

Update from – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear all,

It's been another busy week here at Brooklands Primary so there's lots to share with you! Let's start with this week's learning.

### **Nursery – What a great team!**

This week, Nursery have displayed great team work skills by creating box model vehicles in small groups. They had fun cutting, sticking and joining the materials. They used non-fiction books to identify key features of their vehicle and were all very proud of their finished model. Well done Nursery!



### **Reception – Have been using the 'The Gingerbread Man' to help their learning.**

The children used what they had learnt in our floating and sinking investigation to attempt 'The Gingerbread Man Challenge'- to get their gingerbread man across the water without him getting wet. We had a few soggy gingerbread men but we had lots of fun!

### **Year One – It's in the bones!**

Our classes have been writing their own Funnybones stories. We have used a story mountain to plan our stories and used them to create our own version of Dinosaur Dreams. In science we have learnt the names of the bones and used the Funnybones song to warm up in PE to help us to remember the names of them.



### **Year Two – What a busy week!**

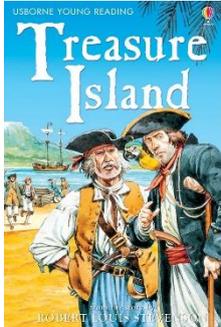
In English we have been studying texts with dragons, identifying story language and creating our own mythical creature. In Maths we've been estimating and measuring length, mass, capacity and temperature. In Geography we've been focusing on the features of the seaside and in R.E we've been learning about Easter. In Science we've been learning about keeping healthy and clean.

### **Year Three – Moving muscles and jiggly joints!**

This has been the focus of our learning this week. We have learnt the three types of joints and tested which joints were used for different movements. We have been investigating how muscles contract and relax by creating models.

### **Year Four – All about our world!**

We have been using our geography skills to find out more about the world. We discussed what the Northern Hemisphere is, what the Southern Hemisphere is and what the equator is. We then used atlases to find out more information about different countries and cities. Next week we will be comparing daylight hours in this country to the Antarctica!



### **Year Five –have been continuing to read Treasure Island! Yo ho ho!**

They've now met the character of Long John Silver and created a word picture about him. They also had great fun getting into character as pirates to create a dialogue between Black Dog and Billy Bones. The children have also been discovering how shadows are formed by measuring their shadows on the playground throughout the day to discover it is the Earth that rotates and not the Sun!

### **Year Six – Sounds Intriguing!**

Year Six have been continuing with their persuasive writing. This week they have been drafting a letter to Ms Hathaway with an exciting request. Let's see how far their persuasive powers fare this time!

### **Staffing Update – Welcome and also goodbye!**

As it said in last weeks' news update, we were very sad to say goodbye to Miss Fellows this week. We do wish her all the best for the future! In her place we welcome Mr David Hall, who will be supporting the learning in several classes but also teaching in some of the junior classes while the class teachers have their preparation and planning time.



### **Brookie's Brooklands Blog – Coming Soon!!**

#### **The future is bright at Brooklands!**

We are continually reviewing our systems and procedures at Brooklands, especially when it comes to communication with parents. Society is changing quickly and the way that people communicate is also changing. Often things happen really quickly at Brooklands and we need to tell you things urgently, so that's when we will use our texting service. The use of the email system has also been well received and has helped keep people up to date. We will be continuing the email system as it has now been well established. However, we are also making our weekly updates more relevant and more frequent with the introduction of Brookie's Brooklands Blog! Very soon, the weekly update will take the form of a blog which will be posted on the school website. This should make the weekly updates easier for you to access and easier for you to read on tablets and phones etc. We will update the blog throughout the week and then send you a reminder on a Friday as we do now, with a link to the blog so that you can get the latest up to date news from Brooklands. If there is anything urgent, we will still text or email you a reminder, but the blog will be a great way of ensuring that we maintain the great communication we have between school and home. Our school mascot, Brookie Bear, is very excited to be starting the blog and we will of course, let you know as soon as he makes his first post! Many schools use blogs to keep parents up to date and so it's great that we can use technology to make sure you have the most up to date information from school. We will of course keep updating Twitter and Facebook and plans are to expand the use of these even more in the future. Exciting times ahead!

### **Year Two and Six Assessment information –**

Some information for parents of children in Years Two and Six has been uploaded to the school website in the appropriate year group page. This gives a guide to the assessment period in May and the testing process in both year groups. It will be helpful for you to have a quick look as the SATs period draws ever closer. They can be found by clicking on the links below.

<http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/classes/year-2>

<http://www.brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk/classes/year-6>

**PTA Reminder** – Please don't forget that we are collecting **Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers**. If you shop at Sainsbury's don't forget to collect your vouchers and pop them into the box at the main reception. Last year we were able to exchange the vouchers for cooking and sport equipment. Our PTA are always looking for new members. It doesn't matter if you only have an hour or whether you have a few evenings to spare, Miss Dunham would love to hear from you.



**Change to the dinner menu week commencing 13th March 2017-**

The children were given the choice of what to have for dinner on Thursday 16th March. They voted for pizza! So the menu for that day is pizza, half a jacket potato, beans, sweet corn or macaroni cheese. The pudding will be chocolate and cherry shortbread and fresh fruit.

On Tuesday 14th March the menu has changed to beef casserole and Yorkshire pudding, or meat free sausage rolls, with creamed potatoes and mixed veg.

**Reception are having an Easter Craft Afternoon** on Wednesday 5th April and parents are welcome to come in. At the end of the afternoon we are having an Easter Bonnet Parade as the children have been asked to make a bonnet as part of their homework. We also have a trip planned for the first week back in June. More details to follow. – Mrs Johnson.

**And finally...**



Miss Josie Hodges, one of our Assistant Heads, has been nominated for a National Teaching Award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to teaching. Miss Hodges has been at Brooklands for 4 years now and before that she taught in schools in Nottingham. During her whole career, and especially at Brooklands, Miss Hodges has been an inspiration to many children and a great mentor to many staff. If you have anything you would like to add in support of Miss Hodges nomination, then please either write a note FAO Ms Hathaway or email [enquiries@brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@brooklands.derbyshire.sch.uk). I look forward to hearing from you. Good luck Miss Hodges!

*Kindest 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:*

*2017*

- *Thursday 16th March – Rugby Mega-fest at TLES 1-3pm*
- *Wednesday 22nd March – Head Teacher Coffee Morning (Content TBC).*
- *Friday 24th March – Comic Relief Day – Non-uniform day.*
- *Tuesday 28th March – Y4 Visit to St. Lawrence Church*
  - *Parents' Evening 3:30 – 6: 30pm.*
- *Thursday 30th March – Parents' Evening 3:30 – 5pm.*

- Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Y6 Visit from Fr. David Cain

#### April 2017

- Wednesday 5th April – Y1 Trip to Twycross Zoo
  - Head Teacher Coffee Morning (Content TBC).
  - Easter Quiz Trail and Mini Easter Fayre PTA
  - Kwik Cricket Tournament
  - Reception Craft Afternoon
- Wednesday 5th April – Full Governor's meeting.
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Swimming Gala
- Friday 7th April – Break up for Easter Holidays.
- Monday 24th April – Back to School.

#### May 2017

- W/C 8th-12th May – KS2 SATS week.