

April
2026



Newsletter



Brook Field School

Newsletter

April 2026



Welcome back to Term 5!

We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break and are ready for another exciting and productive term ahead.

Last term was filled with many memorable and enriching experiences. Our Early Years children thoroughly enjoyed a visit from the police as part of their Superheroes topic, helping them learn about real-life heroes in our community. We also celebrated Science Week, brilliantly led by Mr Dredge, with a focus on curiosity. The children were inspired by hands-on learning and visits from local STEM ambassadors, sparking excitement and wonder across the school.

Years 3, 4 and 5 had the opportunity to visit the cinema to watch a powerful film by David Attenborough. It proved truly inspirational, with some of our Year 3 pupils already motivated to take action in protecting our oceans - keep an eye out for their posters appearing around the school soon.

We are also incredibly proud of our Year 5 pupils, who were winners of the first heat of the BK debating competition. A huge congratulations to them, and we wish them the very best of luck for the final in May.

This term, our whole-school value focus is **responsibility**. We will be encouraging all pupils to take ownership of their learning, actions and choices, both in and out of the classroom. Through this focus, we aim to help children develop confidence, independence and a strong sense of accountability as members of our school community.

Please continue to visit our school website to keep up to date with your child's class and wider school news: <https://brookfieldprimaryschool.schooljotter3.com/classes>

As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us at **office@brookfield.bluekitetrust.org**.

We are looking forward to another positive term filled with learning, growth and success, and we thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Mrs Rachel Taylor
Headteacher

RESPONSIBILITY

Brook Field School Dates – Term 5

Monday 4th May -Bank Holiday (School closed)
Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th May - Braeside Residential for Year 4
Monday 11th - Friday 15th - SATS Week for Year 6
Friday 15th May - FOBS Dress down for a £1 (All year groups)

Advance Notice – Staff Training Days (school closed to children)

Monday 1st June 2026
Wednesday 22nd July 2026

Academic Year 2026/2027

Tuesday 1st September 2026
Monday 2nd November 2026
Monday 4th January 2027
Monday 22nd February 2027
Monday 7th June 2027

Parent Survey Feedback

Thank you for taking the time to complete our recent parent survey. We have also gathered pupil voice, as it is very important to us that we listen to all stakeholders and reflect on the quality of provision and care at Brook Field.

As always, we are incredibly grateful for the positive and supportive feedback from both parents and children, and we remain committed to continual improvement. The Senior Leadership Team has carefully reviewed all responses, and steps are already being taken to address the feedback received. You will begin to see these reflected in upcoming newsletters, bulletins and other communications.



If you would like to discuss any of the actions in more detail, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

SWA Drop in

If you need a safe space to talk about any relationship issues you may be experiencing - join Heidi for a chat and support. Heidi will be here at Brook Field on the following dates:

Wednesday 6th May
Tuesday 16th June
Wednesday 1st July
8:40am

Why is school attendance so important?

Attending school **regularly** helps to build **confidence** and develop vital **life skills**



School



is the **key** to **future success!**

Missing **2 days** of school each month = Missing nearly **3 weeks** during a school year



15 minutes

late every day



two weeks of learning lost each school year

Data shows pupils with more than **95%** attendance Achieve better GCSE results!



at least one grade higher!

Even **90%** attendance is still 19 days of education lost in a school year



ATTEND! AIM HIGH! ACHIEVE!

Please speak to a teacher, or the attendance lead at your school if you have any concerns. Further information can be found at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/support-at-school or by emailing Brighton & Hove's Attendance Team – attendanceteam@brighton-hove.gov.uk

Key Attendance Latest Impact Statistics

1. Attendance strongly predicts attainment

Primary pupils with 95–100% attendance have 30% higher odds of reaching the expected standard in reading, writing and maths in Year 6 compared with pupils attending 90–95%.

2. Persistent absence is rising and harmful

Persistent absence (missing 10%+ of school) is at 18.26% for the 2025/26 academic year to date.

These patterns often begin in primary school and, if not addressed, continue into secondary education.

3. Attendance and well being are linked

Regular absence reduces pupils' visibility to teachers, limiting their access to protective relationships and making it harder to identify emerging needs.

4. Long term life outcomes

Persistently absent pupils earn £10,000 less at age 28 compared to peers with near perfect attendance.

Strategic Drive Update: Safeguarding Target

To ensure that our safeguarding culture remains proactive, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of all pupils. To continue to use the 360 Online Safety toolkit to ensure robust online safety measures are embedded.



To achieve this target, our Designated Safeguarding Lead, Rachel Taylor and our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead, Nikki Marvel, have both participated in a range of training and attend regular updates at the Blue Kite Academy Trust. Termly safeguarding updates are shared with all staff. We have held a range of sessions with our children including inviting external speakers to raise the children's awareness in age-appropriate ways.

Last term we had our annual safeguarding audit by Sarah Turner, who is a local safeguarding consultant. This included a site walk, meetings with Governors, a staff and pupil survey. Within the survey 100% of our staff feel that:

'Safeguarding in our school is high priority and our responsibilities around this are taken very seriously'.

All pupil survey responses are shared with the relevant teachers so that further conversations and their feelings can be discussed and actioned if necessary.

