

parents newsletter



4th October 2020

Dear Parents,

Just a few weeks ago our children returned to school for what was arguably the biggest step forward towards normality since schools closed their doors on 20th March 2020. As we welcomed new and familiar faces back to Brooklands we have worked hard to nurture a sense of safety and create a positive climate of optimism and enthusiasm that I hope has been felt both by parents as well as our children.

For the vast majority of our children the start of term has seen them get back into the swing of things. Their attention has turned to being with their friends and teachers and the excitement of learning new things. Our children have quickly eased into new structures and routines. Many visitors to the school already have been struck by the calm and purposeful atmosphere for learning across the school.

Together, with your help, we're working hard to restore Brooklands to a place where positive childhood memories are made. Childhood memories are some of the most precious memories we will ever have. Whether it's being a Roman for the day or trying their hands at being a vet, mechanic or hairdresser we want our children's days to be filled with fun and laughter and their thoughts to turn to the anticipation and excitement of what lies ahead.

Christine Davy
Headteacher

Parents Evening

This year, parents' evening takes on a new importance. The autumn term event is usually the first opportunity for families to meet their teachers. Following extended closures and reduced face-to-face contact, this year, I am sure that parents will be extra keen to catch up with teachers. We are currently in the process of organising appointments for remote meetings. Look out for letters with further details.

Visual Arts

We are currently working in partnership with Firstsite. Based in Colchester, Firstsite is a fantastic visual arts centre and we are delighted to have a number of artists working with our staff to deliver bespoke training sessions for our children.

Applications Are Open!

If you have a child starting school next September, you can now apply online for a school place at www.suffolk.gov.uk. For parents with children living in Essex applications open 9th November 2020 (www.essex.gov.uk).

To arrange a tour of the school please contact the school office. We are holding an information evening on 11th November at 6.00pm for parents with children starting school in September 2021.

Phonics Check

We have recently purchased a wide selection of fully decodable reading books for children to take home, to support their Read Write Inc. Phonics learning. These books also include notes for parents on how to help their child at home with phonics.

The government has asked schools to administer the phonics screening check for Year 2 children in the second half of the autumn term (between the October half term and Christmas). We will be following these guidelines and using resources like those mentioned above, to help your child prepare for this.

Recognised for Pupil Development

In recognition for its exceptional work, helping our children develop their skills in areas such as personal attributes, positive attitudes, self-confidence, resilience and self-discipline, Brooklands has achieved the Excellence in Pupil Development Award.

Brooklands underwent a comprehensive full day verification visit and came through with flying colours. The assessor reported; 'Brooklands Primary School is a place where the personal development of each pupil, particularly through the rich use of the outside environment, is at the heart of everything they do and is highly visible around the school.'