



The Buzz @ Brooksward

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22nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have reached the end of another school year, and what a year it has been! Once again, due to the pandemic, we have had to make changes to how work in school and learn to adapt further to the idea of home learning. This has caused a variety of challenges but once again, we have pulled together as a community to support each other and adapt to our 'new normal'. Thank you very much for being patient and supportive about each of the changes that were needed. Keeping the school community safe has been our main priority and overall, I am pleased that the measures we put in place have worked; we have ended the year with our year groups intact and thankfully the children being able to take part in all of our traditional end of year activities (albeit slightly differently than before).

Unfortunately however, that doesn't mean that our community has not been touched at all this year. Many of our parents and siblings have been affected by the virus since our last communication and I am sure you will all join me in wishing them all a speedy recovery. In addition to this is the incredibly sad news that one of our parents lost their life to the virus. Reminding us that although the risk may be lower, it is not gone.

Danni Coombs was a beloved parent and member of the school community who will be deeply missed. Her passing is a tragedy that will be with us all for some time to come. Danni was well-known and well-liked amongst the school community. She was always ready with a smile for everyone and showed great passion for the wellbeing and learning for her child at Brooksward and the younger children who will be joining us soon. Even when times were difficult, as they have been for many this year, she always put her children first and seemed in high spirits. Danni's memory will always live on at Brooksward and in the hearts of her fiancé, children, family, friends and all who knew her. Rest in Peace.



Bushcraft

At the beginning of the month a group of 45 children from Years 5 & 6 spent 3 days on a residential 'Bushcraft' visit enjoying many aspects of the great outdoors and having 'life-experiences' that will stay with them for many years to come. Thank you to Mrs Stevens, Miss Regan, Coach Dave and Mr Macdonald for helping to make this so enjoyable for the children and returning them to you safely, albeit exhausted and smelling of camp fires!





Sports Day

Coach Dave was delighted to be able to go ahead with Sports Day this year. Although we missed being able to invite parents along, the support and encouragement the children gave to one another during the events was a joy to see. Well done everyone!



Summer Fayre

The children had a wonderful day last Friday taking part in the many activities and visiting the enterprise stalls. Even though you weren't able to attend, thanks to parents' generosity, a grand total of £1057 was raised from a combination of raffle ticket sales and stalls. We are very grateful for the extra resources that this will enable us buy for the children.

RAF Eagle's Nest

On Tuesday this week, we were delighted to welcome members of the team from RAF Coningsby virtual to talk to the children about their work with the RAF, discuss the planes they use and to set the children a challenge of designing the plane of the future. The children were really interested to find out about the different aircraft and came up with some fantastic designs for their future aircraft. Well done to Sophia S in Year 1 and Iannis in Year 5 whose designs were picked as the winners.

Year 6 Leavers

The year 6 children delivered a wonderful performance of Matilda to the rest of school last week, then yesterday after school they were able to enjoy a picnic event with beautiful individually boxed cream teas sourced from a small local business. We also celebrated their past years' at Brooksward during the Graduation event this afternoon and wish them all well as begin a new chapter.



Next Year

As we now look forward to next year, I am sad to say that some members of staff will not be re-joining us in September, but all for exciting new opportunities. Mrs Marguerite, who has taught Foundation, this year will be moving on to a new school in Milton Keynes, where she will inspire and enthuse a new Foundation group of children; Mrs McEvoy, who has worked with us in Year 5 for the last two years, has decided to take some time out to spend with her husband and family; and Mrs Taylor, who has supported us for the year in Foundation, will be returning to her role at Drayton Park. We wish them all the best for their next steps and hope to see you all again.

We are also saying goodbye to Mrs Banbheru who has worked as a catering assistant next year as she is soon expecting a baby. We hope it all goes well and we hope to meet little one soon.

Also, as many of you are aware, I won't be starting the year with you all in September as I too am due my second child at the end of August. Mrs De'Ath will be taking on the exciting role as Assistant Head over the Autumn Term and will be working closely with Mr Morley-Smith and Mrs Ross whilst I am away to ensure that the day-to-day running of the school continues to go well. If you have any

questions or concerns in the new year, please contact Miss De'Ath in the first instance. I will be back in January and will be excited to hear all the news from the Autumn Term.

As well as Miss De'Ath rejoining us as Assistant Head next year, we also have some other new members of staff joining the team. We are welcoming Miss Docherty to the 5/6 team where she will be working as Team Leader; Miss Brereton to the 3/4 team as the Watervoles class teacher and Miss Addison will be starting the year in a full teaching role, teaching the Year 2 Ducklings class. I am sure you will all join me in welcoming them to the team and supporting them in their new roles.

Thank you once again for your continued support. I hope you all have a lovely summer break and we will see you all back on **Wednesday 1st September**.

Jen Swain
Head of School

Diary Dates

Friday 22th July 2021 – Break up for Summer
Tuesday 31st August – Inset day for teachers
Wednesday 1st September – Children return
to school