental health and wellbeing, and to establish good self-care habits that be used at any time.

Anna Freud's school team have created a tool-kit that are free and can be downloaded to help support and boost wellbeing over summer and beyond. Divided into resources for both students and staff, relevant to school age.

[Self-care summer toolkit : Mentally Healthy Schools](#)

STREET

# FOOD BANK

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



Parent advice & support

Healthy lifestyles

School transitioning

Emotional health

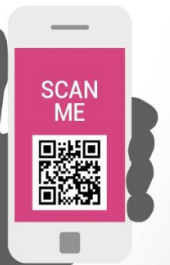
**is your child  
5-19 and are you**  
looking for confidential  
help and support?

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 Baptist Church Holiday Bible Club 2024

for primary school aged children

ON YOUR  
**MARKS**

Songs  
Games  
Bible stories  
Snacks  
Crafts

30th July - 2nd August  
10am - 12:30pm

**FREE!**

To register or for more info:

[www.streetbaptist.co.uk](http://www.streetbaptist.co.uk) | [kidszone@streetbaptist.net](mailto:kidszone@streetbaptist.net)



**SUE**

- Dog walker.
- Pilates enthusiast.
- Somerset Volunteer 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](http://www.volunteering.somerset.gov.uk/drive)

Alternatively, email [gemma.ruffle@somerset.gov.uk](mailto:gemma.ruffle@somerset.gov.uk) or call 07855 285464 to make a difference in your community.



# AT CLARKS, WE'VE DONE OUR HOMEWORK

12TH JULY 2024

With almost 200 years of children's foot health expertise, parents trust Clarks to deliver perfectly fitting, science-backed pairs of shoes that empower kids to be their very best selves - all day, all term, all year.

We understand that buying shoes can be stressful, so at Clarks we aim to make the process as quick, easy, and stress-free as possible.

As the cost of living continues to bite this summer, Clarks will be keeping our market-leading school shoes at 2023 prices. From a reassuring 3-month fit guarantee to money-saving bundles, we have also got plenty of offers and services to make life a little easier for parents this back-to-school season.

## MORE THAN A FIT. IT'S A GUARANTEE.

If kids' shoes don't fit three months from their in-store fitting, parents can exchange them for a new pair. It's as simple as that.

## IN-STORE FITTINGS

We offer Free expert fitting and measuring. Appointments can be booked ahead of time via the QR code attached or drop in for a walk-in appointment, available all day.

## QUIET TIME APPOINTMENTS

If shoe shopping is overwhelming for little ones, customers can visit Clarks stores at a time when there are fewer crowds, less noise and gentler lights. Pre-book an appointment or just walk-in, the option is yours...

*Please contact your local store if you'd like to book a Quiet Time appointment.*

We want to make the Back to school season as smooth as we can for parents whilst continuing to make school shoes that help kids move comfortably and freely.

We look forward to seeing you instore soon!

**MOVE THE  
WORLD  
AHEAD.**



SCAN TO  
BOOK AN  
APPOINTMENT

**Clarks**

THE  
**READING**  
AGENCY

2024

# Summer Reading Challenge

Delivered in partnership with libraries



Join FREE  
at your  
library

Get  
rewards  
for  
reading!

[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

Sign up for free at your nearest library  
from Saturday 6th July!



Supported using public funding from  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

THE  
**READING**  
AGENCY

Celebrating  
creativity

**CREATE!**





# **DRUM & GUITAR LESSONS**

**BROOKSIDE SCHOOL  
SPACES AVAILABLE FOR SEP 2024**

**£10 for 20min individual  
£15 for 30min individual**

**For Further Information  
Please Contact Matt Groves  
Mattgroves41@gmail.com  
07966945233**

## Summer Camps and Adventure Day Camps

Summer is just round the corner! If you are stuck for ideas of what you can do with your children, think Mill on the Brue.

### Reasons to come:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 6 activities a day                          | Maximum of 72 children per week |
| Same Instructors all week                   | DIGITAL DETOX                   |
| Good quality homemade meals                 | It's our 43 <sup>rd</sup> year  |
| Easy for working parents-Sunday to Saturday |                                 |

We have been running our Summer Camps since 1982. We think that we have got it just right for all the children and parents. Many children come back year after year. Children take away so much once they have experienced a Summer Camp; independence, confidence, resilience, making friends, having fun, getting back in the outdoors, leadership, social skills, having fun (we have already mentioned that) but they really do.

Summer Camps start on 14<sup>th</sup> July – 23<sup>rd</sup> August. Adventure Day camps will run from Monday 29<sup>th</sup> July – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> August. If you would like more information, then please do get in touch at [info@millonthebrue.co.uk](mailto:info@millonthebrue.co.uk)

Or if you would like to check out our website please go to:

<https://www.millonthebrue.co.uk/summer-camps-uk/summer-camps/>



© Mill on the Brue



## Forest & Farm Club

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

**When – Tues 20<sup>th</sup> & Tues 27<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024**

**- Weds 21<sup>st</sup> & Weds 28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2024**

**Where – Limemead Farm, Halstock Dorset BA22 9QU**

**Time – 10am-3pm**

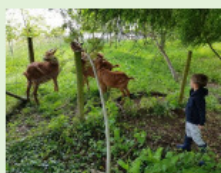
**Cost – £30 per child, per day (£20 siblings)**

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

**Email [office@coreprojects.org.uk](mailto:office@coreprojects.org.uk) to book**

**Tel – 01935 891248**

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



## You are invited ...

to the launch event for World Horse Welfare's brand new club for young horse enthusiasts

## STABLE SQUAD

Scan here to book your ticket today!

