

# parents newsletter



9<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parents,

We are seeing significant victories against the virus in the form of new tests, treatments, and vaccines. Possibly, by the time you read this, you or someone you know may have already received their first COVID-19 vaccine. The achievements made have not been done in isolation. We have witnessed one of the largest public health efforts in history, involving policymakers, researchers, healthcare workers and business leaders, and so many others working together in new ways.

Our school community too is achieving victory in the face of our children losing time in the classroom. Education is, and has always been, a shared responsibility. The pandemic has brought the importance of parental engagement into sharper focus as our parents continue to go above and beyond to make sure our children continue learning and to feel an integral part of their class. Your remarkable efforts have seen our children maintain their close relationships with teachers and friends. Your support has also seen our children immerse themselves in a huge range of activities from battling it out in Times Table Rockstar competitions with other local schools to getting creative in the kitchen or learning new skills. With your support, commitment and imagination our children have been able to share a little more of themselves from talents and passions to talented pet pals.

To all of our Brooklands parents I say, thank you.

**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## **Safer Internet Day**

On the 9<sup>th</sup> February Brooklands will be celebrating Safer Internet Day on the theme “An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world”. We will be considering how we separate fact from fiction?

## **Breaking Chains**

Staff at Brooklands along with other primary schools in the country are now being encouraged to test twice weekly. The use of rapid lateral flow tests is a vital part of our plan to suppress the virus. It will enable us to identify any possible asymptomatic staff in school and thereby break transmission chains.

## **Flash, Bang, What A Picture!**

Are you a photographer in the making? Following on from the success of the Big Garden Birdwatch we are launching a Wildlife Photography Competition. Dust off that camera and see what takes your eye. Whether trying to get that perfect shot of a bluetit perching on a bird feeder or squirrel bouncing up a tree? Whether it is beautiful, spectacular or strange, we are inviting you to capture the wonders of wildlife in our new competition. There will also be a category for adults wishing to take part. Photographs will be published and winners will receive prizes.

## **Community Stars**

We're launching Community Stars to recognise individuals or groups going to extraordinary lengths. It could be someone volunteering at foodbanks, providing shopping and medical deliveries for the most vulnerable, people fundraising for community causes or other gestures of kindness.

Follow the link to nominate yourself or someone else you feel deserves special recognition. It might be someone in our school community or someone in our neighbourhood. All nominations will be recognised and we will award winners with a prize.

## **Little City Home Play**

For some of our children in Early Years we are supporting their play at home through funding the hire of role play sets. This will see our children choosing to be vets, builders, doctors, café owners and much more.

## **Zooming In For Progress**

Our bi-annual Parent/Teacher Consultations will be held remotely again this term providing families with the opportunity to discuss their child's progress and seek further support with remote learning. We are keen to respond in personalised ways to the needs of our families.