

Headteacher's Update

What a year! I always look back and wonder how the year has seemed so long but gone so quickly!

We have had much to challenge us this year, but also much to celebrate. Every Monday we meet as a whole staff team to view the week just gone from the perspective of pupils' achievements - there has not been a week yet when we haven't had successes to share and celebrate, and we are all so proud of our pupils and all they achieve week on week, step by step.

My personal celebration each week is of the contribution staff make to these achievements, and as the term draws to an end I want to thank each and every member of our staff team for their individual contributions to our pupil's success. Thank you all!

We are saying Goodbye to several staff as the term draws to a close: Sarah Rouse and Ashleigh Murrell leave us to start their Maternity Leave - how they managed to get through the heat I will never know but I am very grateful they did! Steph Milner leaves us to relocate and I want to express my thanks to her for covering a teaching gap so effectively at very short notice. Kerrie Byers, Mel O'Sullivan, Sarah Fisher and Emma Fulford leave us to go on to new adventures and we say a fond farewell to Jane Stokes who retires from her role as Horticultural Therapist at Brookfields after an amazing 25 years!!

I will list and welcome our new staff as we start the new school year on our return in September.

Please be aware as we go into the Summer of water safety - Sarah Vine, our Swimming Teacher has worked hard with our pupils on the key safety message relating to the 'Float to Live' RNLI campaign. All our pupils who have been in the pool have worked with Sarah on rotating onto their back, submerging ears and lying back to float effectively in the water - a simple but effective life-saving approach to water safety.

The Government campaign on Mobile Phone safety correlates exactly to our approach - no phones during school hours for our Yr R's-Yr 11's. In 6th Form pupils can, with permission from their families, access their phones to utilise the bus and train timetables and use at supervised break times in preparation for adulthood and employment. Phones are locked away at all other times. Thankyou to all families for your support on this Policy. I am delighted to say that it has been really effective to date, and I hope will continue to be so in the future.

I want to say Goodbye and Good Luck to our pupils who are leaving us this year. We have Summer, Keeley, Ruben, Asil, Victoria, Michael, Maizy, Lyla, Dom, Charlie, Phoebe-Marie, Carly, Razeen, Scott, Rosie, Lewis, Jonathan, Casey, Umer, Jack, Aiden, and then Tegan and Harley who both leave us after 16 years. We shall miss them all enormously.

Thank you all for your support this year-I would encourage you to get involved if you can, in your child's education whether that be through sharing your opinions, becoming a governor or just feeding back to me and SLT at Annual reviews, Parent/Carer meetings and by email-we want to hear your opinions! Genuinely, I believe we can only meet the needs of your child through open and honest conversations-lets have them!

I hope that you enjoy looking through the newsletter to see the breadth of activity and experience offered to our pupils and can celebrate with your child all that they have achieved during this academic year. We are very proud of them and hope that you will be too!

Finally, all that remains is for me to wish you all have a wonderfully restorative summer break and look forward to welcoming your child back into school on Monday September 7th.

Thank-you all 😊

Catherine

Padworth Playdates

Brookfields Family Support and Berkshire Youth

Over the summer, we have arranged some regular 'Playdates' at Padworth Recreation Ground. These are opportunities for any of our community to attend with your families and they will be supported by staff from Berkshire Youth Waterside Centre who will be providing sports, games and activities. We hope families will take advantage of the opportunity to connect with each other in a fun environment. Please feel free to bring drinks and snacks, or some chairs and blankets if you'd like to have a picnic.

If you would like to attend, please note we are expecting families to make their own way to Padworth, and to have full responsibility over their own young people.

The park area is a gated, enclosed space with lots of play equipment – swings, slides, climbing nets and roundabouts suitable for a variety of ages, as well as shady areas in case the weather continues to be hot. There are also playing fields with football goals where some of the sports activities will take place.

Parking is available onsite next to the play park area but unfortunately, we cannot guarantee toilets will be available as this would be through the village hall which may not be open.

Wendy Rosser and Berkshire Youth staff will be at Padworth on the following dates. Each session is from 10am-12pm, but you are of course welcome to stay for longer after Wendy and the staff pack up and leave.

- Monday 3rd August
- Monday 17th August
- Monday 24th August
- Monday 31st August

We hope to see you there!

Padworth Lane

Reading

RG7 4HY

(once over the railway bridge, the hall is on your next left)

Exploration

Red, Green, Blue & Yellow classes

We have had such a busy term in Exploration! The pupils this term have been busy learning in our topic 'I like to move it move it.' Last term the pupils explored and engaged with texts such as 'Badgers Band' and 'Dump Truck Disco' and this term 'The Whales on the Bus' and 'We all go travelling by'. We had lots of fun exploring music and journeys. The pupils experienced a range of activities from exploring musical instruments, listening a range of sounds, and experiencing some new sing and sign songs, for some pupils this also involved following a musical pattern. We got a little messy exploring different painting techniques using our fingers to make marks on animal drawings to moving our hands using different tools in sand and corn flour. On big sheets of paper, we were able to make different marks using cars to move across the paint, mixing the colours. Moving them at different speeds to see the effect.

Within our cognition sessions we were using different construction materials to build towers such as foam bricks and duplo. We were also exploring the different movements of cars 'under' 'over' and 'through' tunnels, as well as some of our pupils following the red and green stop signs. Quite a few of our pupils have also been looking at different patterns following colour patterns using motivators such as cars or patterns of size looking at different animals. Lots of our pupils have been supported using the Waldon approach to build on these skills. As part of Imagination Explore, our pupils have been riding on a constructed bus with their peers and some animals, sliding in our boat and watching gorillas parachute from high.

