



# Brookside Primary School

*Every Child Counts*

Newsletter Spring Term Issue 4

[www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk)



@brooksidetweets

1st March 2019

Dear Parents,

We hope you all had a good half term and enjoyed the unseasonably warm February weather. During the half term we had solar panels installed on the Brook Building roof. This installation was organised by Low Carbon Hub and will help to reduce our carbon footprint and electricity bills.

## World Book Day

A reminder that the annual celebration of all things book-related will be taking place next week at Brookside on Friday 8th March. Please note this is the day after the official World Book Day. As usual, we ask if all pupils can come to school dressed as a famous book character ready for a day of fun activities centred around the literary world (no football shirts please).

## Book Fair

Pupils will be able to spend their £1 World Book Day token, which they will receive next week, at the school book fair. The fair runs from Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March until Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March from 3pm each afternoon in the dinner hall. There will be a range of books for all ages on sale.

## Comic Relief Red Nose Day—Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Red Nose Day 2019 is just around the corner and at Brookside we've decided to join in with the fun! To raise money for this worthy cause, on **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019** Brookside will be hosting a '**wear something funny for money**' day in exchange for a **£1** donation to Comic Relief. This could be

either a fancy costume or perhaps some face paint or an unusual hair do, whatever you choose is up to you! The money we raise will be used to transform lives both here and worldwide. In order to raise extra funds, KOBs will be running a **Bake Sale** at break and lunchtime in EYFS, KS1 and KS2. We would therefore appreciate your **generous donations of tasty, sweet treats** which will be for sale on the day. Also, don't forget if your child would like to purchase something from the Bake Sale they will need to **bring a small amount of change** to school on this day.

(Written by Lilee and Emily)



## Staff News

Welcome to Miss Gemma Carter who joins us as our new Home School Link Worker. Gemma has joined us from working in a similar role in another Oxfordshire school and brings a lot of skills to the role. Gemma will be working with some families in school as part of our pastoral team.

## TT Rockstars Battle of the Bands

What a fantastic week we had competing in our Battle of the Bands competition! We were so impressed with the fantastic effort and enthusiasm that the children showed to earn points for their class. Well done to all of those children who spent lots of time rockin' their times tables at home. Huge congratulations to our winners Brave Martians (BM) and Double Trouble (RM/TS). If you haven't already, why not take a look at some of the photos we posted of our top scoring pupils on Parent Hub?

## EYFS Maths Workshop

Thank you to all those parents who joined us for the maths workshop before half term. We had a great turn out and the children really enjoyed working alongside their parents and grandparents in the classroom. Hopefully, you have found lots of opportunities to try out some of the activities and games discussed at home. If you were not at the workshop but would like some information, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

## Friends of Brookside School AGM - Tonight

The Friends of Brookside School will be holding their AGM this evening at 3pm in the art room. All members of the school community are a member of FoBS and are able to join the committee. You would be most welcome at the meeting straight after school.

## Baby Bank

You may have seen on Facebook that some local parents have established a Baby Bank in Bicester. Similar to the established Bicester Food Bank, the Baby Bank is able to provide support for families in times of need or crisis and can provide for carers of children up to the age of five. This support may be in the form of baby food, baby clothing and baby items. Food and baby bank vouchers and details of how to access these services are available from any member of the pastoral team at Brookside. Please speak to Miss G Carter, Mrs Cockhill, Mrs Coles or Mr Watt should you need to.

## School Car Park

At Brookside our highest priority is to keep our children safe. For this reason we have a vehicle gate and a pedestrian gate which both exit out onto the Bucknell Road. There is no footpath across the vehicle bridge and therefore can we please ask for your support in modelling to children that the school site should only be entered and exited using the pedestrian bridge. The vehicle bridge is in use at 8.30am and also after 3pm for staff and deliveries. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

## Attendance

Well done to the classes who had the highest attendance during the last two weeks.

Class	Week beginning 11th February	Week beginning 25th February
BM	94%	96%
DF/NS	96%	95%
CP	97%	96%
AW	98%	99%
LD	96%	96%
FH	93%	100%
CC	96%	98%
RM/TS	91%	94%
CS	94%	97%

### E-Safety

We would be grateful if you could spend some time this weekend reminding your children of the importance of online safety and that they should only be accessing online apps or videos which have been checked by an adult. We would encourage you to ensure your child accesses the internet in view of an adult and that they should never give out personal information. We speak to the children about E-Safety during Computing lessons in school, but realise that they have far greater access to the internet through the use of phones, tablets, laptops and televisions. Should you want more information about how to keep your child safe whilst online please speak to your child's class teacher, refer to the magazine we provided before the holiday or visit [www.internetmatters.org](http://www.internetmatters.org)

### FoBS Valentine's Disco

The children enjoyed a great evening of entertainment during the Valentine's Disco before the holiday. Thank you to all members of the FoBS committee who organised the event and also the large number of parents who have up all or some of their afternoon to support the committee.

### KS1 multi skills at the Leisure Centre

Before half term a group of 30 KS1 athletes went to the Leisure Centre to take part in a multi skills festival. The children were put into groups of 10 and they moved around the different stations, trying out the different types of sport. The basketball was a firm favourite amongst the children. It was a most enjoyable morning and the children were very engaged and excited!

### Year 5 and 6 Netball Competition

Two teams took part in a netball competition on Wednesday at TBS. We were very fortunate for the glorious weather and the children really tried their best. Each team played five games and the children rotated around so that each child had an opportunity to play all of the different positions. I was really very impressed with the level of netball skills the children showed and they played each match bravely. They displayed some excellent school games mark values such as teamwork, honesty, passion and determination. Each player played a very important role in the afternoon, but a special mention for Finn Cleary, Oscar Nelson and Lucy Davies who really showed remarkable sportsmanship! Well done everyone, and you made Brookside very proud!



### Brilliant Books!

A love of reading is sometimes all about choosing great books but it can be hard to decide what makes a good book. To help, Waterstones have just published the 2019 Children's Book shortlist. Click on the link below to see a fantastic list of titles that have been nominated for a prize:

[https://www.waterstones.com/the-waterstones-childrens-book-prize?utm\\_source=wsweekly110219&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=weekly](https://www.waterstones.com/the-waterstones-childrens-book-prize?utm_source=wsweekly110219&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=weekly)

### Clubs

After school clubs will continue until Thursday 28th March 2019. They will restart during the week beginning Tuesday 7th May 2019.

### Easy Peasy in the EYFS

The EYFS children and parents were invited to take part in this 20 week programme of activities to help promote early learning at home. We are now on week 5. Thank you to everybody who has already joined in, we hope you have been enjoying the activities with your children. Please look out for the weekly activity sent to you via text message each Saturday. This week's activities are Tower of Hands (Nursery) and Treasure Hunt (Reception). Please ask a member of the EYFS team if you have any questions about this programme.

**Dates for your diary**

Monday 1st April	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 2nd April	Parents' Evening
Friday 5th April	Final Assembly 9:15 a.m. EYFS and KS1 Final Assembly 2:15 p.m. KS2
Monday 1st July	Sports Day KS1/KS2 a.m.
Wednesday 3rd July	EYFS Sports Day a.m./p.m.
Wednesday 17th July	KS2 Performance 5:30 p.m.
Thursday 18th July	KS2 Performance 5:30 p.m.
Monday 22nd July	EYFS/KS1 final assembly 9:15 a.m. Year 3,4 and 5 final assembly 2:15 p.m.
Tuesday 23rd July	Year 6 Leavers' assembly 9:15 a.m.

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell