

# parents newsletter



7<sup>th</sup> May 2020

Dear Parents,

Walking around Brooklands at the moment it feels so unlike “our” school. In the empty, quiet spaces it is so clear to see that a school isn’t a building. Great schools are alive, they are vibrant and exude energy, a sense of common focus and togetherness. They are a community with children at their heart. Whilst Brooklands’ heart remains strong it is beating a little quieter at the moment as the children whose parents’ work is critical to the COVID- 19 response inhabit it.

The last seven weeks has shown us how much a school really does. We have held our community together, we have supported those of most need. Our work has highlighted how it isn’t just about education, in fact in many cases the education has been secondary to the real issues, beyond the home-schooling we have prepared food parcels, talked with parents to help them find solutions, managed staff anxieties and provided support.

I’ve been lucky to have had the support of an amazing group of leaders within our academy trust that are committed to collaboration and partnership. Equally our staff have been marvellous, adapting to changes and acting with kindness and creativity. Similarly, behind every wall of every home, there are wonderful stories of kindness and generosity.

Lockdown has changed us. We won’t be able to start where we left off, there will be hundreds of stories and needs. Every school’s return to normality will be different but together, we will strive to make the right choices for our families, children and community here at Brooklands.

Kind Regards  
**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## Keeping Connected

Brooklands is aware that it is not just remote learning during this pandemic that we have had to deal with but other aspects such as anxiety, uncertainty, fear and isolation are factors as well. Like many of you at home, we have had to think more carefully about building a sense of community and how we can maintain human contact at a distance. Our teachers are working hard to connect with your children and know that our children want to see and hear from their teachers. Whether it’s by a personal message on ClassDojo, cards in the post, a phone call or a short video clip we know how important communication can be and that it can make the world of difference.

We also know that this extends to children starting school in September and for those children Grace Glanvill will be getting in touch with you too.

## Limited Places Available

If you know of families moving into the area who would like to join us, we currently have a limited number of places. For information on how they can apply please contact the school office. Phone calls will continue to be answered. You can call us on 01206 392291. Emails will also continue to be checked. Our email address is [office@brooklandsprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@brooklandsprimary.co.uk)

## #clapforourcarers

Inspired by the incredible things others are doing to help others Brooklands is showing it’s collective gratitude through a timed applause every Thursday at 8pm. We join others in the country to clap for everything NHS and other key workers are doing throughout the outbreak.

## School Uniform Day

Inspired by children sending in photographs of them wearing their uniform, we are announcing a Brooklands School Uniform Day (Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May). We are asking children to swap their own clothes for their school wear and send us in their photo to share on ClassDojo.