Some of our classes have started some exploratory phonics sessions and have enjoyed finding out what sound is in the box this week, whilst others have enjoyed the various sensory story's exploring different parts of our curriculum story through all their senses. Listening to the beeping of the cars and exploring with water spray and ribbons some of the animals who join us for the journey. Classes have enjoyed the messy play sessions and have been supported to explore wet and dry textures as well as experimenting with different utensils to crunch, mix and move the food.

Classes have been visiting our Forest school to observe the summer season, flowers blooming and exploring making different potions using the grass and mud, well as exploring our new water station hidden in the trees. Some of our pupils have continued to go to weekly climbing at adventure dolphin centre and have been successful in facing the heights of the climbing wall and the transition off site, as well as practicing turn taking. It was also lovely for some of our pupils to start practising some transitions off site to the local park. Practising walking safely with adults in the local community. In our hot weather we have been exploring water in different ways from making different marks with water spray paint to using ice to explore the effect. As well as learning to keep cool and applying sunscreen.

One of the highlights of the term have been the trips offsite all classes went on a school trip to Thames Valley Adventure Park, they were such exciting trips, the pupils were able to transition to and from the minibus and enjoyed spending the day exploring the fun equipment. Another highlight has been our Stay and Play sessions where we always have lots of fun inviting all the early years parents in to join in, this term with our summer and water themes.

Well done to all the pupils on what has been an extremely busy and exciting term. I hope that you all have a great summer break and I look forward to seeing you all back after the holidays ready for your new classes 😊

Tamsin Banfield Exploration Strand Lead





White Class

White Class this term has continued to be a fun, stimulating and exciting environment filled with learning, friendships and new experiences. The pupils have all continued to work very hard and remained as enthusiastic as they were at the start of the year.

A key focus in White Class has been on supporting the group to develop their social connection towards one another. The pupils have displayed an array of pro-social interactions in a range of contexts which has appeared to support both learning as well as their well-being.

As a class we have been fortunate this term to enjoy a range of enriching learning opportunities with Art, Music, Forest School, Sensory Room and of course... SWIMMING! These opportunities have allowed the pupils to increase their creativity and confidence while utilising their curious natures.

While these activities bring the group copious amounts of fun, joy and excitement, we do of course spend a significant portion of the time in and around White Class. What has really stood out to both me and the team is how settled, happy and engaged the pupils all continue to be in a space they know they are safe in. Pupils have all continued to actively participate in a range of cognition focussed subjects such as Maths, Topic, PSHE and Literacy.

In recent weeks, pupils have wowed staff with their resilience around the extreme temperatures we have faced and tolerated adaptations to familiar routines.

This year has been my first as a teacher, and I cannot express enough how much I have loved being part of such a fantastic little group. Getting to know, support and just have such a brilliant

time with every one of the group making the year a truly memorable one. Additionally, a massive thank you to all parents who have been so supportive throughout the year, it has been massively appreciated!

Ahead of the last full week, we look forward to supporting the group in transitioning to their new classes, welcoming new peers into White Class and rounding off what has been a very successful year for all involved.

The White Class team would like to wish all our young people and their families a happy and healthy summer break, and we look forward to seeing you all again in September!

From the White Class team -Tom, Matt, Leo, Razia, Pruthvi and Hannah 😊



Purple Class

Purple Class students have been very busy and have enjoyed a wide range of exciting activities this term. The children have loved taking part in their swimming lessons, where they have been developing their confidence and water skills while having lots of fun.

They have also enjoyed spending time at Forest School, exploring the natural environment, discovering new things, and taking part in outdoor learning activities. The recent lovely weather has provided even more opportunities for the students to explore and learn outside, making the most of our outdoor spaces.

In the classroom, students have been busy making play dough and using it creatively to develop their fine motor skills. They have also taken part in a variety of art activities and have enjoyed expressing themselves through music sessions.

To celebrate Father's Day, the students made Father's Day cards. They have also had great fun engaging in messy play activities, exploring different textures and materials while developing their sensory skills.

Our ICT sessions have allowed students to build their confidence using technology, and they have enjoyed learning through interactive activities and games.

It has been a fantastic term filled with learning, creativity, exploration, and fun, and we are very proud of all that the Purple Class students have achieved.



Orange Class

This term, Orange Class have enjoyed cooking sessions, exploring a range of fruits and vegetables, developing practical life skills.

We have also expressed our creativity through Art, Dance, Forest School and Music sessions, exploring a variety of materials, textures, and body movements.

A highlight of the year for Orange Class was the reopening of the swimming pool, where pupils worked on building their independence and water confidence.

During the warmer weather, we explored ice through a range of sensory activities and made refreshing fruit ice lollies, enjoying a healthy summer treat together!

Overall, it has been a busy term filled with new learning opportunities, and memorable experiences for everyone in Orange Class.



Sky Class

This term, pupils have been enjoying a wide range of role-play opportunities. Our classroom has been transformed into a variety of exciting environments, including a hair salon, shop and builders' yard, giving pupils the chance to take on different roles, work together and practise their social interactions in meaningful and engaging ways.

Each week, pupils have also looked forward to exploring a new theme through our Sensory Stories, which have provided opportunities for sensory exploration and retelling of stories.

Alongside these stories, pupils have been expressing their creativity through art activities and junk modelling, using a range of materials to design and create their own imaginative projects.

Our cooking sessions continue to be a highlight of the week. Pupils have been learning to create a variety of recipes and follow visual instructions, measuring ingredients and practising important life skills. It has been wonderful to see their confidence, communication and teamwork grow through these enjoyable hands-on experiences.



Pink Class

In Pink Class this term we have been enjoying our topic of 'I Like To Move It.'

We have been exploring that through our sensory story 'The Dino's On The Bus.' We have also been enjoying music and movement including songs from Madagascar and a range of pop music and Disney songs, especially during our dance sessions. Our Sensology song has been 'I've Got A Body' and we have been thinking about parts that move around with us like eyes, ears and noses. We have also been moving around in different ways in PE, the Sensory Room and Forest School.