Behaviour

Being responsible leads to:

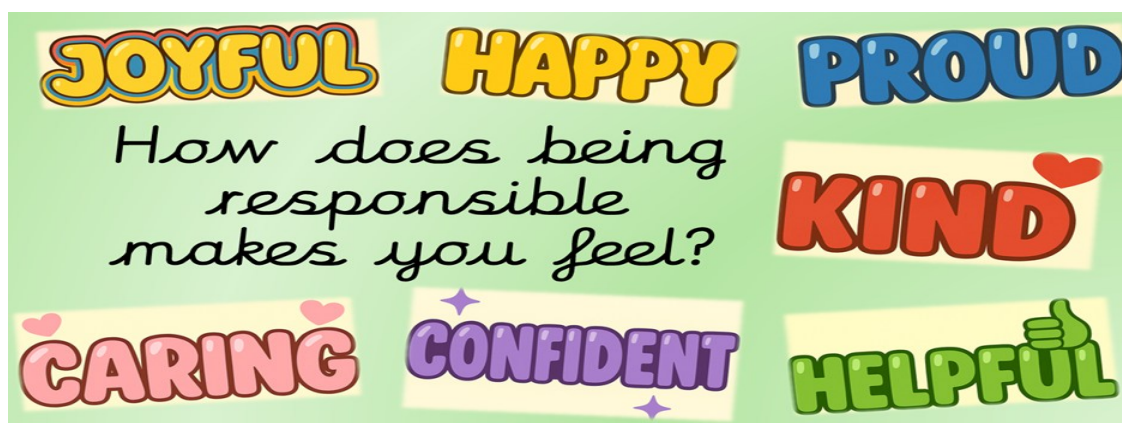
feeling happy and proud

building trust

making better friendships



This term as you know our focus value is Responsibility. During the first assembly of the term this was discussed with all children. A strong link was made between responsibility and behaviour – using our metacognition to Stop – Think – Choose Responsibility. We spent time talking about what we say and what we do affects how others feel, also how being responsible makes us feel.




All classes have also had a circle time talking about being responsible and making good choices to help everyone feel happy and safe. What the children said can be found on the classes pages on our website. Here's what the lovely children in Year 3 said


Our Termly Value Discussion -Responsibility

- Being nice to each other - not saying mean words.
- Knowing that if someone is hurt at playtimes, it is your responsibility to check that they are ok.
- Not saying who other people are - ie not saying they are bad at something.
- That you know you have to do something even if you don't want to do it.
- To listen to others so good things can happen.
- Not hurting other people and being responsible for the school property and resources.
- Not losing something.
- If you accidentally drop something on the floor, you should pick it up and even if you haven't dropped it, you can still pick it up.
- Keeping your hands and your legs to yourself.
- If someone has littered, don't just tell a teacher, it's your responsibility, you can pick it up.
- That you have the courage to do the things you are meant to do - eg table monitors tidy up the tables.
- You need to take responsibility for your actions - you need to always tell the truth and take responsibility for your own actions.
- Responsibility is super because it is something that will help make the school a better place. Everyone does their bit to make everyone happy at school.

**PLEASE REMEMBER
WE ARE A**



**NUT FREE
SCHOOL**



No Nuts Please!

We have a high number of children and staff with nut allergies which can be life threatening if exposed to nuts or food containing nuts. The serious nature and reactions that some of our children and staff could have means that we please ask that all parents support us in not sending food into school which contains nuts.

This does include all nut based products including:

- Peanuts
- Mixed nuts
- Peanut Butter spread
- Nutella spread

This list is not exhaustive so please check before sending food into school.

Healthy Snacks

Just a polite reminder to all parents that we only allow healthy snacks and water in school each day. Children's break-time snack should consist of only:

- ◆ *Fresh fruit*
- ◆ *Vegetables*
- ◆ *Cubes/chunks of cheese (not Dairylea Dunkers or Cheese Strings)*
- ◆ *Bread sticks or crackers*

Water bottles, for use through the day in the classrooms, should only contain water unless there is an Individual Medical Care Plan in place.

Thank you for your continued support.



Year 3 Easter Experience

On the last Friday of Term 4, Year 3 walked to Holy Trinity, Shaw for an Easter Experience. The children re-enacted the Easter story, recreated stained-glass windows and took part in a carousel of six creative activities where they heard and reflected upon some of the key events: the story of Palm Sunday; Jesus washing the Disciples feet; The Last Supper; the Garden of Gethsemane; the Cross as a symbol of hope and the Resurrection promise of new life. We were very grateful to Angela Mak, Heather Benn and all the volunteers from the church for their time and ability to share the Easter story so clearly and thoughtfully and for all the resources they provided, including some delicious Easter Eggs! Thank you to the parents who also helped us during the morning. Here are some photos from the morning.



Heather Benn, who was the main organiser of the Easter Experience, emailed us afterwards to say:

“It was a delight to welcome year 3 classes again to Holy Trinity Church yesterday for their Experience Easter visit. Angela and I were especially impressed with some of their insights at "The Cross - a Symbol of Hope" station and they clearly enjoyed the creative stained-glass windows activity provided by St Mary's (our sister church) in Lydiard Park. Thank you for bringing them, we really enjoyed our time with the children, the staff and parent helpers. I attach a thank you collage of photos which gives a flavour of all we shared together and we look forward to being able to welcome you once again next year.”



Blue Kite Trust Houses of Parliament Trip

Last term marked another very special occasion for the Blue Kite Academy Trust as we returned to the Houses of Parliament for our second visit. Two children from each of our 25 schools were chosen to represent their communities, making it a truly memorable and inspiring day.

Excitement was high as we set off on a safe and smooth journey to London. Upon arrival, we enjoyed a picnic in the beautiful Victoria Tower Gardens, with the stunning backdrop of Parliament and the River Thames adding to the occasion.



The tour of the historic Palace of Westminster was a real highlight. We learned all about the impressive traditions of British democracy and were amazed by the grandeur of the buildings, where Henry VIII once held banquets and where both the House of Commons and the House of Lords meet today.



The children even had the chance to sit in on some live debates, sparking lots of questions and great conversation.

A special congratulations goes to Isla May and Aston, who were selected as our school council representatives. They represented us with pride, enthusiasm, and maturity throughout the day – fantastic ambassadors for the Trust.

It was an unforgettable experience for everyone involved, and we're already looking forward to the trip next year!



Screen time advice



Why does screen time matter for children under five?

Ninety per cent of children's development happens before the age of five. Large amounts of unmanaged screen use can crowd out the activities that matter most at this stage — things like sleep, physical play, creative activities and time spent talking with parents and carers.

Research by early years charity Kindred Squared found that 28% of children starting reception are unable to use a book properly, with some trying to swipe or tap physical pages like a tablet screen. Giving children time away from screens in their early years helps build the social, emotional and language skills they need to start school.

What does the guidance recommend?

For children under two, the guidance recommends avoiding screen time other than for shared activities that encourage bonding, interaction and conversation. For two- to five-year-olds, parents are advised to aim for no more than one hour of screen time a day and to keep screens out of mealtimes and the hour before bed. When it comes to content, slow-paced, age-appropriate programmes can support early childhood development better than fast-paced, social media-style videos. Parents are also encouraged to watch screens together with their children — talking, asking questions and engaging with what's on screen. The evidence shows this kind of co-viewing is linked to better cognitive development than children watching alone.

The guidance also makes clear that these time limits shouldn't apply in the same way to screen-based assistive technologies used to support children with special educational needs and disabilities.

For more information and a wealth of support: [Best Start in Life - Best Start in Life](#)

Supporting our parents with Online Safety



Telegram and Discord: Understanding the risks

Digital platforms continue to evolve quickly, and with them, the risks faced by children and young people. Although there have been no reported incidents at Brook Field regarding these apps, we felt it was important to make you aware of two apps increasingly linked to safeguarding incidents in UK schools.



Telegram: What It Is and Why It's Popular.

While Telegram may seem similar to messaging apps like WhatsApp for example, it has several key features that make it unique:

Secret Chats – Also known as ‘disappearing messages’, users can set ‘self-destruct’ times on messages, ranging from 2 seconds to a week.

Chat Bots – Accounts operated by Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems are used to play various games and engage in conversation with users.

People/Groups Nearby – These features allow users to connect with individuals or groups nearby, without making their physical location known.

Channels – A tool that lets a group of administrators or an individual administrator broadcast messages to an unlimited subscriber base.

Key Safeguarding Risks

- Exposure to harmful or illegal content.
- Large, unmoderated group chats where children may encounter strangers or inappropriate content.
- Disappearing messages that make monitoring or evidencing harmful interactions difficult.
- Bullying within group chats.
- Limited parental controls, making it difficult for adults to oversee activity.

Guidance for parents and carers

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/telegram-messenger/>

Discord: What It Is and Why Young People Use It.

Discord is a communication platform originally used by gamers but now widely used for chatting via text, voice, or video in themed communities called “servers”. These can be public or private.



Key Safeguarding Risks

- Grooming: shared interests can help adults build rapport with young people.
- Exposure to inappropriate or harmful content.
- Unmoderated spaces where harmful language or content may appear.
- Direct messages from strangers unless privacy settings are changed.
- Screensharing that can expose children to inappropriate content in real time.

Guidance for parents and carers

<https://www.internetmatters.org/advice/apps-and-platforms/social-media/discord/>

Digital Leaders Assembly



The Brook Field Digital Leaders wrote and presented assemblies to support Safer Internet Day in February.

They split into Key Stage 1 and a Key Stage 2 groups and worked hard on making PowerPoints to include important messages about the ICT Golden Rules, how to stay safe online, who to talk to if you are worried and the importance of keeping passwords and other personal information secure.

The audience had lots of questions for the Digital Leaders, who all did a fantastic job at answering them and everyone agreed it was a very useful and informative assembly.



Helping Parents Keep Their Children Safe Online

The online world offers amazing opportunities, but it also comes with risks. Wiltshire Police Cyber Protect Team provides free, practical sessions for parents and guardians to help not only keep your children safe but also yourselves.

Our sessions cover:

- Open Conversations & Tools to use – How to talk about online safety without fear.
- Boundaries & Rules – Setting healthy limits for screen time and online activity.
- Digital Footprint & Ai Awareness – Teaching children the impact of what they share.
- Cyber Awareness Essentials – Simple steps to stay secure online.

Empower yourself to guide your child safely through the digital world.

Contact us: cyber@wiltshire.police.uk

Learn more: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk>



PROTECT YOURSELF FROM BECOMING A VICTIM OF CYBER CRIME



Debating Competition

Year 5 had a fantastic opportunity last term to take part in a debating competition against other Blue Kite schools. Only 4 children could represent Brook Field and they had different roles to carry out within the debate.

Ruby – The chairperson

James – The questioner

Anoushey and Bianca – The speakers

The statement they were debating was:

‘Social media for young adults is doing more harm than good for our world.’

The team were debating for this statement.

Our school was up against St Peter’s, who were debating the statement that

‘Children should learn about money management.’

They were all so brave and led the debate amazingly, whether they were introducing or questioning the other school or speaking to the audience about why social media should be banned from young adults. They dealt with questions from the audience who disagreed or challenged this statement incredibly well.

