



Brookland Junior School News



Friday 10th July 2026

This Week:

In assemblies this week, we reflected on an impressive sporting year for Brookland, considered the Brookland Values we have needed to help us be great teams in so many events and we celebrated our trophies and achievements. A huge thank you to Mr Adjudani for his endless passion and commitment to Brookland PE over many years and to all the staff who have supported him to deliver quality PE lessons, whole school events, clubs, squads and our dance troupe throughout the year. We thought about our Brookland Value of Patience which has been very helpful to us this week for managing the hot weather and lack of sleep! Today, Rock and Pop Choir entertained and impressed us with their confident and quality performance sharing their hard work rehearsing over many weeks.



Year 5 have been learning samba music this term with Rasco, a specialist teacher from BEAT. They concluded their lessons on Monday with a performance to other classes and parents. *The performance was life changing, the number of beautiful sounds that were heard, filled the audience's ears with joy. We would like to thank all of year 5 and to the samba teacher, Rasco for being an amazing teacher and letting us shine in the sunlight. The music was astonishing and lovely. Every sound was filled with beauty. We were all shining stars and we hope that everyone enjoyed the show as much as the year 5 performers did.* Amellie & Holly 5AM

Gardening News:

Our Gardening Curriculum focus this year working with UCL to write a book about school gardening is coming to fruition as every year group has now included a gardening unit of work in their Science curriculum. We have now become a gardening school as well as having a wonderful gardening club and have just received our RHS Level 3 Award. Both the year 3 children and staff were thrilled with the potatoes they harvested this week and were proudly sharing their air fried chips with the wider staff. We are looking forward to even more of a gardening focus across the school next year.

We welcomed 3 judges from Finchley Nurseries who were very impressed with our school gardens, especially all of the vegetables we are growing and harvesting for the kitchen. Our school gardening club spoke very well and wowed the judges with their knowledge of the range of plants we have in our school. Thank you to Miss Pejakovic for passing on all her knowledge to the next generation of gardeners and for all her time in helping our school gardens blossom!





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Also This Week:

We started by chitting the potatoes. We saw purple bits and that meant it was chitting, so we planted them in soil & watered them every day. We saw some small green shoots come out, so we covered them with more soil; we continued this until they were quite tall. We monitored them like our own pet & checked for potatoes. After a few weeks, we put the box on the grass and pulled tall healthy leaves out of the soil; they were REALLY hard to pull out. We put them in water and washed the dirt off. The healthy ones were small and the big ones were more rotten; we thought we should have taken the rotten ones out a week before the small ones. After, we cut them up in slices and cooked them in the air-fryer and even got to taste them! They were delicious!!! Bella & Marli 3SH



5A worked carefully together to make some very tasty pizzas for their DT unit this half term.



Learning Network Inspector Report

I have just received our Barnet Network Inspector report from her visit last month which focused on teaching and learning in Maths as well as the school's wider offer and leadership. Ms Syms visited every classroom to observe maths teaching, met with groups of staff and pupils and has written a very comprehensive report highlighting so many strengths in our practice. She noted the children's enthusiasm, confidence, knowledge of mathematical vocabulary, mathematical thinking and that they are proficient at working in partners, threes or small groups. She commended our staff professional development, with our coaching model embedded into all layers of staffing, professional networks beyond the school and Miss Lally's leadership of maths. She highlighted our strong outcomes, carefully structured curriculum, teaching assistant interventions and continued striving for even further improvements. Ms Syms concluded that, "staff at every level demonstrate the highest expectations and ambition for all members of their school community. As a beacon of excellence, the school and its leaders regularly share practice with a wide range of other schools, settings and professionals."



