

parents newsletter



23rd March 2022

Dear Parents,

The sports industry was significantly affected and countless sports competitions worldwide were forced to cancel over the events of the last two years. Here at Brooklands we also saw all of our cross school sports competitions brought to an abrupt halt, but I am glad to see that intra school sports competitions are starting to return. However, I began reflecting on what it means for our children to take part in them. Occasionally I hear questions like “Why should kids compete?”

Brooklands’ vision is to ‘be the best you can be’ and through our focus on five core values we daily keep in mind what is at the “HEART” of the school: High expectations, Enjoyment, Aspire, Respect and developing the confidence and curiosity to Try new things. You have recently helped us to refresh our ‘50 things to do before you leave Brooklands’ list and in that list is ‘Take part in a tournament or competition’.

Competition teaches us many things including how to take risks and deal with failure. Competitions in all their forms provide an opportunity for our children to experience failures and learn from them. They learn that failure is a natural part of life and through this, they help us to make progress and develop our resilience. They can also unleash a passion and talent. At Brooklands we believe there is a place for competition in the lives of our children and we will be celebrating our children as they take part in their Squash tournament at Garrison squash courts Colchester and running for glory at the Cross country event at Royal Hospital School, Holbrook.
Christine Davy Headteacher

Rising From the Footings

SEH French have begun pouring concrete in the next stage of building our new teaching block.

Inspiring Visitors

We work hard to identify and invite guest role models from the wider community to present to our children. We are delighted to welcome Toby to school this week. Toby has Cerebral Palsy and utilises technology to get about and help him communicate.

OMAT Spotlight

Our annual wellbeing survey has just been completed by staff across Orwell Multi Academy Trust. The results will help in writing a declaration of support and commitment to the wellbeing and mental health of everyone working in the academy.

Supporting and Sharing

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey and offered ideas on how we can support parents and assist in making what your child will be learning during the year clearer. You told us that you would welcome opportunities to view your child’s work. As a result we will be reintroducing ‘Share’ sessions where parents can view their child’s work alongside their child. Subject focused, these sessions will enable children to share their learning in greater depth. Look out for up coming dates soon.

We are listening

From September we will have an additional outdoor space which will extend our learning space for the Early Years/Year 1 classroom. Funded from the school budget, we have incorporated many of your suggestions into the space. The exciting designs include a raised wooden hut, a wooden climbing frame and a climbing wall.

175 Days

Across the UK as well as here at Brooklands, we are seeing the impact of the pandemic on our children’s wellbeing and education.

Without wishing to sound like a broken record, I encourage parents to avoid absences during the school term. We circulate term dates well in advance and you will find 2022 – 2023 term dates are already available on the back of our newsletter and on our school website. Please share these dates with your extended family and friends in order that special days and events can be arranged to enable everyone to be included without anxiety or disappointment.

There are approximately 175 days outside of the school calendar, offering time to spend with family, for visits, holidays, celebrating, appointments and all those special moments.