

# parents newsletter



16<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents

As the hope of warmer weather is here excitement of the approaching Summer term begins and thoughts are turning to summer at Brooklands. We already have many visits planned for the children including visits to our Beach School location at Wrabness and our Forest School at Pattles Fen where the children will be foraging, cooking on camp fires and creating amazing seaside sculptures. Also, Year 5 and 6 can look forward to Swimming at Hadleigh Swimming Pool.

Those starting school in September have also been informed of their successful places and they will soon have the opportunity of meeting their first teacher. Brooklands remains oversubscribed with more parents applying for places than we have capacity for in our new intake. Meanwhile our Year 4 and Year 5 parents will be planning for their children's residentials in September (dates on reverse) where the children will be enjoying high ropes, quad bikes and sailing. All we need now is some of that promised sunshine.

**Christine Davy**  
Headteacher

## Forest School Update

Harry Legg and Charlie Goddard are thrilled to have started their Forest School Leader training which we hope they will complete in early July following their successful completion of paediatric first aid training. In anticipation of this we will be planning Forest School visits for all year groups from July onwards.



## Invitation to Imagination

We have an amazing range of books in our school library and it is very much a hub of our school. Over the next few weeks Katie Puls (Parent Governor) and I will be working with staff and our children to gather their ideas how we can make our library space even more inviting and stimulating for them to read and enjoy books.

## Springing Into Life

Action begins in the garden and many of you may have noticed that this Spring we have installed a new shed in the garden area at school. Over the coming weeks our children will be preparing their beds for planting. I wonder what they will choose to grow this year?

## Academy Conversion

Thank you to all those parents who attended the information session(s) on our proposal to convert to an academy and to join Orwell Multi Academy Trust (OMAT). Thank you too to all those parents who gave responses through returning questionnaires. Your input continues to be extremely valuable. It has also been affirming to hear just how special Brooklands is to you all.

Over the next couple of weeks we will be holding a similar process for staff and our Governors, led by our Chair (Alison Cole), who will be reviewing all the feedback and reaching a decision in May. I will keep you updated on progress.

## OMAT Spotlight

At the end of last term I spent a full day with the other OMAT leaders at Halifax Primary School conducting a Peer Review. The visit involved us gathering and scrutinising evidence and identifying improvement points for learning and development across the school.

During my time at Halifax I was particularly impressed with their music provision; strong systems for engaging children in reading through their use of Accelerator Reader – a programme we implemented last year. Their standards in writing by Year 6 were also particularly impressive along with the way they showcase children's work. I was also pleased to see how Halifax is working in partnership with Teach First to recruit people to train and teach in their school as this is something that Brooklands has been researching.