Also This Week:

Making Flatbreads:

On Tuesday, Year 3 made delicious and yummy flatbreads. Some had little bumps, some had crispy edges, and some were completely flat. They were very complex to make and we started off making them by mixing **200 grammes of flour, two pinches of salt and 100 millilitres of water** together in a bowl. Then we added a little olive oil. After we had finished mixing it, we had to knead the dough. This involved stretching it with our hands and then folding and kneading it with the heel of our hand. We had to knead our bread for nearly 10 minutes. After break, we flattened it and added a little bit more flour so it did not stick to the parchment. Then the teachers put it in the oven for us for 10 minutes. Overall, I think almost everyone enjoyed it a lot. Though a lot of people said they didn't love the hummus, they did like the tzatziki. Some people decided just to have theirs plain.

Lily in 3G said: *"I thought it was nice, crunchy on the outside, soft on the inside."*

Rosie from 3G said: *"I really like the hummus and tzatziki. I loved kneading the bread."*

Jenson said: *"I really, really liked the flatbread and I love the Greek dip tzatziki."*

Eating Our Flatbreads: At the end, we sat in the shade of a tree and ate a delicious flatbread, some with dips and some without it. It was like we were having lunch in the Mediterranean.



Year 6 had a lot of fun dancing the night away at their Leavers Disco showing what a friendly, positive, inclusive and happy bunch they are! Thank you to Miss Davies, Miss Lally, Miss Christie, Mr Kirk, Mr Hamza and Miss Buckley who had a great time celebrating with you.



PSHE Consultation:

We appreciate those who have already taken the time to complete our survey on our PSHE curriculum. We sent an email on Thursday 9th July in case you missed it. We'd love as many views as possible. Here is the link: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/yhA0iet9P6>. Thank you in advance. Miss Christie



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Debate Team:

On Tuesday, the debate team travelled to Middlesex University with Mrs Alam to compete in the Barnet Debate Championships alongside 15 other schools from across the borough.

We arrived as a team of six, each with an important role. Myla, our first speaker, introduced the team, defined the motion and presented our opening arguments. Aish, our second speaker, rebutted the opposition and developed our case. Marielle, Robin and Sofia took part in the floor debate, asking challenging questions, while Lucas, our summary speaker, responded to the floor, rebutted the opposition and concluded our team's case. Robin and Sofia also served as our timekeeper and chairperson.

For the first two rounds, schools were split into groups of four. Our first prepared debate was This House Would Shut Down Zoos. Although we only found out on the day whether we would be arguing for or against the motion, we successfully defended the opposition (the harder position) and won both the judges' scores and the floor vote. Our second round was an impromptu debate. We had just 20 minutes to prepare arguments for the motion: This House Believes That Teaching a Foreign Language Should Be Banned in British Schools. Despite being assigned the proposition side - something we found particularly difficult because we love learning French and Spanish at our school — we impressed the judges and won again, securing our place in the final. The same school consistently winning the first and second round with the floor vote and judges score has never happened before!

The final was between 4 schools and held in a large lecture theatre in front of all 16 schools and a panel of 5 judges. Our motion, fighting for the proposition, was This House Would Lower the Voting Age to 12. After another closely fought debate and a long, nervous drumroll, the judges announced the winners:

Brookland Junior School – Barnet Debate Champions 2026!

Finally, we would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Alam for training and leading the debate team this year. Thank you for believing in us, helping us improve every week and always encouraging us to do our best. We are so grateful for all your hard work and support – we couldn't have become the best in Barnet without you! By Myla, Aish, Lucas, Sofia, Robin and Marielle Year 6





School Council met the Governors:

We held our final Governing Body meeting of the year on Tuesday. It was a pleasure to welcome members of the Infant School Council, who spoke confidently to the governors about their role, the work they have carried out this year and what it means to be a school councillor at Brookland. We were also delighted to welcome the Junior School Council, who proudly shared their books and talked to the governors about their learning and the progress they have made this year. It was a wonderful opportunity for the governors to hear directly from the children about their experiences at school. Please also take a look at the attached **Governors' Annual Newsletter**, which provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Governing Body and its committees throughout the year.



