

# parents newsletter



1<sup>st</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school term. Joining us this term are a number of new families to the area. We also welcome families of children starting school for the first time this September. Joining a school community can be an anxious and challenging time especially when combined with a house move. I am always really touched how our Brooklands families extend a warm welcome to new faces, reaching out, whether it is to arrange play dates, introduce them to clubs and activities in the area or just saying hello. What also makes our parents stand out is their shared commitment and engagement with Brooklands, always on hand to support and help. Brooklands relies heavily on parent volunteers to support our Beach School and Forest School sessions.

Our active team of parents organise events for the school, from bake sales to discos. Giving their time to support, these parents instil memories with not only their own children but those of others. Through participation on ClassDojo our parents immerse themselves in our wonderful classroom moments sharing with us those special memories and landmarks in our children's learning journeys. Not just raising the roof for their own child but also in recognising and celebrating the achievements of others across the school. These efforts mean a lot and help to build relationships and show our children that we care.

There is an old African proverb that says it takes a village to raise a child and whilst we may not be in Africa, this still holds true. Whether you are a first time parent or a parent new to Brooklands, finding your tribe here, will support and lift you through and beyond your family's time at Brooklands.

**Christine Davy**

Headteacher

## Modelling Excellence

As well as being a Lead School for Curriculum with Unity Schools Partnership (CUSP), from September Brooklands will be a CUSP Early Years Model School, sharing practice and exemplifying excellence to other schools.

## Do You Share Our Passion?

Nurturing a passion for reading is crucial to your child's success. To help us develop passionate readers we are looking for parents to help support an increased emphasis on reading at home. This year, we will be launching online reading journals in Early Years to Year 6 to support parent engagement. Look out for details coming soon.

## See What We Are Learning

Curriculum information will be made available from next week. Take a look and see what your child will be learning in order to help support and encourage them at home.

## Share The Magic

Do you have a child starting school in September 2024? We are now arranging tours to give parents the opportunity to learn more about what we offer. One of the most effective ways for families to find out about prospective schools is through local networks. We encourage our parents to promote Brooklands within their social circles.

## OMAT Spotlight

A warm Brooklands welcome to Alastair Heath-Robinson who joins Orwell Multi-Academy Trust as our new CEO.

## Change Makers

Brooklands is keen to hear from parents or people in our community who would be happy to share with our children how they have brought about change. Whether you are a local volunteer or have protested in a march for something you are passionate about, we would like to hear from you.

## Have You Ordered Lunch?

Almost all of our children have taken up their opportunity for free school meals. We have a great team of cooks at Brooklands who provide fresh meals for our children daily. If your child is in Early Years or Year 1 or 2 all they need to do is tell their teacher they would like lunch.

## Sharing How We Learn

This term we will have a weekly assembly focus on metacognitive approaches. These approaches help our children reflect on what they know, who they are, what they wish to know, and how they can reach their goals. Look out for updates on ClassDojo sharing teaching strategies we use at Brooklands to support our children's learning.