

Dear all,

Welcome back to school again! As Miss O'Neill said in the last newsletter – it's countdown to Christmas now at Brooklands! Only 7 weeks in this half term and they are always the busiest weeks of the year. We are really looking forward to sharing our Christmas activities and performances with you, so watch this space for all the information you need!

We have had some exotic creatures in school this week. Year 4 hosted the Rainforest Roadshow on Thursday and what a great day they had! There were snakes and spiders; all sorts of bugs and insects all over the school. Watch out for some photographs on the school website and on Facebook that show the children enjoying becoming Rainforest warriors for the day. There were some great activities taking place and the children had a lot of fun learning in this enriching way. It will be an experience they will never forget.

There is some important information in this newsletter about a couple of changes of date leading up to Christmas and also some information about our new Christmas Craft Sale. Watch out for that...you're not going to want to miss out. Also coming up, the PTA Christmas Fayre on Friday 2nd December. If you can spare any time to support the PTA in arranging this, it would be gratefully received. Do pop into school and ask to speak to Miss Dunham. She will really welcome your help!

Purple Mash – We have recently subscribed to a new website for Brooklands children. It's called 'Purple Mash'. This is a creative educational resource website which includes games and activities for everything including maths, English, computing, Art and all other curriculum areas. It's really worth having a good look at with your children. You can easily access it from home on a laptop, desktop or a tablet. Soon you will be receiving a slip from school telling you all about Purple Mash and attached to the slip will be your child's unique login details. The link to the website is below and is also on the slip from school.

Login at: <http://www.purplemash.com/sch/brooklands-ng10>

St. John Street Parking – Please be mindful of local residents when you park in the streets around school. We have had residents coming to us complaining about excessive noise, petrol smells and car engines running. If you can possibly park a few streets away and walk to school we would appreciate your co-operation.

Children in Need – This national event is on Friday 18th November this year. As usual we would like Brooklands to join in with this significant national event. We will be holding a non-uniform day where children are asked to bring in a small contribution to Children in Need. All funds raised will go directly to this worthy cause. This year we are asking the children to wear anything spotty. This could be socks or a hat, a hand painted T-Shirt or shorts – or why not come in spotty pyjamas? There's no need to spend lots of money on a costume, instead design some spotty gear and donate to this worthy cause. Thanks in advance for your support.

Tesco Design a Poster competition – Tesco have been in contact about a competition they are running to design a poster with the theme of 'Healthy Eating'.

The pupil who designs the best poster will win a £25 Tesco gift card for themselves and the school will receive a 'fun, interactive and educational' Junior Chefs' Academy workshop. The workshops are suitable for children from Nursery to Year 6, so every child can enter the competition. If you'd like to find out more about the Junior Chefs' Academy, have a look on the website for the things they do <http://www.juniorchefsacademy.co.uk/>. The winning poster will be transferred onto limited edition hessian bags and given away free in the Tesco Extra in Long Eaton. Therefore lots of people will see the winning design. The winning school will also receive 400 bags, which they can use how they wish.

There isn't long for us to enter, but the prizes sound great! All entries need to be received by Tesco no later than Friday 18th November 2016. Templates will be sent out for the children to do at home and return to school by **Friday 11th November**. The designs have to be created in felt tips only, a maximum of 4 colours can be used and the design has to fit into the box on the template. Please make sure all of the children who return their entries include their name, age, class and school. There are spaces to fit this information on, but please check it has been filled in before returning to the office or class teachers. The children have been told all about it in assembly today so ask them about it too. Good luck everyone – Brooklands has got some great talent so let's see who can shine!

Christmas craft sale – this will be held on Friday 9th December at 2.30pm as planned in the annual date list. The idea is that each class has a certain amount of initial money to 'invest' in their product and then they have to plan, design, market, make and sell their products for a profit. It's all about economic awareness and encouraging entrepreneurial skills. Each class will be making a different product (or range of products) and then they will be selling them at the craft sale on 9th December. The classes get to keep the money they make and decide how they would like to spend it on themselves. So the more money they make, the better the treat they can buy themselves. We would invite you to come and support the children in making the products on **Monday 5th December in Key Stage 2 classes** and then on **Wednesday 7th December for EYFS & Key Stage 1 Classes**. Classrooms will be open from 2.30pm for you to come along and help the children make the products and then the sale will be on the Friday afternoon. Please tell friends, family and relatives about it too, so that they can come along and grab a Christmas bargain! I will let you have more details nearer the date.

Poppies – Poppies are now available for children to buy in school. We also have other items available for sale, like rulers, wristbands, crayons and badges. All of the proceeds will go the British Legion Poppy Appeal.

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>

Also, please don't forget to keep up to date via Twitter @brooklandsprim1 or on Facebook.

Amended / additional dates:

Wednesday 9th November (and every Wednesday afternoon until Christmas break) – Y3 classes out on Ice-skating trip.

Thursday 10th November – Y5/6 Futsal Competition at TLES 4pm – 6pm (Mrs East to organise)

Monday 14th November – KS1 Mini movers at TLES 9.30am – 11.30am

Monday 14th November – Badminton Festival KS2 at TLES 1pm – 3pm

Tuesday 15th November – Parents evening 1 – 3.30 – 6pm

Thursday 17th November – Parents evening 2 – 3.30 – 5pm

Friday 18th November – Y4 Church Visit (pm)

Tuesday 29th November – Whole School Music Evening 5.30pm

Friday 2nd December – PTA Christmas Fayre.

Monday 5th December – Christmas Craft in Key Stage 2 -2.30pm

Wednesday 7th December – Christmas Craft in Key Stage 1 / EYFS – 2.30pm

Friday 9th December – Christmas Craft Sale- 2.30pm