Junior Duke:

It's been an exciting week for the Junior Duke programme as 120 children from across the school were recognised for completing all 10 of their challenges over this year. From learning how to handwash clothes, budgeting, cooking challenges, environmental tasks, learning sign language, reading stories to the Infant School, setting a table for a 3-course meal and acts of kindness, Brookland children have excelled! It has been an absolute highlight of my year to hear all about your successes and impressive learning. Well done to each and every one of you (and most definitely your parents for all of their help)! Let's get ready to do this all again next year!





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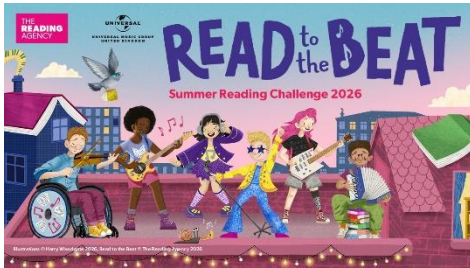
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Read to the Beat! Summer Reading Challenge 2026:

We are pleased to let you know that Barnet Libraries are taking part in this year's music-themed Summer Reading Challenge from the Reading Agency, delivered in partnership with Universal Music Group UK.

The Read to the Beat! challenge is a great way to address children's reading 'dip', build up literacy skills, and keep up the momentum of recreational reading over the summer holiday.

You can sign up for the Barnet Libraries newsletter for families at www.barnet.gov.uk/librarynewsletters



**Listen to eAudiobooks
with our free BorrowBox
app**

BIC's Coffee Mornings:

Thank you to the parents who joined our final BICS Coffee Morning of the academic year. We were delighted to welcome parents to a relaxed and informative session with Georgia, who shared practical advice and strategies for supporting children through class and school transitions.

The discussion focused on helping children navigate change with confidence by building resilience and self-belief; recognising and managing worries about new environments; supporting emotional wellbeing throughout the transition process; establishing positive routines; and maintaining open communication at home. Parents also explored ways to help children embrace new opportunities and challenges with a positive mindset.

We extend our sincere thanks to Georgia for her valuable insights and to all the parents who attended, shared their experiences, and contributed to the discussion.

As we come to the end of another successful academic year, we would also like to thank our entire BICS community for its continued support and engagement.

We wish all our families a happy, restful, and enjoyable summer, and we look forward to welcoming you back in the new academic year.



Gold Star Book:

It's a cold rainy day, the sand was blowing as fast as a flash. The taste of salt grains could fill one's mouth. Tina 3B

Finally, we are expecting some peace from Narnia as there is no chance that The White Witch's army is coming back. Narnia is officially conquered by Aslan, Peter, Lucy & Susan. Oliver 4S

Yesterday far away from the stone table, a battle was begun, full of rage. Then war screams could be heard from miles away. Jayden 4S

There's a place

We call home

Where every nation, tribe & race

Have a dream hoping

For a better tomorrow.

Although we fight,

Although there are wars.

There's a future we wait for,

A place of peace, love & joy

Not pain and sorrow.

Our world is dying,

And we all just carry on lying.

Make a better place,

for our human race.

There's a lovely place,

We speak about

That is endangered

without a doubt.

The earth is yours

The earth is mine

So lets work together

And let our lights shine

Just in time

While Earth is on the line

Amalia, Lottie, Gali 5R

STEM Dorado Science Magazine - Issue 15:

STEM Dorado Science Magazine are delighted to share Issue 15 of STEM Dorado Science, their free science magazine for children aged 6–14. This ocean-inspired edition is packed with fascinating stories, colourful illustrations, practical activities and ideas for protecting our planet.

