

# parents newsletter



1<sup>st</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents,

With just a few days until our children return to school, we are eagerly looking forward to learning together, school trips, productions and all those familiar activities that we haven't been able to do for quite some time.

It is staggering to think that for those children going into Year 6 their last full year of what we think of as a familiar "normal" was in Year 3. And whilst we adapted remarkably to new ways of teaching and working, the excitement of reigniting the face to face experiences that make Brooklands so special are filling all of us with renewed energy.

There are so many ways you can help us reconnect too, from supporting school trips, offering to volunteer in school, helping and attending school events to raising school funds. Brooklands is a collective of so many parts and one thing positive that the pandemic has reminded us is how well we can work together and support our children.

I am really looking forward to a time where our children can come together as one during the school day and sharing those, often incidental moments once again like our eldest children supporting our youngest around school and the expressions of joy on everyone's faces when we announce our Raffle winner.

**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## Thriving in a Diverse World

One of our priorities at school this year is supporting our children to thrive and flourish in a diverse, multicultural world. As part of this we will be helping to give our children the tools and vocabulary to talk about people's differences and similarities in an open, non-judgemental, curious way and help them address any unfairness they might encounter.

This area can sometimes feel a bit daunting and if you would like to raise your awareness and confidence to handle some of those tricky conversations with your child, a recommend read for parents is: "Wish We Knew What to Say" by Pragya Agarwal.

## Exciting Trips on the Horizon

During lockdown we all recognised how important it is for our children to have opportunities to visit and have experiences beyond our school gates. Staff at Brooklands have put together some exciting visits for the Autumn term. Look out for details over the next few weeks. But for these trips to go ahead we will need your support.

Brooklands will soon be taking card payments for school trips using Arbor. Payment is fast and easy. If you need help registering please speak to our admin staff in the school office who will be able to help you.

## Take a Tour

For parents with children hoping to start school in September 2022 we are now arranging tours. Please contact the school to arrange.

## Supporting Healthy Eating

Supporting our children's mental and physical health is another of our school development priorities. As part of this we want to support our children to eat healthily. We encourage all of our children to have school meals as these comply with regulatory standards for foods provided. However, if you would prefer to provide a packed lunch we encourage parents to visit [www.nutrition.org.uk](http://www.nutrition.org.uk) for advice on healthy lunch boxes.

We also ask parents not to provide birthday treats, and this includes ones at the end of the school day.

## Shining Examples

Each year, at the beginning of the school year, staff nominate a Head Girl and Head Boy that demonstrate star qualities reflective of Brooklands' values. These are important roles at Brooklands and holders help the leadership team during events throughout the school year.

We will also be announcing Team Captains roles early in the term.