

parents newsletter



7th November 2025

Dear Parents,

As the leaves turn gold and the evenings draw in, the time is perfect for cosy reading. Whether you're curling up on the sofa or snuggled under a blanket, reading at home can bring both calm and connection. This autumn, whatever our age, let's make reading a daily habit.

For our older children and fluent readers that are already reading more independently, this doesn't mean the reading habit should stop. In fact, reading across a range of genres supports fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, stamina and exam performance. In the Key Stage 2 Reading SATs paper (Year 6) children have one hour to read three texts and answer questions. Research informs us that texts and questions make up around 2,900 words. Thus, if a pupil reads at about 90 words per minute (wpm), reading will take them 32 minutes before starting to answer the questions. The more agile we become as a reader the more time we have left for answering those questions. Reading fluency and stamina matter. Being able to read and understand quickly gives more time for higher-order thinking (inference, evaluation) rather than just decoding. Added to this, the government has announced a mandatory reading test at the end of Year 8, aimed at assessing reading fluency and comprehension for all pupils in England and enabling targeted support before GCSE years. So, as the nights draw in, let's make reading your family's cosy routine. A book before bed, a story shared at the weekend, or time reading a book, every bit counts. Together, we can become confident, curious readers, whatever our age.

Christine Davy
Headteacher

Excite And Inspire!

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

Who Do I Contact?

For most concerns, start by contacting your child's teacher as they are most familiar with your child's daily progress and challenges. If issues aren't resolved, follow the school's escalation process, which may involve speaking to the Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCO) for support-related issues, a member of the leadership team or the Headteacher. For further details please refer to the attached document.

Speaking With Confidence

Brooklands invests significantly in professional development. This year we will be prioritising oracy expanding our children's vocabulary use and understanding through the implementation of the Chatta approach.

Looking For Exceptional Wrap Around Care?

Brooklands Young Explorers offer before and after school care on site from 7.10am to 6.00pm. Offering indoor and outdoor play facilities as well as breakfast and evening meal. Call 01206 396641.

Making A Difference

Brooklands is keen to hear about children who are working to bring about change. Whether those changes are small or big, we are on the hunt to showcase role models and inspire other children to make a difference.

Sharing Your Activities

We are keen to hear about activities that our children are taking part in outside of school to help inspire other children to try something new. Previously, our children have shared a range of activities from water hockey to quad biking, horse riding to crafts. Whatever it might be, share it with us and help inspire others.

Looking Ahead Already

Do you have a child starting school in September 2026? We are now arranging tours to give parents the opportunity to learn more about what we offer. If you know of anyone who is looking please let them know and ask them to get in touch with the office.

Power & Odd Socks!

Anti-Bullying Week will take place from 10th – 14th November, with the theme: Power for Good. Odd Socks Day is taking place on 10th November, with children being encouraged to wear odd socks to celebrate what makes us all unique.