Thursday 8 October 2026

BY BROOK VALLEY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Message from Mrs Henshall

As we continue to think about generosity as our value of the term, I would like to thank everyone for their very generous donations to the Doorway Project in Chippenham, I know they will greatly appreciate this food donation. We have thoroughly enjoyed sharing our Harvest Services with you and it is always special to be able to do this in St Margaret's Church in Yatton Keynell.

Over the rest of this term, we will be thinking of God's generosity in providing us with beautiful school grounds and we will be getting outside to sweep, weed and plant. It would be lovely if you were able to join us or to make a donation of bulbs and planters so that we can make our environment an even more special place to be!

Hot School Dinners

Please can we remind you when ordering your child's meal that you order with them. The cook and MDSA's are getting more and more children tell them they don't like what has been ordered for them and it is getting harder to find an alternative for them. Please also remind your child they cannot swap meals with other children!

If your child is eligible for free school meals please also remember to apply for their sibling even if they are in YR, 1 or 2 as the school will receive funding for them which can be used to pay for school trips. Please apply through the Wiltshire Council Website.

Finally, the cutoff for ordering meals is midnight on a Wednesday to have meals in the following week.

Reading Evening Slides

Our reading evening slides are now available to view on our school website. Please see the link below:
https://www.bybrookvalleyschool.co.uk/page/?title=%2AReading+Evening%2A&pid=492

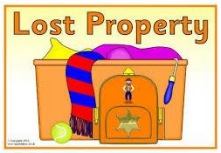
Mid Wilts Primary School Cross Country Event

A huge well done to all the children who represented By Brook Valley School at the Mid Wilts Cross Country in Biddestone on Tuesday. The children all ran brilliantly and showed a huge amount of effort, determination and enthusiasm. We are so proud of every single one of you! A particular well done to Luchia and Aelora for finishing in the top 10 in their age categories — what a fantastic achievement!

Well done everyone!

Lost Property

We have a large box of lost property in school so will leave it out under the covered area by reception from today, so please come and check if you are missing any items. Most of the items in lost property are not named, so please remember to label your child's uniform. Thank you!



Parents Evening Meetings

The children will be bringing home a slip today with the allocated parents evening time slot. If you have any questions, please contact your class teacher. Please note that each meeting will last 10 minutes only! Please look out for this slip in your child's bag.



Hello Yellow Day

Don't forget that we will be celebrating Hello Yellow Day for World Mental Health Day **tomorrow Friday 9 October**! To show our support and raise awareness for young people's mental health, children are invited to come to school wearing something yellow on the day. Whether it's a yellow t shirt, socks, or even a hair accessory, let's brighten up the school and show that we're all in this together. If you are able to donate, please go to the fundraising link: https://fundraise.youngminds.org.uk/fundraisers/bybrookvalley or scan the QR code.

Year 5 and 6 School Trip

The children in Year 5 and 6 brought home a letter last week about a trip to the Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre in Chippenham on **Monday 19 October**. If you haven't done so already, please could we ask that consent and payment is made online through ParentPay by **Monday 12 October**. Thank you!



****NEW CLUB ** Science and Craft After School Club – KS2 (Y3,4,5 and 6)**

We are excited to inform you that one of our parents will be running a new Science and Craft after school club for children in KS2 (Y3,4,5 and 6). The club will take place on a Tuesday from 3.15pm – 4.15pm and will start on **Tuesday 3 November**. If your child would like a place, please email sophiefraney@outlook.com to make a booking. Thank you!



Doorway Donations

If you haven't done so already and would like to make a food donation, please could all items be brought into school as soon as possible. Thank you!



Kestrels Cake Sale



A massive thank you to everyone who brought cakes at the Owls cake sale, they raised an amazing £137! This will go towards some lovely new equipment for the classroom.

Kestrels class are next and their cake sale will take place on **Friday 16 October**. Please could all cake donations from Kestrels class be brought into school in the morning on this day! Thank you!

School Tidy Up – Volunteers Still Needed!



We are still looking for volunteers to come into school to help tidy up our outdoor space – weeding, picking up leaves, planting bulbs etc. If you are able to help and free **on Friday 16 October** from **10.30am – 12.00pm** we would really appreciate your help! If you can come along, please contact the school office to let us know. On this day please can the children come to school in appropriate outdoor clothing. Thank you all in advance!

Year 6 PGL Meeting

We will be holding a PGL information meeting in the school hall for parents on **Tuesday 20 October** at **6.00pm.** The children do not need to come as they would have been given the information already. You will be able to find out more about the activities that the children will be enjoying and there will be a chance for you to ask questions. We look forward to seeing you there.

