

Spring Term 3 Newsletter

May 14th 2024



**BROOKTHORPE
HALL SCHOOL**

Message from the Executive Headteacher

As a team we are continuing to develop both our academic and enrichment curriculum for all pupils at Brookthorpe Hall School. Indeed, I have enjoyed watching our footballers engage with Tom and Nathaniel our community coaches from Forest Green Rovers. Pupils have now completed their third coaching session and I have been genuinely impressed with not only pupils' football talents but how they have collaborated with each other in teams. I am also delighted to confirm that our Music Wellbeing Teacher will be joining us from 3rd June. Emma will be leading 1-1 music sessions every Monday until the end of the academic year. She will then increase her days at Brookthorpe Hall to two days in the new academic year.



Our curriculum team are also working hard to deliver a thematic curriculum next term. Next term's focus will focus on the theme of 'adaptability'. Frances Hodgson Burnett's novel, 'The Secret Garden' will be the focus text for all classes next term. Classes will not only have the opportunity learn about the author but also explore the characterisation, different interpretations and develop their drafting and proof-reading techniques. Art lessons will also follow the theme of 'adaptability' by developing an understanding of the artist Andy Goldsworthy. Furthermore, teachers will implement the White Rose Maths scheme on sequences, algebra, equality and equivalence. In the new academic year, our curriculum team are designing a full thematic curriculum across all subjects, and I look forward to sharing more details soon.

I would also like to welcome the following colleagues to the Brookthorpe Hall team:

- Sue Baldwin: Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- Kathryn Alderton: Teacher (Painswick)
- Lewis Carter: Teacher (Quedgeley)
- Sally Hayward: Higher Level Teaching Assistant

Please have a look at our 'dates for your diary' in this newsletter and we look forward to meeting families at our PTA BBQ on 4th July!

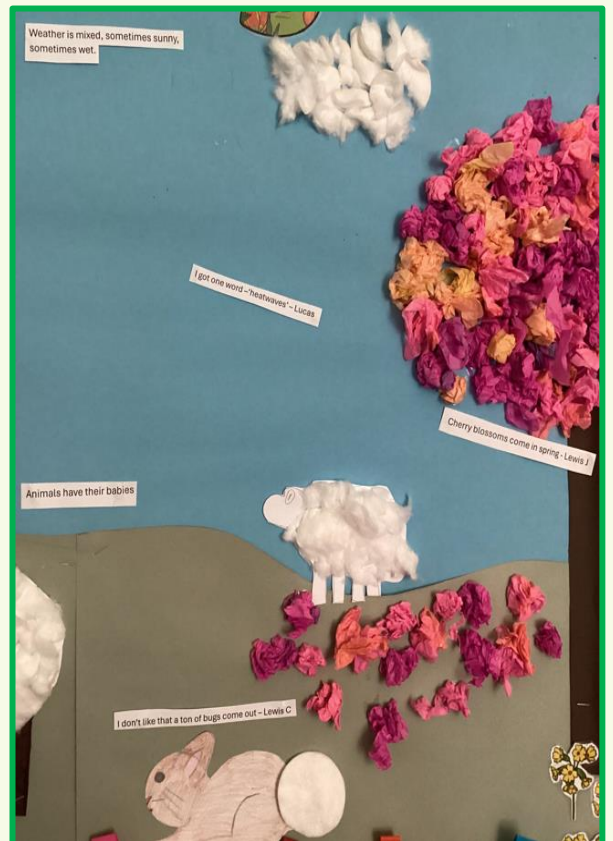
Jon Bell
Executive Headteacher



Class News: Tuffley Class

This term we have looked at Spring in our art lessons, using fine motor skills when creating our flowers. We thought about what we like and dislike about Spring and added our thoughts on the board. The students got creative with using tissue paper for the blossom and sponge painting for the tree.

Tuffley Class Teacher
Katie



Extended curriculum time in **Hardwicke** with a new board game; “Race Around the World”. The students had great educational fun, learning to recall geographical and historical facts to earn passport stamps and pass the checkpoints successfully. They were totally engrossed and remembered a plethora of interesting information. For example, did you know that it is illegal to photograph the Eiffel Tower at night?

