

parents newsletter



17th March 2017

Dear Parents

As the glorious daffodils start to open heralding the emergence of Spring, my thoughts drift to how to enjoy the warmer weather! As many of you will know I have a particular fondness for the warmer months and here at school we have not wasted time in seizing the brighter days and getting outside to enjoy playtimes.

Our inspirational sports coaches (Haz and Terry) have also been supporting our children with football, handball and rugby. Following in the footsteps of our friendly rival matches against Highfields Primary School watched by many of you, our Year 5 and 6 children will be taking part in a cross country event at the Royal Hospital School. We will be cheering them on and possibly reflecting back to our own muddy experiences of cross country!

Best wishes
Christine Davy
Headteacher

Green Fingered Gardeners

We are very fortunate here at Brooklands to have an allotment in the school grounds in which our children love to grow their own crops. The children have started to prepare their beds for planting and Year 2 children have chosen to plant runner beans, baby carrots and cress this week.

Taking Reading Up A Gear!

Brooklands has recently implemented Accelerated Reader in Year 5 and Year 6 and from September we will also be introducing this internet-based programme to Year 3 and Year 4.

Independent research has shown that Accelerated Reader produces 'particularly positive effects' through its system that involves children reading a book followed by an online quiz and immediate feedback on their reading.



Writing

Pippa Wake has recently completed her training to be a Local Authority external moderator for Year 6 writing. Over the next few months Pippa will be going in to schools to review samples of pupils' writing. This role is also vital in helping to support Brooklands in making accurate teacher assessment judgements.

The Transformation Project

Megan Glazin and Lily Loveday are taking part in an exciting new project with a number of Ipswich schools to develop and to take Brooklands to the next level our provision in Early Years and Year 1. The project aims to help both the indoor and outdoor learning environments and support the planning of child-initiated and adult focused learning.

Birthdays

This week has been filled with celebration as Trisha Brinkley celebrated a 'special' birthday and also joined our children in celebrating their birthdays in a Celebration assembly where they received birthday cards and stickers whilst the whole school joined in singing Happy Birthday. In total, over 80 children at Brooklands last year enjoyed the chance to share a special birthday lunch to celebrate their day. That's a lot of celebrating!

Internet Matters

If you are concerned about online safety of your children, a very helpful resource is Internet Matters (www.internetmatters.org). The site provides tips and support about online safety broken down in to age-appropriate sections to help you talk to your child about the issues and technologies they'll come across as they grow up online. From setting your parental controls to teaching your child how to be a good friend online.