



Brookside Primary School

Learning for Life

Newsletter Summer Term 2026 - Issue 3

15th May 2026

www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

Next week is the last week of the first half of the summer term. We hope that you all have a good half term when it arrives. A reminder that Brookside will be closed to pupils on Monday 1st June as it is an INSET day.

SATs

This week, our Year 6 children have worked incredibly hard during their SATs in Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling (GPS), Reading and Maths. Throughout the week, they approached each test with a positive attitude, gave their very best and showed impressive resilience and determination.

We are extremely proud of the effort they put in and the mature way they tackled each day. Well done to all of our Year 6 pupils – you should be very proud of yourselves.

Staff News

Miss Thompson will be leaving Brookside at the end of the academic year to go travelling. Miss Thompson has worked at Brookside for the last four years and we wish her well in her new adventures. Thank you to Miss Thompson for her hard work in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 during her time at Brookside.

Mrs Baker, an experienced teacher who currently works in Key Stage 1 as a higher level teaching assistant, has been appointed as a teacher and will start this role in September. Miss Daulton, who is currently covering Miss Welby's maternity leave, has been appointed permanently to work three days per week from September and will form a job share with Miss Welby when she returns two days per week in September. We have also appointed another teacher, Miss Swan, who will join Brookside in September to teach in our newly created SEND hub, 'The Canopy'. Congratulations to Mrs Baker, Miss Daulton and Miss Swan and we look forward to them being teachers at Brookside in September.

Term Dates

The term dates for 2027/2028 have recently been published on our website. 2026/2027 dates were published over a year ago. Please check our term dates before booking any holidays as term time holidays are not able to be approved and you could be fined by Oxfordshire County Council. [Brookside Term Dates](#)

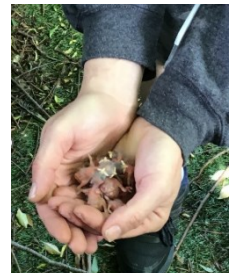
EYFS and Bicester Fire Station

We were delighted to welcome the Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue Service from Bicester fire station to Brookside last Monday, as part of the people who help us topic. Fire officers introduced the children to their work and told them about how they help people in our community. The children loved looking around the fire engine and finding out about all the kit. The absolute highlight for all the children was using the fire hose. As you can imagine there was water everywhere! Many thanks to Bicester fire station firefighters for such a wonderful visit. We were so grateful for all the time they took out of their day to help the children with their learning.



EYFS Ornithologist Visit

The EYFS have been lucky to have Dr McMahon from the University of Oxford, an ornithologist and Brookside parent, kindly install a birdhouse in one of our trees, hoping to attract a family of Great Tits. We are really happy to report that a pair have nested and welcomed a brood of hatchlings. The children in the EYFS were able to see the tiny chicks just a few days after they hatched and learn about them. This was an amazing experience for both children and staff. Thank you to Dr McMahon for giving up his time to give the children this opportunity.



Diary Dates

Monday 25th - Friday 29th May - Half Term

Monday 1st June - INSET Day (school closed to all pupils)

Monday 22nd June - KS2 Sports Day 9:15 a.m.

Tuesday 23rd June - KS1 Sports Day 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday 24th June - EYFS Sports Day Class EC 10:30 a.m. Class VL 1:30 p.m.

Friday 17th July - 9:15 a.m. Leavers' Assembly and last day of term

Monday 20th July - INSET Day (school closed to all pupils)

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell and the staff of Brookside



How can I look after my oral health and support others this Smile Month?

To find out more please scan the QR codes below to watch these 4 videos.

What is Smile Month? Why is oral health important?

SCAN ME



How can I look after my oral health?

SCAN ME



How can I support the oral health of someone living with dementia?

SCAN ME



How can I support a child who is reluctant to brush their teeth?

SCAN ME





Smile
Month

NHS
Oxford Health
NHS Foundation Trust



50 Years Celebrating Smiles

11th May -
11th June 2026



Follow these **3 steps** to keep your teeth and gums happy this Smile Month:

1



- Brush your teeth twice a day for 2 minutes, once before bed and at one other time
- Use a family fluoride toothpaste
- Spit don't rinse

2



Cut down on how often you have sugary foods and drinks

3



Visit your dentist every 6 months or as often as recommended

WEEK ONE 13th April, 4th May, 1st June, 22nd June, 13th July, 31st Aug, 2nd Sept, 12th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Vegetable & Bean Chilli with Rice (VG) Wholemeal Egg Mayo Sandwich (V, DF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Lemon Oat Cookie (V, EF, DF) & Raisins	Beef Bolognese with Pasta (EF, DF) Veggie Bolognese with Pasta (VG) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Carrots & Green Beans Iced Sprinkle Cake (V, DF)	Roast Chicken Breast (GF, DF, EF) Quorn Roast (V, GF) Tuna & Cucumber Pasta Salad (EF, DF) Roast Potatoes, Yorkshire Pudding, Cauliflower & Peas Cherry Biscuit (V, EF)	Chicken Korma with Rice (EF, GF) Mac 'n' Cheese (V, EF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Carrots & Sweetcorn Rock Cake (V) with Pineapple	Chicken Nuggets (EF, DF) Veggie Nuggets (V, EF) Breaded Salmon Wrap with Mayo & Lettuce (EF, DF) Chips or Pasta Peas & Baked Beans Vanilla Ice Cream (V, GF, EF)

WEEK TWO 20th April, 11th May, 8th June, 29th June, 20th July, 7th Sept, 28th Sept, 19th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Sweet Potato & Chickpea Curry with Rice (V, GF, EF) Veggie Couscous Salad (VG) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Vanilla Sponge Cake (V, DF)	Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce (GF, DF, EF) Veggie Meatballs in a Tomato Sauce (VG, GF) Baked Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Pasta, Peas & Broccoli Chocolate Crispie Cake (V, DF, EF)	Roast Loin of Pork (GF, DF, EF) Quorn Roast (V, GF) Wholemeal Cheese & Tomato Sandwich (V, EF) Yorkshire Pudding, Roast Potatoes & Gravy Carrots & Cabbage Shortbread (V, EF, DF) with an Orange Wedge	Creamy Chicken Risotto (GF, EF) Veggie Sausage Pasta Bake (V, EF) Baked Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Peas & Green Beans Sultana & Syrup Cookie (V, EF)	Flipper Dippers (DF, EF) Veggie Sausage Roll (V, EF) Egg Mayo & Lettuce Wrap (V, DF) French Fries or Pasta Baked Beans or Sweetcorn Strawberry Ice Cream (V, GF, EF) with Melon

WEEK THREE 27th April, 18th May, 15th June, 6th July, 14th Sept, 5th Oct

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Margherita Pizza (Cheese & Tomato) (V, EF) Spinach & Pepper Pasta (VG) Wholemeal Cheese & Cucumber Sandwich (V, EF) Sweetcorn & Baked Beans Melting Moment (V, DF, EF) with Mandarins	Chicken & Leek Pie with New Potatoes (DF, EF) Sweet & Sour Veggie Noodles (V, DF) Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Vegetable Medley & Broccoli Cinnamon Cookie (V, EF)	Roast Gammon (GF, EF, DF) Vegetarian Quorn Roast (V, GF) Tuna & Sweetcorn Wrap (DF, EF) Roast Potatoes & Yorkshire Pudding with Gravy Savoy Cabbage & Peas Chocolate Brownie (V, DF)	Pork Sausages with Gravy (DF, EF) Veggie Sausage with Gravy (VG, GF) Baked Jacket Potato with Cheese (V, GF, EF) or Baked Beans (VG, GF) Mashed Potatoes (GF, EF) Or Pasta (EF, DF) Carrots & Cauliflower Crunchy Cornflake Cookie (EF, DF)	Fish Fingers (DF, EF) Cream Cheese & Broccoli Pinwheel (V, EF) Veggie Pasta Salad (VG) Chips or Pasta Peas & Baked Beans Banana Ice Lolly (V, GF, EF)

Available Daily – Fresh bread, Salad Bar, and lots of Fresh water, as well as a choice of natural yoghurt, or fresh fruit as an alternative to dessert

Allergy advice – All our food is prepared in a kitchen where any of the 14 Allergens may be present, and our menu descriptions do not include all ingredients. If you have an allergy, please let us know before ordering. Full allergen information is available from your school. Any fish we serve will vary depending on availability.

We only select fish from sustainable sources.

Suitable for vegetarians or vegetarian option available.

Our fish and chicken dishes may contain bones.

KEY:
V VEGETARIAN
VG VEGAN

EF EGG FREE
DF DAIRY FREE
GF GLUTEN FREE



OXFORDSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL



THE | OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL

The Singing School was established in 2013 to provide children with the opportunity to sing great classical music with world class coaches in a relaxed and fun environment and to develop their confidence and ability in singing and performing.

