

parents newsletter



30th January 2023

Dear Parents,

When we think of activism what images come to mind? Protesters shouting or causing problems perhaps? At its root, activism is about becoming active to influence and change things that are important to us.

Our children are aware of what is going on around them and have the capacity to be deeply upset by it. They may not recognise the complexities of a situation but they know if something is “unfair”. Studies tell us those as young as 15 months old understand equitable treatment. Social issues can be complex, but underpinning them are simple concepts that children can relate to and be moved by. At Brooklands we encourage our children to become activists known as “Difference Makers”. Helping our children understand activism is really helping them think of the world as one big playground. Becoming a Difference Maker can help draw your child out, create empathy, develop real-life social skills, like teamwork, planning, strategy and communication, build their resilience and confidence in their own decision making.

Every child has some natural interests, and almost any of them can be a bridge to a specific kind of activism. If your child has always loved animals for example, think about getting involved with a local animal shelter. Make activism fun and share positive role models and examples from your own families. Developing our inner activist is about encouraging a lifetime of positive contribution to the world and learning.

Christine Davy
Headteacher

Becoming a Champion

This term we will be drawing upon Marcus Rashford’s ‘You Are a Champion Action Planner: 50 Activities to Achieve Your Dreams’ as the basis for a number of our assemblies across the term. Introducing inspiring challenges that will help our children reach their full potential.

Targeted and Effective

Teachers regularly assess children in reading, writing and mathematics. This tracking information helps us to identify individuals and groups who need help to achieve and we are able to target interventions to help. We have a range of interventions running before and after school to help support our children.

The Big Stuff

Over the next few weeks we will be working to install further IT infra-structure throughout the new building. We are also pleased to see that Interactive White Boards have been installed in classrooms.

Baker or Eater?

We are holding a Valentines Bake Sale on February 9th after school to raise funds for the school.

Visitors

We have recently introduced a visitor management system called InVentory. This system will enable us to know who is on-site at any given time.

Making a Difference

We’re keen to introduce our children to community minded people in the local area who have made a difference whether through fund raising or raising awareness for charity, volunteering or activism. We would love to hear from you, if you know or can recommend some one to share their experience.

Mini First Aiders

Over the next few weeks some of our children will be undertaking First Aid training with Mini First Aid. Equipping our children with the basic first aid knowledge required for a first aid emergency.

Let’s Connect

Children’s Mental Health Week is taking place on 6th to 10th February. This year’s theme (Let’s Connect) reflects the importance of healthy connections whether it be to family, friends and others. Connections help to support our mental health and wellbeing.

Talking to Trees and Living on the Veg

To support our children’s understanding of nature, climate change and sustainability we have recently purchased a range of fiction and non-fiction books linked to these key issues. Living on the Veg, Hope Jones Clears the Air, The Girl who Talked to Trees.