



Dear Parents, Carers and Brookside Community,

As we come to the end of another busy term at Brookside, I want to take a moment to celebrate our wonderful children. Every day, they show what it truly means to Be Kind, Be Safe and Be Responsible. These simple but powerful values shape the culture of our school, and it has been inspiring to see how wholeheartedly children have embraced them; whether through thoughtful friendships, safe and sensible choices, or showing real responsibility in their learning and behaviour.

One of the greatest privileges of working with children is watching them navigate and rise above the challenges they face. This term, we have seen children work through the ups and downs of friendships, persevere when learning has felt difficult, and show courage when faced with anxieties or moments of uncertainty. Whether it has been a wobble at the classroom door, a disagreement on the playground, or a tricky new piece of learning, so many children have shown resilience, honesty, and growing self-belief. We are incredibly proud of the emotional strength and determination they continue to develop.

This term has also seen our House Competition really start to heat up. With so many opportunities to earn points, every house remains in strong contention for the end-of-year trophy. The enthusiasm across the Academy has been brilliant, and the healthy sense of competition has brought out the very best in teamwork, perseverance and commitment from the children.

I also want to give special recognition to our House Captains. Their leadership this term has been exceptional. They have taken their roles seriously and shown maturity beyond their years, motivating their teams, organising events, speaking confidently in assemblies, and setting a positive example for others to follow. They should be incredibly proud of the impact they are having across the whole Academy.

As we head into a break, I would like to thank you all for your continued support. We are very proud of our community and look forward to another exciting and successful term ahead.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable holiday.

Warm regards,

Brian Walton  
Head Teacher



A big well done to Amber Bomani in Early Years for taking part in her first gymnastics competition and being awarded a certificate and medal.

Well done Amber!

## The National League Cup

A proud moment for Brookside Academy as we represented Yeovil Town FC in both the boys and the girls National League Cup at Huish Park.

The tournament consisted of teams throughout the South West who play in the National League, with the winners and runners up progressing to the South Finals at Walton & Hersham FC in Surrey.

Both teams got off to a flyer vs Forest Green Rovers with the boys coming from a goal down to win 2-1 and the girls hammering home 4 goals courtesy of Lacey J in a 4-0 win.

Truro City were up next. The boys took an early lead and superbly 'parked the bus' to see out the victory. Well done to Leo, Toby and Harvey for defending so professionally. Matteo gets the plaudits after some excellent goalkeeping to keep a clean sheet. Mr. Perry deserves a worthy mention for the tactical masterclass. 1-0. The girls dug deep against a strong Truro side managing to keep a clean sheet, with some excellent defending from Thora, Hermione and Ellie in net. 0-0.

Our 3rd match was against Bath City. The boys found themselves up against some physical opponents whose tactics seemingly were to kick the ball as hard and as far as they could. After a well worked team goal, finished off by Reuben. Harvey gave Bath a bit of their own medicine and lumped a goal kick straight up field, only to find Dexter who calmly slotted home 2-0.

The girls again struggled to find the back of the net but put on another amazing defensive display with Ezra and Lacey G working tirelessly off the ball. 0-0.

Onto the last group game vs Torquay United. The boys found another gear against, arguably, one of the best teams that we played. After a tight opening few minutes, the boys found a way through after some excellent work by Reggie and Marley. Once the 1st went in the floodgates opened and 3 more came along. Credit to Torquay who played some excellent football, along with getting themselves on the scoresheet after a long-range effort. 4-1.

The girls once again showed how resilient they can be and made sure that the ball didn't go in their net! With Thora's long throws causing havoc in the penalty area, along with super subs Issy and Briony causing new issues, eventually we managed to nick a goal through Isabel M. 1-0

Group stages done the boys finished top with 12 points after 4 wins from 4 and the girls in second place with 8 points without conceding a goal!

After lunch the semi-finals took place the boys vs Bath City and the girls vs Torquay United.

