



Brook Primary School

Newsletter 10 October 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have two weeks left of the term and what a packed couple of weeks they are! From Black History to Harvest and PTFA to Parent's Evenings, both adults and children will be busy!

With best wishes,

Ellen Ranson-McCabe

VERY IMPORTANT

Timings of the School Day – Important changes

New Government legislation is coming in to force regarding a minimum requirement of hours in school for pupils of 32.5 hours per week, which is 6.5 hours a day. Here, at Brook, our official day starts at 9.00am and ends at 3.15pm. This means we are 15 mins short each day.

Therefore, **from Term 2, we will start the school day at 8.45am**. For many of you, this will not change your routine as so many of you arrive before or around this time anyway. For some of you, this will mean making sure your child is in school by 8.45am each day.

The routine will be:

- Gates will open at 8.35am
- Stop and Drop will take place 8.35am – 8.45am with a member of SLT
- Gates will close at 8.45am
- Arrival after 8.45am will require children to enter via the school office

I appreciate this may take some getting used to, so, until Christmas, late marks will **not** be given for pupils arriving between 8.45 and 9.00 although the above will be in place. **From January**, the day will be officially changed and therefore children will be marked as late if they arrive after 8.45am.

The impact of this change of children will be positive. An additional 15mins each day gives an extra 15mins of learning and children learn best in the morning so this change at the start of the day will have a bigger impact than changing the end of the day.



Own clothes day for £1 – This Friday (14 October)

Our Young Leadership Team have been coming up with great ideas (see below). Our Sports Captains would like to raise money for a new set of goals for the field. To do this, they are holding an own clothes day this Friday. In exchange for £1, children can wear their own clothes to school for the day



Harvest Reminder

Harvest Service at 9.30am, St. Mary's Church, Brook, on Friday 21st October (the last day of term). Please do come along.

In addition to this, we will be collecting donations to a local food bank for Harvest. Please share what you can, if you can, in the final week of term (from 17th Oct). I will set up a collection point in the hall. Thank you.

Food Donations

If you are looking to donate food, below is a list of food which we are currently short of:

- Cereal
- Tinned Meat (Curry, Chilli, Meat Balls, Hot Dogs, Pies, etc.)
- Long Life Milk
- Tinned Potatoes
- Dried Rice/Pasta
- Tea/Coffee
- Tinned Veg (Peas, Carrots, Potatoes, etc.)
- Tinned Fish
- Tinned Desserts (Fruit, Custard, Rice Pudding, etc.)
- Soups (Tinned & Packets)
- Biscuits
- Preservatives
- Pasta Sauces
- Hygiene & Baby Products

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening takes place next week. Please book an appointment following the guidance which will be sent out on an email today. Teacher's will share with you how well your child has settled in to the new school year and what they are working on in class.

Forest School

Our poor Saplings could not attend Forest last week as the wind gusts were too high. Mrs Callan, Mrs Rickards, Mrs Sharp and Mrs Baker made sure they had an excellent day learning on our own forest site instead. The plans were shelter building and these were quickly changed to shelter building for a mouse!

Black History Month

This week we will learn about Black History as part of Black History Month. We will begin with a whole school assembly where I will share what the month is all about and why we learn about it. Each class will learn about an aspect of Black British history. I am keen to ensure that this learning continues beyond Black History Month and so I will be making some additions to our History curriculum soon.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club prices will be increasing slightly next term (Term 2). Our new prices continue to be very competitive, particularly with the quality breakfast on offer. The new price structure will be:

Option 1: Arrive between 7.45am and 8.10am for Breakfast: £3.00 per day (or £12 for the whole week) Option 2: Arrive between 8:10am and 8.35am, no food will be available, at a cost of £1.20 per day (or £5 for the whole week)



Healthy Schools

Healthy Schools Reminder

Playtime Snacks: Please can playtime snacks be restricted to fruit or vegetables only. Children in KS1 and EYFS are provided with free fruit or veg every day.

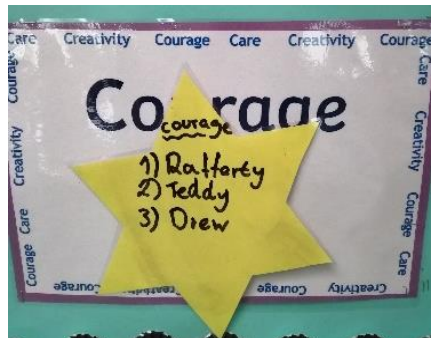
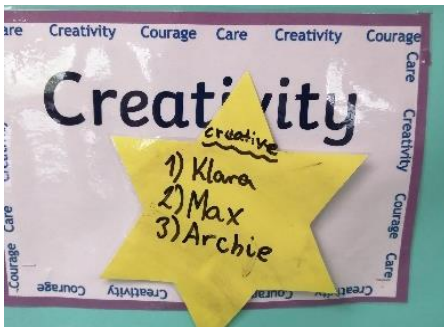
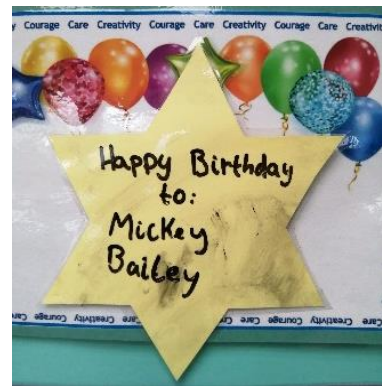
Some of you have enquired about products containing fruit or other healthy snacks. I have looked in to this. Snacks must be fresh fruit or veg only. I am happy to allow a small portion of plain raisins or prunes etc. We are currently not compliant with Schools Food Standards and compliance with this is mandatory. I have taken advice from the NHS Change4Life as well as Government documentation to make an informed decision on this matter.



PTFA Reminder

Meeting on **TUESDAY 11th OCT at 9.00am**. I am aware that there may be some of you who would like to help but cannot make this meeting. If this is the case, please do let me know and I will share with you minutes of the meeting and you can share ideas you may have. No-one will be excluded for not attending.

Celebrations





Young Leadership Team Updates

Sports Leaders – Our leaders would like to fundraise for new goals for the field. They are holding an own clothes day on Friday 14th Oct (this week). Please donate £1 in exchange for own clothes!

House Captains – Captains are arranging a House Team task for the last day of term linked to Kindness Week and also linked to our school vision.

The Librarians – The plans for the big library move are underway.

Green Gang Captains – Forms for signing up to the Green Gang have been shared today.

School Captains – Captains have been tasked with leading our Kindness Week and will start with leading assembly next week.

Assembly Captains – Our captains are going to lead part of the Harvest service coming up.

Term Dates 2022/23

Term 1

Thursday 1st September 2022 – Friday 21st October 2022

Term 2

Monday 31st October 2022 – Friday 16th December 2022

Term 3

Tuesday 3rd January 2023 – Friday 10th February 2023

Term 4

Monday 20th February 2023 – Friday 31st March 2023

Term 5

Monday 17th April 2023 – Friday 26th May 2023

Term 6

Monday 12th June 2023 – Friday 21st July 2023

INSET days

Monday 5th June – Friday 9th June 2023 - Days where children are not at school

