



Brookside Primary School

Learning for Life

Newsletter Spring Term 2026 - Issue 6

27th March 2026

www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

During the spring term the children have worked hard and made good progress in their learning. It has been a pleasure to see their confidence and curiosity develop across the whole curriculum.

With the Easter break now upon us, we hope you all enjoy a well-deserved rest. Whether you're spending time with family, going on holiday, or simply enjoying some quieter days at home, we wish you a happy, safe, and relaxing holiday.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back refreshed for the new term ahead on Monday 13th April.

Year 3/4 production

Well done to our talented children in Year 3 and 4 for their wonderful performances of 'What's The Crime Mr Wolf?' last week. We were very proud of every child who took part and it was lovely to see all of the children enjoying performing in front of family and friends. Thank you to all of the Year 3 and 4 staff team for their hard work in ensuring the shows were such a success.

Poetry Slam Success

A huge well done to all the children who represented our school at last week's Poetry Slam competition. They performed with confidence, creativity and fantastic teamwork, and we are incredibly proud of the way they showcased their talents.

A special congratulations to our Year 6 team, who impressed the judges and won the UKS2 category! This is a brilliant achievement, and we are delighted to celebrate their hard work and enthusiasm.

Well done to everyone involved!



Parent/Carer Evenings

It was good to see so many parents at the parents' evenings this week. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look through your child's books and speak to their teacher about their progress in school.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone at Brookside for supporting Red Nose Day. We were really impressed by the effort many children put into their outfit and their red nose designs. We raised an impressive £550 this year through donations and the sale of red noses.

Gaelic Football Tournament

On Friday 20th March Mrs Dyer and Mr Mawn (PE Mentor) took a group of year 6 pupils to take part in The First Oxford Primary Schools Gaelic Football Festival at Horspath Sports grounds.

The Brookside team did exceptionally well, competing against schools from across Oxfordshire. They recorded wins against Horspath, St. John Fisher team 1 and 2 and narrowly lost to Aureus School, Didcot. It was pleasing to see all players apply the skills of hand and kick passing, solo and pick up into the games. The inclusive format of the festival enabled all players to rotate around the three zones, attack, midfield and defence. Scores were shared amongst the team and all players received medals for their participation in the event. It was a great opportunity for our students to learn a new sport, and they were excellent ambassador throughout the festival. Thank you to Mr Mawn and Mrs Dyer for taking the children to the event.



Eire Og, Oxford, have youth (7-15yrs) Gaelic football training on Saturdays 1-2pm at Horspath Sports Grounds, OX4 2RR.

More information can be found [here](#).

Football Reports

Both Brookside boys and girls football teams took part in Bicester league matches over the last two weeks. The girls played two games travelling away to the mighty Chesterton and Bure Park respectively. Against Chesterton, the girls were fantastic and managed to get a brilliant 2-2 draw with a late equaliser through Hallie. They then faced Bure Park where they played fantastic football and dominated the game. Unfortunately, the girls couldn't convert all of their chances and drew 1-1 with a goal from Ellie. It has been great to see the girls enjoying their football.

The boys team also travelled to Bure Park and put on a great display. The boys played great football and tried to pass the ball out from the back. However, this wasn't quite enough and Bure Park went on to win the game by a couple of goals. The boys showed great determination and resilience to keep going. Special mention to Jaxon for getting player of the match.

Lower Key Stage 2 football tournament

Well done to both teams who went to the LKS2 football tournament at The Bicester School on 19th March. The boys had a tough 5 games to play, but came away with a good success rate, showing great cooperation and sportsmanship. The girls had a massive 9 games to play and again, showed great resilience and cooperation. Well done everyone.

New School Lunch Menu

A new menu starts on Monday 13th April. The menu is attached to this newsletter and is also on our [website](#).

Screen Time Guidance for Under 5s

Today, the UK Government has published [guidance](#) on screen use for children under the age of 5. This evidence-informed guidance has been written to support parents and carers in shaping healthy screen time habits for little brains. The advice is that for children aged 2-5 years: Try to keep screen time to 1 hour a day. Less if possible.

How does my own screen use affect my child?

Lead by example: Children's brains are like sponges – they'll copy your screen use habits. Be mindful of how often you use your phone around your child.

Being present with your child: Spending long periods on your phone can make it harder to notice what your child is doing or feeling. Young children need attention, interaction and shared moments with their parents and carers to feel secure and supported.

Cinema Visits

The children in Key Stage 1 and 2 enjoyed a trip to the Bicester Vue cinema this week. On Thursday, children in Year 5 and 6 watched Kangaroo and today Year 1,2,3 and 4 watched Dogman. The children really enjoyed the magic of the big screen and watching these films with their friends.

Visit from Mr. Farrukh

Class LD/CC were honoured to have Mr. Farrukh to talk about Islam, specifically the 5 pillars of Islam. They were really grateful that he took time out of his day to come in, and they asked some insightful and curious questions. Thank you!



Before/After School

A reminder that children are not allowed to play on any play equipment before or after school as this is for supervised use by school staff only. Children are also not permitted to play football or other ball games before school. Thank you for your cooperation.

School Choir

Yesterday, the children in the choir performed a concert for their parents and the children in Key Stage 2. Well done to the choir and thank you to Mrs Rudge and Miss Young for leading the choir at Brookside.

Science Council

Our focus this term has been on our school environment. We have spent lots of time assessing inside and outside the school grounds and picking up the litter. On the verge outside the entrance to the school, we were horrified at the amount of litter we collected, as well as the types, including glass, packets and smoking items. We urge you to take your litter home or throw it in the bin.

