



BY BROOK VALLEY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs Henshall

Welcome Back and Happy New Year! I hope you all had a very lovely Christmas and enjoyed time with family and friends. On behalf of all the staff and teachers we would like to say a big thank you for all the lovely Christmas gifts you gave us, we were overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity!

It has been a good start to the term with all the children keen and ready to get on with their learning. Please look out for the Curriculum Newsletters that the children will be bringing home today so that you can see and celebrate what the children will be learning this term. There is also a helpful Book Recommendations sheet so that you can support your children with their learning. 2026 is the Year of Reading and we are looking forward to celebrating this in school – getting more children and families reading together.

Our Value this term is Perseverance – we will be thinking about how we show perseverance both in and out of school and reflecting on different stories from the Bible that show perseverance.

On Monday we had a special Worship about Epiphany and the visit of the Wise men to Jesus: ask your children about the word epiphany and its meaning.

On Monday 2 February we are looking forward to welcoming Richard Pomfrett to school. He will be delivering Internet Safety workshops to all classes and also an evening event for families via Zoom so that we are better prepared for supporting the children in an 'online world' – Please save the date!

French Lessons

Four children have received their certificates for completing the first stage of learning French with *La Jolie Ronde*, and are now moving on to the next part of the course.

Félicitations! is how we say 'well done' to Elodie W, Theo B, Louis-Raphaël RP and Esme F.



Term 3 PE Days

Please find below the PE days for Term 3.

- Owls – Tuesday/Wednesday
- Falcons – Monday/Tuesday
- Kestrels – Tuesday/Wednesday
- Ospreys – Monday/Wednesday
- Hawks – Wednesday/Friday (Swimming)
- Kites – Wednesday/Thursday
- Eagles – Thursday (double lesson!)

Up and Coming Cake Sales!

The first cake sale of 2026 will be for Ospreys class tomorrow **Friday 9 January** so please bring your delicious cakes into school tomorrow.

Hawks class cake sale will then be held on **Friday 23 January**.

Kites class cake sale will take place on **Friday 6 February**.



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Growing, Flourishing, Soaring.

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Year 4 Swimming Lessons – Terms 3,4 & 5

Just a reminder that the Year 4 swimming lessons will be starting **tomorrow (Friday 9 January)**. The children will need to make sure they bring in their swimming kit every Friday in a named bag, a kit list was included in the letter.



Parents Evening – DATE CHANGE!

Please note that the dates for parents evening have now changed to **Tuesday 10 February** and **Thursday 12 February**. A letter will be sent home soon about how to make your parents evening bookings.



Birthday Books

Please find attached letter about a new tradition where we would love to invite children to donate a book to school to mark their birthdays, this could be a book of their choice or a new title that they think their friends will enjoy! We are hoping this will continue to spread the love of reading throughout the school. Please see the letter for more details.

PINS Session

Calling Parents and Carers! Are you a parent or carer of a child with SEND (special education needs and disabilities)? Do you have any questions, or do you need any support? Would you like to find out more about inclusion in schools? Join Rebecca from Wiltshire Parent Carers Council for an informal chat with tea, coffee and biscuits. Rebecca is a parent carer herself; she has three boys with varying support needs. She is the PINS Project Facilitator (Partnership for Inclusion of Neurodiversity in Schools) working with our school this year. Join her in school on **Tuesday 13 January** at **2.00pm** for an informal chat where you can find out more about the support on offer in Wiltshire to support children with SEND and their families. We hope that you can make it!

Year 5 Hardenhuish Taster Day

The children in Kites class will be bringing home a letter today about going to Hardenhuish School for a class taster session day on **Thursday 29 January**. Please look out for this letter!

Hawks Class Assembly

Hawks class are looking forward to having the opportunity to share their work with family and friends in their class assembly on **Friday 30 January** at 2.30pm. Please come in through the hall doors. Thank you!

IT Safety Events!

We would like to make you aware that we will be joined by an expert in IT safety on **Monday 2 February**. The children will be taking part in sessions at school and we have also organised for a parent's information evening via zoom in the evening on this day. We would like to ask for a contribution towards this of £1.50 which will be setup on ParentPay this week. In the meantime, please save the date!

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Sports for Champions Day

We are very lucky to be joined by James Dasalou who is an Olympic 100m sprinter in school on **Thursday 12 February**. He will be leading the school through different fitness circuits as well as talking to the whole school about his career. The link below will take you to the schools fundraising page which gives you more information about how to get involved: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/by-brook-valley-cofe-primary-schoolfundraiser>

Well Being Survey for Hawks, Kites and Eagles ONLY

The children in Years 4, 5 and 6 will be taking part in an anonymous Emotional Wellbeing Survey for Wiltshire Council. This will take place in school between the 5 January and 6 February 2026 and is intended to help the school better understand the emotional wellbeing needs of school-aged children and young people. Please see attached letter which includes an information sheet from Wiltshire Council.

Singing Lessons

If your child would like to have singing lessons in school, our singing teacher will be offering some free trial lessons. Please contact Debi Weaver for more details debiatmilliecatarts@gmail.com. A flyer can be found on our website at the following location: <https://www.bybrookvalleyschool.co.uk/page/?title=Flyers&pid=433>

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.

