

# parents newsletter



7<sup>th</sup> October 2016

Dear Parents

Over the last few weeks I have shown several parents and children who hope to join Brooklands in September 2017, round the school. One of the many pleasures I have in doing this is in seeing their surprise and delight at all the things we are doing at Brooklands. It can be easy to take what we do for granted or see it as common place and not fully appreciate all the wonderful things we are doing for our children here. Fresh eyes remind us just how unique and special our children's experiences are here at Brooklands. We are often going above and beyond what is offered in other schools and this is reflected in the progress that our children make. Our school results also support this, with our Key Stage 1 and 2 children outperforming other schools and seeing the visible delight on our children's faces as they bounce through the school doors every day, eager to to learn and try new things.

I hope that all of our parents will share in some of this excitement and pride when visiting the school each day and also through the new and acclaimed ClassDoJo.

Kind Regards  
**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## Dyslexia Friendly

Brooklands is working hard to achieve a new quality mark (Dyslexia Friendly Quality Mark). This aims to provide a framework of support and understanding in order to further develop our practice and help all our learners with dyslexia.



## Exceptional Circumstances

The Department for Education places strict controls on Headteachers when it comes to granting leave of absence during term-time. I appreciate that this might be difficult, but unless there are very specific "exceptional circumstances" it is very unlikely that leave will be approved.

## Shape and Spell

There is a new approach to spelling at Brooklands. You will find that your children now have less words to learn at home (five words). We have done this to help them develop a deeper level of understanding of each of the words. Combined with this, we are also encouraging our children with the use of a greater range of strategies to help them learn. Strategies include drawing around the word to show the shape, drawing an image around the shape and quickwrite.

Miss Glazin will be running an information session for you 16<sup>th</sup> October at 6.00pm.

## Have you applied for Free School Meals yet?

Many of you are aware that all children in Early Years, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal, regardless of income. However, if you are on what the Government terms 'a low income', it is important that you still apply for Free School Meals even if your child is in Early Years, Year 1 or Year 2. For every child registered, the school receives 'Pupil Premium' funding of up to £1,320 per child. Every penny of this is then invested back in to helping your child achieve and enables us to do a great deal. Please talk to our office staff for further information.

## Anti-Bullying Week

Brooklands will be taking part in Anti-Bullying Week this year (14th-18th November).

If you are concerned that your child may be being bullied please talk to a member of staff. We will investigate what is happening and be able to put a plan in place and keep you informed.

Please see our Anti-Bullying charter for further information (available on website).



#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK