



Brookside Primary School

Learning for Life

Newsletter Autumn Term Issue 1

www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk



@brooksidetweets

3rd September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to a new academic year, we hope you had a good summer holiday. The children have made a good start and settled into their new classes well and are enjoying school life returning to normal.

Today you will receive a letter from your child's teacher and curriculum map informing you of information about the coming term and what your child will be learning.

COVID-19

Whilst restrictions have been lifted, we still need to be careful to prevent the spread of coronavirus. Children should not come to school if they have any symptoms and should get a PCR test before returning to school. If there is a positive case in school the whole class will no longer be sent home. Test and Trace are now handling the contact tracing and will contact any close contacts and advise what they need to do. As you will be aware, children under the age of 18 and double vaccinated adults no longer need to self isolate if they have been a close contact of someone who has tested positive unless they develop symptoms or test positive after a PCR test.

Staff News

Welcome to our new staff who have joined Brookside this year. Miss Young has joined our Key Stage 1 teaching team. Mrs Forsythe, Mrs Bradshaw and Miss Harris have joined our team of teaching assistants.

Miss Morris will not be returning to Brookside after her maternity leave and we would like to thank her for her hard work during her time at Brookside.

PE kits

We ask that children continue to come to school in their PE kits on the days they have PE. They can wear black jogging bottoms over their shorts and their school jumpers over their House PE T shirt. PE kits should be black shorts, trainers and a house T shirt. Earrings should be removed on PE days.

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Our Breakfast Club runs daily from 8:00 a.m. and costs £2.20 per session. The club is run by Mrs Hekimova and Mrs Coles. As well as having a healthy breakfast children get to play organised games and learn new crafts and skills as well as having a lot of fun. At the end of the session children go to their classes for the beginning of the school day. If you would like your child to attend the Breakfast Club please email breakfastclub@brookside.oxon.sch.uk

We also have an after school club that runs from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday to Friday. The club is run by Mrs Hekimova, Mrs Coles and Mrs O'Driscoll and includes a light tea for children who are staying for the whole session. The cost is £11 per session or £6 for a half session (without food). For more information [click here](#), email afterschoolclub@brookside.oxon.sch.uk for bookings.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 29th September - individual/sibling photographs

Monday 25th—Friday 29th October—Half Term

Monday 1st November—INSET Day (school closed) Year 6 residential visit departs

Friday 17th December—End of Term

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell and the staff of Brookside

BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that - whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun - you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private - so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you - but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online - by anyone, not just someone from school - talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met - and who might not be who they say - is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too - if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).