**Come and be part of the fun on:**  
**THURSDAY 15TH AUGUST 2024**

at World Horse Welfare  
Glenda Spooner Farm, Kingsdon,  
Somerton, Somerset TA11 7LA

We'd love you and your family to join us for our very special Stable Squad launch event.

Tickets are £20 each and places are limited, so get in quick!

With special guests  
**This Esme**  
and her rehomed pony, Duke!

**PLUS**  
Hobby horsing,  
Facepainting & an  
Icecream van!



Street Squash & Racketball Club



**Victoria Club**  
SPORTS AND SOCIAL



- Did you know that there are 4 squash courts at the Victoria Club in Street?
- Squash offers a fun sporting alternative for our Juniors and is available all year round
- Exclusive use of the courts is available to our Junior Section between 10:00 and 12:00 Saturday mornings
- Parent and child taster sessions, practice sessions and coaching is available during the above times
- Club membership is available for parent and child sessions outside of these times via our court booking system
- If you would like to have a look at our facilities or wish to try a taster session, please contact the Street Squash & Racketball Club:

[victoriasquashstreet@gmail.com](mailto:victoriasquashstreet@gmail.com)

[www.worldhorsewelfare.org](http://www.worldhorsewelfare.org)  
Registered charity no. 206658 and SC038384



**World Horse Welfare**



# Combe Hill Woods, Street

## Free Summer Holiday Trail

Looking for something to do this Summer holiday?

Come up to Combe Hill Woods, Street and take part in the simple woodland trail. Read the 'What am I?' statements

and find the boxes to reveal the answers.

Start and finish from the main car park.

Ideal for all ages.



We're excited to announce the return of

## SUMMER TOUCH RUGBY

**Starting Date:**  
05/07/2024

**Time:** Minis - 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM  
Juniors + Adults - 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM

- Touch Rugby
- BBQ
- Bar Will be Open
- All Abilities Welcome
- Free entry



## INTERESTED?

For More Information Contact

**Sam Crew :-**  
[samcrewwrfc@gmail.com](mailto:samcrewwrfc@gmail.com)

Wells Rugby Football Club  
Charter Way  
Wells  
BA5 2FB

## MARK DE-LISSER

RENOWNED CHORAL DIRECTOR, VOCAL COACH AND ARRANGER RETURNS FOR OUR SUMMER COURSE AT WESTLANDS ENTERTAINMENT VENUE, BA20 2DD

## SING TOGETHER!

WEDNESDAY 24TH  
JULY 10AM-4PM

THURSDAY 25TH  
JULY 10AM-4PM

FRIDAY 26TH  
JULY 10AM-7.30PM

EXPERIENCE 3 DAYS OF SINGING AND PERFORMING WITH MARK AS GUEST CONDUCTOR. HIS WORK INCLUDES CONDUCTING THE CHILDREN IN NEED CHOIR, OUR DEMENTIA CHOIR, THE VOICE & THE MASKED SINGER



AGES 8-18  
COST OF COURSE £80  
(OUT OF COUNTY £100)  
50% REDUCTION FOR  
SIBLINGS & PUPIL PREMIUM

TAKE PART:



**FOR MORE INFO VISIT**  
[HTTPS://SOMERSEFMUSIC.CO.UK/SING-TOGETHER](https://somersefmusic.co.uk/sing-together)

### WELLS RFC UPCOMING

## EVENTS SCHEDULE



**JUL 27**

### SCHOOLS OUT DISCO

Ages 6-16 years, 5-9pm  
Soft Drinks, BBQ, Sweetshop

**AUG 10**

### RUGBY OLYMPICS

Adults Only, 4 People per team, £10 per team.  
2pm - Late, BBQ and Drinks all Afternoon. Events include, Beer Mile, Tug of War, Egg & Spoon & Sack Race

**AUG 18**

### COLOUR RUN

Save the date!  
More information coming soon.

**NOV 03**

### HALLOWEEN PARTY

Save the date!  
More information coming soon.

**DEC 13**

### CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Save the date!  
More information coming soon.

**TBC**

### FUNDRAISING AUCTION

Raising funds for the Minis 2025 tour. Incredible array of prizes.  
More donations welcome. Contact Kate: 07508 933 384





# Family Holiday Activities at Wells Cathedral

## August Art Adventures

From giant nests to super-sized seeds, graffiti to guardian angels, be inspired by the Wells Art Contemporary (WAC) exhibition in the Cathedral this summer with our creative workshops for families:

### Seeds of 2024 — Thursday 8 and Monday 19 August

Model a seed from clay and make an origami seed packet

### Nest — Friday 9 August

Make a nest for a toy or a home for bees

### Peaceful Space — Tuesday 13 August

Design and create with textiles

### I Was Here — Wednesday 14 and 28 August

Use different techniques to record your graffiti ideas

### Corpus — Tuesday 20 August

Explore symmetry through collage and printing

### Guardian Angels — Tuesday 27 August

Make your own collage or peg angel to take home

Pick up a trail and explore WAC's exciting exhibition throughout August, with large installations and a gallery show in the Cloisters!



Wells Cathedral Registered Charity Number 1207269

## Sessions in Wells Cathedral Education Room

10.00–12.00 and 13.00–15.00

Admission: FREE with adult entry; no need to book— just turn up on the day! N.B. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult, and only assistance dogs are allowed at our family activities.

EXPLORE • CREATE • DISCOVER



19 - 23 August 2024  
Ages 7 - 13



This week-long residential camp at Wells Cathedral School, features activity classes, group fun and clan games, run by our exceptional and dedicated staff. One fee covers everything, including an excursion to Mill on the Brue for adventurous activities and non-stop fun. Book before 29 Feb 2024 and Receive 25% off the Full Fee of £525