We have loved our sessions with Make Sense Theatre, and Art and Music with Mark. Over the last six weeks we have been making cupcakes on a Thursday morning, finding and weighing out ingredients, mixing them and icing the finished cakes. Most of us have enjoyed eating a finished cupcake as well.

We have all made use of the Splash Room, which was very welcome during the warmest weather. Since the pool reopened, we have loved to go to it on a Thursday afternoon. Some of us are just exploring at the edges of the pool and some of us love to get in and try and swim around.

We have been working hard on our communication skills using communication boards, exchanging symbols and some of us have learnt some new words to say. We have been working hard on our transitions between different parts of the school, and everyone has made at least some progress in this area across the term. We have enjoyed exploring books in class and in the Key Stage 2 library.

We hope you have a lovely Summer,

The Pink Class Team.

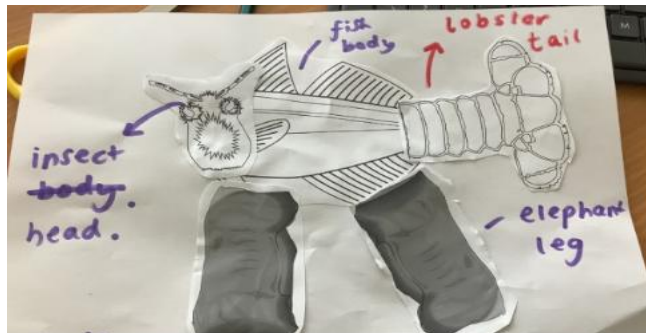
Mapledurham Class

This term, Mapledurham Class has been thoroughly enjoying our topic, "I Like to Move It!" The pupils have shown fantastic creativity by designing their own unique animals, complete with magical powers, and using these ideas to write imaginative stories. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they develop characters, explore their ideas, and share their creations with others.

Alongside this, pupils have been taking part in a variety of mini competitions, helping them to understand the importance of teamwork, participation, and good sportsmanship. We have been learning about winning and losing, recognising the emotions that come with both, and developing strategies to manage these feelings positively and respectfully.

In our PSHE lessons, we have also been exploring disability awareness, learning about the

different challenges people may face and celebrating the importance of inclusion, kindness, and understanding. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, empathy, and enthusiasm that Mapledurham pupils have shown throughout the term.



Winslet Class

This term Winslet class have enjoyed lots of exciting experiences and opportunities to learn both in school and in the community.

We have spent time planning and enjoying a variety of trips, including visits to the local park, paddling pool and shops. The pupils also enjoyed travelling by train, helping to develop their independence and community awareness. A great opportunity to do a bit of train spotting! To help fund these outings, the class organised and ran a successful cake sale. The pupils worked hard to prepare for the event and were delighted to raise money towards their trips. Thank you to everyone who supported us.

One of the highlights of the term has been the reopening of the swimming pool. The pupils were thrilled to get back into the water and have thoroughly enjoyed developing their confidence and skills while having lots of fun.

We are incredibly proud of all the pupils for their enthusiasm and willingness to try new experiences throughout the term.



Englefield Class

Students enjoyed planning every aspect of their end-of-term picnic, from creating a budget to designing the menu. As part of their learning, they collected and analysed data using tally charts and graphs to identify the most popular sandwich fillings. Using the results, they selected the top three choices to prepare.

On the day, the students made the sandwiches themselves at Pangbourne House before walking to Pangbourne Meadows. During the walk, they demonstrated their understanding of the Green Cross Code, putting their road safety learning into practice.

Once at the meadows, everyone enjoyed a wonderful afternoon together, playing games, sharing their picnic, and cooling off with fresh watermelon and ice cream. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the end of the school year and all that the students have achieved.



Sulham Class

This term in Sulham Class, we focused on achieving the pupils' targets through work based on the 'Couch Potato' by Jory John. The pupils enjoyed exploring the differences between active, healthy lifestyles and inactive, more unhealthy pastimes. In addition, the pupils studied various sentence structures and learned how to use nouns, adjectives and verbs appropriately.

In Maths, groups revisited addition, subtraction and multiplication before moving on to division using the 'Bus Stop' method.

In Topic, pupils looked at the lives and achievements of some of our greatest sporting legends, carried out research to find out how many medals each had won and even attempted to knit like Tom Daley.

A great deal of our PSHE work this term focused on sun-safety, from applying suncream, wearing a hat and seeking shade to making sure that an adult was present before going swimming.

Work in Art revolved around exploration of colour and work in the mediums of clay and cardboard. Some pupils also created their own World Cup football strips.

It has been a long, hot term but pupils, to their credit, have managed incredibly well.

From all the team in Sulham Class, we hope you have a lovely summer!



Palmer Class

As we come to the end of another busy and successful school year, Palmer Class has enjoyed a fantastic summer term exploring the topics 'Making Music' and 'On The Move'. The pupils have taken part in a wide range of musical, sensory and movement-based activities, showing great enthusiasm and engagement throughout.

Across the year, we have been particularly proud of the pupils' growing independence and communication skills. It has been wonderful to see everyone developing confidence, making choices, expressing themselves and participating more fully in daily routines and learning opportunities.

We have also enjoyed many personal development opportunities sharing experiences with peers across

the Engagement Strand and the wider school community, helping to build connections, and create lasting memories.

Sadly, this term we say goodbye to Asil, who is moving to the seaside. We will miss him and wish him every happiness in his new home. We hope he enjoys many happy hours playing on the beach! Thank you to all our families for your continued support throughout the year. We wish you a brilliant summer break full of fun.

Rhian, Emma, Jane, Kish, Rachel, Jessie, Manzar and Halla.



Tarrant Class

Over the summer term, pupils have immersed themselves in our “I Like to Move It, Move It” topic. We have spent time exploring movement, music and physical activity through a wide range of engaging experiences.