Amazing ideas and diligent effort were shown with exploring story writing structure this week. We drafted our work in **English**, then in **IT** we word processed the stories. We looked at gripping openings, settings, characterisation, story development and employing dilemmas, to engage and entertain the reader.

In **cookery** each week, a student chooses a recipe to try with the class. So far Sam has chosen his favourite; jacket potatoes with melting butter and grated cheese filling. Harvey chose pizza with a variety of toppings, and which we made from scratch – it was surprisingly easy! Both meals were DELICIOUS. We also made pasta and learnt how to make a basic sauce; a simple, healthy, and economical meal.

Hardwicke Class Teacher

Amanda

Class News: Stroud Class

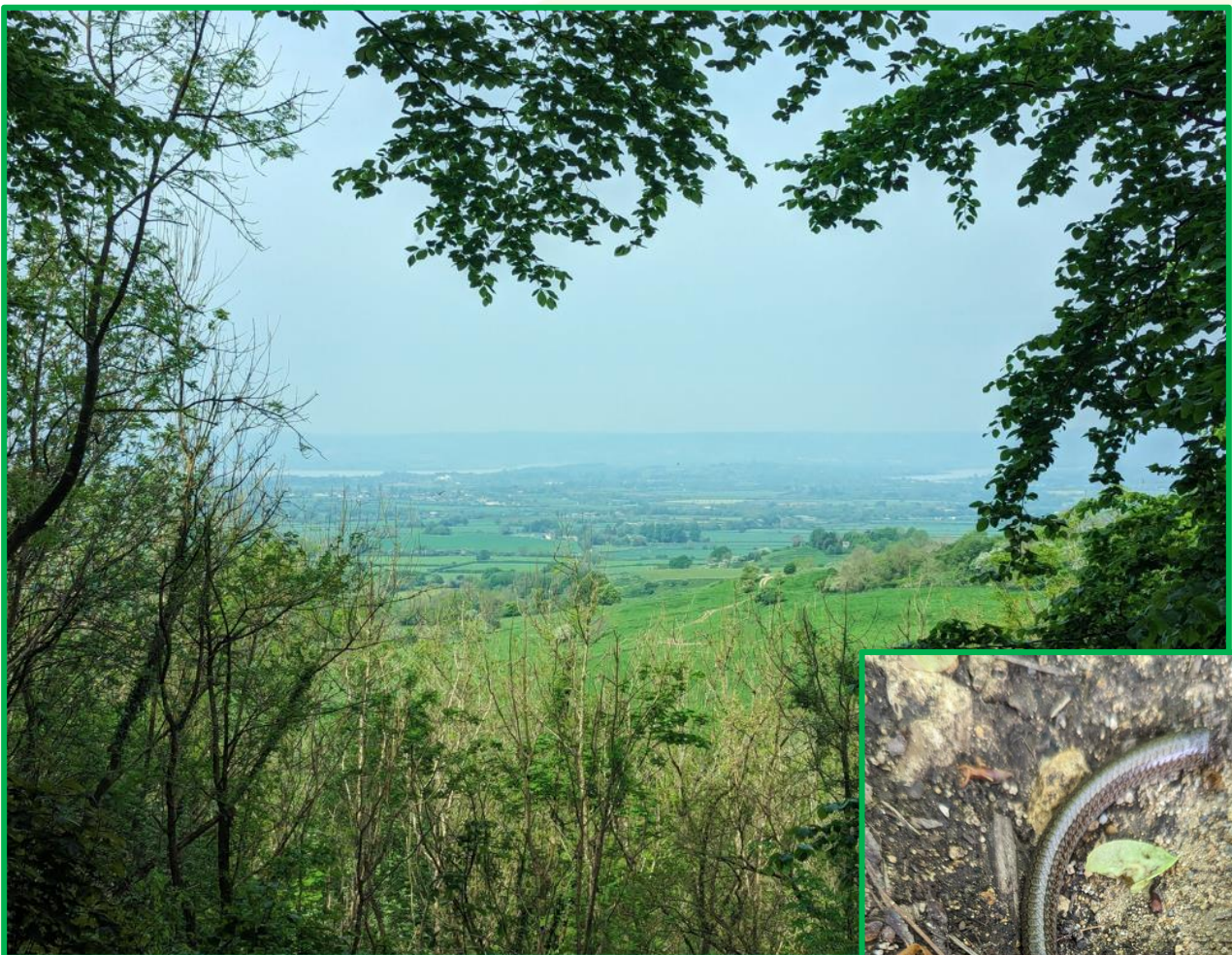
Some members of Stroud Class recently had a day at Standish woods and Haresfield Beacon! We went for a lovely walk through the woods and spotted all sorts of wildlife – including what we're pretty sure is the tail of a lizard.

