



Dear Children,

On Monday we look forward to welcoming you all back to Brooklands.

All the grown-ups in school are looking forward to seeing you and hearing about your Summer holiday and the special times you have had with your families. Perhaps you went away, or you enjoyed days out.

You will also see some new faces in school when you return. Look out for the many new children and their families starting school this term. Perhaps you have someone new in your class. Make them feel welcome as you have always done before. They will welcome your kindness and friendship.

Whilst you have been away from Brooklands, we have been busy making changes around the school. Just like we do every Summer holiday, we have had lots of decorating done and painting, we have also had new flooring installed. See if you can spot where things have changed when you come back to school. You will also find lots of new resources to support your learning. Look out for our new 'Raffle' prizes too. I've tried to think very carefully about prizes I think you'd like. See if you can spot a cuddly toy!

Some of the changes around school will be ones that you don't even notice like our new equipment in the kitchen. Fran and Jude are very excited about using their new kitchen appliances. Like me, you have probably missed their cooking over the holidays. I've really missed their oaty biscuits!

We have also been getting ready for our school expansion. Next year there will be a new block built on part of the field. Before building starts we had to have a team of archaeologists visit the school. They will be digging to see if they can find evidence of ancient civilizations using the ground long before the school was built. When you see the playing field, you will notice some patches not covered by grass, this is where the archaeologists have dug their trenches. We had some very exciting news, they found some Roman pottery! If you are in Year 4 you will be learning about the Romans this year and I have arranged for one of the archaeologists to meet with you and tell you all about their work and what they have found.

When you come back to school you will still be asked to wash or sanitise your hands regularly. We also still have windows open to keep you safe because of the virus. One bit of good news is that we will no longer have 'Bubbles' meaning the whole school can come back together again for things like playtimes and assemblies. I am very pleased about this because one of the things I love about Brooklands is just how much the older children support the new children starting school in Early Years. There are also so many things I enjoy when we all come together like Celebration, school productions and sports tournaments.

Your teachers have been busy organising exciting trips for you. For Early Years and Year 1 children this will be your very first school trip and you will be visiting the Theatre Royal in Bury St Edmunds to watch a performance of Cinderella. Whilst those of you further up the school have visits planned to a range of venues including the Imperial War Museum at Duxford, Colchester Castle and the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary. Ask your teacher to tell you where you will be going.

Early in September, will also see us announce our new Head Boy and Head Girl. Like Maddie and Ollie last year, our new Head Boy and Head Girl will continue to support school events. We will also be announcing our Team Captains. Look out for them in Celebration.

Thank you for how adaptable you have been over the last few months. You have shown huge resilience, strength and empathy. In the new term ahead I hope that you will continue to be that friend, that team member, who is always there to lend a hand. Take time to ask others how they are doing. Be kind to all those around you, and when you look around look for the good.

Keep working hard on your return back to school. Bring enthusiasm and energy to your learning. Push yourself to do your best. One of the first jobs I've asked the teachers to do is to make sure you have new reading books to take home. Try and start to get back in to good habits by reading at home daily. You will spot lots of new books which I've chosen carefully to make sure you all have stories that you enjoy and want to read.

I've asked your new teachers to post a video message welcoming you back to school. Look out for them on ClassDojo. I hope that these messages will make you feel excited about returning to school.

I can't wait to see you all, and welcome new children, new faces and all the grown-ups too back to Brooklands.

See you in a few days,

Miss Davy