

Brook St School
Newsletter Summer 2026

Tel: 01228 558724

Email: office@brookst.cumbria.sch.uk

We are delighted to **welcome our wonderful new children and their families to our nursery and reception classes this week.** It has been a pleasure hosting our transition mornings, where families met our staff and explored our vibrant learning spaces. We hope our newest pupils feel right at home and thoroughly enjoy being a part of our warm Brook Street community. We still have a few places available in both classes for the upcoming term. If you know of any families looking for a school place, please kindly encourage them to get in touch with our school office.

We also welcome all children throughout school who have recently joined us.



Results: Y6 children took their SATs (Statutory Assessment Tests) in May and we await the results.

In the **Phonics Screening Check** - 75% of Y1 children passed and 83% by the end of year 2.

In Y4, 39% got full marks in the **Multiplication Tables Check** with an average score of 21.5 out of 25 for the whole class.

Well done children.

Teachers continuously assess children throughout the year to track their learning and progression. If you attended Parents' Evening, you will have received a recent update on your child's progress. However, you are always warmly welcome to reach out to the school at any time to book an appointment with their teacher for a chat.



Breakfast club - Just a reminder that our school Breakfast Club is still open to everyone—and is completely FREE! No reservations or sign-ups are required. Children can simply turn up between **8:00am and 8:30am** to fill up for the day and spend some quality morning time catching up with their friends.



We finish for the summer break on
FRIDAY 17 JULY at 1.30pm

and return on

WEDNESDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER 2026

We hope that you have an enjoyable summer

As you know, we have some truly amazing staff here at Brook Street, so much so that one of our fantastic teachers has been promoted and will sadly be leaving us.

Miss Alexander, our Year 2 teacher, will be leaving us when we finish for the summer holiday to take up the position of Deputy Headteacher at Inglewood Infant School. This experienced and committed teacher will be a huge miss at Brook Street. We congratulate her on her well-deserved appointment and wish her every success for the future. Her new school's gain is certainly our loss.

Looking ahead, we are delighted to welcome our new teacher, **Miss Stewart**, who will be joining us to fill Miss Alexander's role. During her interview, we observed her teaching a brilliant lesson, and we very much look forward to her teaching many more here.

We also want to say a **huge farewell and the very best of luck to our amazing Year 6 pupils!** You have all been a credit to our school. Please do keep in touch with us. We always love to hear about your achievements as you continue your educational journey and move through life.

We also say a **sad 'farewell' to Ms Tyrrell** who is a Teaching Assistant in our Early Years. We wish her every success in her new post in a local nursery. Thank you for your hard work over the past year. We will miss you.



Last week, our entire school enjoyed a **truly fantastic day out at Beamish Museum.**

Blessed with beautiful, sunny weather, the children fully immersed themselves in history. They loved travelling around the site on the traditional tram, the 1950s bus, and the coal train. Whilst exploring the Victorian town, the pupils stepped inside a traditional home, the dentist's surgery, the hardware shop, and the milliner's. Unsurprisingly, the traditional sweet shop was the favourite!

The children also explored the 1950s town and visited the Victorian school room. While they noticed the building's architecture looks very similar to our own at Brook Street, they quickly realised that sitting in silence in strict rows was a world away from how we learn today! The trip ended on a high with plenty of fun on the park's witch's hat swing, rocking horse, swings, slide and roundabout.



We are incredibly proud to announce that the following children have been presented with special school awards this half term as follows:

The Avril Barker Award for Good Citizenship went to- Lillie Y6, Manny Y5, Duane Y4, Evelyn Y3, Isabella Y2, Everly-Rose Y1, Gustavo Rec.

The Mr Potter Award for Resilience went to - Julia Y3, Abida Y2, Taheem Rec

The Lawrence Fisher Award for the Best Mathematician in Y6 went to Tara & Jakub G Y6

The Lawrence Fisher Award for the Most Improved Mathematician in Y6 went to Pavlin and Jakub G Y6

The Most Improved Readers (who will enjoy a trip to the bookshop to choose a book to keep) were - Abie Y6, Cristian Y5, Hridhaan Y4, Minsas Y3, Aranas Y2, Vanessa Y1, Kunashe Rec.

We are pleased to confirm that our **After-School Club** will continue running after the summer break. If you need a place for your child, please call at the school office to secure your booking. We look forward to welcoming the children back for more fun, games, and activities next term.



A Huge Well Done to Our Extra-Curricular Clubs!