After our walk which took over an hour, we wandered to the Topograph at Haresfield Beacon and looked out at everything we could see in the surrounding area.

It was a lovely day with beautiful weather and all the students that attended had a great time!

Hardwicke Class Teacher

Ed



Class News: Painswick Class

In Painswick class this term, we have been looking at another range of Julia Donaldson books, including 'Zog' and 'Zog and the flying doctor'. The students have really enjoyed the storylines and have enjoyed recalling the story in their handwriting activities.

We have also been looking at World Day for Cultural Diversity, as part of our SMSC calendar of events, which takes place each year on the 21st May, and is used as a worldwide event to help communities to understand the value of cultural diversity and to learn to live together in harmony.

In aid of the day the students took part in a researching activity on the laptops, to research the different cultures, and their traditions, and then recorded their findings onto their worksheet.

The students also researched the traditions that we have within the UK. They found some brilliant facts about cultures in the country that they chose to research. James chose France, and researched that they ate snails, and that French sailors wore the Breton stripe in Brittany.



The students have really enjoyed our group activities this term. We have continued focusing on group games to help support the students with their socialization skills when working as a group, so lots of turn taking, and focusing on listening to others, especially when participating in football training with the Forest Green Rovers trainers.

We have also taken part in group sessions in class, to complete food sorting activities, to review their understanding of what they have been learning in their topic lessons this term, and group story sequencing of the Julia Donaldson book 'Zog' in English.

Painswick Class Teachers

Ellie and Kathryne

Class News: Upton Class

Upton class have been learning about the different countries in Europe. We have studied: Spain, Italy, Sicily, France, and Malta. Some pupils even had a go at learning basic greetings in different languages.

During our Italian week pupils were set the challenge of creating a 3D model of the leaning tower of Pisa. Everyone enjoyed the practical task.

Upton class are completing baseline assessments in maths and English. They have demonstrated a positive attitude. As they have been working so hard they have been rewarded with film club, extra ICT time and a few tasty treats.

Upton Class Teacher

Hazel



THE BEANO

We are all **SUPER PROUD** of Theo in Upton!

Theo wrote off to the headquarters of "BEANO". He had to submit his favourite joke and say why he would like to be The Beano Boss. Theo also created a comic strip. You will find all of Theo's creations in this week's addition of the BEANO!

Theo's star creation is below!