Highlights include:

- The remarkable story of rescued loggerhead turtles Senza and Mabouche, and a behind-the-scenes journey through The Deep in Hull
- Inspiring young Ocean Heroes working to protect marine wildlife
- An exploration of the wonderful creatures living along Britain's rocky shores
- Life aboard research ships and the vital role of ocean phytoplankton
- A young contributor's thoughtful guide to global warming
- The science behind glowing fireflies, plant evolution, our protective gut microbiome and the hidden world of cells
- Creative STEM projects using Makey Makey, recycled materials and the BBC micro:bit
- Times-table adventures, puzzles, activities and our colourful "Save the Ocean" poster gallery

They hope this issue encourages children to explore, ask questions and discover how even small actions can create powerful waves of change.

Read and download Issue 15 here: https://online.fliphtml5.com/dqwze/SD_Science-Vol-15/



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Next Week:

Everyone has been so resilient through another very hot week; our children keep smiling and enjoying life and have done their very best to keep learning. I am very proud of them indeed. Please can I remind all parents that water bottles are an essential piece of school equipment for everyone every day. Next week is a little cooler but still well above average July temperatures. If children are more comfortable wearing PE kit next week, that is fine- plain white or Brookland logo t-shirt and navy or white sports shorts.

Monday 13th July 9am: Headteacher's Award Assembly & Tea

Tuesday 14th July: 5R Making Pizza for year 3

Tuesday 14th July pm: Year 2 & Year 3 to watch Year 6 Production

Wednesday 15th July am: Year 4 & 5 to watch Year 6 Production

Wednesday 15th July: Year 5 picnic on the field

Wednesday 15th July: Year 3 picnic on the field

Thursday 16th July pm: Year 4 class parties on the field

Friday 17th July: Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

Friday 17th July 12pm: Year 6 Leavers' Picnic on the field

Friday 17th July: LAST DAY OF THE SCHOOL YEAR School finishes @ 1:30. There are no clubs today.

Further Ahead:

Thursday 5th September: First Day of School – School starts for everyone; Aim for 8:40 register 8.50am

Tuesday 3rd September: INSET Day – School Closed to children

Wednesday 4th September: INSET Day – School Closed to Children

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

PERIOD: Monday 6th July - Friday 10th July

Class	3B	3G	3SH	4JS	4K	4S
ATTENDANCE%	96.45%	94.33%	93.67%	92.76%	92.50%	97.93%
PUNCTUALITY%	93.87%	98.67%	97.33%	96.86%	97.86%	97.93%

Class	5A	5AM	5R	6D	6L	6P	Whole School
ATTENDANCE%	87.67%	95.67%	92.59%	98.0%	98.33%	95.67%	94.66%
PUNCTUALITY%	93.0%	95.33%	96.67%	98.0%	97.33%	92.67%	96.19%

Well done to **6L** for having the highest attendance this week.

Congratulations to **3G** for having the highest punctuality this week.

Mrs Lake



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Free Dr Bike sessions in Barnet

Free Dr Bike sessions run by qualified bicycle mechanics. Members of the public can take along their bicycles to have a free, full safety check, including checks on the condition of tyres, rims, gears, brake function and tyre pressure and adjustments can be made if required.

Location	Location Description	Date	Time
Finchley, Lodge Lane car park	Yellow chevrons immediately to the right of the entrance to the Car Park (opposite NL Auction Rooms N12 8JH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 July• 9 September• 11 November• 13 January 2027• 10 March 2027	4pm to 7pm
Temple Fortune	By Bike racks outside entrance to M&S Food Hall at 820 Finchley Road, NW11 6XL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 July• 16 September• 18 November• 20 January 2027• 17 March 2027	4pm to 7pm
Middlesex University	Pavement on The Burroughs, outside Middlesex University adjacent to Hendon Fire Station, 91 The Burroughs, NW4 4BL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 August• 14 October• 9 December• 10 February 2027	4pm to 7pm
High Barnet, Stapylton Rd car park	Area immediately to the right of carpark entrance (EN5 4LR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 19 August• 21 October• 16 December• 17 February 2027	4pm to 7pm