

# Broughton Community Schools

# Newsletter



Friday 12th September 2025

Dear parents and carers,

Welcome to our new parents of children in Foundation Stage and those new to the school in September and also welcome back to everyone else. I do hope that you have all had a lovely summer break and your children are raring to go for another school year. Personally, I was very ready for my own children to have some routine back in their lives!

I have been around each class and must say the children are keen to learn. Our new children have settled in so well in Reception which is often the most emotional part of schooling until they leave in Year 6. Some of their parents were emotional too as it is such a big step for the little ones - but you should all be very proud of them.

Some of our classrooms and toilets across the schools have had makeovers over the summer holidays and you might assume that the schools would be very quiet when the children aren't in but they were in fact very busy! The following are some of the larger projects that have been completed over the 6 weeks:

- New PE climbing frame in the Infant School Hall (Big thank you to the PTFA for that!)
- New carpets in the Infants
- New toilet in Year 5
- New furniture in Year 3 and 6
- Painting in the Infants corridor and the Junior School hall
- Mounds and tunnels redone (thank you Clancy and EFKB)

As well as a new looking school, we have also had some new staff members across the schools. We welcome Miss Rebecca Bannocks, our new Year 6 class teacher, Miss Jessica Wright and Mrs Laura Blake, our two new LSAs and Miss Bethan Foxcroft, a student teacher who is completing her teaching qualification in Year 6 for the year.

We do also still have a couple of vacancies if you are interested. We are in need of two excellent members of our cleaning team. To help with recruitment from our local community we are offering a free after school club place for your child (if they attend Broughton) should you be successful in being recruited. If this is of interest to you, then please do not hesitate to contact us and use the following link to find the advert, job description and basic information: <https://www.broughtoncommunityschools.com/vacancies/>

Finally it is just a thank you from me to the staff who came in over the summer to get the school looking as good as it does; a special thank you to our site manager Mr Jason Meads and caretaker Mr Aubrey Kidd for all their help and commitment to getting things finished too! Have a lovely weekend all and see you next week!

Mr Charlie Reed

# Key dates for the term

Please note that these dates are subject to change and we would only change them if there is no other option. We always aim to give you as much warning of any changes as possible.

Monday 15th September - Year 6 Library Visit

Wednesday 17th September - Year 4 Library Visit

Monday 22nd September - Year 4 trip to Amersham Field Centre

Monday 22nd September - Year 5 Library Visit

Wednesday 24th September - Reception Year Library Visit

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> October – Open classrooms (3:15 – 3:40pm)

Friday 3rd October - Drama workshop Rec, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3

Monday 6th October - Year 1 Library Visit

Monday 6th October - Year 6 trip to Bletchley Park

Wednesday 8th October - Year 3 Library Visit

Monday 13th October - Year 2 Library Visit

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening at BJS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening at BIS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening at BJS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> October – Parents evening at BIS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Monday 20th October - Year 1 Trip to Bekonscot

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Open classrooms (3:15 – 3:40pm)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Half term

Week commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Anti-bullying week

Week commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November – Tours for the parents of children starting school in September 2026

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November - Open classrooms (3:15 – 3:40pm)

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November – Tours of the Junior school for the parents of children currently in Year 2

Monday 17th November - Year 3 trip to Chiltern Open Air Museum

Monday 24th November - Year 1 Queen Elizabeth IIs Coronation (families invited at 2.30pm)

Wednesday 26th November - Year 4 Viking Day

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December - Open classrooms (3:15 – 3:40pm)

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas performances (timings TBC)

Friday 12th December - Christmas Lunch Day

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December – Whole school trip to the pantomime

Thursday 4th December - Year 1 bring in favourite toy in a named carrier bag

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December – Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Christmas holiday

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December – INSET day (school closed for pupils)

## Key dates for the year

Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Internet safety day

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Reception Year trip to Milton Keynes Museum

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Parents evening at BJS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Parents evening at BIS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Parents evening at BJS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Parents evening at BIS (3:30 – 6:30pm)

Week commencing Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATS

Week commencing Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June – Year 4 multiplication check

Week commencing Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June – Year 1 and 2 Phonics Screening Check

Thursday 11th June - Year 2 Trip to Windsor Castle

Wednesday 17th June - Sports day

Tuesday 7th July - Year 1 Trip to High Wycombe Museum

Monday 20<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – Transition days



## **Sometimes being a parent is really hard; especially when the children are young.**

For some families it's a real struggle because they are having to cope with difficult situations like:

- **postnatal depression**
- **illness or disability**
  - **multiple birth**
- **relationship breakdown**
  - **bereavement**
  - **isolation**

That's when parents need support.

## **That's when Nest Aylesbury Vale can help.**

We are a small, independent charity that provides home visiting volunteers who offer emotional and practical support.