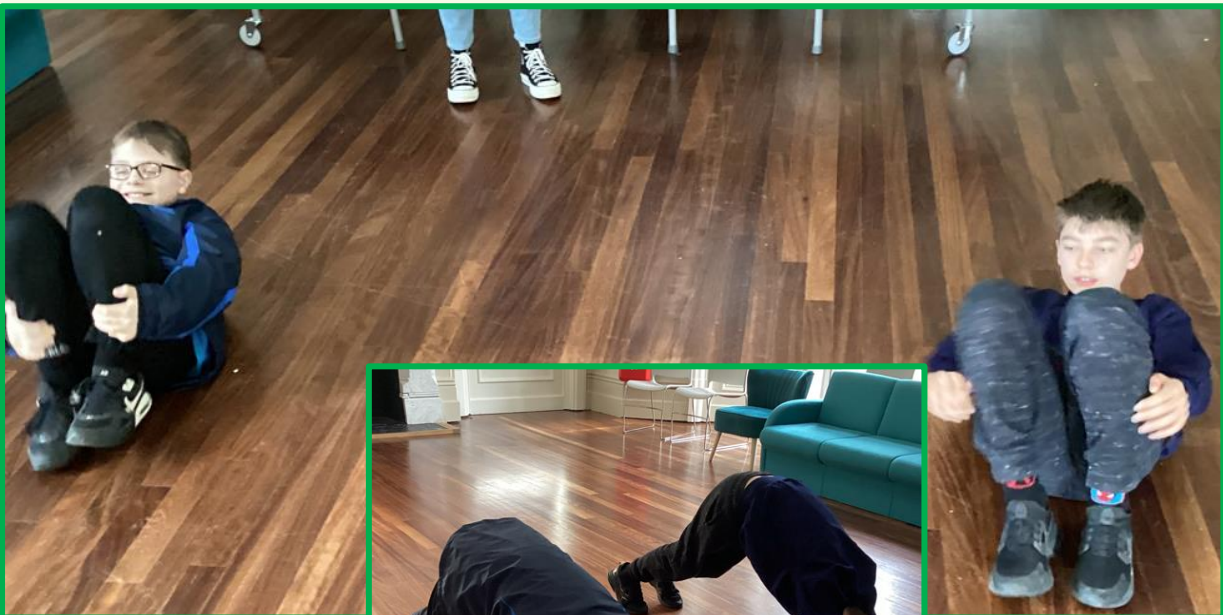
Well done Theo, you are a star 😊



Class News: Brockworth Class

Brockworth class have started completing a sensory circuit first thing in the mornings. Not only is this helping to regulate the children, but it is also lots of fun!

Brockworth Class Teacher
Jenna



Class News: Quedgeley Class

In Quedgeley, we have come to the end of our Egyptian topic work. We enjoyed wrapping ourselves up like Egyptian mummy's and studying the timeline of events that occurred.

Our artwork was influenced by other religions and cultures, and we enjoyed making Islamic tiles out of clay.

We continue to work hard in English and Maths preparing for our Functional Skills Exams and have enjoyed being given the independence to 'just get on'.

In Science, we have compared a variety of biomes across our planet and have enjoyed watching our own 'eco-system plants' grow in class.

We have enjoyed the football outside and have started up whole school football sessions once a week.

Quedgeley Class Teacher

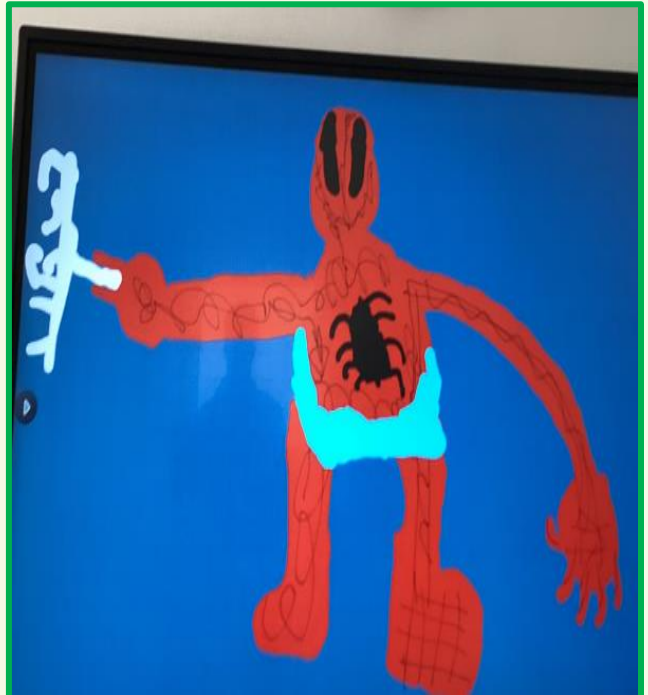
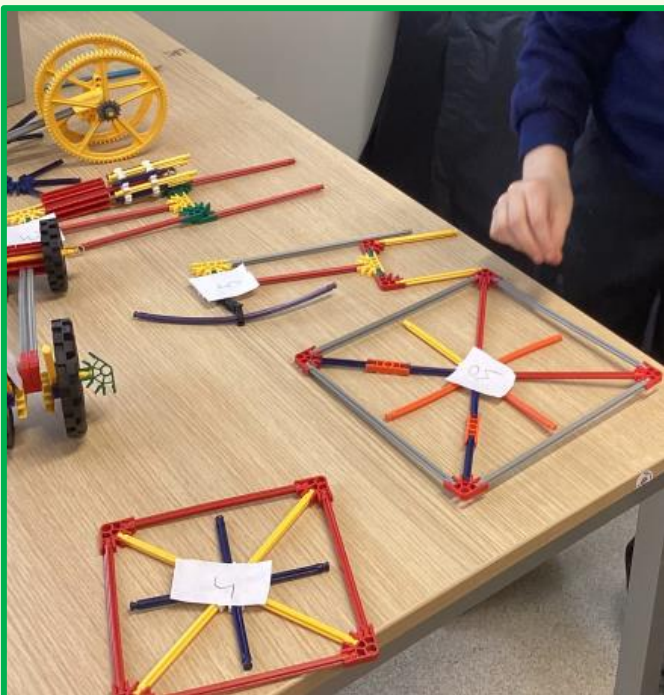
Emma