FoBS

Thank you to FoBS for organising for the Easter Bunny to come to Brookside this afternoon. The children enjoyed the visit and the easter treats!

Diary Dates

Monday 13th April - First day of Summer Term

Monday 4th May - Early May bank holiday

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 - Last day of Term

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

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell and the staff of Brookside

YOUTH GAELIC FOOTBALL



Éire Óg Oxford

FIRST TRAINING SESSION OF 2026



SAT 28 FEB 1-2PM
HORSPATH SPORTS GROUNDS

ALL AGE GROUPS UNDER 7- UNDER 15
COMPLIMENTS SPORTS SUCH AS FOOTBALL,
BASKETBALL, RUGBY AND HOCKEY

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



BICESTER & NORTH OXFORD CRICKET CLUB YOUTH SECTION 2026

Bicester & North Oxford Cricket Club
Akeman Street
OX26 1TH

///noodle.systems.tucked

Open to Boys and Girls

All abilities welcome

Ages 5-19 Years old

Fridays 6pm-8pm (1hr sessions)

April 24th - July 24th

ECB Qualified Coaches

Bar and BBQ

All - Stars School Years Rec - Yr1 - Yr2

BNOCC Stars School Years Yr3-Yr4

Under 11's Softball School Years Yr5-Yr6

Under 11's Hardball School Years Yr5-Yr6

Under 13's School Years Yr7 -Yr8

Under 15's School Years Yr9-Yr10

Under 17's School Years Yr11-Yr12

Under 19's School Years Yr13+

Friday April 26th 6pm

**Youth 2026 Kick Off
Session**

**Player and Parent
Induction + Mini Games**

**Sponsored bar by
*Gigaclear***

Email: Bnocc.sec@gmail.com for Questions and Queries



**Sign Up
HERE**



Join the Adventure!



1st Kingsmere
SCOUT GROUP



BEAVERS

Ages 6-8



cubs

Ages 8-10½



SCOUTS

Ages 10½-14



Boys & Girls Welcome!

Camping • Hiking • Crafts • Games
• Skills • Friends • Fun!



Email: firstkingsmerescoutgroup@hotmail.com



Scouts
1st Kingsmere

Can you help?



Come and join our teams!

Brighten your evenings! Try something exciting, learn new skills, and make friends for life. **Join our Beaver, Cub, and Scout teams as a volunteer today!**



No previous experience with young people? **No problem.**

Whether you'd like to help out week-after-week or whenever-you-can, we provide training, learning opportunities and cups of tea – **every step of the way.**



Join us for outdoor skills, challenges, crafts, games, and fun



Whitelands Academy, Hexham
Road, Bicester, OX26 1AY



Mondays from 18:15



firstkingsmerescoutgroup@hotmail.com

Join the adventure and learn [#SkillsForLife](#)



Please register your interest using the QR code, or send an email.



Girls TALENT ID

SHOWCASE

CONFIRMED SCOUTS SO FAR...



U9/U10-U13/U14 30TH MARCH U11/U12-U15/U16
9AM-12PM UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE 1PM-4PM

CONFIRM YOUR SPACE AND DISPLAY YOUR TALENT

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER
WWW.SOCGERELITETOURS.CO.UK

Hello

Easter Holidays!



Longer days, lighter mornings and a fresh little window to reset as a family. This Easter break, let's move more, eat well, and feel good together with no pressure, just progress. Here's a few tips to get you started:

Activity 1:

Get active as a family

Park trip, bike ride, or follow along movement video



Activity 2:

Try a mini "mission"

A nature walk, screen free hour, new fruit/veg, or learn some new dance moves



Activity 2:

Keep it simple with food

Why not bake something wholesome together like Easter carrot cupcakes or wholemeal hot cross buns



Our free Beezee Families programme is here to help you feel healthier and happier as a family. Hop into a healthier you this Easter holidays and see the difference all year round!

Want more healthy lifestyle support?

Check out our website to find out how we can help your family.*

Scan here

or

Click the link



oxf.maximusuk.co.uk

Sutton Courtenay

Environmental Education Centre

A journey of learning and discovery



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire**
Wildlife Trust

Family Event 'Find the Fox Cubs'

30- 31 March; 1-2 April; 10am- 2pm

A springtime adventure - follow the trail and help mother fox find her missing cubs to earn an Easter treat! Including a craft activity and live storytelling. Suitable for 4-11 years.

£10 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Day Camp, Unbelievable Birds

Wednesday 8 April; 9:30am-3pm

A day camp for 8-12 year olds at Sutton Courtenay learning about the incredible features of birds.

£37 per child; BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Pond Dipping Workshops

Thursday 7 April; 10am- 11:30am and 1-2:30pm

Easter pond dipping fun for families with children 4-11 years - come and be amazed at what lurks below the surface!

£10 per head. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Family Night Safari

Friday 22 May; 7:30-10pm

Bring your children aged 8+ and discover what amazing animals come out at night on the nature reserve. We'll be checking the small mammal traps, listening for bats with the bat detectors, shining a light on the newts in the pond and more.

£10 per person. BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Plus monthly Saturday wildlife clubs – Nature Tots (18 months to 4 years with an adult); **Nature Explorers** (4-7 years with an adult); **Young Rangers** (8-11 years unaccompanied); **Teen Rangers** (11-17 years unaccompanied). Visit the website for upcoming dates and booking.

Visit our website to book or for more info:



bbowt.org.uk/events

01235 862024 or sceec@bbowt.org.uk

bbowt.org.uk



More nature everywhere



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 Easter, 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

30 & 31 March 2026

OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE

www.oxbridgesingingschool.com