The boys, having already beaten Bath once, needed to do it one more time. Bath came out with a different set of tactics, allowing them to play some nice football which caused us a few problems. Matteo managed to keep the ball out of the net with some credible reaction saves. Yeovil struggled to grow into the game, Bath defended superbly throughout. After 10 minutes the deadlock was broken, the Bath winger with a rocket 1-0 Bath. The boys pushed and pushed, but it wasn't to be and right on the stroke of full-time Bath scored another wonder goal to make it through to the final. 0-2.

The girls having just played Torquay prior to lunch knew that they were in for another tough game but could rely on their solid defensive displays. A game of few chances, but again Ellie made some top-class saves to keep The Glovers in the match. Nobody could find a winner, so the match went to penalties... unfortunately after some well taken Torquay penalties, they won 3-1.

Congratulations to both Bath and Torquay who were the eventual winners on the day.

A cruel way to go out for both sides after doing so well in the group stages. They should all hold their heads up high. Being able to represent a local professional team is something they will remember for a long time.

Thank you to all of the parents who come along and give the group some well needed support.

Brookside PE



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

## Nursery – Pancake day, Lunar New Year, Maths week and World Book Day !

We have had a busy half term in Nursery.

All of our rooms celebrated Pancake Day, Lunar New Year, Maths Week and World Book Day with lots of exciting activities.

Lunar New Year activities included a Noodle Shop role play, learning about the Zodiac animals and yellow and red colour sorting with threading.

In our Bumblebee room, the babies have enjoyed food tasting different foods linked to Lunar New Year.

During maths week the babies sang and explored different number rhymes. The babies also explored different shapes with the shape cutters and paint.

Some of the Bumblebees took a walk into the forest school area to look for leaves to stick on their beanstalks, from the Jack and the Beanstalk story, and they planted their own beans too—we look forward to watching them grow.

Some of our Ladybirds enjoyed a walk to the park where they used their gross motor skills to explore the different play equipment.

They celebrated Maths week with activities linked to their two focus stories: Goldilocks and The Three Bears and the Three Little Pigs. These helped us to learn about subitising and comparing different sizes.

Some of us have also started to explore our PenPal stories, so we can now listen to stories in different languages embracing our different home languages.

The Ladybirds also explored lots of different colour themed activities which they linked in with the festival Holi, they explored different paints, coloured water, coloured milk and a range of different materials too.

Some of the Butterflies took a walk to the park and showed the adults their great listening skills and enjoyed exploring the various play equipment. Back at nursery some of the Butterflies helped to make Chow Mein when celebrating Lunar New Year, they worked together to prepare the many different ingredients.

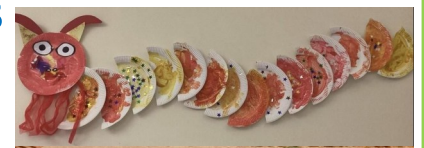
During Maths week, the children learnt and sang many number rhymes. There were rhymes about ducks, sausages, currant buns and frogs. They also explored different 2D and 3D shapes learning different mathematical language as they explored.

Most recently they have been enjoying activities linked to Jack and The Beanstalk; these included growing their own beans and using the loose parts to create their own fairytale castles.

Our Incey Wincey group have had lots of fun exploring the Three Bears and Three Little Pigs story by making their own porridge, which they then tried for their snack just like the bears in the story, and they built houses for the three pigs. They really liked pretending to be the wolf blowing down the houses.

During colour fortnight, they explored the Book of Colours with a range of colourful sensory activities and learnt some of the Makaton signs for the different colours too.

We hope all our families have a lovely Easter.



## The Willows—Jays Class—Forest School, Cheese Sandwiches and Arctic Jellyfish!

During this term Jays Class have enjoyed exploring in the school environment and developing our independence. We have explored with nature at Forest School, and we have really enjoyed taking part in sports activities with the Sport's Coaches during our PE lessons. We used the parachute and developed our football skills. During these sessions we develop our ability to work as a team, increase our listening skills and consider the importance of sharing.

We also developed our reading and writing skills when we wrote instructions for making a cheese sandwich. We then made our own sandwiches by spreading on the butter and filling them with the ingredients that we had chosen. We also made some yummy brownies which were delicious!

