

# parents newsletter



6<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear Parents

Shaping the direction and culture of a school can be challenging but it is extremely rewarding when I see the children and staff flourishing. After many years of teaching experience, I still have a passion for staying at the forefront of the latest research and translating this into new approaches for us here at Brooklands in addition to encouraging and supporting our teachers to continue their learning and development in order that they can also learn how to do this with confidence. For example, Charlie Goddard is currently undertaking "Maths Inspire" training, based on maths teaching methods from Singapore. Identifying and effectively developing new approaches makes Brooklands exciting and exceptional for everyone as well as being a beacon which others in the country are learning from.

Trying new things, whether you are a child here at Brooklands or a teacher, helps to motivate, develop and inspire us which is why it is one of Brooklands' school values.

Kind Regards  
**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## Walls Full of Learning

At our recent Share sessions many of you will have seen our "Learning Walls" in each of our classrooms. These fabulous displays are examples of how your children are learning and the processes they are moving through to develop. Examples like vocabulary through to building their writing and all the stages in between. Next time you are here, take a closer look and see where they are on their learning journey.

## 'You're never too young to talk mental health'

At Brooklands we want our children to understand and be open about their feelings. It is important that our children understand that emotions are normal and that they have the confidence to ask for help if they are struggling.

As part of our new initiative 'You're never too young to talk mental health' campaign, the Schools in Mind network has produced a new resource to help parents and carers start conversations about mental health with children.

I am attaching this helpful leaflet which provides simple advice and guidance to parents about how to make conversations about their child's feelings part of everyday dialogue.

## Home Learning

We have introduced a range of online home learning activities including Times Tables Rock Stars. Times Table Rock Stars is a game where children become "Rock Legends" if they answer maths questions in under a second. Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Teachers will also be able to review how your children are progressing with learning their times tables.

## Holding the Stack

Our Year 5 children are enjoying learning to play the clarinet this year and many of your homes will be resounding to their enthusiastic practice. We are hoping in a few months time that they will be showing us their new skills in a special performance for parents.



## New Intake 2018

Brooklands will be holding an information evening on 18<sup>th</sup> October at 6:00pm for parents with children hoping to start school in September 2018. If anyone wishes to attend or would like a tour of the school please contact the school for details.

You can now apply online for a school place at [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk). Applications need to be made by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

## Communications

Attached to the newsletter is our communication flowchart which details who to talk to if you have any concerns.