

Brooklands Bulletin



Brooklands Farm
Primary School
Weaving a learning journey

11th September 2015



One Community

One Primary School

One Localised Plan for Success

Email: office@brooklandsfarm.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Website: brooklandsfarm.milton-keynes.sch.uk

Term Dates:

Autumn (1) term begins 7th September

Autumn (1) term ends 23rd September

Autumn Half Term Break 23th-30th

Autumn (2) term begins 2nd November

Autumn (2) term ends 18th December (17th December for Nursery)

Christmas Break 21st December-1st January

Inset Day Monday 4th January

Spring (1) term begins 5th January

Spring (1) term ends 12th February

Half Term Break 15th-19th February

Spring (2) begins 22nd February

Spring (2) ends 24th March (23rd March for Nursery)

Easter Break 25th March-8th April

Inset Day 11th April

Dates for your diary:

Curriculum Teas: w/c 21st September

Deadline for Secondary School Applications: 31st October

Lantern Festival: Friday 20th November @ Countess Way

Welcome back!

We are now one community, one school, with one plan for success. My timetable is spread over the two sites to ensure consistency and continuity. We have had a brilliant, calm and successful first week. Thank you to the whole community who together with your vision, support and aspiration will make this community one in which children and their families thrive.

I have been most impressed by our new start to the term. My observations this week have shown me that transition has been extremely successful as children have come straight into the classrooms with high well being and by Tuesday morning all children were being taught the full curriculum. I have been slightly worried that the very long summer holiday this year may have created some regression in the children's learning journeys so I will be checking progress this coming week.

Curriculum Teas are being planned this year with a totally new format. We were aware that now in our 5th year, many parents may have heard the talks in each year group. We always want our meetings with you to be informative so this year we will be focussing on sharing how the classroom works and how you can best support your child through coaching and growth mindset questions. As always, please ensure you attend this meeting as it sets the tone for the year.

Curriculum Teas will take place week commencing 21st September. A full timetable will be available early next week.

Our school chooses to wear a uniform to give children a clear message that once they pull on their sweatshirt in the morning they pull on the values, beliefs and rules of our learning community. As a school we support parents by saying children can wear black or grey but children must wear the school logo on their sweatshirts and cardigans.

Equally, for health and safety reasons we ask that children wear enclosed black shoes that fit properly. School is a tough place on the feet and horrible accidents occur when children trip and fall. Please adhere to this rule for the safety of your child but also the safety of others.

We have undertaken our annual review of our behaviour policy. Please ensure you read it through with your child so that we are absolutely clear about the expectations of each other. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Maxine Low

To report an absence please phone the school office on 01908 760081 (option 1) by 9am. Alternatively, you may report an absence via the website:

<http://brooklandsfarm.milton-keynes.sch.uk/reporting-absence/#>



Latest News

School Hours: We realise it is difficult getting back into routine but it is important that children are on time in the morning. Doors open at Countess Way at 8:20am and learning starts at 8:30am. Doors open at Fen Street at 8:30am and learning starts at 8:40am. Please also be prompt for home time which is 3:15pm at Countess Way and 3:30pm at Fen Street.

Fen Street Breakfast/Activity/Care Club Entrance: In the interest of safety and safeguarding, we have made the decision to change the entrance for Breakfast Club drop-off and Care Club/KS2 Activities collection. From Monday 14th September we will no longer be using the door at the end of the hall corridor. We will now be using the main entrance in Reception. A member of staff will be available to let you in.

Collection for KS1 Activities will remain the same in the cross corridor.

Chartwells: The cut-off for ordering school dinners is now midnight Sunday the week before.

We are aware that some parents are having difficulties ordering online and have been unable to get through to the Customer Care Line. Chartwells have provided us with a troubleshooting guide which was sent via ParentMail and are available in Reception. If you are still having trouble, please contact Jill at Fen Street next week to arrange a time to come in and do the order for week commencing 28th September together.

National Gallery: Thank you for all the wonderful homework on the painting Mr and Mrs Andrews. We were disappointed with the fact that the National Gallery closed the room where Mr and Mrs Andrews was this summer as lots of Brooklands Farm teachers, parents and children tried to go over the holidays and couldn't see the painting. We have emailed the Gallery to enquire and express our disappointment. They replied sending their apologies and said that it was due to staff strikes.

ParentMail/ParentPay: Our main lines of communication for parents are our website and email. If you are not receiving emails please see Reception for a ParentMail (Fen Street) or ParentPay (Countess Way) registration code.

PE Kits: Please ensure your child brings in their PE kit every Monday to leave in school for the week as PE sessions may change.

Jewellery: Children must not come to school wearing items of jewellery. Bracelets, necklaces, etc. are likely to catch on something during play which can cause injury.

Buggies: As new carpet has been laid at both Fen Street and Countess Way, please refrain from wheeling buggies across any carpeted area of the buildings.

