



BY BROOK VALLEY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs Henshall

Perseverance

I can do all things through him who strengthens me – Philippians 4;13

We are continuing to think about Perseverance in our Worship and how we have to keep going, even when things can be tough. We thought about life being like a race and some amazing children willingly spent time running in assembly, demonstrating how we might need to adjust our speed or technique so that we can run the race for longer.

Reading

In our House Parliament groups we met to think about Reading and how we can become even better readers – the children thought about reading as a ‘superpower’ and shared the books they like to read. All the children enjoy being reading buddies across the school and reading with different classes. We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day on 5 March – more details further down in the newsletter!

Online Safety

We had a great start to the week with Richard from the Stay Safe Initiative. He worked with children across the school discussing staying safe online, security settings and supporting them in making the right choices for their online behaviour. It was good to see so many of you online in the evening for our parent workshop, thinking about how we can best support our children in the ever changing digital/online world. We will also be following this up in school next week with our Safer Internet Day and tying in with Children’s Mental Health Week.

We would also like to say a big thank you to those children who have brought a book into school to celebrate their Birthday’s!

Breakfast and Bubbles After School

Club Users

For those paying by child care vouchers or through a government child care account, if you haven’t done so already please can we remind you to make a payment for January.

Thank you!

Healthy Snacks!

We would like to remind parents to only send your child in with healthy break or lunchtime snacks! No sweets or chocolate bars please! Thank you.

Kites Cake Sale!

Please don’t forget that it is the Kites class cake sale tomorrow (**Friday 6 February**). Please can Kites bring in their cakes to school in the morning on this day. Thank you!



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SMNYP Courses for Parents

Please find attached a list of useful courses on the Wiltshire Council website all about 'Supporting my Neurodivergent Young Person (SMNYP)' <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/article/14885/SMNYP-course-and-booking-information>.

Times Table Rockstars

In KS2 we are using Times Tables Rockstars to practise and assess our times tables. Next week, at parents evening, KS2 teachers will give out a copy of your child's 'heatmap'. This is a colourful chart that shows how confident your child is with each times table. The colours represent speed and accuracy - the darker or redder the square, the more practice is needed, while lighter or greener squares show stronger knowledge. It helps your child quickly see which times tables they know well and which ones they should focus on improving.

Parents Evening

Don't forget that if you haven't yet made your Parents Evening appointment, the booking system will be closing tomorrow (**Friday 6 February**). To make a booking please use the following link: <https://bybrookvalleyce.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. If you need to make an appointment after this date, please contact your class teacher.



Sports for Champions Day

The children are all very much looking forward to meeting James Dasalou (an Olympic 100m sprinter) 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. Thank you to everyone who has made a donation! There is still time to get involved by clicking on the following link: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/by-brook-valley-cofe-primary-schoolfundraiser>

End of Term 3 and Start of Term 4

School finishes for the February half term holiday on **Thursday 12 February** at the **normal time of 3.15pm**, please note that **Friday 13 February is a TD day** and the school is closed to children. All children are due back to school on **Monday 23 February**.



Kites - Sheldon Taster Day

Kites class will be bringing home a letter today about their next secondary school taster day to Sheldon school, which will take place on **Wednesday 25 February**. Please see the letter for more details.

Eagles Revision Club

The children in Eagles will have the opportunity to attend a revision club that is due to start on **Thursday 26 February**. The club will run every Thursday until 4.15pm. The letter will be sent home today, please could we ask that you complete and return the reply slip to school as soon as possible. Thank you.

Ospreys Class Assembly

Ospreys class would like to invite family and friends to their class assembly on **Friday 27 February** at 2.30pm. We hope you can make it and look forward to seeing you there!



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PGL Reminder – Year 6

The next installment of £120 for the Year 6 PGL residential trip is due on **Friday 27 February**. Please could we ask that this payment is made on ParentPay by this date. Thank you.



Swimming Payment Due – Hawks

Please could we remind parents in Hawks that the 2nd installment of £32 for swimming lessons is due by **Friday 27 February**. Payments can be made online through ParentPay. Thank you.

World Book Week

By Brook Valley's World Book Week is next month, starting on Monday 2 March. We have a lot of exciting things planned this year! Every class will be decorating their classroom door in the style of one of their favourite books, we will be hosting our surprise guest readers again and we will be setting the children a challenge to create a book in a box at home! Your class teachers will share more with their classes about this challenge in the coming weeks!

If you would like to volunteer to be a guest reader during World Book Week then please email carrie.davies@bybrookvalley.wilts.sch.uk before Friday 20 February.



Year 6 Bikeability

The children in Eagles brought home a letter last week about their up and coming Bikeability sessions in March. Please make sure that you click on the QR code or link within the letter that was sent home to give your consent directly to Bikeability. We would also like to ask that payment is made online through ParentPay by **Friday 6 March** as well. Thank you!



Up and Coming School Trips!

Kites and Eagles trip to Lower Moor Farm – Thursday 19 March

The children in Kites and Eagles will be bringing home a letter today about a school trip to Lower Moor Farm in Cricklade on **Thursday 19 March**. Please look out for this letter today. Payment and consent is due by **Monday 16 March**. Thank you!

Owls, Falcons and Kestrels School Trip to Longleat

Thank you to those who have already given consent and made payment for the Longleat school trip. Just a reminder that if you haven't done so already, this is due online through ParentPay by **Monday 16 March**. Thank you!



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Art Exhibition

The Royal Academy of Arts in London is having a summer exhibition for young artists aged 4-18. If you would like to submit a piece of your child's artwork for consideration in the exhibition please click on the following link: <https://youngartists.royalacademy.org.uk/schools/lookup>. Registration is open until **Wednesday 4 March**.

Be a part of the Yatton Keynell Fete!

"The Yatton Keynell fete is taking place on Saturday 19 September. We have really valued the input from parents in the past and as the school is a beneficiary we invite you to attend one of our meetings later in the year, to share your ideas and give you an update of our plans. Our next meetings are on 5th Feb, 23rd April and 3rd June. We also need help on the day, raffle prizes and donations of cakes, books and prizes nearer the time. Please email us if you can help in anyway - ykfete@gmail.com - Thank you!"

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
18/2/26 – ORDER IN HALF TERM!	23/2/26
25/2/26	2/3/26
4/3/26	9/3/26
11/3/26	16/3/26
18/3/26	23/3/26

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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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.

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 24
March

To make a booking, please contact
the school office to request a flyer.

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/product/bybrook-valley-primary-school-ks2-tag-rugby-club-wednesdays-term-3-4/>



NO NUTS!!

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.

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2025/2026 Diary Dates

February

Friday 6	Year 5 Cake Sale
Tuesday 10	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 6.00pm
Tuesday 10	Internet Safety Day
Thursday 12	Sports for Champions Visit
Thursday 12	Parents Evening 3.30pm - 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

March

Thursday 5	World Book Day – details to follow
Monday 9 – 12	Year 6 Bikeability Courses
Thursday 19	Year 5 and 6 Lower Moor Farm trip
Friday 20	YR, Y1 and Y2 Longleat School Trip
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
Sunday 7	FoBBVS Castle Combe Car Boot
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

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Friday 10
Wednesday 15
Monday 20
Tuesday 21
Tuesday 21
Wednesday 22

Sheldon Turnaround
Leavers Production
Leavers Treat
Leavers Service
Last day of Term 6 – early finish at 2pm
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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