

Dear Families,

As we near the end of term, we remember Advent is a season of waiting, preparing, and drawing closer to the heart of God as Christmas approaches.

Each week brings a new theme - hope, peace, joy, and love guiding us through the weeks leading up to the celebration of Jesus' birth. During this sacred time, prayer becomes the anchor that keeps your focus on the true meaning of Christmas rather than the busyness and distractions that surround you.

Thank you for your generosity and support this year. We wish you all a happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year. We look forward to seeing the children when they return to school on the feast of the Epiphany on the 6th January.

Mrs Philpott

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Regular attendance at school is vital for children's learning, confidence, and wellbeing. Every day in school helps children build strong friendships, develop routines, and make steady progress in their learning. Even missing a small amount of time can have an impact, so we are grateful for your continued support in ensuring your child attends school every day, on time, whenever possible. Together, we can give our children the best start for the future.



We pray for Joy this Advent

Heavenly Father,

As I light the third candle—the rose-coloured candle of joy, we celebrate the nearness of Christmas and the nearness of Your presence in my life. You have given us so many reasons to rejoice. You have saved us, redeemed us, called us your child, and promised us eternal life. These truths fill us with gratitude and joy.

Father, we also ask that You restore joy in areas where it has been lost. Sometimes the weight of daily responsibilities, disappointments, or grief can drain the joy from our hearts. We ask that Your Holy Spirit will renew that joy within us. Your word promises that the joy of the Lord is our strength, and we need that strength to carry us through.

Help us to rejoice always, as Your word instructs. Not because everything is perfect, but because You are always good, always faithful, and always with us. Let our joy be a testimony to others of Your goodness and grace.

Thank You for the joy that came into the world when Jesus was born. Let that same joy overflow in our heart today and every day.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

We know parking can be tricky - Have you considered a car share? It would help relieve the pressure and it is good for the environment.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to Ronan who was awarded second place in a Trampolining Competition. A shiny silver medal for him!



Emrys was awarded a blue wristband for completing 11 Parkruns, amounting to a half-marathon distance. Go Emrys!



Fond Farewell

On 21st November, we wished Ms Murray well. After 10 years at our school, she will take on an exciting opportunity at a school in Sandhurst. Ms Murray will be missed.



Congratulations to Sadewli who has reached Stage 4 at Stage Coach. What a star!

Does your child have an achievement to share with our community?

Email a photo to the school secretary:

secretary@stjosephsbracknell.co.uk

DIARY DATES

Diary Dates	Class	Event
Wednesday 17 th December	KS2 (Y3,4,5,6)	Carol Concert at Church 6pm
Wednesday 17 th December	All	School Christmas Lunch
Thursday 18 th December	All Pupils	Last day of term
Friday 19 th December	Whole School	INSET DAY
Monday 5 th January	All	INSET DAY/ Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 6 th January	All	Start of the Spring Term
Wednesday 14 th January	Year 5	Open Learning centre Letter Writing Workshop for parents
Thursday 15 th January	All	Culture Day & African drumming workshops
Thursday 29 th January	Year 1	Trip to Milestones Museum, Basingstoke
Wednesday 4 th February	Year R and 1	Phonics Workshop with Mrs Gallagher
Wednesday 11 th March	Year 3 and 4	Trip to Butsers Ancient Farm
Tuesday 5 th May	Year 2	Pizza Express visit
Friday 22 nd May	All	SPORTS DAY
Monday 1 st June	All	INSET DAY/ Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 9 th June	Year 3	Open Learning centre Kaboom Maths
Monday 6 th July	Year 4,5 and 6	SHP Wilde Day

