



The Buzz @ Brooksward

email: office@brooksward.org.uk ; website: www.brooksward.org.uk



30th August 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

A very warm welcome to Brooksward for our new families and welcome back to those of you who were already here – we hope you all had an enjoyable summer break. The children have returned looking very smart in their uniform and school shoes. A huge thanks to you all – this makes such a difference in maintaining the high standards and expectations for our school.

We have welcomed Mrs Barrington to her new role in school this week. She will be sharing the teaching of the Watervoles Class in Year 3 with Mr MacDonald. Miss De'Ath has taken on the role of Team Leader in Years 5 and 6 while Mrs Whitbread is away on maternity leave.

The children have started learning a range of exciting topics and curriculum newsletters detailing these will be sent home next Friday and will also be available on the school website. Please talk regularly to the children about what they are learning and speak to your child's class teacher if you have any questions.

We are both very excited to be based at Brooksward this year where we will be working with the whole school community and building on the excellent work and opportunities already on offer. As you will be aware, the Delta Federation (which is the collective name for our group of schools) specialises in school improvement and has recently been asked to provide additional support in other schools. This means that on a day-to-day basis the school will operate under our joint leadership while we continue to be in close contact with Ms Alikhan who remains as our Executive Headteacher.

We are keen to talk to you about life at Brooksward and will therefore be available on the KS1 and 2 doors in the mornings and after school should you wish to ask any questions or share any concerns. Alternatively we look forward to seeing you at the many events scheduled for parents throughout the year. Please see the attached diary dates for further information.

Many thanks and best wishes
Mr Rob Morley-Smith
Head of School

Miss Jen Swain
Head of School

LEARNING CHARACTERS

This week in assembly, we reintroduced the children to 'Einstein', the first of our 'Learning Characters'. The children were told a little bit about Einstein and how he likes to see excellent learning skills, such as being focused and enthusiastic about their learning and challenging themselves. I know that the children will all work particularly hard to ensure that they show their teachers and Einstein these skills throughout the term! Einstein will be making a special appearance during our 'Star of the Week' assembly each Friday and the children are already really looking forward to this.



SUMMER RESULTS

We were delighted with the excellent results achieved by the children in the summer, continuing the improvements since September 2015. A breakdown of the performance of pupils in July 2019 will soon be available on the school website.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

Clubs will begin w/c 9th September and will run for 7 weeks until the October half term. We have an exciting array of clubs on offer provided by both school staff and specialist coaches. Letters will be sent home next week to give you the opportunity to indicate your preferences.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Do you have a few hours to spare? We are looking for additional parents / grandparents to help in various areas within school – in our allotment garden, the library, listening to children read and of course with our STEM fundraising events. There is also a vacancy for a Parent Governor. If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above roles, please get in touch with the School Office.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

There is a website to help you find out if your child qualifies for free school meals. Please visit to sign up, even if your child is in Foundation Stage, Year 1 or 2 and receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals, or if you have applied before and do not think you are eligible. In doing so you will help us to find out whether we can claim Pupil Premium for your child. This is additional funding to spend on resources such as extra staff, books or school trips for eligible children. The system is quick and simple to use and can be accessed via computer, smartphone or hand held device. For more information visit <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/sims> Should you require help or assistance in doing this, please do not hesitate to contact Miss Bates or Mrs Ryan in the School Office.

PARENTS' EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION / COLLECTION AFTER SCHOOL

Please ensure that you have advised us of any recent changes of address or mobile telephone numbers so that the office staff can contact you quickly in the case of an emergency. Please also ensure we have been informed who has been given authority to collect your child from school each day. If someone different comes to collect your child and we haven't been notified, we will not be able to let them go. If your child is in Years 3, 4, 5 or 6, you may wish to give them permission to leave the classroom rather than being collected from the door at the end of the day. We ask you to complete the permission form which is available from the school office or on our website. We also have a late collection policy which means a charge could be made for childcare if your child is collected late.

DIARY DATES

Please take note of any dates which are relevant to your child.

(Please refer to our website for full term dates and other documents)

Wednesday 18 th September (9 – 11 am)	Open Morning / Macmillan Coffee Morning
Wednesday 9 th October (5 – 6pm)	Maths Evening for Parents
Tuesday 22 nd October (3.30 – 5pm)	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 23 rd October (3.30 – 7pm)	Parents' Evening
Thursday 24 th October (3.30 – 5pm)	Parents' Evening
Friday 25 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 4 th November	Children return to school
Thursday 7 th November	Flu immunisation – FS to Year 6
Monday 18 th November	Photographer – individual photos
Wednesday 11 th December (pm)	Foundation Stage Nativity
Thursday 12 th December (5 - 6pm)	KS2 Christmas Disco
Friday 13 th December	Break up for Christmas
Monday 6 th January 2020	Return to school