Colorfoto Individual and Sibling Photos

Just to make you aware that Colorfoto will be in school on **Tuesday 20 October** to take individual and sibling photos. Please ensure your child is wearing school uniform on this day. Thank you!

If you have younger or pre-school age siblings, they are also welcome to come into school at **8.30am** on this day.

End of Term 1 and Start of Term 2



School finishes for the October half term holiday on **Wednesday 21 October** at the normal time of 3.15pm. All children are due back to school on **Tuesday 3 November**. Please note that Monday 2 November is a TD Day so no children in school on this day.

Reading - Linger and Learn



We would like to invite parents and carers into school on **Wednesday 4 November** at **9.00am** for the first linger and learn session of the year all about how we teach reading in school.

Year 4 Class Assembly

The children in Year 4 would very much like to invite parents and carers to their class assembly on **Friday 6 November** in the school hall at 2.30pm. We hope you can make it!



Boys Football Tournament – Year 5 and 6 Only!

Heywood Prep are hosting an U10/U11 Boys' 7-a-side Football Festival at Leafy Lane in Corsham, **2.00pm – 3.30pm** on **Wednesday 25 November**. If your child is in **Year 5 or 6** and would like to take part, please let the school office know by **Wednesday 21 October**. Parents will be required to collect their children from school and take them to and from the event. Thank you!

Applying for a school place at Primary or Secondary School



If you have a child who will be 4 years old before September 2027 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 15 January 2027. All forms must be returned directly to The School Admissions Team at County Hall, Trowbridge.

If your child is transferring to Secondary School in September 2027, you must apply for a Secondary School place. You can apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk and the deadline for admissions is midnight 31 October 2026.

After School Clubs – Term 1 and 2

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 7 September – Monday 19 October
3.15pm-4.30pm

Places available!

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

Choir Club – Y1-6

Monday 14 September – Monday 14 December

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

Places available!

TUESDAY

Science and Craft Club – KS2

Tuesday 3 November – Tuesday 15 December
3.15pm – 4.15pm

Please contact Sophie Franey to make a booking:
sophiefraney@outlook.com

WEDNESDAY

Dance Class – YR-6

Run by A Stars Dance

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

KS2 – Hockey

Run by Up and Under
3.15pm - 4.15pm

Wednesday 9 September - Wednesday 9 December

To make a booking, please use the following link:
https://www.upandundersports.co.uk/product/bybrook-valley-primary-school-ks2-hockey-club-wednesdays-term-1-2-2026/

THURSDAY

Multi Sports – KS1 (Year 1, 2, 3)

Run by PH ActiveEd
3.15pm - 4.15pm

Thursday 5 November – Thursday 17 December

To make a booking, please see the attached flyer or use the following link:
https://bookings.phactiveed.co.uk/signin

SPACES AVAILABLE!

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
14/10/26	19/10/26
28/10/26	2/11/26
4/11/26	9/11/26
11/11/26	16/11/26
18/11/26	23/11/26
25/11/26	30/11/26



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 nuts of any kind in your child's lunch boxes or snacks. Thank you for your continued support!

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

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.

2026/2027 Diary Dates

October

Friday 9	Hello Yellow Day for World Mental Health Day
Thursday 15	Parents Evening 3.30pm 6.00pm
Friday 16	Year 2 Cake Sale
Tuesday 20	Colorfoto Individual Photos
Tuesday 20	Parents Evening 3.30pm 6.00pm
Tuesday 20	PGL Meeting for Year 6 Parents 6.00pm
Wednesday 21	Last Day of Term 1

November

Monday 2	TD Day – No children in School
Tuesday 3	First day of Term 2 – All children in school
Wednesday 4	Reading Linger and Learn
Friday 6	Year 4 Class Assembly
Tuesday 10 – 13	Year 6 PGL
Friday 13	Children in Need
Monday 16	Odd Sock Day
Wednesday 18	Open Day Sessions for New Owls 2027/28 Intake 9.30am and 4.30pm
Friday 20	Year 1 Cake Sale
Friday 27	Year 6 Class Assembly

December

Friday 4	Santa Run
Friday 4	Year 4 Cake Sale
Saturday 5	Yatton Keynell Christmas Fair 2.00pm – 5.00pm
Tuesday 8	Year 3 and 4 Christmas Production 9.30am and 1.30pm
Thursday 10	KS1 Christmas Production 9.30am and 1.30pm
Friday 11	KS1 Christmas Production 9.30am
Friday 11	Year 5 Cake Sale
Thursday 17	Year 5 and 6 Carol Service

2026 – 27 TD Days

Monday 2 November 2026
Monday 4 January 2027
Friday 28 May 2027
Friday 23 July 2027