*We help families fly again*

Phone: **01296 485615**

Email: **info@nestaylesburyvale.org.uk**

Visit: **www.nestaylesburyvale.org.uk**

# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows YouTube. The Google-owned site lets anyone upload videos to be shared around the world, and as a result, it's an incredible resource with instant free access to material covering every conceivable topic. But with over 500 hours of video uploaded every minute, not all of it will be appropriate for young eyes.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

YouTube is free and can be accessed via numerous devices, even without creating a YouTube account. Some content is flagged as 'age-restricted' (requiring the user to be logged into an account with a verified age of 18), but children can still view some mildly inappropriate content. This can include profanity and violence, which some young users may find upsetting.

### CONNECT WITH STRANGERS

YouTube recommends videos related to what the user has previously watched on their account, aiming to provide content that will interest them. This is intended to be helpful but it can also lead to binge-watching and screen addiction – especially if 'auto-play' is active. Users without an account are shown popular videos from the last 24 hours, which might not always be suitable for children.

### RADICALISATION

YouTube's algorithm tends to promote content that's getting the most traffic – a lot of which can be quite extreme. This can be fine for harmless topics, but YouTube isn't regulated like television, and that means that conspiracy theories, fake news and hateful ideologies can occasionally surface to warp impressionable minds all too easily. Remember – the more they watch, the more they'll be recommended.

### CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS

YouTube is a social media platform which allows people to interact with other (usually unknown) users. Account holders can leave comments on any video they have access to, as well as message other users directly. Connecting with strangers online can potentially lead to children being exposed to adult language, cyberbullying and – in the worst cases – online predators. If a child is creating content themselves, this can increase the likelihood of them becoming a target.

### TRENDS AND CHALLENGES

YouTube is teeming with trends and challenges, some of which are fun to watch and join in with. Children often find these immensely entertaining and might want to try them out. Most challenges tend to be safe, but many others may cause physical or emotional harm children who watch or copy them. The painful 'salt and ice challenge' – where people use these two ingredients to burn their skin – is just one of many examples.

### SNEAKY SCAMMERS

The comments sections of popular content creators regularly have scammers posing as that influencer, attempting to lure users into clicking on their phishing links. Scammers impersonate YouTubers by adopting their names and profile images, and often offer cash gifts or 'get rich quick' schemes. Children may not realise that these users aren't who they claim to be.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### APPLY RESTRICTED MODE

For older children, Restricted Mode is an optional setting that prevents YouTube from showing inappropriate material (such as drug and alcohol abuse, graphic violence, and sexual content) to underage viewers. To prevent children from chancing across age-inappropriate content on the platform, we would recommend enabling Restricted Mode on each device that they use to access YouTube. It's worth also turning the auto-play feature off, to prevent YouTube's algorithm automatically recommending something inappropriate.



### TRY GOOGLE FAMILY

Creating a Google Family account allows parents and carers to monitor what their child is watching, uploading, and sharing with other users. It will also display their recently watched videos, searches, and recommended videos. In general, a Google Family account gives a parent or carer oversight of how their child uses sites like YouTube and helps to ensure that they are only accessing appropriate content.

### MONITOR ENGAGEMENT

YouTube is the online viewing platform of choice for billions of people, many of them under 18. Younger children will watch different content to older ones, of course. You may want to keep an eye on how children interact with this material – and, if applicable, with content creators – to understand what they're interested in. Remember that creators often share content outside of YouTube, so don't ignore their web presence elsewhere!

### CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS

It's possible to sidestep most inappropriate content completely via Google's own YouTube Kids app for Android handsets and iPhone. This lets you filter content by "preschool" (4 and under), "younger" (ages 5 to 8) and "older" (ages 9 to 12). This isn't a perfect substitute for personal supervision, as the app's filtering system is automated, and Google can't manually review all videos.

### CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS

YouTube gives users the option of uploading videos as 'private' or 'unlisted' – so they could be shared exclusively with family and friends, for example. Comments on videos can also be disabled and channels that a child is subscribed to can be hidden. If the child is only uploading videos set as 'private', they are far less likely to receive direct messages from strangers.

### LIMIT SPENDING

Although YouTube is free, it does offer some in-app purchases. For example, users can rent and buy TV shows and movies to watch. If you'd like to avoid children purchasing content online, limit their access to online payment methods. Many parents have discovered the hard way that a child happily consuming a paid-for series quickly leads to an unexpected bill!

### Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for the likes of Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.





# Park Play Aylesbury

Park Play is for everyone - children, teenagers, and adults! With a variety of fun activities for the whole family to enjoy, there's something for all ages. This Saturday, join us for a game of football, basketball or tag rugby.



Every Saturday Morning

10am - 2pm

Alfred Rose Park, Aylesbury

HP20 2DF



APF  
**Activity  
Camps**



Buckinghamshire  
Council