We have absolutely loved hosting our extra-curricular clubs this half term! A big thank you to staff members who give up their time this half term to deliver these clubs which were **Dance, Maths, Games, and Tennis.** I'm sure that the children have loved them. As a reminder, these fun clubs are completely free and run until 4:15pm. We rotate them across different year groups throughout the year on a first-come, first-served basis, so don't worry if your child missed out this time. Keep your eyes peeled for our next exciting round of clubs when we return in September!

A Massive Thank You to Greggs. We want to send a huge shout-out and a heartfelt thank you to our friends at Greggs. They generously donate funding to help towards the cost of some of these clubs as well as towards the cost of providing snacks at the After School Club. We are incredibly grateful for their support in keeping our pupils fed, active and learning!

We are thrilled to share that our **Year 1 and Year 2** pupils have embarked on a wonderful outdoor learning adventure this half term! For the last 5 weeks, these classes visited **Susan's Farm** once per week for hands-on, interactive sessions.

During these weekly visits, our children explored both the main farm and the beautiful Aglionby Wetlands.

The children:

Discovered nature through guided outdoor exploration.

Investigated habitats and the wildlife that lives there.

Learned about food systems and where our food comes from.

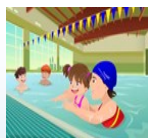
It has been lovely to see our pupils learn so much as they connect with the natural world.



Our **Year 5** students enjoyed a fantastic afternoon of sports at **Trinity School**. The children threw themselves into every activity with great energy and excellent sportsmanship.



During the visit, students had the opportunity to try their hand at a variety of disciplines, including **tennis, pickleball, and athletics**. It was wonderful to see them developing new skills, working as a team, and staying active in such a positive environment. Thank you to Trinity School for hosting us and providing such a memorable experience for our pupils.



Our swimming sessions have now successfully concluded for the year! For the past two weeks, **Y2 children have visited the baths** every single afternoon. This intensive schedule was designed to accelerate the children's progress and rapidly build their confidence in the water and we are incredibly proud of the fantastic progress they have all made.

During their very final session, the children focused on the vital topic of water safety, with a particular emphasis on staying safe around rivers. This is such an important life skill, and we kindly ask that parents help us reinforce this invaluable lesson at home by talking about water safety with your children.

Y6 also enjoyed a one-off session at the swimming pool, also learning about water safety.

Year 6 pupils who volunteered for the programme completed their **Bikeability training** in partnership with Cyclewise.

This hands-on road safety course is specifically structured to prepare primary school leavers for independent travel as they transition to secondary school.



School have paid for whole class Keyboard lessons, once again, this half term, for Y5 & 6 which were delivered by Mrs Tuffin from the Music Service.



Why Attendance Matters

Regular attendance is vital for your child's education and well-being. Missing school means missing key lessons, social experiences, and confidence-building activities. Even a few days off can make it hard for a child to catch up. Research shows a strong link between high attendance and strong academic progress.

Understanding Government Fines

We always want to work with families to overcome barriers to attendance. However, schools are legally required to report unauthorised absences to the local council. The government would then impose fixed-penalty fines on parents who fail to ensure their children attend school regularly. Any child that has 5 days of unauthorised absence within a 10 week period are at risk of having this penalty imposed.

First Offence: The fine is £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

Late Payment: The fee rises to £160 if paid between 22 and 28 days.

Second Offence: A second fine within three years is automatically charged at the flat rate of £160.

Further Absences: Continued unauthorised absence can lead to prosecution, community orders, or larger fines up to £2,500. Holidays / time abroad are classed as unauthorised absence.

Working Together

Our main priority is supporting your child's happiness and success. If your family is facing challenges that impact school attendance, please reach out to us as early as possible. We are here to help find solutions together before it impacts your child's education or leads to legal measures.



Communication Tool: Makaton

Several of our staff members have recently completed more **Makaton** training.

What is Makaton?

Makaton is a communication program that uses signs and symbols alongside spoken English. It provides extra visual clues to help children understand language and express themselves.



How it Helps

Reduces Frustration: Helps children communicate when they cannot find the right words.

Builds Confidence: Boosts early language and listening skills.

Promotes Inclusion: Ensures every child can connect with teachers and peers.

FareShare Weekly Food Bag

We are delighted to continue our partnership with **FareShare** who allow us to purchase food at a very reduced price each week to sell on to parents. Each **Wednesday at around 3:00pm in the School Yard**, you can pick up a bag containing approx. **8 food items for just £1**. We never know what the items will be.

Please note that items change weekly and are sold on a **first-come, first-served** basis.

