

parents newsletter



16th December 2016

Dear Parents

Reflecting back on 2016, we have achieved a great deal including the continued development of our outdoor area from the installation of our new green house to the expansion of our science area. 2016 also saw us awarded as the first Beach School in the region. Meanwhile, our children continue to shine and excel in their wide range of endeavours and our Year 2 and Year 6 results along with Phonics achieved well above National figures. We also welcomed Lily Loveday to team Brooklands and in a short period of time has become a valued member of the team and shared her talent as a teacher. 2016 also saw the promotion of Megan Glazin to Assistant Headteacher and Becky Thompson to the role of Special Educational Needs Coordinator. We launched our new website and also introduced ClassDojo to share with you what is happening in school.

I can only wonder what memories our children will be creating and sharing in 2017. For one of our team, 2017 is set to be extra special as Cleonie Harris will be getting married to Jack in February. We will be wishing them all the very best, but for now, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 2017.

Kind Regards
Christine Davy
Headteacher

Teacher Recruitment in Crisis

The National Audit Office (NAO) has laid bare the extent to which teacher recruitment and retention is in crisis across all areas of teaching. NAO figures indicate that the number of teachers leaving the profession has increased by 11% over three years and ministers have failed to hit their recruitment target for four consecutive years. These results highlight that recruitment and retention are both at dangerously low levels, with many schools unable to fill vacant posts with suitably qualified candidates. In response to this challenge, Brooklands is seeking to recruit a newly qualified teacher for September through a robust recruitment programme including the use of social media. We have also released a short film featuring Lily Loveday sharing her experiences during her first year at Brooklands. Lily and Megan have also been asked by the Local Authority to promote teaching in Suffolk at recruitment fairs, aimed to attract teachers because of our engaging outdoor curriculum and substantial investment in teacher's professional development.

Sea Otters play Guitars!

With the help of the Suffolk County Music Service, our Sea Otters are learning the guitar this year.

Limited Edition Badge Release

Next week we will be issuing children who have behaved well across the term our second limited edition badge. This will be awarded through their Student Story page on ClassDojo, with six to collect. These are a great achievement and are a source of pride and celebration.

School places

If your child was born between 1.9.12 and 30.8.13 they are due to start school in September 2017. The closing date for applications for primary schools is midnight on Sunday 15th January 2017.

Make A Wish

This year our children have chosen their charity to be the Make A Wish Foundation which grants magical wishes to enrich the lives of children fighting life-threatening conditions. Their wishes can range from small to large; from making a film to going on an amazing holiday. Each wish is as personal and unique as the child it belongs to and focusses on creating incredible memories beyond and aside from their illness. The effects a wish can have on a seriously ill child are huge; from creating incredible memories, building confidence and bringing happiness, to providing respite from the daily struggles that come with a life-threatening condition.

Our School Council will be announcing ways you can support fundraising for this charity in the weeks ahead.

