

Thursday 30 November 2023



BY BROOK VALLEY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs Henshall

It is hard to believe we are entering the period of Advent – preparing and waiting. In our whole school worship we have been thinking about this for Mary and Joseph and their time of preparation and waiting and how they needed to trust in God and his plan for them.

At school we are looking forward to starting this period with our whole school Santa Run tomorrow!

The children are now busy in rehearsals and are looking forward to sharing with you their Christmas plays and the Carol Service in Castle Combe Church. Once again we will be thinking of others and contributing to our local community through 'Reverse Advent'. There will be collection points for each class to leave their donations – thank you in advance for your generosity.

I look forward to seeing you for the Santa Run tomorrow – Don't forget your Christmas hats!

Poem to a Bully

Our Eagles class wrote the following poem which we thought would be nice to share with you all:

I want you to understand how you make people feel

Your excuses for 'banter' have gone too far

Stop hurting people and you will stop hurting yourself

Use your trusted adults to bring you positivity

Don't hurt others, help others

Why do you bully?

Bully, bully, it hurts a lot

Bully, bully, please stop

Bullying is not nice

Your heart is misshapen but your soul is just right

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated to Children in Need, we raised an amazing **£224.45** so thank you all for your kind donations.



FoBBVS

A huge thank you to everyone that bought a tea towel. We have now sold all of the 200 that we pre ordered. If you would still like to order one please do so on parent pay by Friday 1 December.

We look forward to seeing everyone tonight for our wreath making event and kicking off the festive season!

School Job Vacancy – Class TA with MDSA Duties

We currently have a job vacancy for a Class TA with MDSA duties. If you know of anyone who might be interested in this role, please see click on the following link:

<https://www.bybrookvalleyschool.co.uk/page/?title=Vacancies&pid=69&action=saved>

Roots to grow, wings to fly

"They will soar on wings like eagles" Isaiah 40:31

Registered Address: By Brook Valley Academy Trust, The Street, Yatton Keynell, Wiltshire, SN14 7BA

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Santa Run – tomorrow!

Just a reminder that the Santa Fun Run will be held **tomorrow, Friday 1 December**. The children need to wear their PE kits to school and can bring a Santa hat too! Please could we ask that the children bring a spare pair of shoes and socks in a named carrier bag for after the fun run! Parents can join in too! Please see attached poster for more information and timings.



CAKE SALE



Year 3 Cake Sale

Just a reminder that the Ospreys cake sale will be held after school **tomorrow, Friday 1 December**, so please can Ospreys bring in some cakes on this day. Thank you.

Christmas Production Tickets – Spare Tickets!

We still have spare tickets available for the following Christmas performances next week. If you would like any additional tickets, please email secretary@bybrookvalley.wilts.sch.uk (**not** the admin email address on this occasion) to say which performance and time you would like.

The Bossy King – Tuesday 12 December – **SOLD OUT**

The Bossy King – Wednesday 13 December at 9.30pm

The Bossy King – Wednesday 13 December at 1.30pm

Bethlehem Bandits – Thursday 7 December at 1.30pm

Bethlehem Bandits – Thursday 7 December – **SOLD OUT**

If you have any tickets for the 6pm performance of Bethlehem Bandits on Thursday 7 December and you no longer need them, please could we ask you to return them to school as we have some parents waiting for tickets for this performance. Thank you!

Reverse Advent Calendar

This year we have decided to create a reverse advent calendar in each class like last year. Each child in the class will be chosen on a day throughout December to bring in 1 food item for the foodbank box in their class. Each day represents a specific food item to donate. Your child will be sent home with a slip explaining what their donation item is after they have been chosen for the advent calendar. When all of the foodbank items are collected at the end of December, the donations will be taken to the Corsham foodbank in time for Christmas. The donating of food items is optional, however, we thought as times are tough, we could give a little to help a lot.

Year 6 Leavers Hoodies

The children in Year 6 brought home a letter earlier this week about ordering their leavers hoodies. A few parents have contacted us to query the sizes so we have asked the company to provide a couple of sample hoodies. When they arrive we will let you know. If you want to amend your order please send an email to admin@bybrookvalley.wilts.sch.uk The deadline for payment will be extended to allow time for the sample hoodies to arrive.

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School Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day

The school Christmas Lunch will take place on **Thursday 14 December**. The cut off for ordering Christmas Dinner is **Wednesday 6 December** and we cannot accept orders after this date. The children are welcome to come to school wearing their Christmas Jumpers on this day.

On Wednesday 13 December and Thursday 14 December the meals will be swapping. Both pasta options will be on the Wednesday, Christmas dinner on the Thursday.

The Children's Christmas menu is as

follows

Traditional Christmas Turkey, Pig in Blanket and Festive Stuffing

Or

Mushroom & Squash Wellington (Ve)

With

Roast Potatoes, Carrot Batons and Peas

Pudding

Chocolate Brownie Yule Log or Ice Cream

Year 5 and 6 WW2 Evacuee Day

Just a reminder that the children will be spending the day as evacuees on **Monday 18 December**, we would like the children to dress as evacuees and would like them to make an evacuee label, identity card and a box to carry their gas mask in. Please don't forget to bring in a small snack. Please do not feel the need to go out and buy clothes or props, they can use what they already have at home.

