

# parents newsletter



1<sup>st</sup> July 2016

Dear Parents

Across the school Brooklands likes to recognise and reward good behaviour and over the years we have established a number of effective ways of doing this including "Sparkly Green" to our school "Raffle" where our children delight in applauding these achievements.

This year our Early Years and Year 4 children and their parents have been trialing Class DoJo to help recognise good behaviour and keep parents informed on their child's participation, behaviour and teamwork. It has proved so successful that from September we will be rolling Class DoJo out across the school and I will be letting you know more about this soon.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you all at our Summer music evening where the band 'Darc' will be playing on our outdoor stage.

Kind Regards  
**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## Leading Partnership Award

As part of our efforts to work towards identifying more ways in which we can further improve our partnership involvement with parents, Brooklands is currently working towards the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA). The LPPA is a national award that provides a framework through which schools can deliver effective parental engagement and we are thrilled to be working towards this standard.



## Absence needs to be Authorised

Following the recent decision by the High Court regarding the case of the Isle of Wight Council v Jon Platt, The Department for Education has repeated that headteachers continue to have the power to authorise leave of absence in very exceptional circumstances.

The term 'exceptional' refers to absence in the event of something, significant, unavoidable and short. And by 'unavoidable' we mean an event that could not reasonably be scheduled at another time.

Children and families have 175 days off school to spend time together.

## Excellent news in Phonics

I could not fail to be delighted with this year's phonics screening tests in Year 1 when I saw that our results revealed that we achieved 20% higher than last year's national figure with a total of 97% of children reaching the expected standard.

Children start learning phonics (the relationships between letters and sounds) in Early Years using the Read, Write Inc programme and we will be holding an information session for parents new to the school in the Autumn term (see reverse).

## SENCo

I am sure that you will all join me in offering congratulations to Becky Thompson who will be our new SENCo from September.

## Swimming along

Our children have been really enjoying their outdoor swimming pool. They are benefiting greatly from Rose Cross's help and guidance. As a Level 2 Qualified Swimming Instructor, Rose has been supporting our teachers by the pool to help develop our children's swimming skills.