Tarrant class pupils have loved reading the story ‘Giraffes can’t dance’ and looking at different stories linked to sports and games.

The pupils have developed their social communication and turn-taking skills through sensory, gross and fine motor activities, while building on their confidence, teamwork and independence.

From making musical instruments, creating our own band, enjoying movement games and sensory circuits in PE, experiencing sensory stories and singing the pupils have enjoyed learning through active participation. The topic has also encouraged healthy lifestyles, positive relationships and an appreciation of different cultures, helping pupils to grow both socially and personally.

The Tarrant Class team wish you all a good summer and will see you back at school in September





Sutton Class

This term, Sutton Class has thoroughly enjoyed our topic “Move It, Move It!” We explored the wonderful story Giraffes Can’t Dance and used it as inspiration for a range of creative activities. Each week, pupils made different animal-themed crafts, which came together to create a fantastic display board showcasing their hard work and creativity. Alongside this, pupils took part in music and drama sessions, developing their confidence, self-expression and communication skills through songs, movement and role play.

We have also focused on developing important life skills through practical activities. During our Snack Café sessions, pupils learned about the use of money, practising making purchases, handling coins and developing independence in real-life situations.

Weekly cooking sessions have been a highlight, with pupils following a bread-making recipe and experimenting with different flavours each week. These activities have helped to develop teamwork, listening skills, confidence and an understanding of following instructions, while giving everyone the opportunity to enjoy their delicious creations at home with their families.

A particular highlight of the Summer Term was our off-site trip to the bowling alley. Pupils travelled on a public bus, developing their confidence and independence within the community, before enjoying a fun game of bowling together. The day was made even more special by eating our packed lunches outside in the sunshine, giving everyone the opportunity to relax and socialise with their classmates. It was a fantastic experience and a memorable way to celebrate all the progress and achievements made this term.



Fletcher Class

As we come towards the end of a busy and successful period, we are delighted to share and celebrate the many achievements of Fletcher Class. It has been wonderful to see how much the students have grown—not just academically, but also socially and personally.

Academic Progression

We are incredibly proud of the academic progress made across the class. Students have shown commitment, focus, and determination, tackling challenges with growing confidence. It has been especially pleasing to see pupils developing their independence and applying their skills across a range of subjects.

Offsite Swimming

Our offsite swimming sessions have been a huge success. Students have demonstrated courage and perseverance, building their skills in the water while also improving their confidence. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm and positive attitudes each week.

Sports Day Achievements

Fletcher Class truly shone during Sports Day! Every student participated with great energy, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Whether competing, cheering on others, or pushing themselves to try something new, the class made us incredibly proud.

School Trip to Dinton Pastures

Our trip to Dinton Pastures was a highlight of the term. Students had the opportunity to explore the outdoors, engage in new experiences, and enjoy learning beyond the classroom. Their behaviour, curiosity, and willingness to take part were exemplary throughout the trip.

Work Experience

This term, students have taken part in a variety of work experience opportunities, both on-site and off-site. They have shown maturity, responsibility, and a strong work ethic, gained valuable life skills and built confidence in real-world environments.

Personal Growth and Friendships

One of the most rewarding aspects of this term has been seeing the class grow as individuals. Fletcher Class students have:

- Worked incredibly hard
- Shown resilience when faced with challenges
- Built new friendships
- Strengthened existing relationships

Their kindness, cooperation, and support for one another have created a positive and encouraging class environment.

Well Done, Fletcher Class!

We are so proud of everything the students have achieved. Their efforts, resilience, and willingness to try new experiences have made this a truly successful and enjoyable time. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards,



Columbus Class

This term, Columbus Class has been developing valuable life skills and careers awareness through a range of practical and engaging activities. Pupils have enjoyed regular visits to Pangbourne House, where they have been building independence, communication, and teamwork skills in real-life settings.

Our local shopping trips have provided opportunities to practice money handling, making choices, and interacting confidently within the community. Swimming sessions have continued to support physical wellbeing, water confidence, and perseverance.

As part of our topic work, pupils have also been learning about inspirational sporting heroes, exploring their achievements, determination, and the qualities that help people succeed in sport and their future careers.

We are very proud of the enthusiasm and progress the class has shown throughout these



Sharman Class

What a busy, fun, and successful summer term it has been for Sharman Class!

This term, our learning was based around the theme "I Like to Move It", and the pupils absolutely loved taking part in all the activities. We have enjoyed a wide variety of experiences that supported communication, sensory exploration, physical development, independence, and wellbeing.

We continued to use a multisensory approach to learning, giving pupils opportunities to explore and engage through music, Tac Pac, art, cooking, outdoor learning, riding trikes, going for walks in their walkers. There were many smiles, lots of laughter, and plenty of exciting learning opportunities throughout the term.

A big focus this term has been on physical development. Pupils have worked incredibly hard on their MOVE and physiotherapy targets during their daily activities. They have also really enjoyed their weekly swimming sessions, where they had great fun in the water whilst developing confidence, movement, and physical skills.

Another favourite activity was taking part in Rebound Therapy, where pupils had opportunities to experience different supported positions, work on their core strength, build muscle tone, improve their balance, and practise maintaining sitting and standing positions. It has been fantastic to see their determination and progress.

Pupils have continued to use a range of personalised communication methods, including Objects of Reference, symbols, photos, switches, Makaton, and communication device (where appropriate) to make choices, express their preferences, and interact with others. It has been wonderful to see pupils growing in confidence and developing meaningful relationships with both staff and friends.

We are incredibly proud of all the pupils and the progress they have made this year. Every pupil has achieved something to celebrate, and we look forward to seeing them continue to grow and develop next year.

