



Dear Families,

As we come to the end of another school year at Brookside, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, partnership, and trust throughout what has been a year of transition and growth.

This has been our first full year as part of the BTCT trust, and it has been both reassuring and energising to work more closely with colleagues across the Trust. Their support, particularly during times of change, has helped us to remain focused on what matters most: the children in our care.

Across the school, we've seen real moments of pride this year; from strong outcomes in Phonics and Key Stage 1 and Year 4 multiplication checks. We've also seen powerful relational work in action, with staff continuing to put connection and care at the heart of their work.

That said, we know the year has brought challenges too, for children, families, and staff alike. But it's in those moments, when things feel hard, that we see what this community is really made of. Again and again, we've watched as children have been wrapped in care, families and staff have been met with kindness and understanding, and our community have gone above and beyond to make school a safe and joyful place for learning.

Next year, one of our key priorities will be building on our work around Relational Practice, deepening the way we support behaviour, build trust, and strengthen consistency across the school. It's a journey we're excited to take, and we look forward to partnering with you every step of the way.

To those families and children moving on from Brookside this year, we wish you every success and happiness in the next chapter. And to those returning in September, thank you for being part of this community. It is your children who inspire us daily and remind us why this work matters so much.

Wishing you a happy, safe, and restful Summer,

Brian Walton

### **Reminder for Parents and Carers**

Following an incident earlier this term, which took place on the Academy grounds before the school doors opened one morning, please can we remind parents and carers to be vigilant in supervising their children before the school doors open.

School Staff do not supervise children waiting outside for the school doors to open in the mornings.

Thank you for your help with this important matter.

## Parents' Player of the Season at Wells Rugby Club

Reuben Payne recently won Parents' Player of the Season, for the third year in a row, which is also an achievement at the Wells Rugby Club!

Well done Reuben!



## The Winning House Captains after the house relay on Sports Day





## Arbor Parent Portal and Parent App

We have launched the Arbor Parent Portal and Parent App for the parents and carers of all school-aged children at Brookside. Thank you to everyone who is already using the App — **97%** of our families have registered, so far!

***On 17th July we shared your child's end of year reports with you on the Arbor App—please log in to read these if you haven't already done so.***


Please can we ask all parents and carers to update their child's personal information and emergency contacts, as well as their own information, via the Arbor Parent Portal and Parent App. You are also able to update Pupil Image, Video, Sound and Local Visit consents.



Another feature of the App is daily **Absence Reporting**. To notify us of your child's absence via Arbor, please click into the 'Attendance' area of the App, input the absence details, and submit the request. ***We are no longer using 'Studybugs'.***

***Please note that the Arbor App is not applicable to our Nursery children as their records are held on a separate nursery system; please continue to contact the Academy Office if you would like to make changes to the personal information we hold for Nursery children or to report their absence.***

We have sent Arbor welcome emails to all our school parents and carers. Please click the link in your welcome email to set up your account. Please check your Junk/Spam folder if you can't find the welcome email or let the Academy Office know, and we will re-send your link.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to the Academy Office for further information.

 **Arbor**

## We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Parent App

**We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.**

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Parent App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Parent App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

### How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic  
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Log in

Forgotten password?

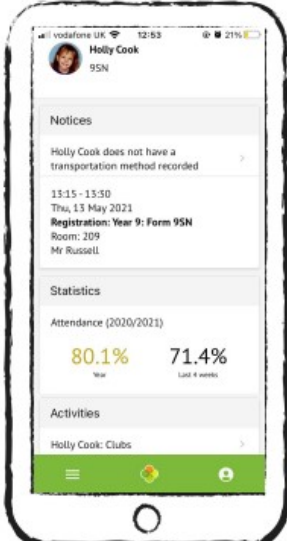
### Need help using Arbor?

**Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal.** Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

**Some tips to try:**

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.





## **Tesco Stronger Starts - Brookside Academy**

### **- Let's Get Moving**

Thank you all for supporting us with your Tesco Tokens!

We are delighted to let you know that following the Tesco Stronger Starts vote in the Glastonbury Tesco store, our project came First and has been chosen by Tesco customers to receive a grant award of **£1,150.00!**

This grant will help us to pay for resources for our children to support the NHS 'Let's Get Moving' programme.

