



NOVEMBER



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Time seems to be flying by this year. We are having a really successful term so far. Our Christmas preparations are already underway and we are looking forward to sharing several events with you at the end of term (the dates are at the end). Please remember, that although we don't have a weekly newsletter now, there are regular updates all week on both Twitter and Facebook. So please follow us on there. In addition, if there are any notices that are really important, that you really need to know we will let you know by text, or send you the appropriate link to the school website. That's why it's so important that our parent contact numbers are up to date. Please let us know straight away if there are any changes. In our 21st Century society it's the main method of communication! We aim to keep you right up to date as things happen. In the future, we aim to go completely 'paper free', as so many schools now are. We have taken the first step with this in no longer sending out these newsletters by paper, eventually we want all of our correspondence to be paper free. However, we are still working on this as we want to make sure we get things right for everyone. We are always happy to receive feedback, either via Facebook or in person. We will be sending parent questionnaires out before the end of term so look out for that too. Thank you all for your ongoing support for Brooklands.

Ms Ceri Hathaway



School Development Plan: As you already know from the October newsletter, maths is one of our priorities for development this year, but as well as that we have other areas to develop throughout the year. I thought it would also be worth sharing these areas for development with you. Our priorities are based around the four main areas of the Ofsted framework 2015 and so, having evaluated our school over the past half term, the leadership team and staff have decided that our priorities for this year are as follows:

- **Priority 1** **QUALITY OF TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT** - Improve the quality of teaching, especially in key stage 1 and 2 so at least 90% is good in order to accelerate pupil progress and to raise attainment to exceed national average.
- **Priority 2** **EFFECTIVENESS OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT**- Improve leadership and management to at least good so that all areas of school leadership impact positively on pupil progress and attainment.
- **Priority 3** **OUTCOMES FOR CHILDREN**- To raise further aspirations and expectations of staff and children so that all pupils attain in line or above national averages in maths, reading & writing from their individual starting points.
- **Priority 4** **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT, BEHAVIOUR & WELFARE** – Ensure that all children and stakeholders embrace the school vision and values ensuring a safe and positive environment where everyone in the school community is valued.

We will also send you the link to our school development posters which will be round school and on the website where you can see again, what our priorities are. Throughout the year, I will update you as to how we are getting on with our plans and hopefully you will see that all the changes we are making are for the good of the children and to make Brooklands even better!





Friday 13th November – Is dress up day for Children in Need. There's lots of publicity both on the BBC website and on TV at the moment. We feel it's really important for our Brooklands children to be part of a bigger society so we are keen to get our children involved. Please support the children on Friday, by helping them to dress up as their heroes. We look forward to seeing their costumes on Friday and suggest a minimum donation of £1 with all proceeds going to BBC Children in Need.

Parents Evenings: You will already be aware that it is Parents' Evenings next week. This is your opportunity to come into school to meet with teachers to see how your children are getting on and how well they're doing. We would encourage all of you to attend. There are two dates, Monday 16th November or Wednesday 18th November. Appointments go through until 6.30pm. If you are unable to attend on these dates, please speak to your child's class teacher who will try to get you an alternative appointment if at all possible.



Teacher Training days and School Closure: Some of you have been asking me about when school will be closed for teacher training days. I can now let you have the dates for the rest of this school year. The school will be closed for teacher training on: **Monday 4th January 2016** and **Monday 4th July 2016**. In addition to this, please don't forget that the school will also be closed to pupils on **Friday 27th November** as previously stated in newsletters.



Snow plan: As usual, weather forecasters are predicting a terrible winter! Whether it happens or not, we will have to wait and see, however, it's better to be prepared. Should there be heavy snow or any reason why it may not be possible to open the school as usual we will let you know by text, and we will keep our Facebook and Twitter page updated too. It would have to be very severe circumstances to completely close the school and I will always endeavour to open the school unless the risk to staff and pupils is too high. Updates will also be posted on the Radio Derby website.

Clothes Request Please – Our stock of spare clothing is looking very low at the moment. If you have any good quality spare clothing (socks, trousers, underwear etc.) that we can keep as spares, we would really appreciate a donation of these to school. Please give all donations to Mrs Perry in reception (via the school office) who will ensure that spare uniform is stored and ready to be used when necessary.

School Photographer – On Tuesday 17th November, the school photographer will be coming in to school to take individual photos of the children. Most of these will be taken during the school day, however, as usual there will be the opportunity for you to have photographs taken with siblings from 8am on this day. Due to breakfast club, this will now be in the Junior Hall, not in the infant hall as in previous years. If you would like to have family photographs taken, please take the children to the hall any time after 8am. Please enter and leave the school building via reception.



Coming Up....

Monday 16th and Wednesday 18th November - Parents Evening 3.30pm – 6-30pm
Tuesday 17th November – School Photographer
Friday 27th November – INSET DAY
Tuesday 8th December – Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance 2.00pm
Thursday 10th December – Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance 5.45pm
Monday 14th to Wednesday 16th December- Whitehall Year 6 trip
Thursday 17th December - Canal carol singing 5.00pm
Friday 18th December – End of Autumn Term 2