Eco Rewards

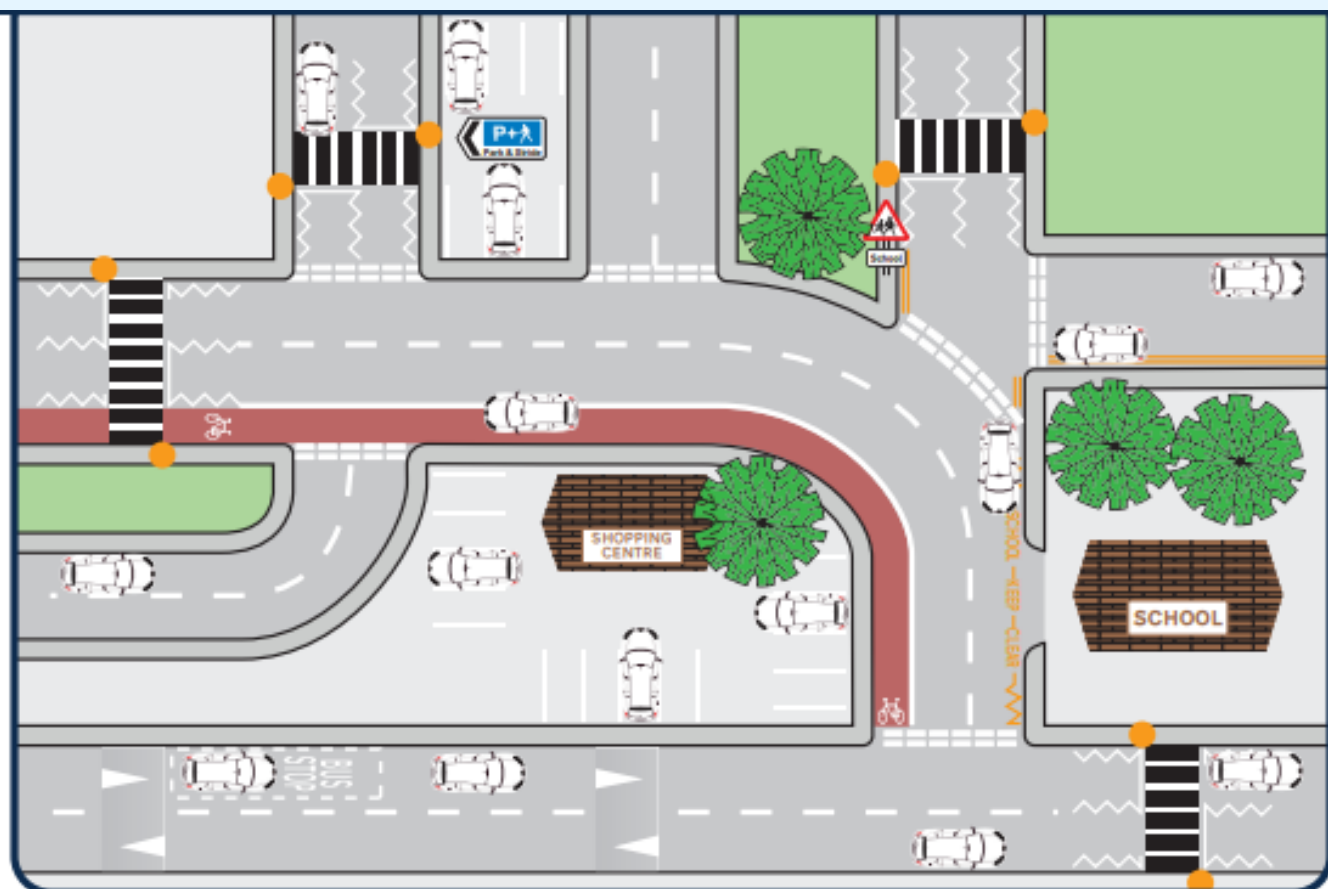
The latest Eco Rewards figures show our school have made amazing progress!!
All participating schools have recorded over 29 000 green miles and 9 tonnes of CO2e saved compared to driving since 1st August.
See latest totals at <https://www.ecorewards.co.uk/bracknell/schools>

Warfield, St Joseph’s, St Michael’s, Crownwood and Ascot Heath are leading for the primaries. Amazing!

