



Update from -13th January 2017

Dear all,

The week has gone well at Brooklands again this week. There has been some exciting learning going on in the classrooms as the children are getting well into their new topics. I know that a lot of you have been supporting the children's learning at home too with various homework tasks and projects. A big thank you for that. We showcase the very best of our homework in the 'Homework Hub'. Do drop in before or after school and come and take a look at how we 'Shine' at homework!

Safety in the street – Several parents have been in touch with us this week to share their concerns about the parking situation on Clumber Street. There have been several 'near misses' where our children could have been hurt by inconsiderate and discourteous driving. Please take extreme care when driving to school and consider leaving a few minutes earlier so that you can park a little further away and walk to the school gates. We have to keep the pedestrian gate on St John's Street locked now, on the advice of Derbyshire County Council, otherwise it presents a safeguarding risk. However, there are short cuts from St John's Street to Clumber Street and from Friar Street to Clumber Street so please use these to access the pedestrian gates at the start and end of the school day. Also, remember there is pedestrian access from Oakley's Road at the rear of the school. Please do not walk through the gates on Friar Street as these are for vehicular access only. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter and for ensuring the safety of the Brooklands children.

Empty Milk Cartons required – Thank you to those of you who have sent in milk cartons this week. Please keep them coming! – Mrs Johnson

Uniform update – Staff have noticed that some of the children are not adhering to the new uniform code at the moment. Although we understand that this year there is a little flexibility in the code due to the switch to the new uniforms, there are still some children who are not adhering to either the old, or the new uniform code. Staff do discuss this with the children and parents are made aware, but we want all children to feel that they are included and belong to the Brooklands family. Please ensure that if children are wearing the new uniforms, that all jumpers / cardigans have the new logo on them (plain jumpers are not school uniform) and that they are wearing white shirts **and ties!** You will remember that at Brooklands the ties demonstrate our commitment to the school values and that by wearing the tie, children show that they can keep the values and that they are a shining example of a Brooklands pupil! Occasionally, children will have their tie taken from them, if they make poor choices and are not sticking to the values. Children have to earn their ties back and so those children not wearing ties, will be questioned by staff about how they are making poor choices.

If ties have been lost, replacement ties are available from the school office and are less than £5 each. Please ensure names are in all items of school uniform as they can be easily lost.

For further clarity on the uniform code please follow this link to the school website: <http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/information/uniform-dress-code>. There is also a link to our uniform shop on this page of the website too.

Winter Weather – Forecasters have been predicting some wintry weather for the next few days. Brooklands has procedures and policies in place to ensure that we are prepared should we experience inclement weather locally. To see our policy and advice for parents, please follow this link to the school website: <http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Snow-Plan-and-information-for-parents.pdf> we will always aim to keep the school open, bearing in mind the safety of the children and the school staff.

Attendance – We are continuing to monitor our school attendance carefully and we are aware that there is currently a lot of illness around at the moment. If your child is unwell and unable to come to school, please let the school office know by 8.45am. There is a direct option to leave a message on the school answer machine so please make every effort to report absences in time. We still follow the attendance policy in times of illness and if a child is missing from school, parents will receive a phone call or visit if the absence has not been reported. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Challenge Partners School Review – On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday next week, Brooklands will be taking part in a school review through an organisation called Challenge Partners. Challenge Partners is a practitioner-led, national network of schools that improves school performance through peer-to-peer challenge and knowledge sharing. Each school in Challenge

Partners receives an annual Quality Assurance (QA) Review. The QA Review is a peer review involving senior leaders from other schools in the partnership. The review has a whole-school remit and focuses on teaching and learning, which enables practitioners to have deep conversations about the quality of learning in the school being reviewed.

Unlike an Ofsted inspection, outcomes from the review are not set by the review team and fed back to the school. Instead, all outcomes are agreed between the school and the review team as part of an ongoing professional dialogue that seeks to unpick and articulate effective teaching practice and school improvement strategies demonstrated by the school. Review reports are best viewed as a summary of conversations between peers during three days spent in school.

By nature of being a collaborative peer review, the QA Review is different from other external inspections such as Ofsted and Local Authority reports. Additionally, due to the review's focus on teaching and learning, the review does not consider areas such as safeguarding or governance and so its outcomes cannot be directly comparable to an Ofsted inspection.

We will share the outcomes of the report with parents once the final report has been received by the school.

Best Wishes,

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 & Facebook.

Amended / additional dates:

2017

- *Friday 13th January – pm whole school performance of 'Notre Dame' by M&M school productions.*
- *Monday 23rd January –Young Ambassadors Meeting at TLES 4-5.30pm*
- *Monday 30th January –KS2 Dodgeball Festival at TLES 4-5.30pm*
- *Monday 6th February – KS2 Dodgeball Festival at TLES 4.5-30pm*
- *W/B Monday 6th February – Reception class – Chinese New Year week.*
- *Tuesday 7th February – Gymnastics Festival at Erewash Valley Gymnastics Club*
- *Wednesday 8th February – Full Governor's meeting.*
- *Friday 10th February – Break up for Half Term.*
- *Monday 20th February – Back to School.*
- *Monday 20th February – Bikeability for Y5 & Balance bikes at TLES for Reception Children*
- *Thursday 23rd February – Head Teacher Coffee Morning (Content TBC)*
- *Monday 27th February – School Closed. Staff training Day*
- *Tuesday 28th February – Pancake day*
- *Thursday 2nd March – World Book day – come dressed as your favourite book character!*
- *Monday 6th March – High5 Netball tournament at TLES*
- *Monday 6th March – Hockey Tournamnet at TLES 1-3pm*
- *Thursday 16th March –Rugby Mega-fest at TLES 1-3pm*
- *Friday 24th March – Red Nose Day! Dress up day!*