REMINDER! Holidays in Term Time

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

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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. **Please make sure that your child is included when ordering their meals to avoid confusion and upset at lunchtime.**

Order By	To have meals in week commencing
14/1/26	19/1/26
21/1/26	26/1/26
28/1/26	2/2/26
4/2/26	9/2/26
25/2/26	2/3/26
4/3/26	9/3/26

After School Clubs – Terms 3 & 4

Please use the following information to book your child a place.

Please remember not to book Bubbles after school club if you are booking onto one of these clubs unless children are going back to Bubbles after the club has finished. In this case you will need to book from the 4.00pm session.

Please make a note of the dates of the clubs as we are finding that more and more children are turning up when club is not on! Thank you.

MONDAY

Art Club – KS2

Monday 5 January – Monday 23
March
3.15pm-4.30pm

Please contact directly to make a
booking:
Kathy.hutton1@hotmail.com

Choir Club – Y1-6

Monday 12 January – Monday 23
March

Run by Miss Hamilton & Miss Knapp
with the same children.
3.15pm - 4.15pm

TUESDAY

Tag Rugby – KS1 (Year 1, 2, 3 and Reception)

Run by PH ActiveEd
3.15pm - 4.15pm

Tuesday 6 January – Tuesday 10
February

To make a booking, please see
attached flyer.

Spaces still available!

THURSDAY

Eco Warriors Club

Selected Children Only!

Thursday 8 January – Thursday 26
March
3.15pm - 4.15pm

WEDNESDAY

Dance Class – YR-6

Run by A Stars Dance

Please contact directly to make a
booking:
07815 539693 (Sophia)

KS2 – Tag Rugby

Run by Up and Under
3.15pm - 4.15pm

Wednesday 14 January - Wednesday 25
March

Spaces still available!

[https://www.upandundersports.co.uk/p
roduct/bybrook-valley-primary-school-
ks2-tag-rugby-club-wednesdays-term-3-
4/](https://www.upandundersports.co.uk/product/bybrook-valley-primary-school-ks2-tag-rugby-club-wednesdays-term-3-4/)

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Severe Nut Allergies in School – NO NUTS PLEASE!!

Please be aware that we have a few children in school who have **severe** nut allergies so please do not include any nuts of any kind in your child's lunch boxes or snacks. Thank you for your continued support!

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. antibiotics etc. to 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.

2025/2026 Diary Dates

January

Friday 9	Year 3 Cake Sale
Tuesday 13	PINS Session 2.00pm
Friday 23	Year 4 Cake Sale
Thursday 29	Hardenhuish Taster Day – Year 5
Friday 30	Year 4 Class Assembly

February

Monday 2	IT Safety sessions whole school - Richard Pomfrett
Monday 2	7pm Parents Information Evening about IT Safety – Zoom call with Richard Pomfrett
Friday 6	Year 5 Cake Sale
Friday 6	NSPCC Number Day
Tuesday 10	NEW DATE - Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Tuesday 10	Internet Safety Day
Thursday 12	Sports for Champions Visit
Thursday 12	NEW DATE - Parents Evening 3.00pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 12	Last Day of Term 3 – Normal Finish Time!
Friday 13	TD Day – No Children in School
Monday 23	First Day of Term 4 – All Children back in school
Wednesday 25	Sheldon Taster Day – Year 5
Friday 27	Year 3 Class Assembly

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March

Thursday 5 World Book Day – details to follow
Monday 9 – 13 Year 6 Bikeability Courses
Thursday 19 Year 5 and 6 Lower Moor Farm trip – details to follow
Tuesday 24 Colorfoto Class and Year 6 Leavers Photos
Thursday 26 Easter Service – details to follow
Friday 27 Last Day of Term 4 – Early Finish at 2.00pm

April

Monday 13 First Day of Term 5
Wednesday 22 World Earth Day – More details to follow
Friday 24 Year 2 Class Assembly

May

Friday 1 Year 3 and Year 4 Trip to 'We the Curious Bristol' – details to follow
Monday 4 Bank Holiday – no children in school
Friday 22 Last day of Term 5

June

Monday 1 TD Day – no children in school
Tuesday 2 First day of Term 6
Wednesday 17 Sports Day
Friday 19 Colour Run
Monday 22 Year 5 Sheldon Open Morning
Tuesday 23 Year 5 Sheldon Open Morning
Wednesday 24 Sheldon Open Evening
Friday 26 Year 1 Class Assembly

July

Friday 3 Reception Class Assembly
Thursday 9 Sheldon Turnaround
Thursday 9 Year 6 Sheldon Parents Evening
Friday 10 Sheldon Turnaround
Wednesday 15 Leavers Production
Monday 20 Leavers Treat
Tuesday 21 Leavers Service
Tuesday 21 Last day of Term 6 – early finish at 2pm
Wednesday 22 TD Day – no children in school

2025 - 26 TD Days

Here is a reminder of the
2025-26 TD Days:
Friday 13 February 2026
Monday 1 June 2026
Wednesday 22 July 2026

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