

Dear all,

This is the final email update of the school year and what a year it's been! My first year at Brooklands has been amazing! For me, the children have been the highlight of the year. I am so proud of them for what they have achieved. All of them have made progress academically, but more than that, they have grown and developed as children as we have re-established the values in school. They have really shone this year, which was especially evident during our Ofsted inspection a week ago.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their work this year. The Brooklands staff work so hard to make sure that the children have the best possible opportunities. There have been many changes for them this year, most of them from the government which staff have had to take on board and make work. It has been a trying year for everyone in education! As you know several staff are leaving today and I thank them for their work at Brooklands and wish them all the best for the future. We also wish all of our Year 6 leavers the very best of luck as they leave Brooklands today.

Thank-you too for all of your support for Brooklands again this year. Change has been necessary and I am pleased that I have been able to consult parents on the changes that have been made that affect parents directly. The parent questionnaire in March 2016 provided us with valuable feedback and as a result of this feedback several new initiatives are now well-established (e.g. Weekly e-mail updates, Headteacher coffee mornings, Behaviour framework / policy) and several initiatives continue to be developed (e.g. Homework policy, Anti-bullying 'Stop' Award). We will always try to listen and act on the views of parents so will be issuing another questionnaire around March next year too.

Brooklands is a big school, and I understand that it can be difficult to communicate with parents effectively, however we are committed to keep improving this. Many of you have told me how much you appreciate the weekly email update and I'm pleased that you are finding it so helpful. You have also asked for better communication regarding 'Diary Dates'. So, you will find attached, a list of the dates for 2016-17. There is no reason that any of these will change, however, in exceptional circumstances, it may be necessary to amend one or two. Of course, we will let you know in plenty of time should we have to alter any of the attached dates. In September, year group newsletters will come out at the start of the term and these will contain additional dates that are specific to your child's year group. All of these dates will also be on the school website and will be updated regularly. I do hope that you find the additional notice and planning time helpful.

Ofsted – The report will not be published now until September due to the summer break. I have planned that the first Headteacher Coffee morning will be to discuss the inspection with you. Additionally, in response to requests from parents, I have also planned the Coffee mornings to be on a variety of days throughout the week, not just Fridays. Please see the attached dates list for the new dates.

Uniform Pop-Up Shop – Hopefully, most of you will have been able to buy the new uniform now in preparation for September. I have had an email this week to say that the shop in Babbington Lane, Derby is well stocked should anyone still need to buy uniform. Uniform is also available on the Uniform Direct website and can be delivered to your home, for a small charge. Uniform Direct have also agreed to come to Brooklands on Monday 19th September for another pop-up shop. This will be after school on the Monday afternoon. Please remember that school ties will be provided by the school. We will be presenting the children with ties on the first day back in September. We will be holding a special ‘tie’ ceremony where we will talk about how the Brooklands tie represents the Brooklands values and that by wearing the tie we are representing and showing our values.

Meet the New Teacher afternoon – We have arranged a new date for this on the first week back in the Autumn Term. The classrooms will be open for you to meet new staff on Wednesday 7th September from 3.15pm. All of our new teaching staff will be in post by then, so it will be a great opportunity for you to meet them in their new classrooms.

A few local notices that I have been asked to bring to your attention:

Beavers – The local Beaver group is looking to recruit new members from September. They meet on a Wednesday at the Scout site on Tamworth Road. They meet at 6.15pm until 7.30pm and both girls and boys can join. They have lots of activities and it costs just £12 per month in subs which is payable on the first Wednesday of every month. If you would like more information, please call Mary 0115 9730191.

Holiday Club at The Salvation Army – There is a holiday club for children aged 4-12 years at The Salvation Army, New St, Long Eaton from Tuesday 9th to Friday 12th August from 10am – 12.30pm. Contact them directly for more information & to book a place by calling: 07530 830567 or 07508 639651 or just turn up on the day! Email: long.eaton@salvationarmy.org.uk <http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/long-eaton>

Eddie’s Miles –, Eddie came into school last week to present the certificates. Over 65 children managed to walk between 0-10 miles and 2 children won a gold medal by walking 30 miles! Huge congratulations to all those who took part and thank you to Mrs East for organising this. More details for this are on the Brooklands website.

Thank you all for all of your support this year. It has been a great year and I am looking forward to next year at Brooklands as we keep shining as a school!

Have a great summer and see you all in September!

*Ceri Hathaway
Headteacher*