

Dear all,

It's been another busy week at Brooklands! The Year 2 children have been doing their SATs test papers this week and most of them really seemed to enjoy the challenge! So well done to all our Y2 children for all the hard work you have put in this week.

Last week, the Year 6 children undertook their SATs tests. I was very proud of all of the resilience shown by the Y6 children. Some of the tests were really quite tricky and they coped admirably. The Year 6 staff team had prepared the children well and they took it all in their stride. The tests have now been collected from school for marking and the results should be back with us at the end of June. However this year, due to all the changes no-one knows quite what to expect so we will have to wait and see what happens. Whatever the result, be confident that our Year 6 pupils were true shining stars last week as they are every week!

This week I have had several parents contact me regarding some upsetting comments that have been posted by individual parents on Facebook. At Brooklands all of the staff work hard to create a positive learning environment for the children. Unfortunately, negative comments can potentially damage morale at school and this, in turn, can undermine the positivity. Negative comments can also affect the reputation of the school in the wider community, and if new parents are put off sending their children to Brooklands this will further damage the school. If parents have genuine concerns, then the appropriate way to raise these is through the schools complaints procedure. Problems can then be investigated and dealt with fairly and effectively. A copy of this procedure can be found on the school website.

At Brooklands, we aim to educate all of our children about the dangers of "cyber-bullying", and to protect pupils from becoming victims of such bullying. Posting negative or offensive comments on social networking sites sets a poor example, and could lead children to believe that "cyber-bullying" is in some way acceptable. If children have access to negative comments about school, it could reduce their confidence in the school, and this could be damaging to their education. Please consider your comments carefully before posting on Facebook.

We are still looking forward to 'Shakespeare Week' next week. There were lots of details on last week's update; highlights include performances by professional actors and our 'Big Picnic' on May 26th. Don't forget that the children may dress up in any clothing from 1952 to present day. They can remain in their costumes all day at school.

Thanks to all of you who have been into school to see the new uniform display. Feedback has been very positive and you should have received a text now to say that Brooklands uniform is now available online. The link is: <http://uniform-direct.com/acatalog/Brooklands-Primary-School-Uniform.html>. Additionally, the parents of those children who receive Pupil Premium funding will have received a letter with a voucher for a free jumper or cardigan. If you would like more information about the Pupil Premium grant and to find out if your child qualifies for this additional funding, please see the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/pupil-premium-2015-to-2016-allocations/pupil-premium-2015-to-2016-conditions-of-grant>. The school office will be happy to support you in making an application; just drop in and see Mrs Smith.

Attendance – Please make every effort to ensure your child attends school every day. You should ring the office to let us know if your child is unwell so that we know they are safe. Also, just to remind you that there are still strict rules about children having time off school for family holidays. Up to date information about this is available via this link: <https://www.gov.uk/school-attendance-absence/overview>

A request from teachers – Please make sure that your child's name is in all of their school uniform. A lot of uniform is going missing, especially in Reception and Year 1 and we would like to be able to return it. Please see class teachers if uniform has gone missing. Also, if your child has borrowed any items of clothing from school, please can you make sure that these are returned? We would also appreciate donations of any items of clothing that can be recycled in school especially school trousers and skirts which can be used in the case of “accidents”.

The link to see our 'Stars of the week' for this week is: <http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/news-events/stars-week>

Upcoming events:

Thursday 26th May – ‘School Picnic’ Dress up in clothes from 1950s to the present day!

Friday 27th May – HT drop in coffee morning 8.45am, KS1 Hall.

Friday 27th May – Break up for half term

Monday 6th June – Return to School

Monday 6th June – 9am – PTA, Annual General Meeting. All welcome! KS1 Hall.

Tuesday 7th June – Wider Opps concert 2.30am, KS2 Hall.

Friday 10th June – HT Coffee Morning

Friday 10th June – Class Photos

Monday 13th June – New parents' meeting for nursery parents – 3pm.

Monday 13th June – Uniform Pop-up shop 3–4 pm

Monday 13th June – Phonics screening week – Year 1

Tuesday 14th June - New parents' meeting for nursery parents - 3pm
Tuesday 14th June - Uniform Pop-up shop 3-4pm
Friday 17th June - Y4 Halle Orchestra Concert, Derby
Saturday 18th June - Long Eaton Carnival day!
Wednesday 22nd June - Reception New Parents afternoon - 1pm
Wednesday 22nd June - Reception Sports day - 2pm
Wednesday 22nd June - Uniform Pop-up shop - 3-4pm
Monday 4th July - School closed - INSET day.
Thursday 7th July - Reception school trip to Attenborough Nature Reserve.
Thursday 7th July - Key Stage 1 Sports afternoon - 2pm
Thursday 7th July - Uniform Pop-up shop 3pm - 6pm
Friday 6th July - HT Coffee morning
Wednesday 13th July - Summer Music Evening 5.30pm
Friday 15th July - KS2 Sports Day - 9.15am
Friday 15th July - School reports out to parents
Wednesday 20th July - Open evening to meet the new class teachers
Monday 25th July - Y6 performance - afternoon
Tuesday 26th July - Y6 performance - morning
Tuesday 26th July - End of School Term
Monday 5th September - Staff Training day
Tuesday 6th September - New term starts

Thanks for all your support for the school,

Ceri Hathaway
Headteacher