

Dear all,

We are nearly into October now and half way through this half term. Here are this week's notices:

**After School Club Survey** – Thank you to all of you who completed the Survey Monkey questionnaire about after school provision at Brooklands. The responses can now be viewed on the school website. <http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/parents/updates-parents>. We have also taken on board additional comments and will let you know soon how we intend to go forward with this.

**Message from Mrs. Harby – Brass lessons** – We have places available for children in years 4, 5 and 6 who would like to learn a brass instrument (trumpet, trombone or French horn). Mr Henderson, the brass teacher with Derbyshire Music Partnership, will be coming into school on Monday to do a brass demonstration and to give out letters with further information to those children who are interested. If you would like your child to take up this great opportunity, please complete this form and return it to school by the following Monday (10<sup>th</sup> October).

**School Governing Body** – Hopefully you should be receiving notification of an electronic ballot soon. Details will be sent on a separate email from the Chair of Governors.

**Healthy Snacks** – A reminder that children should only bring in fruit, vegetables or healthy cereal bars for snacks at break. At the moment children in nursery, reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a free piece of fruit every day, so there is no need for them to bring additional snacks with them. Children in Years 3-6 may bring in a healthy snack (fruit, vegetables or a healthy cereal bar) for their break. I am hoping that we may be able to introduce a school Tuck Shop for Key Stage 2 children soon, however, this is something for the future that needs to be discussed with staff and the school council. Please also remember that in line with school policy, children should only bring water with them to drink in the classroom.

**Independent learners at Brooklands** – After half term we will be focusing more on our independent skills, especially in Year 2. With this in mind, the Year 2 teachers have asked me to request that parents do not enter the classroom in the mornings, but instead encourage children to come into the classrooms independently. I am sure that you agree that encouraging independence is an important life skill that we want to develop at Brooklands.

**Staffing Update** – Unfortunately, Mrs. Pip Miller (Year 6 teacher) will be leaving Brooklands at the end of term. Mrs. Miller has been an excellent teacher here at Brooklands and we are very sorry to be losing her. An advertisement has recently been placed to ensure we appoint a highly

skilled and reliable teacher to replace Mrs. Miller in Year 6. Of course, we wish her all the best for the future.

**Homework Club:** Apologies for any confusion over the past couple of weeks with regards to homework club. Any new venture is likely to have teething troubles, but now I can clarify arrangements for collecting children at the end of the club. Key Stage 1 children should be collected from the Infant hall doors at 4.15pm, while key Stage 2 children should be collected from outside the Year 3 & 4 doors. If parents have children in both clubs, please collect younger children first and then go to collect the older ones. Staff will supervise the older children while awaiting parents. Thanks for your co-operation.

**Macmillan Coffee Morning / Great Brooklands Bake-Off:** Thanks to everyone who came and supported the coffee morning for Macmillan today. There will be a cake sale after school too where you can buy more cakes! All proceeds go to Macmillan Cancer Care. The winners of the Great Brooklands Bake-Off are as follows:

For appearance and design:

Winners – Marvellous Martians – Mr Leach’s Year 2 Class for their ‘Three Little Pig Cakes’

Runners Up – Super Stars – Miss Plumb’s Year 1 Class for their ‘Queen Cakes’

For taste:

Winners – Awesome Asteroids – Miss Bisknell’s Year 5 Class for their Lemon Cup Cakes

Runners Up – Shining Starlets – Miss Mather’s Nursery for their Rocky Road Cakes.

For a special treat, the children are delighted that the winning class will be having a Chocolate Fountain Party! The runners up get to have an extra playtime!

Thank you to our judges from the governing body and the PTA and to Miss Hill for organising the competition.

Well done everyone on another great week at Brooklands!

Kind Regards,  
Ceri Hathaway  
Headteacher

The link to see our ‘Stars of the week’ for this week is: <http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/news-events/stars-week> and will be available to view from Monday.

*Amended / additional dates:*

*Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October – KS2 Hockey Festival at TLES*

*Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October – National No Pens Day*

*Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October – Y5/6 Girls Football Festival at Friesland.*

*Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Y6 trip to the Long Eaton Hub for Fairground Workshop.*

*Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October – Basket Ball Tournament for KS2*

*Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October – Year 3/4 Football Tournament*

*Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October – PTA Halloween Disco*

*Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October – Nursery PTA Disco*

*Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October – Break up for half term*

*Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October – Return to school.*