Thank you again to everyone who supported us!



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

## Early Years – Beside the Seaside!



This half-term, our learning journey has taken us ***Beside the Seaside!*** We dove into beach-themed stories and seaside adventures, enhancing our imagination, creativity, and core skills across all areas of learning.

Our Literacy sessions focused on developing the children's ability to write more independently and confidently. We continued daily Phonics and Guided Reading, with an added emphasis on building comprehension skills. Stories we explored this term include:

- ◆ The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch
- ◆ Sharing a Shell
- ◆ The Singing Mermaid
- ◆ Dear Greenpeace
- ◆ Sally's Limpet

In Maths, the children have:

- ◆ Confidently recalled number bonds to 5, including subtraction facts.
- ◆ Begun to recall some number bonds to 10, including doubles.
- ◆ Explored patterns in numbers to 10, such as odds and evens, and how numbers can be shared equally.
- ◆ Verbally counted beyond 20, recognising and following the counting pattern.
- ◆ Reviewed and consolidated key concepts from the year.

This half term included our exciting Creative Week, with a focus on Australia! Children took part in fun and engaging art activities using reusable and sustainable materials while learning about Australian culture and nature.

### Understanding the World

In our topic work we learnt all about lighthouses—how they work, why they are important, and where they are found. Through History and Geography, we will explore seaside environments past and present.

In Expressive Arts and Design we make sponge paintings of lighthouse scenes.

In Music, we explored rhythm and movement through Big Bear Funk.

### Physical Development and Fine Motor Focus

We placed a strong emphasis on correct number and letter formation, helping children to get ready for writing in Year 1.



# Year 1—What a busy term!

Year 1 have been having a blast this last term, including lots of different activities such as Sports Day, our first piece of geography field work and a visit from HSBC! Please take a look at our photos.

In maths we have been learning all about telling the time to o'clock and half past, including drawing the hands on the clock. We also learnt which coins are which, what they look like and have begun to count them. We are practicing our 2, 5 and 10 times tables and getting really awesome at it – some of us might have even brought a certificate home related to this!

In writing time, we have written a letter to Mr Walton, a letter to Year 2, learnt how to add suffixes onto words and completed a unit all based on Zog. We wrote a school report for Zog, described him and even planned a lesson for Zog and his friends.

Sports Day was super fun and we loved our adults watching us take part in games. We met the HSBC ladies who challenged us to a money quiz and also got to take part in "A seaside adventure" in Geography – it was like going on a trip without leaving school!

Last week, we had an AMAZING week in "Creativity Week" with the theme based on sustainability. We learnt all about reduce, reuse and recycle and what we can do to help sustain our Earth. We built musical instruments from recycled rubbish, created a turtle with paint and collaged a globe using a different range of materials. And to top off an amazing week, we had a 'Beat Goes On' workshop where we got to make our own tune and listen to brand new instruments we had never seen before.



## Year 2 – Time, Mr Penguin, Peas and Africa!

We cannot believe we are already at the end of this academic year – where has the time gone?

Talking of time, this is what we have been looking at In maths this term, alongside using specific vocabulary to state where items are and provide precise directions to get from A to B. Of course we've continued to solidify our amazing calculating skills and consolidate our understanding of fractions.



Using a Map Grid

**Tiny Town**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Where is the lake located? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Where is the ice cream store located? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Where is the park located? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Where is the library located? \_\_\_\_\_

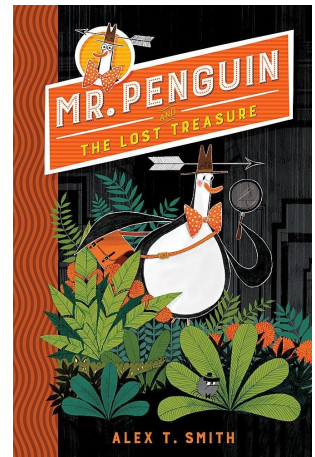
5. Where is the grocery store located? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Where is the house located? \_\_\_\_\_

Legend:

- library
- house
- garden
- lake
- ice cream store
- Grocery store
- playground

In English, we revisited the wonderful story of Jack and the beanstalk before we embarked upon a curious adventure with the incredible Mr Penguin!



