

parents newsletter



13th June 2022

Dear Parents,

At Brooklands we value nature and recognise the importance of giving our children the opportunity to enjoy and learn in the natural world. If we expect our children to one day take care for the Earth, we must help them fall in love with their planet and encourage them to want to do their best to protect it. Nature brings children endless delights whether it's being captivated watching a thunderstorm roll across the sky, splashing in rain puddles, or spotting a bird perched high in the trees.

Brooklands is leading the way and has a head start on the DfE's recommendations set out in its recent Sustainability and Climate Change Strategy. We are recognised as a centre of excellence in outdoor learning and have achieved the Learning Outside the Classroom Award enabling us to share our best practice with other schools. We are the only school in Suffolk to offer both Beach School and Forest School, meaning our children benefit from regular access to green space. We have also worked to increase the number of trees and plants on our school site, most recently enhancing the area of meadow with wild flowers. As part of our recent Careers Week our children learnt about careers in horticulture and agriculture. Our Year 3 and Year 4 children also recently attended the School Farm and Country Fair at Trinity Park in Ipswich.

We are also pleased that our school expansion plans include the addition of electric charging points as well as extra cycle and scooter parking. Over the next few years we will continue our commitment, working to ensure that sustainability is prioritised in the minds and actions of our children, staff and families.

Christine Davy
Headteacher

Going Plastic Free

Children at Brooklands are encouraged to support and drive positive change. With this in mind, Charlie Baxter in Year 5 is keen for us to taken action on single-use plastics.

As a results of Charlie's activism, Brooklands has signed up to the Plastic Free Schools programme. As part of this we will undertake a number of challenges including: contacting companies responsible for plastic packaging and use the power of our voice to call for change. Single-use plastic items are being removed or replaced from the school and children will be holding clean-ups on the school grounds and surrounding area.

Grab Your Place

If you know of families moving into the area who would like to join us, we currently have a limited number of places. For information on how they can apply please contact the school office.

Wobble and Challenge

Linked to our school expansion plans we have recently finalised plans for our new trim trail. High in challenge the equipment will include: a wobbly bridge, log weave, balance beam, log pass, challenge net and jungle beams.

Creative Inspiration

Eager to introduce our children to inspirational role models, class names next year will be themed on artists. Each year classes vote for their chosen name. I wonder what they will choose: Andy Warhol, Vivienne Westwood, Frida Kahlo, Louise Bourgeois, Pablo Picasso, David Bowie, or Jean-Michel Basquiat?

Successful Bid

Brooklands has been successful in its application for a government award known as the Condition Improvement Fund to help maintain our buildings. As a result we have been awarded £193,000 towards a fire safety project. This will see the installation of internal fire doors, fire alarm system and visitor management system.

Music at Trinity Park

With the support of the Suffolk Music Service, every child at Brooklands from Year 3 upwards has the opportunity to learn a musical instrument (recorder and clarinet). Later this month our children will be performing alongside other schools in Ipswich.