Year 5 and 6 Christmas Carol

The children from the Kites and Eagles classes will be holding a Christmas Church Service at St Andrew's Church in Castle Combe on **Tuesday 19 December** at **1.30pm**. Parents are warmly invited to attend the service. We look forward to seeing you there.

Last Day of Term 2

The last day of term is **Wednesday 20 December** and we will be finishing early at **2.00pm**. Unfortunately the bus companies are unable to operate a service at these times so please make alternative arrangements. Please note that Bubbles After School Club will not be open on the last day of term. The first day back for pupils after Christmas is **Thursday 4 January 2024**.

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School Lunches

If you would like your child to have a hot school lunch, please don't forget to order it online through ParentPay by midnight Wednesday for the following week. If you have not ordered online, please send your child in with a packed lunch. Thank you.

Order By	To have meals in week commencing
6/12/23	11/12/23
13/12/23	18/12/23
3/1/24	8/1/24
10/1/24	15/1/24
17/1/24	22/1/24
24/1/24	29/1/24
31/1/24	5/2/24

Procedures for School Closure In The Event of Bad Weather

As the winter is now upon us, we need to advise parents of the procedures in place, if the school is forced to close due to bad weather. The procedure is for schools to notify parents via Heart FM radio. We will aim to text or email parents via ParentPay in the event of a closure.

We ask that parents DO NOT telephone the school. The decision to close the school is based on the safety of staff and children travelling to school and also around the school site.

If the school opens but weather conditions worsen, parents whose children attend Bubbles After School Club will be notified by 2.00pm if Bubbles will not be operating due to the weather.

A member of staff will remain with children until 4.00pm at the latest to allow parents time to make alternative arrangements.

Wiltshire Council – Proposed Admission Arrangements for VC & C Primary Schools

Wiltshire Council is consulting on the proposed admissions criteria and admission arrangements for its Community & Voluntary Controlled Schools for the 2025/26 academic year. It is also consulting on the proposed schemes for co-ordination of admissions to all maintained schools and academies for the 2025/26 academic year. **The consultation starts on Friday 17 November 2023 and it ends on Friday 12 January 2024.** The consultation documents can be accessed by clicking on the link www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-admissions-consultation

To respond to this consultation please send your comments by email to admissions@wiltshire.gov.uk or you can write to:

School Admissions Team
Wiltshire Council
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

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Applying for a school place at Primary or Secondary School

If you have a child who will be 4 years old before September 2024 you must apply for a Primary School Place. You can apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk or application forms are available at pre-schools. The deadline for Primary School applications is midnight Monday 15 January 2024. All forms must be returned directly to The School Admissions Team at County Hall, Trowbridge.

Head Lice

Please continue to check your children's hair for unwanted visitors. The children work very closely with each other and this gives head lice the chance to spread very easily. Advice and treatment of head lice can be sought from any pharmacy.

Holidays in Term Time

Since the beginning of September 2013 the rules of taking holiday during term time have tightened even further. You may have seen this on the National News. Now, Headteachers **cannot authorise any holidays** and parents who still choose to take their child out **will** be fined by the local authority. Attendance is seen as a very high priority and a very significant factor in ensuring children attain their maximum potential each and every year. Please support your child, their learning and the school by booking your holidays out of school term times. A copy of the absence policy is available on the school website www.bybrookvalleyschool.co.uk

Contacting School if Your Child is Absent

Please ring the school (01249 783006) as soon as possible on the first day of absence – the school has an automated answering system so a message can be left. Please leave your child's name and the reason for their absence. If it is a prolonged absence, there is no need to ring the school every day but please do let us know if you do not expect your child to return by the end of the week. If you have not contacted us by the end of morning break (10.30am), we will try to ring you to enquire about the absence. Please also remember that if your child has been ill with sickness and/or diarrhoea they should return to school **48** hours after the last episode of vomiting or diarrhoea.

Is my child too ill for school?

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Medication in School

Unfortunately staff are unable to administer medication, e.g. children. Parents can come into school to give medication if required.

Bubbles After School Club

If you need to contact Bubbles at all during the Bubbles hours please call **07587 133510**. If you know you are going to be late and unable to collect your child on time from bubbles after school club, please contact the Bubbles team as soon as possible.

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2023/2024 Diary Dates

December

Friday 1	Santa Run
Friday 1	Year 3 Cake Sale
Thursday 7	KS2 Christmas Production – 1.30pm and 6.00pm
Tuesday 12	KS1 Nativity 9.30am
Tuesday 12	Year 5 and 6 Christmas Performance at Sheldon a.m
Wednesday 13	KS1 Nativity 9.30am and 1.30pm
Tuesday 19	Year 5 and 6 Carol Service
Wednesday 20	Last day of term 2

January

Thursday 4	First day of term 3 – All pupils in school
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Flyers for this week can be found on our website at the following location:

<https://www.bybrookvalleyschool.co.uk/page/?title=Flyers&pid=433>



Website:

www.bybrookvalleyschool.co.uk



Contact:

01249 783006



Email:

admin@bybrookvalley.wilts.sch.uk

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