In Science, we have been planting and observing peas as well as looking at a healthy, balanced diet before creating our own healthy, delicious snack in DT!

Geography took us on an adventure to a different continent, Africa! We looked at human and physical features before zooming into Zambia and a small village. Comparing our life to that of a child in Mugurameno was truly fascinating!



History took us whirling back in time to look at a historic event that happened in our capital city and the amazing impact this has had on the way we live now!

What an adventure we've had!



# Year 3 – Pollination, reducing, re-using and recycling!

## Science – Plants

We have been learning all about the process of pollination. We worked in groups to act out the process. Starting with a bee being attracted to the colourful petals. Next, the bee drinks the sweet nectar and pollen sticks to its legs. When the bee goes to a new flower, the pollen from the bee gets stuck to the sticky stigma.



## Visitor from SCARF

Year 3 had a lovely time when a visitor came to deliver a workshop all about things that are harmful or helpful. We discussed staying healthy and the importance of family and friends. They even had a visit from Harold!



## Sports day

We had a fantastic (and hot) day taking part in sports day. Everyone was so supportive and encouraging.

## Creativity week!

Year 3 had an amazing week learning about the importance of reducing, re-using and recycling waste to help our environment.

We used scrap paper to make origami fortune tellers, dogs and jumping frogs. We all then made some beautiful roses!

We then used a broken book to make poems using the words on the page. We then painted some cardboard to make some frames for our poems.

We had a body percussion workshop. Where we learnt a rhythm for a "class motto". Our final performances were brilliant.

Year 3 also made some beautiful collages of Meerkats and Gophers out of old magazines. We made a textured background by rubbing wax crayons against different surfaces outside.

We made some toilet tube art!





## Year 4 — Magdalene Farm Environmental Trust

Summer term began with an exciting adventure for the Year 4 children. We enjoyed going on our brilliant school trip to Magdalene Farm Environmental Trust. Here we got to explore in the river Axe. We caught living things from the river bed and used classification keys to work out what they were. We measured lots of other information from the river as well such as the width, depth and speed. We all enjoyed the chance to carry out this field work, and learned what happens when we go into water that is deeper than our wellies... As well as this, we learnt more about habitats and food chains by playing games and completing different activities. The children behaved impeccably and the practitioners we worked with made a point of telling us how polite they were, and they were very impressed with their knowledge of habitats and features of rivers.





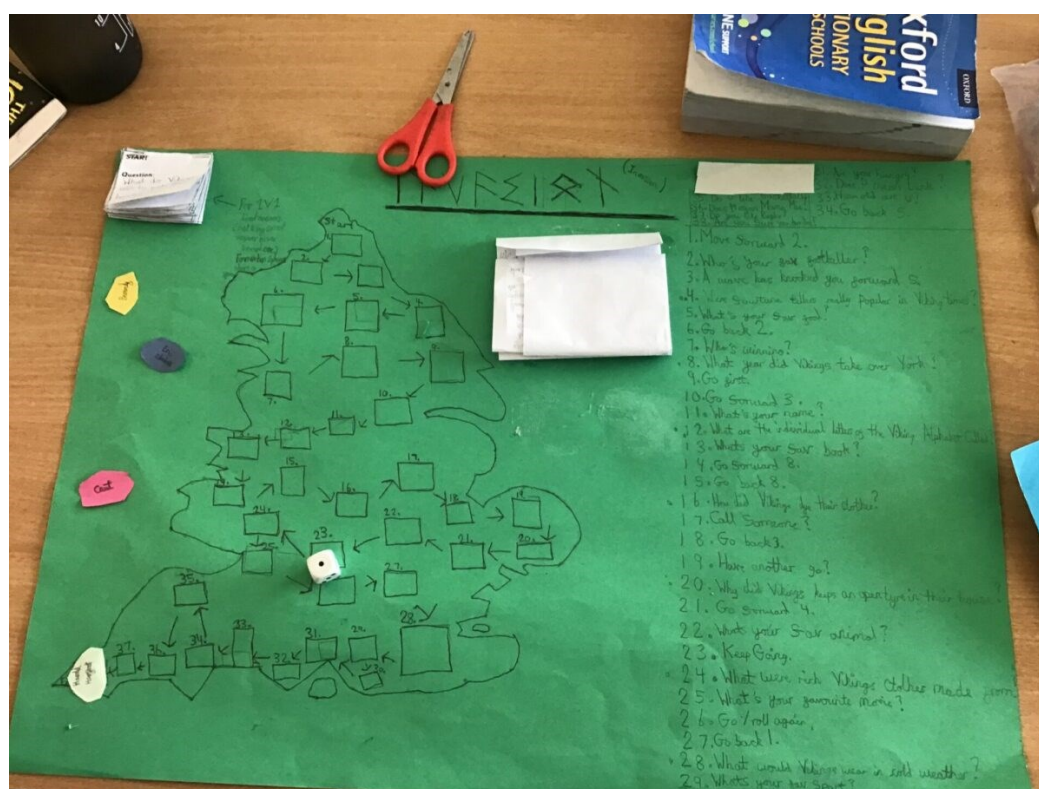
## Year 5 – Caterpillars, Vikings and Money!



Year 5 had some exciting visitors staying with us at the beginning of this term – caterpillars! This has helped support our learning of lifecycles in Science. We've watched as they've grown tremendously in size and changed colour, and both classes were lucky enough to see them form their chrysalides. We weren't so lucky to see them emerging in real time, however Miss Carson and Miss Small were able to capture some videos of them which we were able to watch. It was really exciting witnessing the caterpillar/butterfly lifecycle. We then released them; they all flew off into our trees and bushes around the site.

We've also been busy this term finishing our Vikings topic, combining the topic with DT to create Viking board games. The children used the knowledge they had learnt about the Vikings to help create a variety of board games all about Viking life. There were some very creative ideas!

We also enjoyed a visit from HSBC. They talked to use 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!





## Year 6 – Charterhouse, Wise-Up, Whales and Earthquakes

It has been an extraordinary year for the Year 6's and it hardly seems possible that their time at Brookside is at an end. A large part of the summer term was spent preparing for SATs (no need for photographs to remind us of that of course) and then we went away for a few days – did you enjoy the peace and quiet in the households? We have lots of pictures to show you from our visit, but you will see them in a slideshow during the Year 6 performance and Leavers' Assembly later today.

When we returned from Charterhouse, a Wise-Up team visited and we spent a damp day on the school field playing Team Games, but we learned a lot about how to lead, how to listen and how to co-operate and it was quite interesting to learn how resilient we are.

We have been catching up on Science and history and Geography and DT and much, much more. In science, we learned that whales once walked and that fossils are not actually ancient animal bones and that light behaves differently under water.

In geography, we learned lots about earthquakes and now, are learning more about our own British Isles and not many children can draw the UK from memory – can you? History taught us that there are many similarities between the early Roman Justice system and the Justice System in today's Great Britain. Whereas, in DT we have measured, sawed, glued, sanded and decorated a shelter to withstand a natural or man-made disaster and more recently, we built a motorised vehicle!



### **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 **Arbor** app. 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.



As per paragraph 38 of the Department for Education Statutory guidance 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance', "The DfE does not consider a need or desire for a holiday or absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation to be exceptional circumstance. Leave of absence should not be granted for a pupil to take part in protest activity during school hours." The amendments made it clear that Headteachers can only grant leave of absence during term time for exceptional circumstance.

There is no longer a H code for authorised term time leave for holidays and In accordance with Government guidelines we cannot authorise this request.

If your child is absent for this period, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised term time leave on their record. I should inform you that a fixed penalty fine may be requested.

The new national framework for issuing penalty notices is to ensure consistency across the country.

Penalty Notices are issued by Somerset Council as below:

1st penalty notice £160 if paid within 28 days reduced to £80 to be paid within 21 days

2nd penalty notice £160

3rd penalty notice cannot be made to the same parent regarding the same child within 3 years, alternative action should be taken.

Penalty Notices are per parent/carer per child and may be requested should the absence be for 5 consecutive days or more and your child's attendance is below 97%.



### **Dates for your Diary**

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



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.





## 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.

Please 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 reminder if their child isn't wearing the correct uniform.



## **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