We would also like to say a special goodbye to Umer, who will be moving on to Newbury College in September. We wish him every success and happiness in this exciting new chapter of his life. We will all miss him very much and hope he has a wonderful time at college.

Finally, thank you to all our families for your continued support throughout the year.

We hope you all have a fantastic summer break, and we look forward to more fun, learning, and adventures next year!

Best wishes,
The Sharman Team 😊



Livingstone Class

What a brilliant term we have had in Livingstone Class! Our topic, "I Like to Move It, Move It," has given us lots of exciting opportunities to explore movement in a variety of ways. We have enjoyed getting out and about in the community, using and generalising the skills we have been learning in school in real-life situations. The lovely weather has helped us make the most of these experiences, building confidence, independence and communication skills along the way.

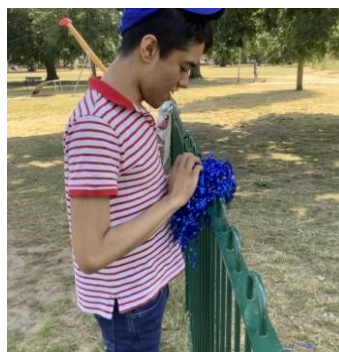
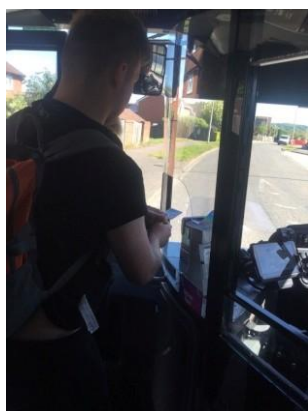
Back on site, we have continued to explore movement through stories, PE lessons and gross motor sessions, developing our coordination, balance and physical confidence while having lots of fun. Pupils have shown great enthusiasm and have worked hard to challenge themselves throughout the term.

It has been a fantastic year overall, packed with achievements, progress and memorable experiences. We would like to say a huge thank you to our parents, carers and, most importantly, our amazing pupils for their continued support, encouragement and hard work throughout the year.

As we reach the end of the school year, we also say a very special goodbye to Tegan, who is moving on to life after Brookfields. Tegan has been a valued member of Livingstone Class and will be hugely missed by pupils and staff alike. We wish her every success and happiness in her next adventure.

We hope everyone has a wonderful and well-deserved summer break, and we look forward to more fun, learning and adventures together in September!

Emily, Anna, Laura, Iain, Amelie, Ruchi, Maria & Kim



Coleman Class

Coleman class are ready for the summer holidays after all working so hard and making fantastic progress this term! The pupils are always so engaged in all that is on offer to them, including in class, around the school and off-site activities.

One of the highlights of the term was a class trip to The Museum of English Rural Life in Reading. The pupils had the opportunity to take part in a tour of the museum, a jobs workshop, investigating objects from the museum and being curators. It was lovely to come together as a whole class and celebrate the fantastic friendships that have been built over the year.

Other highlights have also included swimming lessons at Meadway pool, weekly independent cooking sessions, a range of work experience opportunities and weekly visits to the Apple Store!

We hope you all have a good, well-deserved summer holidays,

The Coleman Team



Scott & MacArthur Classes

This term, our topic has been "I Like to Move It", exploring movement in all its forms. This has linked brilliantly with our Duke of Edinburgh Award (DofE) work and has given pupils many opportunities to develop their independence, teamwork and resilience.

A particular highlight was our DofE practice expeditions, which were thoroughly enjoyed by all pupils. The students demonstrated excellent determination, cooperation and problem-solving skills throughout. Unfortunately, due to the extreme heatwave, we had to make the difficult decision to cancel the qualifying expedition. However, we are hopeful that we will be able to complete this

early next term and build on the excellent progress already made.

Literacy:

In Literacy, pupils have enjoyed exploring a range of engaging texts. Jack's group have been studying *A Monster Calls*, developing their comprehension, discussion and analytical skills through this powerful and thought-provoking novel. Bruce's group have enjoyed reading *The Den*, engaging with the characters, themes and events within the story.

Mathematics:

This term's maths work has focused on developing practical and functional skills to support life beyond Brookfields. Pupils have been planning journeys and travel routes, developing route-mapping skills, using maps and timetables and building confidence with real-life mathematical problem-solving. These activities have helped prepare pupils for greater independence as they move towards adulthood and future destinations.

Project Work:

Using the TASC (Thinking Actively in a Social Context) learning approach, pupils have worked collaboratively to investigate movement and transport. Their learning has included: researching different modes of transport, exploring sustainability and environmental impact, reading and creating maps, investigating how people travel around the world and planning and presenting their own ideas and solutions.

The project has encouraged curiosity, teamwork and independent thinking while helping pupils make meaningful connections to the wider world.

ICT and Digital Literacy:

ICT has been a major focus this term as we continue to develop pupils' digital literacy skills. Pupils have taken part in thoughtful discussions and debates around the opportunities and challenges presented by modern technology, including: the positive and negative impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI), debating the proposed social media ban for young people and understanding responsible and safe technology use.

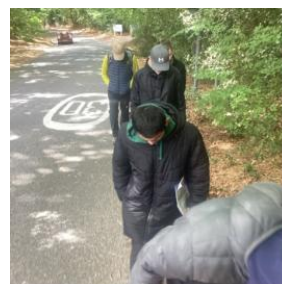
Alongside this, pupils have been developing practical ICT skills using Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel, building valuable skills that will support them in further education, employment and everyday life.

Looking Ahead:

As we come to the end of another successful school year, we would like to thank all pupils and parents for their continued support, enthusiasm and hard work. It has been a pleasure to see the progress that everyone has made throughout the year.

To those who are leaving Brookfields to move on to college, internships, employment or new opportunities, we wish you every success and happiness in the future. We are incredibly proud of all that you have achieved and look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Thank you for making it such a fantastic year, and we wish everyone a safe, restful and enjoyable summer break.



