Brookside Primary School

Newsletter Autumn Term – Issue 6

20th November 2026

www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk

Learning for Life

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been another busy and enjoyable few weeks at Brookside, with lots of trips and visitors to enhance the children's learning and knowledge across the curriculum. Next week we are looking forward to welcoming Calum Miller (MP for Bicester and Woodstock), who will be leading an assembly and then meeting with our school councillors to talk about being a politician and making a difference. One of our school governors, Dr Sam Kamperis, is also visiting next week and is bringing Spot, Boston Dynamics Agile Robot Dog.

Record Breakers - Together we made history

It's official! The children of Brookside are Guinness World Record Holders.

Together with 153,862 families, schools and organizations from all over the world, we achieved something Officially Amazing™ and helped set a new Guinness World Records title for the most people reading online in 12 hours. Well done to everyone for their super reading!



Key Stage 1 visit Oxford Story Museum

On Wednesday, children in Year 1 and 2 went on the coach to the Oxford Story Museum. The children participated in a workshop which helped them practice their oral story telling skills and explored the classic device of the Rule of 3 to create their own story. They also explored the Whispering Woods which held traditional stories from across the world. Children explored classic favourite stories such as Alice and Wonderland and Narnia through the mini galleries which everyone seemed to enjoy. Thank you to those at the Story Museum for such a wonderful day and to FOBs for supporting the fund to our coach. We would not have had such an amazing day without them.





Anti Bullying Week

This week is anti-bullying week across the country. During Monday's assembly, children in Key Stage 2 discussed what bullying is, what forms it can take and what to do if they are being bullied. The children knew to tell a trusted adult in school or at home if they are being bullied.

Phonics Workshop

It was good to see so many parents at the phonics workshop last week. Thank you to Miss Carter for organising and leading this session. Miss Carter explained how we teach Phonics at Brookside and also shared information on how to help with phonics and early reading at home. At Brookside, we use Read Write Inc. and there is a useful guide for parents online. Read Write Inc.Phonics: A guide for parents

Football Report

Brookside took part in their second football fixture of the season against St Edburg's Primary School. The game started at a frantic pace and Brookside took the lead through a fantastic finish from Zayn S-R. Unfortunately, we couldn't hold on to the lead for long and St Edburg's equalised with the score remaining 1-1 until half time. The second half was a very close affair with both teams hitting the woodwork and missing chances, and whoever got the next goal was likely to go on and win the game. Against the run of play, St Edburg's scored a fortuitous goal and went on to win the match 4-1 which was a very harsh score line against the boys. Despite the defeat, this was a great effort and the boys did the school proud showing determination, teamwork and resilience. If the boys play like this for the rest of the season, then the wins will come.

Judaism Workshop

Last week, children in Years 3 and 4 took part in a fascinating Judaism workshop focused on Shabbat. They learned about the traditions of the Friday night meal, including the blessings, tasting fruit from the vine (grape juice, not wine!) and sharing challah bread. The children also made their own kippahs and learned a traditional song, which they enjoyed singing together in rounds. A huge thank you to

Miss Sadie for helping to deepen the children's understanding of Judaism and for providing such a meaningful and immersive experience.



Children In Need - Friday 13th November

It was wonderful to see the children come into school dressed up as people who are by their side. As a school we raised nearly £300 for Children in Need. Thank you to everyone for you support in helping to raise this money. Well done to Olivia, Dusty and Emily who won a Children in Need beanie hat for their wonderful costumes.

Oxfordshire Book Awards

Last Thursday afternoon, Mr Watt and Mrs Conway took four children to the annual Oxfordshire Book Awards at Magdalen College School in Oxford. As a school involved in the judging of this award, we are given a copy of all of the books nominated. The children who read the books then got to vote for their favourite in a range of categories. The children who went thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and the opportunity to meet some of the authors. They also enjoyed the train journey and bus ride to Oxford.

Best Picture Book:

Letters to a Monster by Patricia Forde and Sarah Warburton
Highly Commended Picture Book:
The Wild by Yuval Zommer
Best Primary Novel:
The Boy With Big Decisions by Helen Rutter
Highly Commended Primary Novel:
Dragonborn by Struan Murray

Royal British Legion

Thank you for supporting the Royal British Legion this year by purchasing poppies and other remembrance merchandise. We raised £307 for this important charity.

Update from FoBS

Hi everyone! 🎄❤️
Just a little reminder about some upcoming events!

🍫 Friday 27th November – Wear your own clothes in exchange for chocolate for our Christmas Market chocolate tombola! Any kind of chocolate is welcome, as long as it's nut-free.

🎅 Wednesday 2nd December, 3:30pm–5pm – Our Brookside Christmas Market! We'll have lots going on, including stalls, food, hot chocolate (naughty & nice), crafts, games, Santa's grotto, a hamper raffle and a special performance from the Brookside choir!

We'd love for you all to come along and join us for a lovely afternoon of Christmas cheer, festive fun and making memories! ✨

And finally, if anyone would like to get involved or spare a little bit of time to help out, please do get in touch. We'd be so grateful for any extra hands. The more the merrier!

Email~ chairoffobs@gmail.com
Instagram~ fobsbrooksidebicester
Facebook~ Friends of Brookside School Bicester





Dates for your diary

Wednesday 2nd December	FoBS Christmas Market 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday 8th December	KS1 Nativity 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday 9th December	EYFS Nativity 9:15 a.m. KS1 Nativity 2:00 p.m.
Thursday 17th December	KS2 Carol Concert 1:45 p.m.
Friday 18th December	End of Term

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell and the staff of Brookside Primary School