This summer at Somerville College, we will be learning some beautiful seasonal music, and, as always on our courses, we will be giving sessions on vocal technique, music theory, music appreciation and history.

To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please see www.oxbridgesingingschool.com or email oxbridgess@gmail.com

21 -23 July 2026

also 21 & 22 December 2026

Courses for those aged 7-13 who love to sing

www.oxbridgesingingschool.com

NMPAT



Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust **Brackley and Cheney Music and Performing Arts Centre**

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are inviting all children who learn an instrument to come and join us on Saturday, May 16th 2026 for our final Open Morning of this academic year.

Children can attend completely free of charge with no obligation, and if they are having lessons with an NMPAT teacher and don't already attend the Centre, they can join the Centre for the rest of this term for no fee at all.

This is a valuable and exciting opportunity for your children to play their instruments with others and meet new friends.

We have a strong team of qualified and experienced teachers who are passionate about sharing their expertise and love for music with young people of all ages and abilities, and this ensures that our students receive a high-quality learning experience.

Our groups cater for all ages abilities from beginner to diploma standard, and we also provide a variety of performance opportunities throughout the year.

If your child is learning to play any of the following, please bring them along!

- Strings – violin, viola, cello and double bass
- Woodwind – flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone and bassoon
- Brass – trumpet, cornet, euphonium, tenor horn, French horn, baritone and tuba
- Guitars – acoustic and electric, standard and bass
- Recorder – mostly beginners and juniors
- Ukulele – all ages and abilities
- Piano



Please click this link or use the QR code to register your child:

<https://nmpat.co.uk/about/centres/centre-open-mornings/>

For more information about the Centre or Open Morning, please email me at brackleycheney@NMPAT.co.uk.

Kind Regards,

Janine Mold BA (Hons) CTABRSM QTS

Strings, Piano and Curriculum Teacher
Head of NMPAT Brackley and Cheney Music and Performing Arts Centre

9:15 - 10.15	10.15 - 11.00	11:00	11.15 - 12.15
Senior Orchestra	Junior Orchestra	B R E A K	Chamber Ensemble
Junior Strings	Senior Strings		Senior Jazz
Junior Woodwind & Brass	Senior Woodwind & Brass		Junior Drama
Beginner Woodwind & Brass	Art		Percussion
Recorders			Little Stars Drama Fayre
Ukulele	Junior Guitar		Senior Guitar
Little Stars Musical Mayhem!	Little Stars Instrument Bonanza		
Rock!	Rock!		
Piano & SEND lessons - limited slots available at additional cost			



■	No experience required
■	Suitable for beginners up to Grade 3 standard (approx.)
■	Some experience required
■	Grade 3 standard or above (approx.)
■	Reception and Key Stage 1
■	Pre-school

www.NMPAT.co.uk/BrackleyCheney

Centre Head - Janine Mold
brackleycheney@NMPAT.co.uk
 Brackley Leas Primary School, Brackley,
 NN13 6LF

Please note - this timetable may be subject to change during the year. Updated timetables will always be available at www.NMPAT.co.uk/BrackleyCheney

Do you play...	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Do you play...	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
Piano, sing or have no experience of playing an instrument	Recorders Ukulele	Art	Junior Drama Percussion	Guitar (beginner - intermediate)	Recorders Ukulele	Junior Guitar Art	Percussion Junior Drama
Strings (beginner - Grade 2)	Junior Strings	Junior Orchestra Art	Junior Drama Percussion	Guitar (more advanced)	Rock!	Rock!	Senior Guitar Percussion Junior Drama
Strings (approx. Grade 3+)	Senior Orchestra	Senior Strings	Chamber Ensemble Percussion	Percussion	Rock! Recorders Ukulele	Rock! Art	Percussion Junior Drama
Brass (beginner - Grade 2)	Beginner Woodwind & Brass Junior Brass	Junior Orchestra Art	Percussion Junior Drama	Ukulele	Ukulele	Art	Percussion Junior Drama
Brass (approx. Grade 3+)	Senior Orchestra	Senior Woodwind & Brass	Senior Jazz Percussion	Are you...	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3
Woodwind including recorder (beginner - Grade 2)	Beginner Woodwind & Brass Junior Woodwind Recorders	Art	Percussion Junior Drama	Pre School (1 session only)	Little Stars Musical Mayhem!		
				Reception/Yr1-2 (all 3 sessions)	Little Stars Musical Mayhem!	Little Stars Instrument Bonanza	Little Stars Drama Fayre