

parents newsletter



4th November 2016

Dear Parents

Official new figures show that a third of new teachers leave the profession within five years and one in eight after just one year of teaching. With such shocking national statistics Brooklands' track record in identifying new talent and nurturing them through the years becomes even more impressive. We have some exceptional talent at Brooklands. Teachers who are passionate about their roles and responsibilities, Mike Waddell has been with us for more than 10 years to Megan Glazin who has flourished within 4 years to achieve the role of Assistant Headteacher and Becky Thompson who has, within 3 years at Brooklands, become our Special Educational Needs lead. Lily Loveday joined us in September and is already demonstrating her teaching skills and commitment helping our children be the best.

This term we have also welcomed back Liz Burnett and Sally Collins and some of you may also have seen Kathy Ross taking some classes. Kathy now lives in Switzerland but so enjoys being part of the Brooklands' team that she returns to teach whenever she can. Kathy has become my official Swiss chocolate supplier and without Liz I would never keep up with the events in Bake-Off or Strictly!

It can be easy to forget in the midst of the daily routines just how lucky we are to have such an exceptional team of teaching talent at Brooklands.

Kind Regards
Christine Davy, Headteacher

Key Stage 2 Commendation

Brooklands recently received congratulations from the Department for Education for our Key Stage 2 results. Tim Coulson, Regional Schools Commissioner wrote 'I was very pleased to see the school's provisional Key Stage 2 results for this Summer. Everyone is aware of the higher demands of the tests than in previous years and it was impressive how well and quickly your staff have adapted and taught children to the standards required.'

Respect and Try New Things

Following up on our focus on Growth Mindset and linked to our school values of respect, understanding of ourselves and others, our children will now be taking part in some activities to develop their empathy skills as well as activities to help them learn the importance of perseverance.

Keep an eye on the videos soon to be uploaded on ClassDoJo for you to share and discuss with your child at home. Helping you to encourage your child to challenge themselves and try new things that they might not have experienced or done before is a key part of helping them learn and working together to do this can be fun and rewarding. You might even find you are surprised at what you both learn!



E-Safety

Accompanying this newsletter I am attaching a copy of Digital Parenting. This edition of Digital Parenting provides useful guidance for parents on how to help build your child's digital resilience so they benefit from the exciting opportunities the internet has to offer while also being aware of how to stay safe when using it, and what to do if something goes wrong.

Reading

One of the secrets behind our end of Key Stage 2 reading results is the emphasis we place on developing our children's vocabulary. When we listen to the children read we spend time discussing the meaning of words they come across that they may not understand.

One of the ways you can support your child's progress in reading at home is by discussing the meaning of unfamiliar words.

2017/2018

You can now apply online for a school place at www.suffolk.gov.uk. Applications need to be made by 15th January 2017.

We will be holding an information evening for parents on 23rd November at 6.00pm if anyone wishes to attend.

If you would like to arrange a tour of the school please contact the school office.