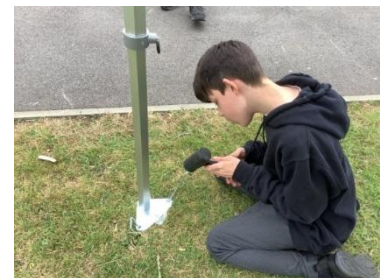
PSHE

As we approach the end of the school year, pupils have been busy developing important life skills while enjoying a range of seasonal learning opportunities. With the warmer weather, classes have been focusing on sun safety, learning how to stay safe in the heat by wearing hats, applying suncream, drinking plenty of water and seeking shade when needed – of course while enjoying water play!

Lots of pupils have been working on their personal development this term, through events at school or end of term trips. Some of our older pupils have been planning and attending prom, taking responsibility for decisions such as dress code, playlists and what food and drinks to serve. We were also lucky enough to have a visit from some Morris Men – the pupils loved joining in the dancing and experiencing the music.

A wonderful example of Personal Development this year has been Brookstock! A festival themed day, full of opportunities to try different activities and join in with a variety of peers. It was fantastic to have many families and ex-pupils join us for the evening event as well.

It has been wonderful to see pupils growing in confidence, independence and self-awareness as they celebrate their achievements and prepare for the exciting opportunities ahead.



Travel Training

It has been another busy and exciting term for our young people taking part in travel training. This term, we have worked with an increasing number of students out in the community, helping them develop the skills needed to travel safely, confidently and independently using public transport.

During each travel training session, students practise a wide range of important life skills, including road and personal safety, navigation, journey planning, problem-solving and communication. They also have valuable opportunities to develop their functional skills in real-life situations and engage in purposeful, meaningful experiences within the wider community. These experiences help build

confidence, promote independence and open up future opportunities for our students.

One of the highlights of the term has been our train travel sessions. Students have enjoyed learning how to navigate the busy train station environment safely, listen to and respond to public announcements, and keep themselves and their belongings secure. They have practised purchasing tickets using self-service machines, locating the correct platform, waiting safely, and boarding and travelling on trains with confidence.

The summer term is always an especially busy time as students prepare for their next steps after Brookfields. Many of our leavers have been practising journeys to and from their future destinations. We have enjoyed several successful transition visits to Reading College, where students have been planning and rehearsing their bus routes to ensure they feel confident and prepared for independent travel in September.

If you would like to find out more about Independent Travel Training at Brookfields, please contact Cathy Gingell at cgingell@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk.

I would like to wish you a restful and enjoyable summer break
Cathy Gingell - Preparation for Adulthood / Travel Training



Pathway to Employment

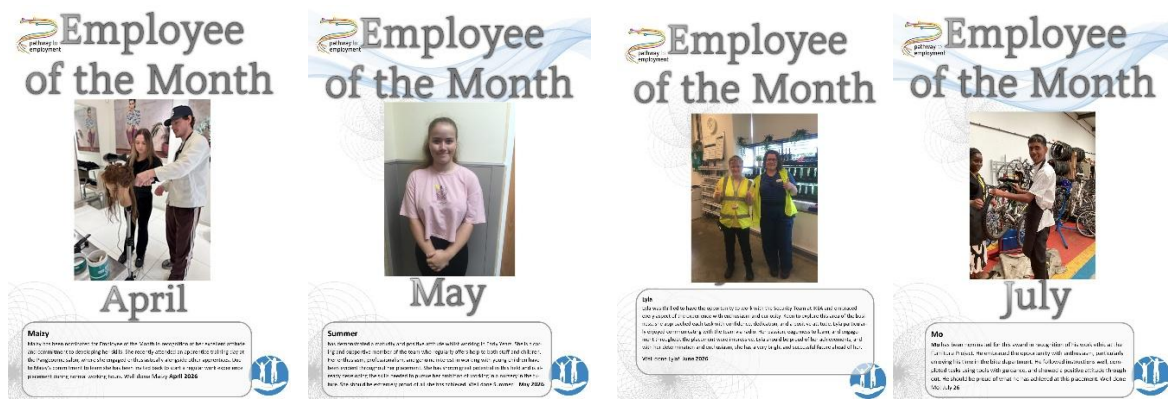
Work Experience

Since April 2026, 47 students have had work-based placements at 11 different venues totalling over 603 hours between them. This term we have had placements at Butterfly Café, IKEA, Early Years, Flint House dining room, Flint House polytunnel, Ridgeline, Loddon Valley leisure centre, Brookfields Market Garden, Newbury Community Furniture Project, Laithwaite's, Thames Superstore and Forrester's Hair salon

The students are learning from employers first-hand about work, employment and the skills that are valued in the workplace. It allows the students to start to build on their employability and communication skills and self-confidence. This provides them with a meaningful insight into the types of jobs that are available.

Employee of the Month Awards

The following students have shown real enthusiasm during their placements and have been awarded 'Employee of the Month' certificates by our Pathway to Employment team.



Baylab - Lego Coding and Robotics Workshop

Students took part in a hands-on Lego Education workshop, where they were introduced to coding and robotics through a fun and engaging project. Using icon-based block coding, they programmed lights, motors and sensors, bringing their creations to life while developing their problem-solving skills.

Apple store

Students have continued to benefit from regular workshops at the Apple Store, taking part in a variety of engaging taster sessions. These included Studio Hours, exploring art, design, documents and presentations; Coding Sessions, introducing students to programming languages used by professionals; Photo Labs, where they learned new photography techniques and styles; and Music Labs, designed to introduce creative digital tools to aspiring musicians. These experiences have helped students develop their digital skills, creativity, confidence while exploring future learning and career opportunities.

