



# Brookside Newsletter



Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Dear Parents,

As we reach the close of our autumn term, I find myself reflecting on the energy, commitment and focus that has filled our school over these past weeks. It has been a term filled with learning, creativity and community spirit – from the sparkle of our Christmas celebrations to the everyday moments of achievement in classrooms. The children have worked tremendously hard and deserve every ounce of excitement that the Christmas season brings. Thank you for your continued support in making Brookside such a vibrant and special place for all.

## Sparkling Nativity Spectacles!

It is always such a pleasure to welcome so many of you, our parents and grandparents, into the school to share our Infant & Foundation Nativities. Our children looked wonderful, sang beautifully, and delivered performances that filled us all with pride.



The new arena-standard sound system, purchased through BFG fundraising, was primed and ready for the Christmas performances. Thank you to everyone who attended and cheered on our Nativity performers - an appreciative audience makes these moments even more special.



## Spreading Christmas Cheer Across Our Community

Christmas spirit has been alive in every note sung by our children. Foundation and Year 2 brought festive magic to the Memory Café, sharing their songs to a wider audience. Our school choir also sang with gusto, adding sparkle to the village Christmas lights celebrations. These occasions showcase musical talent alongside the community values we hold so close.

## Generosity and Grit – A Winning Combination

Thank you for the wonderful donations of toys, books, candles and soaps to our reverse advent appeal on behalf of Framework Charity. Your kindness will bring comfort to those

greatly in need this Christmas. Alongside this, a team of determined fundraisers – Clem, Maggie, Thea, Olivia, Ciara, Florie, Amber, Grace and Phoebe – have raised multiple hundreds of pounds through mini-marathons and craft market stalls. Their energy and commitment are truly inspiring. Well done, Framework fundraisers!



#### **Thank You and Best Wishes, Mrs Peatman**

After more than two decades of dedicated service, we bid a fond farewell to Mrs Peatman as she steps into a well-earned retirement. Her tireless work on behalf of hundreds of Brookside children has left an indelible mark on our school. While we will miss her daily presence, we hope to see her from time to time in a supply role. Thank you, Mrs Peatman, for everything – you will always be part of the Brookside family.

#### **BFG – The Power Behind Our Community Spirit**

Our team of BFG parent fundraisers continues to create remarkable memories for our children and the wider school community. This term's Bonfire Night was nothing short of spectacular, lighting up the sky and bringing families together in true Brookside style. More recently, the hugely popular pizza and film night – complete with a surprise visit from Santa – added festive sparkle to the season.

The impact of BFG fundraising is immense. Thousands of pounds have been raised, enabling projects such as the new sound system now installed in our school hall and the extension to the Nursery play area. These enhancements enrich the experiences of every child at Brookside. Thank you to the entire BFG team for your dedication and creativity.

#### **Message from our Governing Body and Equals Trust**

Please find an attached letter from Jenny Cook (CEO of Equals Trust schools and Peter Foale, Chair of the Trust), as well as the Governors newsletter for Brookside from Reesha Armstead, our Chair of Governors.

As we wrap up this busy and rewarding term, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to every member of our school community for your support, kindness and enthusiasm. It is these qualities that make Brookside such a special place for children to learn and grow. I wish you all a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Enjoy the festive season with your loved ones, and I look forward to welcoming the children back on **Monday, 5th January** for another exciting term ahead.

Merry Christmas, *Gary Kenny* (Head Teacher)