We are proud to say that out of the 8 schools debating that evening our Year 5 Brook Field team succeeded in moving into the final round, which will be held in May. We will look forward to seeing them shine again.

Year Group Partner Meet – Term 4

The start of term 4 saw us enjoying another successful Year Group Partner Meet, where classes across the school came together to enjoy an engaging session of times tables and maths games.



As always different year groups paired up encouraging collaboration, confidence, and a shared love of learning. Year 1 teamed up with Year 3, Year 2 partnered with Year 5, and Year 4 joined forces with Year 6. Each pairing worked brilliantly together, with our older pupils supporting and encouraging their younger partners, helping to build mathematical skills and friendships.

Throughout the session, the children took part in a variety of fun and interactive maths activities and everyone demonstrated excellent teamwork, resilience, and enthusiasm as well as superb times tables and number bonds knowledge! The positive atmosphere and fun experienced highlights the strength of our school community and the benefits of learning together.

Foundation Stage “Super Hero Day”

The 23rd March was ‘Super Hero Day’ for Foundation Stage and everyone in Foundation Stage came to school dressed for the occasion! The children were very proud of their individual superhero names and powers they had created. Which included ‘Orca Boy’ who could swim really fast and ‘Acro Girl’ who could do cartwheels to catch the baddies. The children designed their own superhero logos and with a little support from our Foundation Stage T.A.s they carefully painted these logos onto their t-shirts. The children then wore their superhero t-shirts, along with, capes, masks and pants on ‘Superhero Day’! Every child was given a ‘Superhero Passport’ which enabled them to access four superhero missions. With Miss Peacock and Mrs Hewitt’s assistance they made tasty ‘power shakes’ using bananas, milk, summer fruits and a magic ingredient. Their next mission was to design colourful ‘superhero pants’ with Mrs Brown. The children then had fun with their teachers decorating superhero masks and posters. Finally, the children all demonstrated their ‘super hero artistic talents’ and carefully followed step by step directions from Miss Campbell and Mrs Evans to draw a picture of ‘Supertato’!



Year Group Author Focus

As part of our continuing drive to expose children to different books and foster a genuine passion for reading, we have decided to focus on a particular author each term.

This term, our year group authors are:

- FS - Traditional Tales
- Y1 - Lynley Dodd
- Y2 - M P Robertson
- Y3 - Dick King Smith
- Y4 - Neil Griffiths
- Y5 - Philip Pullman
- Y6 - No author focus this term due to SATS



Termly Reading and Writing Targets

At Brook Field in Key Stage 2, we set clear reading and writing targets for every child each term. These targets give children something to aim for, helping them focus their learning and track their progress. To make them meaningful, we provide examples of what each target looks like in action, so children understand exactly what they are working towards. Having clear goals encourages confidence, motivation, and a sense of achievement, while also helping teachers tailor support to ensure every child can reach their full potential.

Please visit your child's classes page on the website to see what they are so that you can support at home too.

Year 3 – <https://brookfieldprimaryschool.schooljotter3.com/curriculum/year-three-curriculum/year-3-class-targets>

Year 4 – <https://brookfieldprimaryschool.schooljotter3.com/curriculum/year-four-curriculum/year-4-class-targets>

Year 5 – <https://brookfieldprimaryschool.schooljotter3.com/curriculum/year-five-curriculum/year-5-class-targets>

Year 6 - <https://brookfieldprimaryschool.schooljotter3.com/curriculum/year-six-curriculum/year-6-class-targets>

Recommended Reads – Term 5

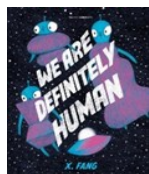
This term, in celebration of The National Year of Reading, each year group has a recently released book, to share with their class. The following titles have been highly recommended by 'Books for Topics' - ***“We believe that introducing pupils to fresh, contemporary voices and modern storytelling is one of the most effective ways to build a vibrant Reading for Pleasure culture.”***

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/booklists/topics/literacy-reading/national-year-of-reading-booklist/>



We hope your children enjoy reading these books for pleasure, inspiring them to read even more.

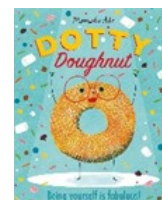
Foundation Stage:



We Are Definitely Human by X. Ling. A story about three mysterious visitors who show up in Mr Li's field in the middle of the night. What will Mr Li do? A fabulously funny new picture book which will have the children laughing out loud.

Year 1:

Dotty Doughnut: Being Yourself is Fabulous! By Momoka Abe. Dotty is a plain doughnut who longs to be as fabulous as the colourful doughnuts sitting in the bakery window. Dotty sets out on a mission of a makeover. Does this go as she planned? Will she learn to love herself for who she truly is? You'll have to read it to find out.



Year 2:



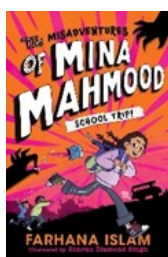
Luna Grace – Girl From Outer Space by Julie Sykes. This is a new series from the bestselling winning author of Unicorn Academy. Luna Grace and her family arrive on Earth at midnight. They have come to Earth to study its wonderful wildlife. The mission is simple but fitting in is harder to do. Can Luna Grace complete her mission?

Year 3:

Pablo and Splash: Frozen in Time by Sheena Dempsey. A full-colour graphic novel for young readers, Pablo and Splash are time-travelling penguins who must rescue their friend from the Ice Age in this brilliantly funny story. Will Pablo and Splash save their friend and what happens to the Neanderthal man, who accidentally wanders into their time machine? Fans of Bunny vs Monkey or Dog Man books, will love this.