To develop our use of vocabulary we went on an imaginary journey in search of an Arctic Jellyfish. We developed our knowledge about some of the hot and cold countries around the world. We located different countries on maps, atlases and globes.

We have also been counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s using different objects that we found in the classroom and we have been developing our knowledge about times tables.



## The Willows—Kingfishers Class—Daisy and the Trouble with London and The Snail and the Whale

During the Spring term, we went on a journey through our theme, inspired by two fantastic books: Daisy and the Trouble with London and The Snail and the Whale. These stories helped us explore adventure, travel, and the excitement of discovering new places.

To wrap up our learning, we enjoyed a local trip to the park, where the children had the opportunity to connect their ideas about journeys and exploration to their own environment. We also celebrated World Book Day, coming together to share our favourite stories and celebrate the joy of reading.

In Art, the class worked creatively to produce a beautiful Easter display, showcasing their imagination and developing artistic skills. In Maths, within our groups we explored measurement, practised our 2, 5 and 10 times tables, and learned about 2D and 3D shapes, building confidence through hands-on activities and problem-solving.



## The Willows—Robins Class—Sir Ernest Shackleton, Marbel Runs and We The Curious

This term Robins Class have been diving into the incredible true story of Sir Ernest Shackleton and his legendary Antarctic expedition. Using our research, the children planned, drafted and published their own newspaper articles, reporting on the dramatic events as if they were real journalists of the time.

Our DT project this term was creating marble runs from recycled materials such as cardboard tubes, boxes, and plastic containers.

We also had an exciting visit to We The Curious in Bristol. The children took part in a range of hands-on science activities, exploring interactive exhibitions. From discovering how things move, to experimenting with light, sound, forces and Space through a Planetarium show.



## Early Years—'Come Outside!'

This term in Early Years, our theme 'Come Outside!' has taken us on all sorts of exciting adventures. We started by learning how to care for our environment and shared the story *Somebody Swallowed Stanley*, which helped us think about how litter can affect wildlife. Throughout the term, we explored the changing seasons with beautiful books such as *Seasons Come, Seasons Go*, *The Leaf Thief*, and *A Stroll Through the Seasons*.

One of our highlights this term was Jack and the Beanstalk week! The children planted their very own magic beans to take home, and we loved seeing the photos of how your beanstalks grew—thank you for sharing them with us.

We also had great fun painting our handprints to create our very own beanstalk, inspired by Jasper's Beanstalk. Alongside this, we explored the importance of healthy eating through the story *Oliver's Vegetables*. To round off the term, we enjoyed a range of exciting Easter-themed crafts and activities, making it a fun and memorable end to the term.

This term, we consolidated all of our Phase 2 and 3 phonics and have begun Phase 4. Thank you so much for your ongoing support with reading at home—regular practice makes a huge difference to children's confidence and fluency.

The children have been busy building their early maths skills through lots of hands-on activities. This term, they have been:

- counting confidently beyond 20
- comparing groups of objects by colour, size, or shape
- exploring how a whole can be made up of smaller parts (for example: different ways to make the same total number of ducks!)
- developing subitising skills and beginning to remember simple doubles facts
- sorting objects and explaining what they noticed

Exploring measurement by using a range of non-standard units to measure and compare different objects.

We've had a wonderful time in our skills lessons too! The children enjoyed simple Science experiments including colour mixing and watching how warm water changes Skittles. In Music, we used instruments to find the pulse, and in RE we looked for signs of Spring and learned about Easter. We also explored lots of exciting activities in Geography, History, and Art.

We've shared a selection of photos to give you a glimpse into the fantastic learning taking place in our classroom. We hope you enjoy celebrating the children's achievements.



## Year 1 – Jack and the Beanstalk, Predictions, Money and much more ...

What a busy 6 weeks we have had. The sun has begun to make an appearance again and Spring is certainly here!

Of course, we had the infamous World Book Day at the beginning of the half term. We saw lots of magnificent outfits and had a wonderful time looking at different books, thinking about our favourite books and authors and sharing some reading time with Year 5!

