

Brookside Newsletter



25th July 2025

Dear Parents,

We reach the end of our school year, a time to reflect with immense pride on all that has taken place. From the dazzling BFG Fireworks to the unforgettable stage performances— YF & Y1/2 Nativities, Y3/4's *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory*, and Y5/6's *Hysterical Historical Adventure*—our children have shone brightly in every corner of school life.

Equally notably, Ofsted visited and described Brookside as *exceptional*—a testament to the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the support of you, our families. It's been a year full of energy, creativity, and community spirit. Thank you for being a part of it.

Farewell Year 6 – With Pride and Best Wishes

As our Year 6 pupils prepare to take their next steps into secondary school, we feel the glow in all they have achieved. From their earliest days in Reception to their final weeks as school leaders, they have grown into confident and capable young people.

Their contributions to school life—whether in the classroom, on the stage, in sports, or through leadership—have left a lasting mark. We will miss our Y6 greatly, but know they are ready for the exciting journey ahead. Well done, Year 6—you've made us all incredibly proud.



Mayhem for Year 6 and the tradition of the water fight!

Farewell Mrs Clark

With sadness, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs Clark after 30 extraordinary years at Brookside. As both teacher and Assistant Head Teacher, Mrs Clark has impacted hundreds of families and thousands of children with her care, commitment, and compassionate approach to nurturing children. Her influence exists all over our school, and her legacy lives on in every child she has supported.

Most recently, Mrs Clark led our OPAL journey with passion and vision, helping us achieve Platinum status and transforming play across the school. She now moves on to further immerse herself in this work as a full-time OPAL Play Mentor—a role that perfectly reflects her talent and dedication. We will miss Mrs Clark immensely, and we wish her every success in her new adventure. Thank you so much, Mrs Clark.

Brookfest – Sunshine, Smiles, and Celebration

Brookfest was an outstanding success! Glorious weather, a fantastic turnout, and a joyful atmosphere made the day truly memorable. From the live DJ and bouncy castles to the food stations (and bar!), there was something for everyone to enjoy.

A huge thank you to our brilliant BFG team for their superb organisation and tireless efforts in bringing the day together. It was a wonderful celebration of our school community. Fingers crossed that it will be back in the diary for this time next year. 10/10 to our BFG team!

Sports Days – Teamwork & Personal Bests

Our recent Sports Days, from Reception through to Year 6, were a fantastic celebration of energy, effort, and enthusiasm. The children approached every event with determination and joy—whether sprinting, balancing, or cheering on one another, they truly embodied the spirit of the games.

It was equally pleasing to see so many of you there to support and celebrate with us. Your presence and encouragement added so much to the atmosphere. A huge thank you to all involved—children, staff, and families—for making these days such a memorable highlight of our school year.



Sporting Highlights – Competition, Challenge and Inspiration

It's been a busy and brilliant term for sport at Brookside! Our pupils took part in a Boccia tournament against other schools from across the Equals Trust, showing great teamwork and determination. We also enjoyed friendly cricket fixtures versus Thrumpton, where all players demonstrated skill, sportsmanship, and a love for the game.

A special highlight for Year 3 was their participation in a triathlon day organised by the Brownlee Foundation, led by Olympic medal-winning brothers Alistair and Jonny Brownlee. The children completed all three disciplines—swimming, cycling, and running—in a single day, and came away inspired and proud of their achievements.

Wimbledon – A Grand Slam Experience

A group of our pupils had the incredible opportunity to attend Wimbledon this summer—an unforgettable experience! They felt the unique atmosphere of Wimbledon fortnight and were lucky enough to witness the superstar Carlos Alcaraz in action on court.

It was a day filled with excitement, inspiration, and awe. A huge thank you to Mr Lead and Mr Benskin for making the day happen—it's one the children are sure to remember for years to come.

Framework Young Supporters & SuperKind Awards

We're proud to share that our school has received the prestigious SuperKind Gold Award! This honour recognises the incredible efforts of our pupils and staff in championing kindness, empathy, and social action. Through real-world engagement, our children are building vital life skills and growing into confident, compassionate leaders. Related to this is Framework's Young Supporter Award presented to the school for all of our work fundraising and awareness raising on behalf of such a valuable charity. Well done to everyone at Brookside for achieving the two awards.



And finally,

Thank you all for a great year here at Brookside. I hope all the children enjoy their summer break and arrive back at school in September rested but ready for the events of the school year 2015-26.

Enjoy the summer break,

Gary Kenny (Head Teacher)

