



Creating opportunities, supporting aspiration, striving for excellence

Summer Newsletter

July 2015

As we approach the summer break the governors would like to take this opportunity to share a few things with all parents and carers and wish you all a very pleasant and restful summer break. We would also like to thank all Brookland families for their support over the last year.

Awards/Special Recognition

This year has seen many successes for both the Infant and the Junior schools. We are proud of the children for their excellent results in many extra-curricular competitions and tournaments, including chess, maths, sports, drama and music. We would also like to wish all the Year 6 children good luck in their future endeavours and thank all their families for their excellent support to our schools.

Communication

The governors would like to thank all parents and carers for their feedback over the last year. We are all partners in your children's education and constructive dialogue between families, staff and senior managers is invaluable. Please may the governors remind parents and carers that if they have any concerns or queries about any aspect of school life to communicate them promptly to the class teacher. If the concern is more serious it should be communicated to a member of the Senior Leadership Team. School policies can be found on the relevant schools website if you are unsure of how to proceed with any concerns.

School Websites

The governors would like to remind parents and carers that more information is available than ever before on both school's websites. We would particularly like to draw attention to the Pupil Premium summary. This document highlights how the schools are using the valuable government Pupil Premium grant to support disadvantaged students.

Residential Trips

The governors would like to thank all staff that recently led the successful residential trips to Moat Mount in the Infants and Whitby in the Juniors. All the staff who accompany the children give up their personal time to ensure that the children can have these enriching experiences. We are sure that some wonderful memories were made!

E-safety Policy

This term was a busy one for both schools, with many wonderful activities taking place – activities day, assemblies, plays and music performances. Please may we remind you that in order to safeguard the children we ask that you do not post any photos or videos to social networking sites. Violations of this policy may result in a blanket ban on any recording devices at school.

School Development Plans/Self-Evaluation Forms

Both schools have produced these key documents, which have been reviewed and validated by the governors. These documents take an incredible amount of work from all the staff and are vital to the schools' review of their targets, achievements and future plans, and are essential documents in preparation for any future Ofsted review. We thank all the staff for all their input.

Curriculum Changes

September brings the last of the changes to the National Curriculum. The new Year 3 and Year 6 children will now adopt the current curriculum. Staff will be monitoring the continued impact of these changes and the Curriculum Committee will work with staff to best manage these final changes over the coming academic year, as well as reviewing the changes from last year. The new curriculum is more difficult than the old but the staff and children have risen to the challenge and are enjoying the new topics.

Site Improvements

The schools have had many exciting new improvements this term. We now have new Junior playground equipment, a picket fence between the two schools on the Junior lower playground and a recently refurbished Junior library opened by His Worshipful Mayor of Barnet. The ramps to the Junior huts are now completed, and the new swimming pool changing rooms are greatly appreciated by all the children. The Infants have installed new Interactive Whiteboards in some classrooms with plans to install a further 5 when funding is secured. Over the summer a new Inclusion room will be built for our new Infant Inclusion Leader (SENCO). We would like to thank our caretakers James and Rupert who oversee our large site and keep it safe and tidy.

Parents Association

Both schools are incredibly lucky to have such vibrant and active Parent's Associations. In the Infants we all enjoyed a wonderful summer fair and in the Juniors the children had a fun roller disco evening. The staff and governors would like to thank them for all their hard work raising much-needed funds.

Farewells

The governors would like to thank all the staff who are leaving us at the end of this term. We would like to wish Mary Jones a very happy retirement and thank her for all her hard work over the last 20 years. We thank Sheryl Behkor for her exceptional contribution over the last 25 years and wish her well in her new post, and also wish Chris North good luck and thank you for the huge contribution you have made to our computing provision. We also say Farewell to Emma Howard, our local authority governor, and thank her for her valuable contribution to the governing body during her term of office.