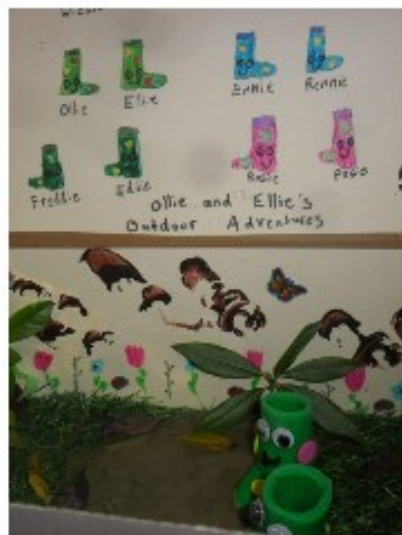
In Maths we have been looking at all sorts of different skills, such as measuring and using a ruler, choosing which container will hold the most volume of liquid and using scales to weigh different objects. We have been continuing to practice our arithmetic skills including add, subtract and missing number (this is tricky!) but we are getting better and better and getting used to using a part-part whole to help us.

In English we have written a variety of things over the last few weeks. We have learnt how to research and write facts on sunflowers and read Oliver's fruit salad and Oliver's milkshake to write sentences with conjunctions and adjectives within them. We then spent two weeks on the classic story "Jack and the Beanstalk". We wrote a letter to the giant telling him what we thought of him! We came up with adjectives for different things in the story (Jack, beanstalk etc) put together a detailed story map, sequenced the story and wrote the story! PHEW, we've been busy.

In Science we have conducted an experiment – which we absolutely love in Year 1!! We have been learning to make predictions about what we think will happen and then discussed and wrote in our own words what did happen. Ask us about our Haribo bear experiment and what happened to the bears in different liquids! We have also currently got green fingers in Jaguars and Tigers, as we are each the proud owner of a bean plant! We have been watering them, making sure they're looked after and getting as much sunlight as possible. We have kept a bean plant diary every couple of weeks and have been keeping an eye on how they are growing.

In PSHE we have been looking at money, what it is and how to look after it. Musically, we have been focusing on body rhythms, keeping to a beat using a stomp, clap and hand fist sound. This has proven a fun challenge – ask us to show you a bit! And finally in DT, we have been learning about designing and evaluating a product including a healthy snack and drink. Have a look at our photos to see what we made!

A super half term Year 1 – a massive well done to you all.



## Year 2 – Puppets, Potatoes, Pictograms and Materials

What a fantastic half term we've had in Year 2!

In English, we loved writing our non-chronological reports all about ourselves. We learned how to organise our writing into paragraphs and even added subheadings. Thank you to everyone at home who helped with the planning sheet—this really supported the children's ideas. We also enjoyed reading our class book Kevin. We wrote character descriptions, made predictions, and even created our very own imaginary characters!

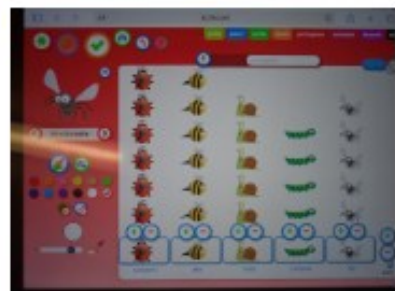
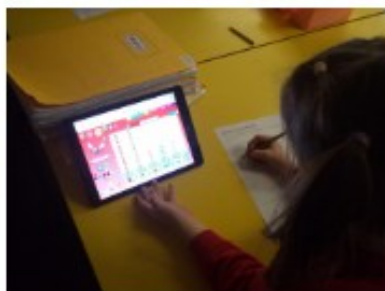
In Maths, we have been busy exploring measurement. We learned how to measure length and height using both rulers and metre sticks, and now we know which tool to choose depending on what we're measuring. We have also used grams and kilograms to measure mass, and litres and millilitres to measure capacity. Alongside this, we've been practising our column addition and subtraction, including knowing when we need to exchange or 'borrow' a ten. We practise our times tables every week too, and we're becoming confident with lots of multiplication facts.

In DT, our puppet project has been a big success! We created the puppet heads using newspaper, masking tape and a layer of mod-roc. We also learned all about Jim Henson—the puppeteer who created The Muppets.

In Computing, we have been learning how to make pictograms. First, we went on a mini-beast hunt around the classroom and recorded what we found using a tally chart. Then we used the iPads to turn our information into a pictogram. Can you explain to your grown-up what a pictogram is and why it is useful?

In Science, we have started chitting our potatoes and are looking forward to planting them next term. We've also been learning about different materials, their properties, and what they are most suitable for. One of our favourite lessons this half term was testing which material would make the best hankie (see below for more information about this)!

We hope you have a lovely, restful Easter break and we look forward to seeing you in the summer term!



## Year 3 – World Book Day, Pasta Salad and Mr Men Land!

Year 3 had a wonderful World Book Day! The children arrived in school dressed in a fantastic range of costumes, showcasing some truly amazing creativity. We celebrated our love of reading throughout the day by talking about our favourite book baddies, drawing well-loved characters, and designing our own bookmarks. To finish our celebrations, Year 3 proudly took part in a costume parade in front of the whole school, a perfect end to a brilliant day!



In DT, Year 3 have also been busy creating their very own pasta salads. The children began by carefully designing their salad, thinking about flavour, texture, and colour. They then put their plans into action, using skills such as chopping, grating, slicing, and spreading to prepare their ingredients. Everyone worked sensibly and safely and the final dishes looked delicious!



In English, Year 3 have been extremely busy becoming journalists! We have been writing our own newspaper reports all about “The Mayhem in Mr Men Land.” The whole of Happyland mysteriously turned opposite, causing chaos for all the characters. Year 3 rose to the challenge brilliantly, using eye-catching headlines, dramatic quotes, and exciting details to tell the world what happened. The final newspapers were fantastic full of creativity, imagination, and wonderful writing skills!



## Year 4 — World Book Day

We loved dressing up as our favourite characters and sharing the books that inspire us. The children joined a live lesson to explore what type of readers they are, and MC Grammar's World Book Day song was definitely a highlight.

Our parade was brilliant too as it was wonderful seeing all the creative costumes from other classes.

Well done, Year 4!



# Year 5 – The Atkinson Gallery, Curiosity, Crumbles and the Suffragettes

We've had an exciting and inspiring few weeks of learning!

The children enjoyed a wonderful visit to the Atkinson Gallery, where they explored a fascinating surrealist exhibition. The artwork sparked lots of discussion, curiosity, and creativity. They then channelled their ideas into their own surrealist-inspired collages, experimenting with imaginative combinations and bold visual choices.

As part of British Science Week, the children embraced the theme of curiosity. They planned and carried out investigations to test which design and shape make the best boats, and which designs create the strongest bridges. There was plenty of thoughtful predicting, testing and refining as they worked like real engineers and scientists.

In DT, pupils put their new programming skills to the test by using Crumble controllers. Working with motors, LEDs and switches, each group designed and built a working carousel that included at least two programmable features. The children showed fantastic problem-solving skills as they adapted their plans and debugged their code.

This term we have also been delving into the history of the suffragettes. The children learned about the brave individuals who campaigned tirelessly for women's right to vote and the wider fight for equality. They explored the stories of significant figures such as Emmeline Pankhurst and Constance Lytton considering how their actions helped shape the society we live in today



## Year 6 – Wonder, David Hockney, and so much more ...

At the start of this term, we began reading *Wonder* by R. J. Palacio, which is a remarkable book, about a boy named August. August has a deformed face and has started school for the first time, in the fifth grade. The story is told through the eyes of August and other people that he meets along the way and it is a good reminder to not judge someone on looks alone. In English, we wrote diary entries as August and other children from his new school and the children were excellent at adapting their writing to show different styles and characters.

In Art, we have continued looking at David Hockney and his unique style when using water colour. Using these new skills, we published our poems (inspired by *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris) and painted watercolour pictures of different animals found in the UK. Next we are planning to draw and paint Hockney inspired depictions of our local landscape.

We have also started our new unit in Science: Living Things and Their Habitats. We have been learning about how animals are classified depending on shared characteristics. We have learned about Carl Linnaeus and his invention of the Linnaean system of classification.