	Points	Green Miles	Carbon Saving
St Josephs Primary (24/10/25)	13600	442	141.92
St Josephs Primary (02/12/25)	80350	1260	404.1

Parent Information

PARKING



Instructions

Look at the cars in the picture above.

- Can you find the cars that are parked in dangerous places? Colour these cars in **RED**.
- Can you find the cars that are parked in safe places? Colour these cars in **GREEN**.

REMEMBER cars should never park or wait:

- ✗ On school zig-zag markings
- ✗ On yellow lines
- ✗ On the footpath
- ✗ At locations where pupils and children need to cross the road
- ✗ Over dropped kerbs
- ✗ Blocking driveways to houses
- ✗ On the corner of the street
- ✗ On a grass verge
- ✗ At a bus stop

CHRISTMAS EVENTS



On Sunday 14th December, the choir performed at the Lexicon. Congratulations to everyone involved - it was a wonderfully festive occasion enjoyed by staff, parents and members of the public alike.

Thank you for all the donations for the Bracknell LifeHouse collection. The mothers (and babies) will be delighted to receive them in time for Christmas!



A big thank you to the PTA for planning such a brilliant Christmas Fair. It was wonderful to see our community coming together to support. The raffle raised £556.80.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS RAFFLE DONATORS

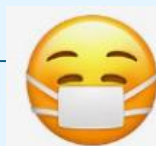


WINTER ILLNESS

As we are in the Winter season, we would like to share key guidance to help manage seasonal illnesses and keep pupils, parents and staff healthy and well.

Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance – a helpful blog for parents and staff. [Reducing the spread of illness this winter: Seven steps to healthier schools and higher school attendance – The Education Hub](#)

NHS Guidance for Parents: Is my child too ill for school? – a useful resource to help parents decide when children should stay at home. [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS](#)



FOOD BANK

After half term, we were delighted to support the Bracknell FoodBank and to make it fun for the children we created a dominoe rally in the hall. There was much laughter as we watched each box fall but we also thought about how lucky we are and the reason why we were collecting for this amazing cause.

The following day, the Faith Ambassadors took not one but TWO trips to the FoodBank in order to deliver the 134 boxes and were delighted to be invited for a tour. They shared their experience in a whole school assembly, which was wonderful!

Thank you to those who managed to donate.



CHRISTMAS FAIR



A big thanks to the PTA for organising a gorgeous Christmas Fair on Saturday 6th December. The school had a real festive buzz and the PTA made a profit of **£1109.24** towards the wooden gazebo. Thank you to Kelly's Dance Group and the choir who came along to perform.



£1109.24

Pyjama Day

Pyjama day was a huge success, and we were inundated with chocolate goodies. A huge thank you to the families who donated so generously, the PTA are very grateful and we already know the CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA will be a big attraction at the Christmas Fayre!



TENNIS CAMP



Christmas Tennis Camps

At Lalika JTC, Farley Wood, Binfield, RG42 1FW

Red & Orange Ball

Wednesday 24th December 9:30-11:30

Green & Yellow Ball

Wednesday 24th December 11:30-13:30

Top Squad Camps

Tuesday 23rd December 9:30-12:30



office.mattreidprocoaching@gmail.com



DO WHAT YOU LOVE
LOVE WHAT YOU DO

Multi-Sports

£15.50
per day

Elite Preparation Centre Multi-Sport Christmas Camp!

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd December
Meadow Vale School, Bracknell
Moordale Avenue, RG42 1SY
8:30am - 5:30pm

POWERED BY



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TODAY →



...your CLUB, your FAMILY, working with your COMMUNITY

COBRAS BASKETBALL CAMP



QUALIFIED COACHES



**HAF PLACES AVAILABLE
ACCEPT CHILDCARE VOUCHERS**



OFSTED REGISTERED



Play. Learn. Grow. Join the Cobras this Christmas.

Celebrate the season with some holiday hoops! Join us for 2 festive days of basketball, skill development, competitive games, and new friendships this Christmas

Please bring Packed Lunch & Water Bottle, a Basketball if you have one.
HAF Attendees will receive a free Packed Lunch

£38 A DAY

CHRISTMAS CAMP

22ND DECEMBER

23RD DECEMBER



AGES: 5-16 YEARS
10AM - 4PM AT
KINGS ACADEMY, BINFIELD,
RG42 4EX

WWW.COBRASBASKETBALLCLUB.COM

COBRAS BASKETBALL CLUB

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SEN CHRISTMAS CAMP

23RD DECEMBER 2025

10AM-2PM

WELLINGTON FITNESS, DUKE'S RIDE,

CROWTHORNE RG45 7PT

PLEASE BRING PACKED LUNCH



Book Here:
www.cobrasbasketballclub.com

Understanding fake news

A guide to help you tell what's true and what's not!



What are misinformation and disinformation?

Misinformation: This is when someone shares false information by accident. They might think it's true, but it's actually wrong!

Example: A friend shares a post saying a famous singer has quit their job, but it's not true!

Disinformation: This is when someone shares false information on purpose to trick others.

Example: A group might make up a fake story about an actor to make people dislike them.

How to spot fake stories

Here are some simple ways to help you recognise false information:

1. Check the source (the person or website where the news has come from)

- **Good sources:** News websites you know, like BBC or trusted experts.
- **Red flag:** If the source is unknown or always shares things that aren't true, be careful.

2. Look for evidence

- **Good news:** Shows facts like studies or quotes from real experts.
- **Red flag:** Claims with no proof, or just say 'experts say' without saying who they are.

3. Beware of emotional headlines

- **Red flag:** If the title is full of strong emotions like fear or anger, it might be trying to trick you!

4. Check the date

- **Old stories:** Sometimes old news gets shared again and looks like it's new.
- **Red flag:** If it's an old story without updates, it might not be true anymore.

5. Check other sources

- **Good news:** If lots of websites say the same thing, it's more likely to be true.
- **Red flag:** If only one website or person is talking about it, you should check it carefully.

6. Be careful with photos and videos

- **Red flag:** If the photos or videos look weird or fake, it might be part of a trick!

How can I help stop fake or false news?

We all have a job to do to stop fake information from spreading.



1.

Pause before sharing: Always think before you share something online. Make sure it's true first.

2.

Report fake content: If you see something suspicious, tell an adult/teacher or report it online.

3.

Teach others: Share what you've learned with your family and friends so they can stay safe too.

Spreading misinformation is harmful because it confuses people, causes concern, fear or hurts others. In the UK, it can become a crime if it includes things like lying to trick people, encouraging hate, or damaging someone's reputation. Sharing false information online, like fake health advice, could lead to serious consequences such as warnings, fines, or even going to court. It's important to check facts before sharing.

Conclusion

Misinformation and disinformation can cause big problems, but you can help stop it. By checking sources, looking for evidence, and asking the right questions, you'll make sure you only share true and helpful information.

Remember: Always be careful with what you see online. If something doesn't seem right, double-check it before you believe or share it.

Thank you for reading. Stay smart and stay safe online.



50% OFF

MINI MAESTROS

We're offering **50% off your first term** and **25% off your following two terms** at selected Mini Maestros classes. But be quick – this exclusive offer is only available until **12 December 2025!**

Limited spaces available at **Reading Music Centre** for:
Baby Beats (0 - 18 months)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



50% OFF

MUSIC CENTRE CHOIRS

We're offering **50% off your first term** and **25% off your following two terms** at selected music centre choirs. But be quick – this exclusive offer is only available until **12 December 2025!**

Limited spaces available at **Bracknell Music Centre** for:
Children's Choir, Young Singers Choir & Contemporary Voices

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