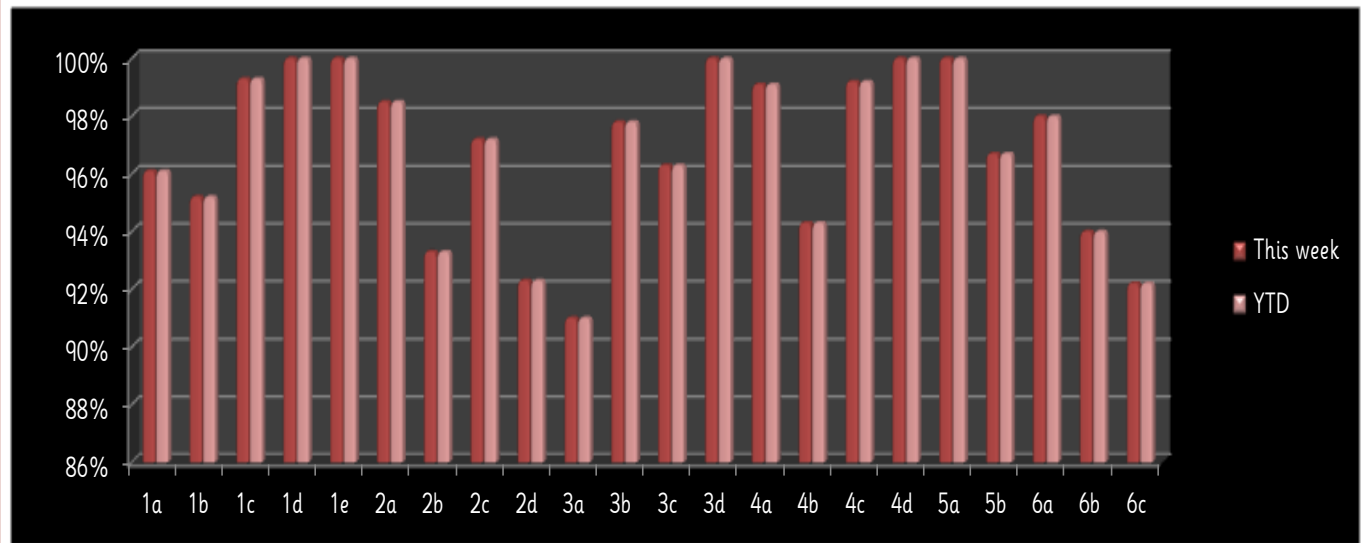
Pin Assemblies

Pin assemblies will be held in your child's classroom. Parents/Carers are invited to attend but please sign in at Reception and then accompany your child to their classroom.

Watch this space for children who have achieved their pins... coming soon.

Attendance

The national expected level of attendance is 96.5%. We take attendance very seriously at Brooklands Farm and expect to achieve this level with your partnership. This week's attendance is:



Tell Me Tuesday

Watch this space for your Tell Me Tuesday questions... coming soon.

Community groups that meet at Brooklands Farm—Fen Street

Mondays: Mums & Tots 8:45-11:15

Tuesdays: Child minders & Tots 8:45-11:15

Wednesdays: Polish Friends of Brooklands Farm 8:40-9:40

Thursdays: Mums & Tots 8:45-11:15

Fridays: Me Time 9:00-11:00. A fun group just for you! Try something different, make friends and find your creativity. Childcare is available but should be booked in advance as places are limited.

In Our Community

'The Willen Wobble'

Sunday 13th September 2015 10am start

A lovely ride in aid of the British Heart Foundation, around Willen Lake for children aged 11 and under.

For more information please email admin@eventcycling.co.uk

or phone Kate on 07905 118196



Small School News



Early Years

Foundation 1 & Foundation 2

It has been lovely visiting you all on home visits this week, finding out about you and your families. We are excited to see you on Monday and to begin our learning journey together.

Infant School

Year 1 have had a 'determined' start to the term, establishing new routines and expectations. They have become familiar with their new environments and have opened their hearts to form new relationships.

Children at Countess Way have enjoyed exploring the new school and classrooms and are settling well into routines! We are so impressed that we have seen lots of children in learning zone 4 and 5 and some determined muscles are starting to grow! Keep it up Year 1!

Year 2 have been building positive relationships and talking lots about the new expectation in Year 2 of being calm. The children have responded well to this and are getting back into the routine of school life! In Maths we have been working on place value and using lots of resources to grow our learning. Literacy lessons have been fun learning about our new book Katie and the British Artists.

Lower Junior

Year 3 have had an excellent first week back! They have been continuing with their project of 'Take One Picture' and have begun learning the talk the text in literacy. They have been opening their relationships with children new to Brooklands, growing their learning and believing that they can become balanced learners. A great start Year 3!

Year 4 have been extremely grown up this week; we have noticed a real maturity throughout the year group! They have welcomed new children to Brooklands and have been busy learning a new style of handwriting, as well as talking their new text in literacy and exploring number in maths lessons. Well done Year 4!

Upper Junior

Year 5 have settled back into routine and discussed what it means to be an individual. In literacy this week we've really enjoyed talking the text for our story 'Katie and the British Artists' and in maths we've challenged ourselves by working with numbers up to a million.

Year 6 have settled back into routine and have been thinking carefully about what a Strong and Powerful learner looks like. They have been growing this idea within the context of feedback and dialogue by watching the video 'Austin's Butterfly' and observing the power of effective next steps and redrafting.