Festival of inclusivity

Students attended an inclusive sports event alongside other schools, taking part in a range of adapted activities designed to be accessible and enjoyable for everyone. These included sitting volleyball, a cricket-themed game, wheelchair rugby and new age curling. Lots of fun was had by all as students developed new skills, built confidence and enjoyed working together.

Pizza Express

Students took part in a pizza-making session led by an expert Pizza Express pizzaiolo. They explored a range of fresh ingredients, learned how the toppings on a traditional pizza reflect the colours of the Italian flag, and made their own handmade pizzas to take home. The workshop was a fun and interactive way to learn about food, culture and cooking skills. 🍕

Windsor Flower Show

Students who attended the Windsor Flower Show ran a stall selling a range of products from

Brookfields Market Garden and Brookfields Enterprise. The event provided a valuable opportunity for them to develop their customer service and enterprise skills while promoting their work to the local community. 🌸

The Merl

Students enjoyed an educational visit to The MERL (Museum of English Rural Life), where they took part in an object-handling workshop, investigating historical artefacts and their uses. They also met museum staff and learned about the variety of career opportunities available within the museum sector.

Potato challenge

Students joined other local schools at Newbury Showground to harvest the potatoes they had grown. They learned about the many uses of potatoes, sampled a range of potato products, and enjoyed hands-on cooking activities.

Employers Tea

A BIG thank you to all our employer partners for their continued support throughout the year. By providing valuable work experience opportunities, sharing their time and expertise, and encouraging our students to develop new skills and confidence, they have made a real difference. We greatly appreciate their commitment and look forward to working together again next year.

Arlington Arts

Brookfields students participated in this year's Agricultural Challenge, completing a range of environmental and creative projects including nature-inspired artwork, decorated eggs, a giant insect made from recycled materials, a photographic record of planting a vegetable bed, and a planted container display. The students worked hard throughout the year and presented their projects at the final event. We are delighted to announce that Brookfields achieved an impressive 3rd place overall. 🌱 🏆 🐞

It just remains for us to thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to working with you all again next year. If you would like any further information or have any innovative ideas on how we could work together, we would love to hear from you.

jgrant@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk or lbellman@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk

Julie Grant and Lucy Bellman, Pathway to Employment Team





Brookfields Prom 2026

Brookfields Prom 2026 was a fantastic evening and a great opportunity for students to celebrate together.

Students arrived in style, with some making memorable entrances on motorbikes and in cars, while others walked through the Brookfields gates looking smart in their suits and dresses. It was wonderful to see everyone dressed up and enjoying the occasion.

The dance floor was busy throughout the evening, with *Saturday Night* and the *Cha Cha Slide* proving especially popular. There was plenty of enthusiasm, lots of dancing, and a great atmosphere from start to finish.

Students also enjoyed a kitsfood and refreshments while spending time with friends and staff, helping to make the evening even more special. The dominoes pizza was a particular hit!

A huge thank you to everyone who helped organise and support the event. Your time and effort helped create a memorable evening that was enjoyed by all.

We are delighted that our students had such a great time 😊





Message from the PTA

Thank You for Your Incredible Support!

As another fantastic year draws to a close, the PTA would like to extend a huge **thank you to all our parents, carers, staff, pupils, volunteers and supporters** who have helped raise funds for our school community. Every raffle ticket purchased, event attended and hour volunteered has

made a real difference to the experiences and opportunities available to our children.

Celebrating Brookstock 2026

A special thank you goes to everyone who helped make Brookstock such a wonderful success. From the sponsors and volunteers to the performers, stall holders and families who came along to enjoy the day, the event truly showcased the spirit of our school community. It was fantastic to see so many families coming together to celebrate the summer, creating lasting memories while raising valuable funds for the school.

Making a Difference

Thanks to your generosity and fundraising efforts, the PTA has been able to support a wide range of projects and resources this year, including:

New books to enrich learning and encourage a love of reading.

A new gazebo for the Duke of Edinburgh Award, providing a practical resource for outdoor activities and expeditions.

Kitchen equipment to enhance learning experiences and school activities.

Funding towards educational trips, helping to ensure pupils can benefit from valuable learning opportunities beyond the classroom.

Trikes and bikes to support play, physical and sensory integration development.

In addition, through the dedication and support of our families, significant funds have been raised towards:

Swimming pool repairs, helping to maintain this important school facility.

Music equipment, enabling pupils to continue developing their musical talents and creativity.

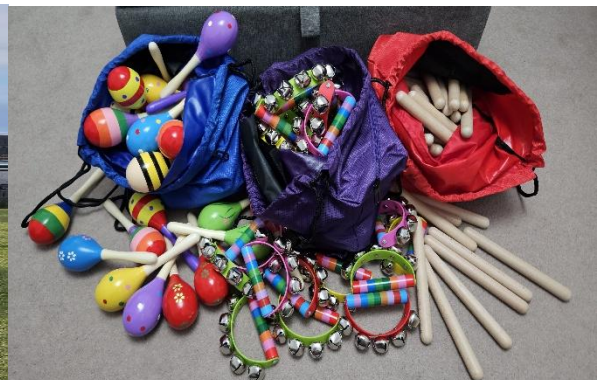
Looking Ahead

The achievements of this year would not have been possible without the continued support of our wonderful school community. Every contribution, no matter how large or small, helps us provide opportunities, resources and experiences that enrich school life for all our children. If you have any fundraising ideas or opportunities we would love to hear from you, please

email brookfieldspta@gmail.com or leave a message via the school office. We have a couple of projects in the pipeline for September so do lookout for communications about those!

If your young person is leaving school but you wish to remain on the PTA contact list to hear about events please email us at the above email address, we love to welcome back ex pupils and their families.