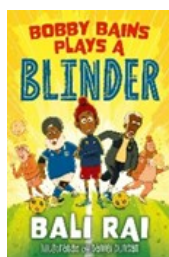


Year 4:



The Misadventures of Mina Mahmood – School Trip by Farhana Islam. Mina, Reema and Mobeen can't wait to go on their school trip, an overnight stay at Shiremoor Oaks Adventure Centre. That is until someone starts spooking them with stories about Bertie Blackteeth. This trip could test their friendship, courage and love of potato chips to the limit. A funny, entertaining and heart-warming tale for our Year 4 children.

Year 5:



Bobby Bains plays a Blinder by Bali Rai. A young Sikh footballer reaches out across the generational divide to help a lonely old man, named Trevor. Bobby loves football and helping people. Bobby thinks Trevor would get on well with his Nana and Grandad. They all love football and Bobby hatches a plan to get them playing, even with their dodgy old knees. Will Bobby's plan work? It's a big ask!

Year 6:

Escape Room: Game Zero by Christopher Edge. A brand new Escape Room adventure – a virtual escape room where anything is possible and nothing is as it seems. Filled with puzzles, action, danger and bravery, this is a perfect story for those who love games.



Happy reading!

Link Governor Report

On Monday 9th March, our Link Governor Mrs Hannah Abu-Ebid took time out of her busy schedule to spend some time, primarily in KS1, to observe Phonics, Phonics Interventions groups being taught and listen to children read their Monster Phonics books. Hannah loved her visit to the classes, watching Monster Phonics taught in Foundation Stage and Year 2 and reading with children from each KS1 year group. Hannah summarised:



“The visit has reassured me that good progress is being made in phonics and gaps are being addressed and every child is learning and progressing. The behaviour of the children in the classes were very good and all the children were engaged. The pupils are very lucky to be taught by highly skilled staff who care for them.”

Finally, Hannah spent some time talking to our Year 6 TA, Mrs Jenny Butcher, who has been working with pupils on targeted interventions linked to reading. Hannah was very impressed at the **“amazing achievement”** these children have made, bridging gaps in their learning and becoming more confident readers.

“A great morning was spent hearing children read and seeing children in their classes enjoy their learning with their Teachers. There was a real buzz of excitement as the children were engrossed with their favourite monsters during Monster Phonics as well as understanding different rules in words. Exceptional behaviour was seen throughout the visit by the children. Thank you to all of the staff who support the children at Brook Field with their reading. Brook Field is a very special place.” – Hannah Abu-Ebid

It is always lovely to have our Governors take an active and supportive role in our school. Their time and attention is always valued.

Celebrating British Science Week Across Our School

We had an excellent time celebrating British Science Week this March, with pupils across Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 taking part in a range of exciting, hands on activities that brought science, engineering and sustainability to life. Throughout the week, children were encouraged to explore how science shapes the world around us, ask thoughtful questions and develop their curiosity through practical investigations and expert-led workshops.



In Key Stage 2, Year 5 and Year 6 were thrilled to welcome David, a local engineer, who visited the classes to share his knowledge of physics and civil engineering. During his visit, pupils learned about how engineers design bridges to be strong, stable and safe. They worked collaboratively to build bridges using wooden blocks, discovering how tension and compression work together to prevent structures from collapsing. The children explored a variety of arch designs, testing how different shapes can support heavier loads, and learned how famous Victorian bridge builders designed structures that are still standing and carrying weight today. This session gave pupils a fantastic insight into real-world engineering and the problem solving skills engineers use every day.

Year 4 were lucky to receive a visit from our very own beekeeper, Mrs Sarson, who delivered a fascinating talk about Sarson's Honey and the importance of bees. Pupils learned how her family care for bee colonies, the role bees play in pollination and honey production, and the careful process involved in producing honey and other bee-related products. The session helped children understand the importance of protecting bees and the environment while linking science learning to real-life applications.

Meanwhile, Year 3 took part in an exciting Planet Protectors workshop led by Mrs Mobeen. During the workshop, pupils explored renewable energy and discovered how wind turbines are designed. They investigated how turbines generate electricity and even tested their own mini-turbines learning which features help turbines work most efficiently. The session inspired pupils to think about sustainability and how science can help protect our planet for the future.

British Science Week was a wonderful opportunity for all our pupils to engage with science in creative, inclusive and meaningful ways. The enthusiasm, curiosity and thoughtful questions shown throughout the week were fantastic, and we are incredibly grateful to all our visitors for helping to challenge and inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers.



Year 3 Corinium Museum Visit

Sixty intrepid Year 3s were looking forward to their visit to Corinium Museum, Cirencester in early March. They were keen to learn more about how the Romans settled in Britannia and their impact on the life of the Celts. It was a fascinating day. Both classes enjoyed the “Everyday Life of the Romans” workshop, where we acted out the difference between Celt round houses and rectangular Roman buildings and saw how the town had grown as a settlement before moving through a series of hands-on activities.



There was the opportunity to dress up in Roman clothing, discover more about food and various types of pottery containers, play “Calculi” and “Knucklebones” games and use magnetic tiles or clay tesserae to design a mosaic either following a pattern or creating something unique. The mosaic-making always proves very popular and this year was no exception.



We explored the galleries through filling in a booklet and some guides from the museum showed us around. The exhibits are very inactive and we looked at some original Roman mosaic, reconstructed rooms from villas and everyday objects, jewellery and religious symbols. All the children were praised for their interest, listening skills and behaviour and it was good to see them using their metacognitive sentence stems when answering questions.



Year 5 Hate Crime Talk

Year 5 had an assembly all about 'Hate Crime', which was led by a PCSO from the Youth and Early Intervention team.

The children learnt that a hate crime is defined as: 'any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice based on a person's race, religion, sexual orientation, disability or transgender identity.

The children heard about different scenarios and had to decide whether they were examples of hate crime or not.

At the end of the assembly, the PCSO commented on how impressed she was with the engagement and understanding from the children. They listened amazingly and posed some interesting questions, which generated lots of discussion.



PE – Youth Sports Trust Youth Voice CPD

Blue Kite organised an afternoon professional development session for PE Subject Leaders at both primary and secondary schools and Community partners with the Youth Sports Trust. The afternoon explored various aspects of "Youth Voice". This ties in with our well-being and inclusion focus for this year. Here are some of the ideas discussed during the afternoon:

What do we mean by youth voice?



Fortius PE Gymnastics Competition

Brook Field took part in the Fortius Gymnastics Competition on Thursday 26th March. Mrs Swift and Mrs Newton held trials for anyone interested to come and try out for the team. It was a very hard decision but we were able to select enough children to take five inclusive teams. The children, Mrs Swift and Mrs Newton gave up numerous lunchtimes over Term 4 to practice their routines. Mrs Swift and Mrs Newton were very proud as they all learnt the routines off by heart.

On the day, we were all super excited. They all looked the part with some wearing red leotards and some were lucky enough to wear the blue long-sleeved leotards with matching scrunchies. We did a main warm up and then it was time to practice.

Each team performed at different times which meant Mrs Swift, Mrs Newton and Miss Webb were able to go and support each team. The children all supported one another and worked well as a team. There were lots of smiles.

After all the teams had competed, we waited for the results. Finally, it was time for them to announce the Year 1/2 results. There were eight teams in this category. Year 1 won the gold medal and Year 2 won the silver.

Next, it was Year 3/4. This age group had 15 teams which is the most there's ever been. Year 4 won the gold medal and Year 3 came 5th missing out on a medal by an agonizing 0.4 of a mark!

And finally, Year 5/6. Again, this age group had twelve teams which was more than the usual number. Our Year 5 team won silver!

As Year 1 and Year 4 won their age groups, we won back the shields which we get to keep for the next year.

We had lots of happy smiles and some tears but Mrs Swift, Mrs Newton and Miss Webb are very proud of them and they all enjoyed it and had fun. It was a brilliant way to end the term.

Well done Brook Field!



Sports Report Term 4 April 2026

Term 4 was a very busy sporting term with lots of fixtures being completed due to a very slight Improvement in the weather.

Key Stage 1 Indoor Football Festival - Tuesday 3rd March:

Mrs Taylor and Mrs Bickell took seven Year 2s to the indoor football festival at The Swindome which is organised by Swindon PSFA. They all had a great time and enjoyed taking part. Although they didn't manage to score a goal, they played well and supported each other with some good passing, dribbling and moving into space. The emphasis of this Festival is very much on having fun and having the opportunity to represent a school team. Congratulations to all those who took part so well for Brook Field.



Boys' Football

West Swindon Football League - Thursday 26th February: Brook Field v Tregoze

In our much postponed and rearranged West Swindon League match against Tregoze, we gave probably our best performance of the season so far in terms of commitment, energy and goalscoring chances. Tregoze arrived having won all their games so far and we knew they had some strong footballers both in terms of physicality and skill but we stuck to our guns and managed to frustrate their team and put them off their stride. After an even opening 15 minutes, Max came on as a substitute for Josh and scored within a minute and after only two touches. Albie played in Max, his shot was saved, came back to him and Max made no mistake with the follow up. Tregoze kicked off; we immediately won the ball back; Luca played it through to Artie and from the right hand-side close in, Artie was completely unmarked and shot across the goalie at the near post and into the bottom left-hand side of the net. 2 - 0 within 40 seconds (if that) of our first goal. At the start of the second half, Tregoze became more direct and put the pressure on us and of their players hammered home to make it 2 - 1. For the first time, we looked vulnerable and Albie cleared the next attack off the line. However, Quinn then took a long kick-in from our right-hand side that found Max in the middle close to the goal. He sat the defender down with his control and then coming back inside, his shot bobbed and crept weakly over the line bouncing off the left-hand post with their goalie unable to get back over to the other side of the goal quickly enough. 3 - 1. One of our players had to come off due to illness. No sooner had this happened than we went and scored our fourth and hat-trick goal for Max. Tregoze had attacked from the kick-off and had everyone pushed up on the half way line. Max had been told to push past their last line of defence for any long clearance from us. The first time he did it and... he went and scored. A long ball over the top, their defender missed it on the bounce and Max was in one-on-one with their goalie. He raced through from the half way line and from about 15 - 20 yards out, he hit a fierce, rising shot past the advancing goalie and into the roof of the net. 4 - 1. Tregoze kept on pushing and took advantage of a free kick awarded to them just outside the right-hand side of the box to make the score 4 - 2 and the threat of a nervy finish. However, Tregoze had left themselves with too much to do in the last four minutes. Congratulations to: Jimmy, Hugo A, Albie, Artie, Luca, Quinn (capt), Josh and Max. Max was voted "Man of the Match" due to his hat-trick but Hugo was also definitely in the running!

West Swindon Football League - Monday 9th March: Westlea v Brook Field

Brook Field had a comprehensive 13 - 0 West Swindon League victory against Westlea (although it only counts as a 9 - 0 win due to the SPSFA competition rules). We took an age to score the first goal - too many passes and we were not direct enough. Once we realised that we needed to move the ball quickly and shoot earlier, the goals started to rain in. Jeffery made his debut in goal for the team, with Clark also making his debut. Nearly all of our outfield players scored - Max scored his second successive hat-trick, both Luca and Artie scored two and Jimmy, Quinn, Josh and Albie scored one goal each. Clark also scored two, including a very sharp turn and shot which was arguably the goal of the game. Alfie V completed the team. Artie was complimented on his sportsmanship by Westlea's referee. Westlea players asked if we could do a penalty competition at the end of the match; which we were only too happy to do as it was a fun way to finish and Westlea had been so sporting throughout They won the penalty shoot-out so thought the overall result should be a draw! Jeffery was voted as "Man of the Match".

West Swindon Football League - Monday 23rd March: Brook Field v Even Swindon

This was a dominant and deserved win against a strong Even Swindon team who had won all their matches so far in the West Swindon League. Even Swindon kicked-off and we were straight at them and their goalie stood tall and made several important and good saves. Every goal kick or when they were trying to play out from defence, we were at them, hunting them down until they gave away possession. Such pressure led to our first goal. The Even Swindon goalie was forced into an error passing the ball out; Artie fired in a shot, parried back off the goalie to Josh, following it in, who lifted it over the helpless 'keeper on the floor and past three defenders who couldn't head it and it went in mid-goal and mid-height. 1 – 0. We were masters of our downfall in conceding an equaliser, with their player shooting before Jimmy was even aware they had the ball. 1 - 1. Brook Field then dominated the second half. Billy came on for Hugo, with Quinn dropping back into defence. Brook Field kicked-off and about five minutes into the second half went 2 - 1 up. A corner all the way from the Brook Field right to Luca at the back post, back to Quinn, who passed it into the right-hand bottom corner. Excellent placement and Quinn gave the goalie no chance with a fierce side-footed shot. It was one-way traffic but until we scored the third goal, it felt as if a one-goal lead wouldn't be enough. With six minutes remaining, Brook Field won a corner, the ball came over, a shot-cum-cross back across the penalty area and a defender clearly handled the ball. Artie took the penalty and buried the shot to make it 3 - 1. The wind was taken out of the Even Swindon sails and we set up camp in their half until the final whistle blew. So, it is a very tight West Swindon League with four teams tying for first place with one defeat each! Well played to; Jimmy, Albie, Artie, Billy, Alfie V, Luca (capt), Max, Josh, Hugo and Quinn. Billy was voted as "Man of the Match" after a recount!

SPSFA Shield Quarter-Final – Tuesday 17th March: Brook Field v Holy Family

In a close-fought match played in a sporting manner by both teams, Brook Field won through to the semi-finals of the Shield with a nail-biting and tense 5 - 4 penalty shoot-out win over Holy Family, (2 – 2 after normal time) We agreed to do 6 a-side as they had two players missing but this meant we kept losing our rhythm when we made substitutions. Holy Family kicked off and applied early pressure. Brook field had a couple of shots but we tended to defend too wide at the back and Holy Family sliced through us like a knife through butter to be one-on-one with our goalie and their striker fired home with Jimmy unable to get out to narrow the angle. 0 – 1. Brook Field equalised immediately straight from the kick-off. Luca passed the ball out wide to Max, who had pulled a defender out of position. Max slipped the ball back inside to Luca who fired the cross over to Quinn on the left-hand side of the area and he hit a first time shot back across the goalie in the direction that the cross had come from. Their goalie was unable to set and dive back towards his left and the shot flew into the right-hand corner of the net. 1 - 1. After our first substitutions, it wasn't long before Holy Family regained the lead. They won a kick-on fairly close to the corner flag on their left. It was hit with force from the left, right across the penalty area to the back post. Their player was unmarked and he crashed an unstoppable, first-time volley into the top of the net, just under the cross bar. 2 - 1 and a very impressive goal. Brook Field kicked off the second half and eventually started to build some pressure. With five minutes left, we made a final throw of the dice with Artie coming down the left for Benji. We were awarded a penalty when a hopeful ball into the area was handled by a Holy Family defender bringing his arms into his body and more-or-less catching the ball. There was no real option but to give a penalty. After some discussion, responsibility was given to Albie. He made no mistake firing fiercely into the corner with the 'keeper beaten.

2 - 2 and so to penalties - five per team and only those players on the pitch at the end of the game could take them. Brook Field went first but Albie's penalty was saved. Their first player scored. Artie scored our second penalty. The Holy Family player dragged his shot wide. 1 - 1. Luca scored our third penalty; as did their third player. Unfortunately, Max's fourth penalty was saved. Holy Family scored their fourth penalty and now led 3 - 2. All the pressure was now on Hugo. He had to score to keep us in the Shield. Hugo was as cool as a cucumber, running up as if he was going to hit it with his right foot, then switched to take it with his left. Hugo hit it perfectly with his left foot and it curved into the bottom left-hand corner of the goal. Everyone was stunned with his perfection while Hugo nonchalantly walked back to the half way line, completely unfazed! Up stepped the last Holy Family penalty taker. If he scored, then Holy Family would win. Jimmy got down quickly and saved it! It was now sudden death and we went back through the same order of penalty takers. Albie, this time made no mistake. Their player also scored. Artie was next and hammered home. Sadly, for Holy Family, their penalty was saved by Jimmy and Brook Field went through 5 - 4 on penalties and will face Liden at RWBSA on Wednesday 22nd April. Congratulations to: Jimmy, Albie, Hugo, Quinn (Capt), Luca, Alfie, Benji, Max, Artie and Josh.