Class News: Haresfield Class

We have been doing some creative activities in Haresfield recently which have been lots of fun. Our pupils spent a day role playing as shopkeepers of a 'Kinex' shop, and a 'snap circuit' shop. We have also been making use of our whiteboard to make some lovely pieces of artwork where the pupils have been able to experiment with a variety of features to improve their designs.

Haresfield Class Teacher

Toby



Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Dear Parent Carers of Brookthorpe Hall School,

We are proud to announce the development of a Brookthorpe Hall School Association! We look forward to working closely with the Senior Leadership Team and staff to help identify activities, and communication processes, that will help us build a strong school community. Over time we hope to develop a Steering Group and, once the groundwork has been done, we will call an AGM to invite nominations for anyone interested in a role.

We hope to have our first newsletter out to you soon with more details of what we hope to build and we look forward to everyone's input!

Warm wishes,
Rachael Berry & Nita Wood

Messages from our Clinical Team

It has been another very busy half term for the Therapy team at Brookthorpe Hall School.

Ruby continues to offer a range of Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language Therapy individual and group therapy sessions to the students. These are all carried out under the supervision of a qualified Therapist. The students appear to be engaging positively with these.

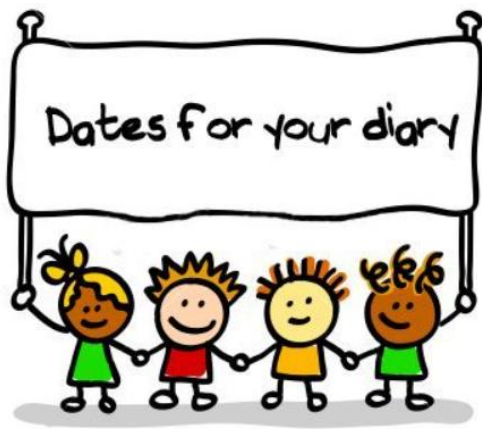
Fiona has also started to offer a 'drop in' service for all students to ensure that they have an opportunity to speak confidentially to a Therapist if they have anything concerning them. These have proved successful as they give the students a safe place to explore social interaction and relationships.

Brookthorpe Hall School is proud to follow the company's Neurodiversity strategy which is based upon the key principles of ask, accept and develop. In line with this Ruby has started to 'ask' the students how they feel about aspects of their school life by using the communicative approach of talking mats.

Our wonderful Occupational Therapist, Hollie has given birth to a wonderful baby girl. Amber arrived safely into the world at a very healthy weight of 9lb 9oz.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the school if you have any queries relating to your child's therapeutic input.

Hayley
Clinical Locality Lead

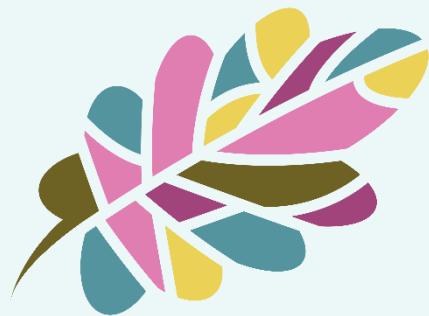


Term Dates

- Term 5 ends on Friday 24th May
- Term 6 begins on Monday 3rd June
- Term 6 ends on Friday 19th July

Dates for the Diary!

- W/C 8th July: Parent consultations (appointments on Teams)
- **Thursday 4th July: PTA BBQ at Brookthorpe Hall**
- Tuesday 16th July: Sports Day



BROOKTHORPE HALL SCHOOL



Contact Details

Brookthorpe Hall School, Stroud Road,
Gloucester GL4 0UN
01452 717004