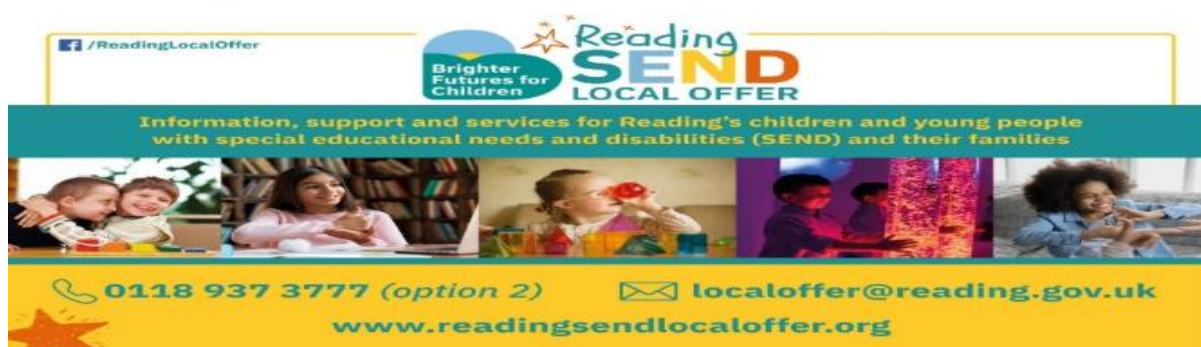
From everyone in the PTA, thank you for your generosity, enthusiasm and support. We wish all our families a happy, safe and enjoyable summer holiday and look forward to another successful year ahead!



Family Support

Wendy Rosser, our Family Support Worker, will be available at points throughout the summer break.

If you would like to get in touch with Wendy regarding any support you may need, you can contact her at wrosser@brookfields.w-berks.sch.uk - Wendy's out of office will confirm her working hours.



A banner for the Reading SEND Local Offer. At the top left is a Facebook icon and the text '/ReadingLocalOffer'. In the center is a logo with a star and the text 'Brighter Futures for Children' and 'Reading SEND LOCAL OFFER'. Below the logo is a teal bar with white text: 'Information, support and services for Reading's children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families'. Below this bar is a row of five small photos showing children and young people in various settings. At the bottom is a yellow bar with a phone icon, the number '0118 937 3777 (option 2)', an email icon, the address 'localoffer@reading.gov.uk', and the website 'www.readingsendlocaloffer.org'.



www.westberks.gov.uk/local-offer

The Local Offer lists provision, events, services and activities for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25 years old.



A banner for the SEND Local Offer. On the left is a green bar with the text 'SEND Local Offer' in white. To the right of the bar is a row of three photos: a child playing with toys, a family looking at a tablet, and a child on a yellow tricycle.

If you'd like help, you can call us on 01635 503100, or email us at fis@westberks.gov.uk.

Ridgeline Trust Therapeutic Garden

‘LET IT GROW’

Summer Holiday Garden Club!

**For age 12 - 19 SEN students
with parent/carer**

Come and enjoy our beautiful garden
and connect with nature this summer



**Wednesday 29th July & Thursday 30th July
Wednesday 5th August & Thursday 6th August
Wednesday 12th August & Thursday 13th August**

10.30 am - 12.30pm

£15 per session or just £75 for all 6*!

**if paid in advance*

**admin@ridgelinetrust.org.uk
for info and to book your place**



**25 Whiteknights Road,
Reading RG6 7BY
Tel: 07535 636018**

East Reading Horticultural Therapy & Community Based Training Ltd
Company Limited by Guarantee no 4760734 Registered Charity no 1099441
Registered Office: 6 Windsor Square, Silver Street, Reading RG1 2TH

EVERY
CHILD SAFE
ONLINE 

Keeping children with additional needs safe online

Every child experiences the online world differently. Our online hub brings together simple, practical advice to help you support your child with additional needs as they learn, play, communicate and grow online. Explore expert guidance, build digital skills and find support when you need it.



Support your child's digital journey

Get practical advice to keep your child safe online and help them build healthy habits.



Get advice by activity

Whether it's gaming or social media, get support based on your child's interests.



Learn what to do if your child is at risk

Find straightforward support and guidance if things don't go to plan online.



Build your child's digital skills

Help your children make safer, smarter choices as they build their confidence on the web.

internet
matters.org

Find out more at
InternetMatters.org
or scan the QR code.



Summer Holiday Garden Explorers

with Thrive Reading



£10 per session

A holiday club for children and young people living in West Berkshire with Special Education Needs and Disabilities, aged 11-17 years old.

Come and join in with:

- Fun gardening activities
- Growing flowers, fruit and vegetables
- Nature walks and bug hunts
- Garden games and crafts

Plus:

- Learn new skills
- Have fun and socialise with others
- Spend time in beautiful gardens



Please call for more information about eligibility.

Sessions must be pre-booked.

Call: 0118 988 4844 Email: trunkwell@thrive.org.uk

Great British Summer Savings

Rising prices can make life's little treats harder to afford, especially during the school holidays when costs build up for families. This Government is determined to help, and that is why last month the Chancellor announced the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme.

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom.

The public are ready to get behind the scheme and are keen to take advantage of the discounts available. As trusted pillars of their communities, schools play a vital role in connecting families with important information.

We need you to help spread the word. So please share details of the *Great British Summer Savings* scheme through your newsletters, school apps, and other communications to parents and carers, so that the families in your school community know about the experiences they can enjoy this summer for less.

This forms part of a broader effort by the Government to ease financial pressures on families. From ending the two-child limit and expanding free school meals, to rolling out free breakfast clubs and delivering 30 hours of free childcare, this Government is taking action to put more money back into parents' pockets and give every child the best possible start in life.

As part of this campaign, we have launched an **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

Businesses can find out more about the VAT reduction by visiting GOV.UK and searching 'Temporary reduced rate of VAT for family attractions'.

Yours sincerely,

RT HON BRIDGET PHILLIPSON MP
Secretary of State for Education

RT HON RACHEL REEVES MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer