



The Buzz @ Brooksward

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13th November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a fantastic start to the new half term at Brooksward. For the third consecutive year, we have received an official letter from the Rt Honourable Nick Gibb, Secretary of State for School Standards. In his letter addressed to Ms Alikhan he wrote "I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on your school's outstanding achievements in the 2019 phonics screening check....With 100% of pupils at Brooksward School reaching or exceeding the pass mark in the check, your school is in the top 2 per cent of all primary schools in the country."

We are delighted to be recognised again for the amazing achievements of the Brooksward children and staff. As I am sure you are aware, these achievements would not be gained without the hard work and dedication displayed by the Brooksward staff on a day-to-day basis, often going far above and beyond what could be expected, to make sure that all children are given a wide range of exciting opportunities and can achieve their very best. I consider myself very fortunate to be working with such a fabulous team and such an amazing enthusiastic group of children!

The children have been introduced to this half term's new learning character Leo. They were told a little bit about Leonardo da Vinci and how our Leo likes to see excellent learning skills, such as thinking of new ideas, logical thinking, imagining all the possibilities and always striving for more. I know that the children are all working particularly hard to demonstrate these skills which are recognised in our Star of the Week Assembly



STEM INSPIRATION AWARDS

The STEM inspiration awards recognise and celebrate individuals, organisations and clubs working to inspire young people in science, technology, engineering and maths. We were delighted to learn that Mrs Dearn's STEM Club had been shortlisted for an 'Outstanding STEM Club Award', the only primary school in the country on the list! On November 5th, Mrs Dearn, Miss Appleby and four children were invited to attend the prestigious awards ceremony which very excitingly took

place in London at the House of Lords. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience, behaved amazingly well and represented Brooksward School both professionally and politely. Well done children and well done Mrs Dearn for inspiring a love of Science amongst our pupils!



OPEN UNIVERSITY FESTIVAL

Mr MacDonald and ten children from years 5 and 6 were recently treated to a guided tour and various activities at the 'OU-Fest' to celebrate the Open University's 50th birthday. First there was a talk given by the new Vice-Chancellor of the university, telling them all about what the OU has achieved over its half century. Next they were shown around the huge grounds and various buildings where the celebrations were going on. They learnt about the Edison phonograph, the first tool for recording sound (using wax of all things), Raspberry Pi computers, 3D printing on the Moon and even got to touch meteorites! They did a huge amount, especially seeing as they were only there for 3 hours!



WATER DAY FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

On Friday 15th November, we have invited all children to come to school wearing **non-uniform items of blue clothing** to celebrate our love of water and Healthy Schools Week (you may also add other Pudsey related accessories if you wish!) The School Council class representatives would like to ask for a donation of £1 for doing this. All money collected will be donated to Children in Need.

BROOKSWARD CHRISTMAS FAYRE

We will be holding our Christmas Fayre on FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 3.30-5.00pm. If you would like to support the school and help run this event, then please contact the school office for more information. If you run a small business and would like to sell your goods at the fayre, please let the school office know by Friday 15th November. We will be sending your child home with raffle tickets next week in the hope that they can help us sell these to friends and family ahead of the event. We have some great prizes lined up so please keep an eye on Class Dojo for further details!

Finally a couple of polite reminders: Please consider the safety of the children when parking and dropping off before and after school; this is always of paramount importance but will be monitored even more closely during Road Safety Week and beyond. We would also be most grateful if parents / grandparents / carers could please refrain from smoking at the school gates, as we would like to keep the area inviting and welcoming for all. In addition, now that the weather has changed, I have noticed a few children wearing boots in school. Whilst it is fine to wear this footwear into school, we do ask that regular school shoes (following our policy) are worn in the building – thank you.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jen Swain

Head of School

DIARY DATES

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

Friday 15th November

Monday 18th November

Friday 6th December 3.30 – 5pm

Tuesday 10th December (pm)

Wednesday 11th December (pm)

Thursday 12th December (5 - 6pm)

Friday 13th December

Monday 6th January 2020

Water Day / Wear Blue for Children in Need

Photographer – individual photos

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

KS1 Trip to Sleeping Beauty on Ice

Foundation Stage Nativity

KS2 Christmas Disco

Break up for Christmas

Return to school