

parents newsletter



19th October

Dear Parents

How time flies and what a lot has happened in the four months that Brooklands has been part of Orwell Multi Academy Trust. For our teachers joining OMAT has meant new professional development opportunities in addition to sharing ideas and supporting preparation for national curriculum tests. Working with other schools in the Trust, we have recently reviewed our assessment systems and have adopted new assessment processes which will support our teachers using a new tracking, analysis and reporting system. We hope this new system will help our teachers more effectively highlight gaps and determine key areas for development for the children. Meanwhile, other schools within the trust are also learning from us, for example, in the areas of child protection, safeguarding and in a wide range of pastoral and welfare issues. The Willows has also adopted our approach in the use of Learning Walls. There has also been a change in our catering supplier to Chartwells and with this change we have seen a notable improvement in the quality of school meals and content faces at meal times.

It is encouraging to see some tangible improvements coming so soon from our new Trust partnership.

Kind Regards
Christine Davy
Headteacher

175 Family Days

There are 190 school days in an academic year, leaving 175 days free for families.

I am often asked questions on the subject of leave of absence from school and unfortunately Headteachers are not permitted to grant leave on school days unless there are exceptional circumstances. If you need to take time out of school for any reason please contact the school to arrange an appointment to make a request for permission. Any leave that is not authorised has to be marked in the school register as an unauthorised absence and this may result in a penalty notice of £60 for a parent per child.

New Intake 2018/2019

If you have a child starting school in September, you can now apply online for a school place at www.suffolk.gov.uk. If you would like to arrange a tour of the school please contact the school office.

Best Reading Moments

There are many ways to make reading a part of each day even when you don't have time to sit down with a book. Car trips, errands and whilst you wait in line are all opportunities for reading. Pop a book in a rucksack, car or bag and you may find that your best reading moments come in the unlikeliest of locations.

Mastering Multiplication

Brooklands places a strong emphasis on our children learning the multiplication tables and this comes ahead of the national roll out of the Multiplication Tables Check for all Year 4 pupils from June 2019. As well as being critical for everyday life, knowledge of multiplication tables helps children to solve problems quickly and flexibly, and allows them to tackle more complex mathematics later on in school.

The "Check" has been introduced to help ensure that children in primary school know their times tables up to 12 off by heart. To help support our children's learning at home Brooklands has purchased Times Tables Rock Stars and I encourage parents to make the most of this effective resource.

OMAT Spotlight

Grange Community Primary School in Felixstowe is soon to be sponsored by the Orwell Multi-Academy Trust. It is expected to formally become a part of the trust on 1st November. OMAT as a collective of skills, knowledge and expertise will be responsible for moving the school forward and as part of this challenge, I will be working within the Trust to support the school, develop their leadership and share what we do so well here at Brooklands.