

parents newsletter



3rd July 2019

Dear Parents,

I am sometimes asked 'What makes Brooklands a Forest School?' The quickest answer would be to say that we offer all our children regular opportunities to achieve and develop confidence and self-esteem through hands-on learning experiences in the natural environment around us. But Brooklands is extra special as it embraces its status as a Forest School to harness teaching and learning outdoors to create an inspirational learning environment for our children. Being an exceptional Forest School and a leader in what we do, Brooklands goes far beyond play-based activities outdoors and builds its curriculum skillfully over an extended period where all our children throughout the school are involved in meaningful and challenging activities, immersed in outdoor based play and discovery learning. We are very proud to have several highly trained Forest School Practitioners on our staff and Momina Sohail, Jasmin Clarke and Melissa Payne will also begin their training in the next few weeks.

Over the coming weeks, months and years you will see and hear how your children are working together lighting fires, climbing trees or learning to use knives, for example as they learn to challenge themselves and collaborate. If that weren't enough, Brooklands is also the only school in Suffolk to hold Beach School status, enabling us to extend similar opportunities for our youngest children learning in a beach setting. It is magical to see your children building a shelter with tarpaulins, sticks and ropes or making face paint out of nettles, creating bracelets out of saplings, being sat around a fire or being fully immersed in whittling a spoon. Bringing learning alive!

Best wishes

Christine Davy

Early Years – Exciting Results

An impressive 80% of our children have reached a Good Level of Development at the end of their Early Years. This continues our rising trend and remains above the national figure.

Inspired Maths

Following the successful introduction of Inspire Maths in Key Stage 1 and Lower Key Stage 2 we will be extending its use into Upper Key Stage 2 from September with our current Year 4 children continuing this approach into Year 5.

Maths Inspire is a maths programme that has been developed to help children build firm foundations and a deep and secure understanding of mathematical concepts at each stage of their learning. This approach is known as a mastery approach to mathematics and is proving very effective.

Uniform Reminder

If you are purchasing uniform ready for September, please note that jumpers and cardigans need to have the school logo on and can be purchased online <https://pmsgschoolwear.co.uk/>.

Endangered Animals

Linked to our eagerness to make a difference, class names next year will be inspired by endangered animals.

I love new books and each class will receive their own copy of "Don't Let Them Disappear" to develop their awareness of species around the world that are under threat of extinction. In this book, Chelsea Clinton introduces readers to a selection of endangered animals, sharing what makes them special, and also what threatens them. It talks about rhinos, tigers, whales, pandas and more, and provides helpful tips on what we all can do to help prevent these animals