After School Activities

We are extremely lucky at Brook Field to have a wide array of after school activities for the children to enjoy.

If your child is interested in any of the clubs listed below please contact the school office for more information.

Clubs run by external providers (charges apply)

Club	Day	Time	Years
Zumba	Monday	3.30 - 4.30pm	3, 4, 5 & 6
Multisports	Tuesday	3.30 - 4.30pm	1 & 2
Tennis	Tuesday	3.30 - 4.30pm	3, 4, 5 & 6
Multisports (Cross Country)	Wednesday	3.30 - 4.30pm	3 & 4
Forest School	Thursday	3.20 - 5.20pm	2, 3, 4, 5 & 6
Football	Thursday	3.30 - 4.30pm	3 & 4
Art	Thursday	3.30 - 4.30pm	1 & 2
Football	Friday	3.30 - 4.30pm	1 & 2
Art	Friday	3.30 - 4.30pm	3, 4, 5 & 6

Clubs run by teachers (no charge)

Boys Football	Tuesday	3.30 - 4.30pm	5 & 6
Girls Football	Tuesday	3.30 - 4.30pm	5 & 6
Netball	Thursday	3.30 - 4.30pm	5 & 6
Singing	Thursday	3.30 - 4.30pm	1 & 2

Bird Cam Live

Bird Cam Live is back and you can follow all the progress with the nest at:
www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdS82_MPxAU

The camera was refocused and last year's nest was spruced up in the week before the Easter holidays. To improve the colour of the filming, we explored the possibility of putting in extra light but as artificial light can be biologically disruptive to a bird's health and disturbs most of their natural activity rhythms, especially for the chicks, we decided against it.

A bird was observed in the box on the camera over the weekend of 11th – 12th April and there was "eggs-cellent" news on Tuesday 14th when the first egg was laid. Some of the Year 5s will be keeping an eye on the nest and will be putting out mealworms for the parent birds. As this is written, there are six eggs in the nest.

This is what has happened already and may happen over the next few weeks:

The female Blue Tit builds the nest alone, with little or no help from the male. She takes materials like moss from garden lawns and forms them into a cup. The nest is complete when it is lined with soft feathers, fur or wool.

This is an exhausting time for the female. She lays one egg a day, usually first thing in the morning. Blue Tits have one of the largest clutch sizes of all birds – up to 16 eggs! However, the majority contain 8 – 10 eggs. The eggs are smooth, glossy and white, with patches of reddish-brown spots of varying density, and typically 16 mm by 12 mm in size.

The female then plucks feathers from her abdomen to create a bare patch with a good supply of blood vessels (called a 'brood patch') which helps her to keep the eggs warm as she incubates them. She starts incubating the clutch a day before it is complete and will sit on the eggs for about two weeks until they are ready to hatch. All the eggs then hatch at the same time. During this time, if she made a good choice of mate, the male will bring her some food, but she will still need to leave the box regularly during the day to feed.

Feeding chicks takes its toll on the parent birds. They feed their chicks with juicy fat caterpillars. Each chick in a brood of ten, adults need to find





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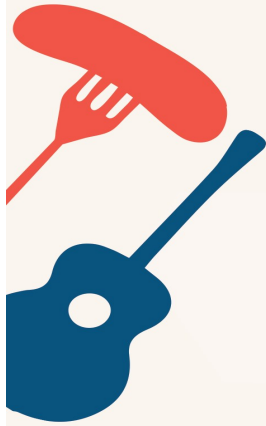


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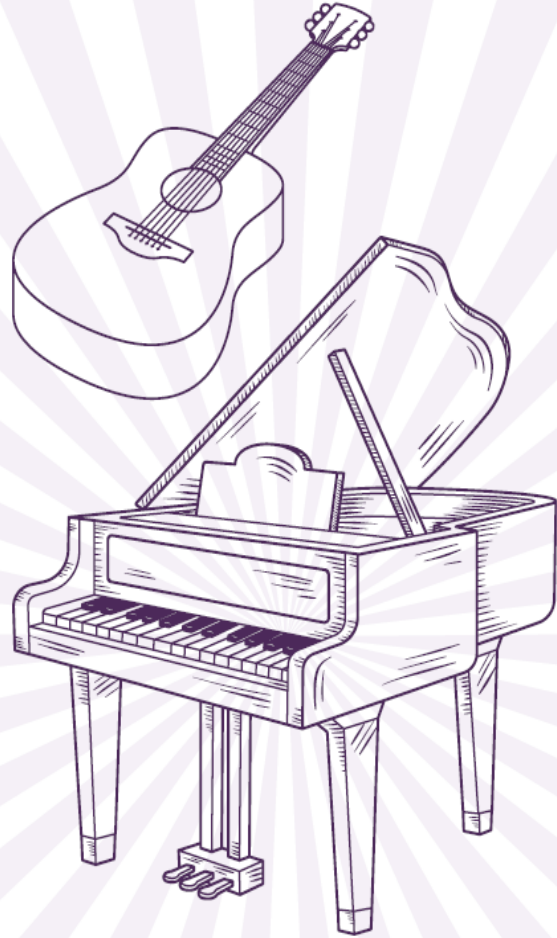
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