



The Buzz @ Brooksward

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



10th September 2018

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 – I do hope you all had an enjoyable Summer break. The children have returned looking very smart in their uniform and correct school shoes. A huge thank you to all of you – this makes such a difference in setting high standards and expectations for our school.

We welcome two new staff members this year - Miss Allen who is teaching Otters Class in Year 3 and Miss Addison who is an HLTA in Years 5/6.

We have had a very settled start to the year and the children are already working hard. Curriculum Newsletters were sent home on Friday and are also available to view on our school website – please have a read through these at your earliest convenience.

Last week in assembly, we introduced 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 them being focused and enthusiastic about their learning and challenging themselves. I know that the children have all worked particularly hard to ensure that they are showing their teachers and Einstein these skills already! Einstein will be making a special appearance during our 'Star of the Week' assembly on a Friday, which the children are very much looking forward to.



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 2018 will soon be available on the school website.

AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITY CLUBS

Clubs will begin w/c 17th September and will run for 6 weeks until the October half term. We have an exciting array of clubs on offer all provided free of charge. Please let us know your child's 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice of club on the form sent home on Friday (the letter and form are also on the website) – offer letters will be sent home at the end of this week.



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING / SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

On Friday September 28th (9 – 11a.m.) we are holding an Open Morning combined with a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan. This is a chance for you to tour the school and see the children at work. At the same time, you are invited to have a coffee or tea and a slice of cake for £1 and all proceeds will go to the very worthy Macmillan campaign. In order to raise as much as we can, we are asking for cake donations to be brought to school from Wednesday of that week please. Any leftover cakes will be sold to the children at break time for 50p each so please ensure that your child comes with money if they wish to buy a cake. Thank you in advance for your support.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

There is a citizen portal to help you find out if your child qualifies for free school meals. Please visit to sign up, even if your child is in year R, 1 or 2 and receiving universal 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 a smartphone or hand held device. If you qualify, you will receive a reference number that you simply bring in and show us at school to start receiving meals. Please register at <https://emsonline.milton-keynes.gov.uk/CitizenPortal> LIVE

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)

Friday 28 th September (9 – 11 am)	Open Morning / Macmillan Coffee Morning
Thursday 11 th October	Maths Evening for Parents
Tuesday 16 th October (3.30 – 5pm)	Parents' Evening
Wednesday 17 th October (3.30 – 7pm)	Parents' Evening
Thursday 18 th October (3.30 – 5pm)	Parents' Evening
Friday 26 th October	Break up for half term
Monday 5 th November	Children return to school
Wednesday 7 th November	Flu immunisation – FS to Year 5
Monday 19 th November	Photographer – individual photos
Wednesday 19 th December (pm)	Foundation Stage Nativity
Thursday 20 th December (5 - 6pm)	KS2 Christmas Disco
Friday 21 st December	Break up for Christmas
Wednesday 7 th January	Return to school