

# parents newsletter



17<sup>th</sup> August 2020

Dear Parents,

As this academic year ends we reflect on how things changed so drastically in the course of a few months during the year. It has been the strangest of times and yet also a very special time. Strange, because it hasn't been filled with the usual experiences that make Brooklands special including visits to our beach and forest. Nevertheless, it has been an incredibly special time because we have connected in ways that perhaps we never knew we could. Despite our families being in their homes, our community feels stronger than ever. We have come together to take part in new events such as 'Brooklands Bake Off' and 'Brooklands Got Talent'. We have also put a spin on some of our more familiar events. With no end of term production or music festival we broke new ground and launched 'Palfrey Heights', our very own Brooklands soap opera and produced music videos.

2020 has also been great for the many special moments you have given your children at home. So many of you have embraced our Brooklands value of 'try new things' and I hope you will be able to look back with pride at the many wonderful experiences you have given your children during this time. They'll be able to hold such fond memories.

I'd like to thank you all for your many efforts over this challenging time in continuing to support your children's learning at home and in keeping us connected as a community. I am sure the next year will bring continued success as new faces join us in what I hope to be more normal times.

Christine Davy  
Headteacher

## Unseen Heroes

We would like to thank Shannon and Jane - our cleaners. Rarely seen but they do such an important job. Since the outbreak of COVID-19 they have worked tirelessly to carry out enhanced cleaning. In September their role will be essential in creating a safe environment for our children and staff.

## Joining Brooklands

We have several new faces joining Brooklands in September, however, we still have a limited number of places available. If you know of families moving into the area and would like information on how they can apply please contact the school office. You can call us on 01206 392291. Alternatively our email address is [office@brooklandsprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@brooklandsprimary.co.uk)

## ClassDojo Evolves

The last few years has seen us use ClassDojo with great effect, enabling us to keep you informed and engaged with your children's learning in many ways and this has evolved and expanded with changing times.

More recently we have expanded our use of ClassDojo to share activities that children can respond to on their Portfolio as well as supporting their learning.

## Preparing For Autumn

It is our plan that all children, in all year groups, will return to Brooklands full-time from the beginning of the autumn term. As part of planning for a full return in the autumn term, we are revisiting and updating our risk assessment to consider the additional risks and control measures needed now in order for us to feel safe and prepared for the autumn term.

We ask that parents carefully review the guidance we shared via ClassDojo to familiarise themselves with the system of controls put in place to minimise risks.

## Uniform Reminder

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

## Excellence in Pupil Development Award

Brooklands is always looking for new ways in which we can effectively develop and improve and as part of this we are working towards the Excellence in Pupil Development Award.

To promote our children's personal development we will be introducing 'Votes For Schools' a programme designed to develop children's knowledge and response to current affairs.