

parents newsletter



26th September 2024

Dear Parents,

Will one of our children become Prime Minister of the UK? Outlandish thought or possibility? Several of our young people, in school right now, in 30, 40, maybe 50 years' time, may become that person. There are dozens more in school today who have the potential, one day, to become government ministers some Members of Parliament, debating and voting on the laws that will affect everyone. Our government is comprised of many hundreds more who work behind the scenes from advisors, speech writers and office managers. Any number of them could be our children.

At Brooklands we want our children to appreciate why Politics matters, the difference that it can make and why it affects us all. Appreciating Politics is an important part of school life and this takes many forms from learning about how many schools and hospitals there are, how much doctors and nurses are paid, what is taught in schools, how air, seas and rivers are kept clean, how we help people with nowhere to live. Themes that might not sound like Politics but inform us and help to form our own opinions and prepare us for later life.

Brooklands takes the view that you're never too young to take an interest, get involved and have a voice. Encouraging our children to be curious and ask questions. You can support your child in developing an understanding of what matters to them and what helps them to explore and identify things that they want to improve for themselves and others. Whether this is bringing about change in the local area, or sharing why it has been important for them taking part in the Manningtree Mermaids campaign for safe bathing water or getting behind the Brantham Skatepark campaign. Politics starts with a small "p" - people and a conversation.

Christine Davy
Headteacher

Aspirational Teachers

We are proud to share that Paige Allen will be studying part-time (outside of the school day) for a Masters in Education Studies. Excellent role model to our children in demonstration of the joy that comes from learning.

The Votes Are In

Congratulations to our newly elected Brooklands Parliament. We look forward to seeing how their voice can bring about positive change in our classrooms, playgrounds, and beyond.

Dress Like Your Hero

Our school is filled with Little People, BIG DREAMS books, the best-selling biography series for kids by Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara. Our children Discover the lives of key figures from throughout history, from creatives and activists to scientists and politicians.

The series will be the inspiration for our Learning Together this term (see reverse for dates) where parents can come into school and learn alongside their child about some of the significant people we study across the curriculum from Mary Anning to Mae Jemison.

For World Book Day (6th March) we want to see our children and staff, inspired by the Little People Big Dreams series, dress up as their heroes.

Where Will Our Learning Take Us?

As well as Forest School visits, all our children will experience a trip over the next few months. From visiting the Imperial War Museum Duxford to Colchester. See reverse for dates.

Drawing and Talking Therapy

Marie Chapman, our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant has further extended her learning and skills, undertaking training in the area of drawing and talking therapy. With her new knowledge and skills, Miss Chapman will be enriching the ways in which we are able to support children within our school experiencing traumas such as bereavement and loss.

Applications Are Open

If you have a child starting school next September (and live in Brantham, East Bergholt etc) you can now apply online for a school place (www.suffolk.gov.uk)

For parents with children living in Essex (e.g Manningtree, Lawford, Mistley) applications open 4th November 2024 (www.essex.gov.uk).

Technological Advancements

One of our school development priorities this year is to extend our use of technology to enhance learning in all areas of the curriculum. Consequently, we have just invested in another 30 iPads for class use.