



# The Buzz @ Brooksward

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14<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Happy New Year to you all. We are very pleased to welcome the children back to school at the start of the Spring Term. During our first assembly, the children were introduced to our new 'Learning Character' for this term. She is called Marie, after the Nobel Prize winning physicist and chemist Marie Curie who conducted some excellent research on radioactivity and was the first woman to become a Professor at the University of Paris. The children heard about the fantastic work she did with x-ray equipment during World War One and were told what qualities our Marie loves to see in them; children who are safe and who have helping hands. We have already been impressed by children helping others, being kind and behaving in a safe manner around school and on the internet. When I met with School Council last week, they spoke very highly of the impact she is having, with one child saying, "I really think she is impacting on keeping us safe", which was fantastic to hear.



As you are aware, when the school performance league tables were published last month, we were able to share the good news with you all that last year, 97% of our children achieved the expected standard or above in maths, reading and writing. This puts us in an amazing second place for the whole of Milton Keynes! In celebration of this, on Monday the children were all given a home made cookie from Ms Alikhan to enjoy as a treat and a little reward.

Spring Term Curriculum Newsletters for all year groups have been sent home with the children. If you have not yet seen this, take a look at the Parents' Section on the school website where an e-version can be viewed so you are fully informed about the areas of learning your child will be covering.

Book Week at Brooksward will take place week commencing 28th January. We will be running a number of activities throughout the week, including a second hand book sale. If you have any children's books that are no longer needed and you are willing to donate, please send them in to school with your child by Friday 25th January. All money raised will be going towards our STEM fund. More details of this, plus other events, will follow shortly.

As this time of year can often bring a cold snap of weather, please ensure you send your children to school with suitable warm outdoor clothing. Please also ensure you act upon the details regarding school closure at the foot of this Newsletter – it only takes a short while to register for text and email alerts from Milton Keynes Council. **If you have recently changed your mobile phone or home phone numbers please also inform the office immediately.** It is vitally important we are able to contact you in an emergency.

## Vacancy for Midday Supervisor / Catering Assistant

We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor / Catering Assistant to work term time 12 - 1.30pm, 5 days a week. If you are interested in this role, please contact the school office for an application pack.

Please remember that we are a water only school - a refillable bottle with a 'sports cap' is the best way to ensure that your child has easy access to water with their lunch and throughout the day.

Mrs Abby McStraw  
Head of School

**EMERGENCY OR BAD WEATHER CLOSURE PROCEDURE**

If you think that we may be closed due to bad weather OR we suddenly have to close due to lack of water, gas leak etc , you can find out by visiting the council's website [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schoolclosures](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schoolclosures) or the radio websites [www.horizonmk.co.uk](http://www.horizonmk.co.uk) or [www.bbc.co.uk/threecounties](http://www.bbc.co.uk/threecounties). If you visit these websites, it is crucial to press refresh or the F5 button to continually refresh your screen as details of school closures will be constantly updating. **Heart Radio on 103.3FM and BBC Three Counties Radio on 90.4, 92.1, 94.7, 95.5, 98, 103.8 or 104.5FM will also announce details of school closures.** Please sign up to the email/text alerts from the MK Council system via their web address <http://www.mkschoolclosures.org>

Diary Dates

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January - Florence Nightingale Day in Y1/2  
w/c 28th January - Book Week including Scholastic Book Fair  
Tuesday 29th January - Story telling evening  
Friday 1st February - Book Day (dress up as a favourite book character)  
Friday 15th February - last day of term  
Monday 25th February - back to school  
19th, 20th, 21st March - Parents' Evenings  
Monday 25th March - Year 6 Shakespeare visit to Stratford-upon-Avon  
Friday 5th April - break up for Easter