We also celebrated World Book Day this term, and we shared our favourite stories and characters – honouring the joy that is reading and books.



## Year 6 – Cont'd ...

The children have been working so hard to prepare for SATS - maybe the motivation is a week off maths when they are all done! Progress is good in all areas and we are still trying to have some fun in between.

In science we have learned about classifying animals and organisms and we also had British Science week in the middle of the term which involved making paper air crafts. We chose the windiest day to get outside and see if they could indeed fly. See the pictures and decide for yourself!

In English, we have been learning to write a discussion text and the children have become very adapt at using persuasive language; we put this to the test with a debate about deforestation in the Amazon. There are pictures to see the children in action also on the website. We explored Crime and Punishment in history and are using Tinkercad in computing to design a motorised vehicle. We hope to make the vehicle after the SATs are done and dusted.

You may know that your child has requested some extra homework for the next few weeks - practise NFER tests. These are not compulsory and can be completed in their own time across the next few weeks, with adult support if they like. They can complete them in the time allowed (45 mins for Grammar; 40 minutes for Reasoning; 30 minutes for arithmetic) or do 10 mins a day, a page a day, or whatever they can manage. Answer packs have been provided, and these do not need to be returned completed to school. The homework in the plastic wallet might be enough for them and this is the only homework that we expect to be returned when we come back in the summer term.

We wish all families a lovely Easter and please encourage your child to enjoy the break.



# Year 6 Easter Maths Challenge

*Thinking mathematically to solve problems is great preparation for SATs!*

For Year 6 children and their families  
led by experienced Year 6 Teacher and Maths Mastery Specialist

Year 6 children and grown-ups, join us online  
9 - 9.30am on *all* or some the following dates:

- Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March
- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April
- Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> April
- Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April
- Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April

To get involved scan the QR code  
and register on Eventbrite to receive  
the Zoom link and reminders before  
each session.



## 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 — **98.5%** of our families have registered, so far!

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.**

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



# 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?

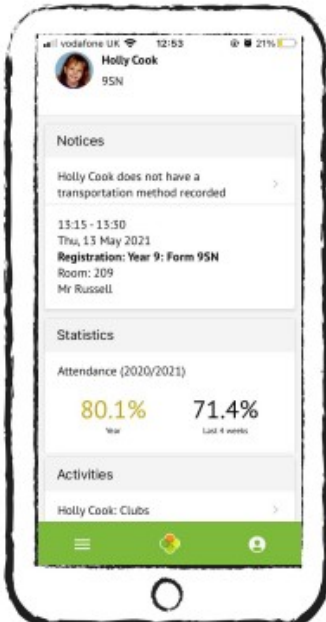
## Need help using Arbor?

**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.



## **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.

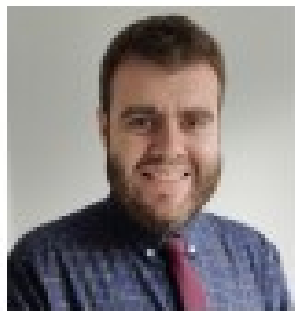
# **SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION**

## **SAFEGUARDING OFFICERS FOR CHILD PROTECTION**



**MRS SARAH ASHFORD  
DEPUTY HEADTEACHER  
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING  
LEAD**

**IN THE EVENT OF ANY CONCERNS FOR A PUPIL'S SAFETY PLEASE  
REPORT IMMEDIATELY TO A DESIGNATED MEMBER OF STAFF.**



**MR JARED WISEMAN  
ASSISTANT HEAD  
DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING  
LEAD**



**MRS NICOLA NEVELL  
ASSISTANT HEAD  
DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING  
LEAD**



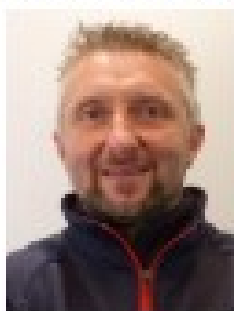
**MRS JENNY MOORE  
ASSISTANT HEAD  
DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING  
LEAD**



**MRS SAM DAVEY  
NURSERY MANAGER  
DEPUTY SAFEGUARDING  
LEAD**

In school, if you are worried about a child, speak to one of the above members of the Safeguarding Team by emailing [safeguarding@brooksideacademy.co.uk](mailto:safeguarding@brooksideacademy.co.uk). If you are worried about any adult's interaction with a child, please report to the DSL or in their absence to a DDSL. If your concern relates to the DSL you must contact BTCT CEO Mark Thomas or Trust Safeguarding Lead, Sally Power.

