

# parents newsletter



3<sup>rd</sup> October 2014

Dear Parents

I am extremely grateful and appreciative of the contributions and active participation that you as parents take in every aspect of the school. Many of the amazing achievements we have made here at Brooklands have been in no small part helped by the hard work of parents and volunteers. For example, recently clearing our woodland, hearing children read and our PTA have been instrumental in creating our outdoor stage, developing our library resources and sports facilities.

Parent and volunteer involvement is fundamental to the learning and experiences of our children at Brooklands. The school is going through a huge transformation especially in its outdoor resources and I invite all of you to share in this exciting period of development. The PTA are holding a meeting at school on 13<sup>th</sup> October 9.00am to discuss even more opportunities to bring the school to life for every child and you are all encouraged to share your ideas and support to make this happen.

Kind Regards  
**Christine Davy**

## Where Did The Days Go?

Who would have thought that arriving 5 minutes late every day for school adds up to over 3 days lost learning each year. A significant amount of time when we calculate it and yet children regularly arrive late for school.

Can I remind parents that children need to line up at 8.55am with their class teacher.

## School Banding

The Local Authority has recently reviewed the way in which it monitors the performance of Suffolk schools and I am pleased to report that Brooklands has been congratulated on its leadership, focus and team work resulting in a green rating (the highest rating achievable).

## Making Progress

One of things we will be focusing on in the coming year is the way in which your children are assessed against the new National Curriculum. Many of you will be aware that previously your children's progress has been assessed in terms of levels. This will still remain for Year 2 and Year 6 for the coming year, however, for those in other year groups we are working hard to establish a new method of assessing their progress based on what would be expected for a child of their age nationally.

In the future, it is likely that you will be hearing terms such as 'working at an age related expectation' or 'working above an age related expectation'.

## Eco Warriors

This year's elected representatives are:

Bumblebees: Maisey and Joachim  
Rabbits: Jasmin and Henry  
Squirrels: Holly and Ayden  
Badgers: Ella and Tyler S  
Hedgehogs: Keely and Max  
Sparrowhawks: Eleanor and Harry S

## Been a While!

Finally after a long period of waiting the works to the railway embankment in Brantham have been completed which means that we are now able to reinstate forest visits.

A number of our children's parents have devoted a considerable amount of time and effort to clearing the forest area in readiness for visits to begin again. I take this opportunity to thank them for their work in rejuvenating this wonderful resource on our doorstep.

## Uniform Update

To reflect equality in our uniform guidelines, with effect from September 2014 girls are permitted to wear black or grey knee length shorts or trousers.