



Brookside Primary School

Learn Together - Achieve Together

Brookside Bugle



September 2017

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www.brooksideprimary.com



WELCOME BACK

On behalf of all of the Staff and Governors at Brookside, I would like to welcome you all back, and hope that you have all enjoyed a wonderful holiday.

A special welcome to our new Reception children and to other children who have joined us this year. We hope that you have a long and happy association with Brookside, and that you enjoy the many opportunities for children, parents and families to be an integral part of our school community.

Parents are always very welcome at Brookside. We are open to your suggestions about how we might improve your child's time at this, their school. This is probably the most formative time in their lives! We can't promise to work miracles - but we will always try! We like to work in partnership with you as your input, time and support certainly helps with the progress that your child makes.

What a pleasure it was to welcome your children back to Brookside the last two weeks! Their happy faces and renewed enthusiasm for the new term and new teachers was a real delight to see! We are all looking forward to a new academic year and all of the exciting challenges ahead of us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 28th September –

Student Leaders Polling Day

Friday 29th September –

Student Leaders Results Assembly

Friday 29th September -

Parents Forum 9.30 -10.15

Tuesday 3rd October –

Macmillan Coffee Morning 9-10.20

Friday 6th October

Harvest Assembly

9th – 20th October Walk to School Fortnight

Thursday 12th October

Year 6 Trip to the Air Raid Shelters

Monday 16th to Thursday 19th October –

Faith Week

Thursday 19th October –

Open Morning 9.10 -10.25

Break up for Half Term

Friday 20th October –

INSET DAY

Monday 30th October – School open

Thursday 2nd November-

School photos

Friday 10th November –

Year 6 Class Assembly

Monday 13th and Tuesday 14th November

Parent Consultations 3.30-6.30pm

Friday 24th November –

Christmas Fair

Monday 4th December –

Year One and Two Christmas Show Evening 6.00pm

Tuesday 5th December -

Year One and Two Christmas Show Afternoon 1.30pm

Tuesday 12th December –

Key Stage Two Carol Service 1.30pm at St Thomas Church

Friday 15th December-

EYFS Nativity

Monday 18th December –

Panto – Beauty and the Beast

Tuesday 19th December – Break up for Christmas Holidays

Wednesday 3rd January – INSET DAY school closed

Thursday 4th January – School Open for Spring Term

Monday 8th and 15th January –

Year 6 Bikeability

Friday 19th January –

Year 4 Class Assembly

BROOKSIDE RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2018

For parents who wish to apply for a place in Brookside's Reception Year Group 2018/19, further information is available from Stockport Council at:

www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions

This is for children who were born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014.

I have been delighted to have already started showing parents and children around school. If you know anyone who is thinking about choosing Brookside - do please encourage them to give us a call and I will be pleased to meet them.

Don't forget our Open Morning on Thursday 19th October which will be an ideal opportunity for people to see our school 'in action'.

Applications are made online. If you can't access the online system from home, the facility is available from some of the many Information Centres across the borough or at Fred Perry House.

If you require any more information, please call the Admissions Support and Advice Team on 0161 217 6022 or email

admissions.support@stockport.gov.uk

SCHOOLMEALS

School meals are provided by Dolce who offer a wide choice of fresh, healthy home cooked food. The children having school dinners have increased considerably and they are very popular.

Don't forget that the Government are funding the cost of a school meal for all children in Reception, Year One and Year Two through the Universal Infant Free School Meals initiative.

If your child is in KS2 the preferred method of payment is via Direct Debit, to be set up through Live Kitchen using the following link:

<https://www.live-kitchen.co.uk/direct/>

If you choose to still pay by cash or cheque, please put the money in an envelope, with your child's name and class clearly marked, and put in the red box just inside the entrance door to school.

This term's menu can be found on the following link:

http://www.dolce.co.uk/catering/menus/choice_menu

If you need any further advice regarding School meals please call in to the school office and speak to either Mrs Brennan or Miss Moore.

PARENTS CONSULTATION

You will soon be receiving a letter to sign up for this terms consultation meetings. Our meetings and target-setting with parents last year certainly improved the understanding of progress and 'next steps' and strengthened the home-school partnerships. Your input about your child's strengths and needs will be discussed with their class teacher, along with our 'next steps' and targets.

GOLD AWARDS FOR ATTENDANCE

AMAZING 100% ATTENDANCE FOR THE YEAR 2015 - 2016

At the end of a year where we have had an unusual amount of sickness absence - from children and staff, I am delighted to announce that the following children have attended school with a 100% attendance record for three whole terms.

This is indeed a remarkable and special achievement!

Gold attendance awards go to:

Benji (Year 3)

Joe (Year 5)

Mia (Year 5)

Finlay EH (Year 6 last year)

JEWELLERY, MAKE UP AND HAIRCUTS

If your child has pierced ears, please make sure that they are able to remove these for PE/Swimming/Sports lessons. Having taken Health and safety advice, if they are unable to do this because the ears have been pierced recently, then they must come to school with their earrings taped up. **Once a child is able to remove earrings they must remove them for all PE lessons.** I know that - as parents - you will agree that your child's safety should never be compromised. I have been pleased to see that simple studs are being worn in school rather than 'fashion' earrings - so you are all supporting school's expectations!

May I also remind you that 'make up' is not allowed - and this includes nail varnish and no extreme hairstyles or hair colours are permitted. An 'extreme haircut' is one that stands out and draws attention to the child (e.g. shaved head, tramlines, patterns shaved into the hair or very high or short 'back and sides'.) Thank you for your co-operation with these.

It is accepted that many children wear watches to school, but the school does not accept responsibility for loss or damage to these items.

WATER BOTTLES REMINDER

Remember that your child often needs a drink of water after running around at playtime - so having their own named water bottle in school is very important. A plastic bottle is fine as long as it is named.

We have water coolers - not water fountains, without provision of plastic cups. We would never let your child go without a drink when needed - obviously - but the majority of pupils do always have a bottle in school.

INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHS

The photographer will be in on the morning of Thursday 2nd November to take individual photos for all children.

We will endeavour as always, to take family photographs that morning. If you have a younger family member, do bring them in from 9am, and we will plan to take all family groups first. Your patience would be appreciated with this!

Just to clarify, all children will have individual photos taken (even if they have been in a family group).

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

Pupil absence during term time can seriously disrupt their continuity of learning. Government guidance states '...From 1st September 2013 the law has changed in that the option to authorise ANY holidays during term time has now been abolished...' There are very strict guidelines and strict criteria for what would be regarded as exceptional circumstances.' Please can I urge parents to take this into account and NOT book holidays during term time. I do sympathise with cost implications and work commitments – but the DfE have passed this law to impact on attendance at school. Thank you for your support and understanding that I cannot authorise any holidays in term time, and that legally parents are liable to be fined.

CAR PARKING

The school car park and approach road is restricted space and not available for parents to use when dropping of or collecting children, please keep clear at ALL times for access of emergency services, delivery vehicles and coaches. Parents are asked to park legally on local roads, drive slowly near school, and to keep local residents' driveways clear.

The Car park is not to be used by children at any time.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

At Brookside we are very proud of our class assemblies. Throughout the last few years they have grown into mini shows giving your children another chance to perform and show off their learning in class in a fun, creative way! This year the assemblies have been spread through the year. This term Year 6 will have the chance to shine!

Year 6 – Friday 10th November

We will also have our Harvest Assembly on Friday 6th October, led by our Key Stage Two pupils.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING AND CAKE SALE

We will be holding a Macmillan Coffee Morning at school on Tuesday 3rd October from 9.00am till 10.20am. All proceeds will go to Macmillan Cancer Care. Following the Coffee Morning we will be selling cakes to the children at break time. Cake donations for the coffee morning and cake sale can be brought into school on that morning and will be much appreciated.

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to the following children who celebrate their birthday's in September:

CLASS 1: Freya

CLASS 2: Harry

CLASS 3: Ethan; Liam; Nathaniel; Jenson and Rosie

CLASS 5: Mia and Jennifer

CLASS 6: Caspar; Henry; Amelia; Ewan and Belle.

ENRICHMENT WEEK/OPEN MORNING

Continuing from previous year's success we will once again be having our Faith Week. Each class will be focusing their learning on a different faith. We will be having faith speakers, sharing their culture through leading assemblies and working alongside teachers on activities in classes. On the Thursday morning we will be having an open morning for you to come into school to see the exciting work the children having been doing.

Reception Focus: Festivals

Year One: Buddhism

Year Two: Islam

Year Three: Christianity

Year Four: Hinduism

Year Five: Sikhism

Year Six: Judaism

HOMEWORK REMINDER

It is compulsory to complete at least 3 of the activities on the homework grid. These should be signed off on the homework grid and the grid should be returned to school the week before the end of the half term. Completed activities may be shown and celebrated in school on a Friday each week. Children will also be rewarded for completed activities. If this requirement is not met children will be expected to complete an alternative activity during school hours.

SAFEGUARDING AT BROOKSIDE

Brookside primary school is a Safeguarding School. If you would like to see or read our Safeguarding policy it is available to parents via the school website. Alternatively, a copy of the policy is available for you to read in the main entrance of school. We also have a leaflet prepared describing the schools prevent duty for parents available on the website or paper copies can be seen in the main entrance.

If you have any concerns about a child you can talk to the schools Designated Safeguarding Lead, Mr Tavernor or in his absence Mrs Barker or Mrs Warner.

Links to our Safeguarding policy, prevent leaflet and external links for parents with advice for keeping children safe can be found on the website by clicking 'About Brookside' in the main menu and then 'Safeguarding' in the subsequent menu.

ATTENDANCE

What is considered good attendance? Regular and punctual attendance is essential for effective learning, promoting positive relationships and developing good attitudes to education. Good attendance is considered above 95%, or approximately no more than one day of absence each half term. **At Brookside Primary School we are committed to improve attendance as this will have an impact on your child's attainment.**

Please ensure that your contact details remain up to date. Let us know if you change your mobile or home telephone number. If you have an email address it would be very useful for the school office to have this as well. You must also make us aware of any medical needs or changes to the information we have.

PARENTS SURVEY RESULTS 2017

QUESTION	TRUE	MOSTLY TRUE	HARDLY TRUE	NOT TRUE	DON'T KNOW
1 My child is happy at this school	68%	28%	2%	2%	0%
2 My child feels safe at this school	85%	13%	1%	1%	0%
3 My child makes good progress at this school	70%	25%	4%	1%	0%
4 My child is well looked after at this school	81%	17%	1%	1%	0%
5 My child is taught well at this school	74%	21%	4%	1%	0%
6 My child receives appropriate homework for their age	57%	32%	5%	5%	1%
7 This school ensures the pupils are well behaved	60%	28%	3%	1%	8%
8 This school deals effectively with bullying	46%	22%	4%	4%	24%
9 This school is well led and managed	69%	29%	1%	1%	0%
10 This school responds well to any concerns I raise	57%	33%	1%	4%	5%
11 I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	52%	38%	6%	2%	1%
12 I would recommend this school to another parent	79%	13%	0%	2%	5%

82 families returned surveys

Thank you to all the families who responded to our parents' survey of the school. We would like to say that the vast majority of surveys returned were positive. Question 8 on how the schools deals with bullying had the lowest response in the true column, with approximately a quarter of responses who didn't know. This could be seen as positive however it is important for everyone to know that we have a robust procedure and policy for dealing with these rare situations. The policy can be found on the school website.

As well as the questions above, parents were asked:

What were the main reasons that led you to choose Brookside for your child's education?

And, for constructive comments on the school..

Please find these responses on the school website.

Thank you for these responses we value all the feedback we receive and endeavour to respond where appropriate. Two responses that have already been acted on are: We have joined South Stockport Area sports which will include competitive sports opportunities this year in football, cross country and athletics initially, and we have arranged a Key Stage Two Carol Concert at St Thomas's Church in High Lane in December. We will be holding our first parents Forum meeting of the academic year on Friday 29th September 9.30am – 10.15am . The meeting is a chance for you to share your views in a positive way, for the benefit of all the children at Brookside Primary.