Out of school, if you are worried about the immediate safety of a child, please call the Police on 999. If you are worried that a child is at risk, please call Somerset Direct, Children & Young Peoples Service Emergency Team (after 4.00pm) on 0300 123 23 27.



**MR ADI WHATLING  
SAFEGUARDING GOVERNOR**

The role of the safeguarding governor is key to understanding the effectiveness of safeguarding for everyone in the school.



## 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?

**NHS**  
Somerset

### 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



Parents: 07480 635 515

Young People age 11-19: 07840 635 516

### Welcome to the Somerset School Nurse Service!

We'd like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves and the School Nursing Service to all families—whether your child is starting school for the first time or returning after the summer break. As part of Somerset's commitment to supporting children's health and wellbeing, our School Nurse Service is here to help your child thrive—both in and out of the classroom. School nurses are qualified nurses and public health professionals who work with families of children aged 5 to 19, offering confidential advice, care, and support on a wide range of health topics. Whether it's guidance on sleep, healthy lifestyles, emotional wellbeing, continence, our team is here to support you and your child. We work closely with schools, families, and other professionals to ensure every child gets the help they need to stay healthy, happy, and safe

### ChatHealth – Easy, Confidential Support via Text

**ChatHealth** is a confidential text messaging service for parents and carers of children aged 5–19. You can text a qualified school nurse for advice. Just send a message to **07480 635515**—available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (excluding bank holidays.)

# Crispin Hall School Holiday

# Family Fun

# Sessions!

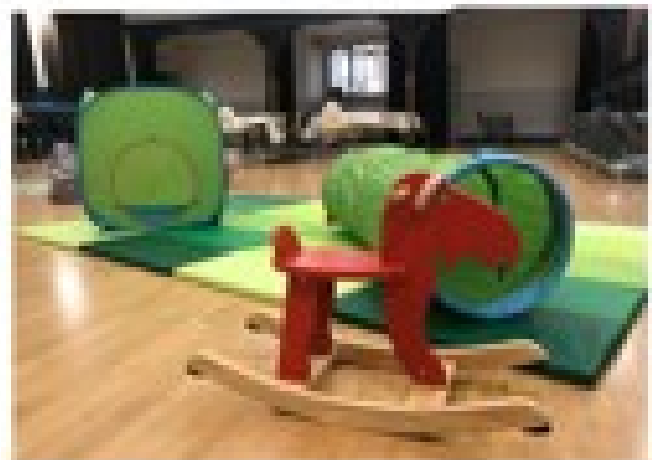
**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>**

**April 2026**

**9:30am - 11:30am**

**FREE BREAKFAST FOR  
CHILDREN**

**HOT AND COLD OPTIONS AVAILABLE**



**Free to Attend**

**DONATIONS WELCOME**

**DUE TO SPACE WE ARE LIMITED TO 40 CHILDREN PER SESSION AT ANY ONE TIME. IT IS FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED.  
ALL CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT FOR THE DURATION OF THEIR STAY AND WILL REMAIN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THAT  
ADULT.**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT INFO@CRISPINHALL.ORG.UK OR PHONE 01246 441242**

**CRISPIN HALL PRESENTS**

# STREET DANCE

*with Anna Gifford (Danceanna)*

LEARN A FUN ROUTINE

**WEDNESDAY 15TH APRIL 2026**

**1pm - 2pm : Dance Workshop**

**2pm - 2.30pm : Food**

FREE TO ATTEND  
FREE FOOD

PIZZA, HOT DOGS,  
ICE CREAM ETC

DONATIONS WELCOME

SUITABLE FOR AGES  
10-15 YEARS



[www.danceanna.com](http://www.danceanna.com)