

**'Appreciation'**  
**'Positive and  
supportive  
Relationships'**

# Brookfield Newsletter

**20th February 2017**

**'Achievement'**  
**'Confident and  
Independent  
Pupils'**

## **'LEARNING TOGETHER ACHIEVING MORE'**

### **Welcome Back**

Welcome back to the start of this half term. I trust you all enjoyed a relaxing and happy break.

### **Events this week...**

- Tuesday - Football League play offs  
Wednesday - Y5 open morning  
6R to CLC  
Y3 rocks and soil workshop  
Friday - Y2 PAC Maths in bottom hall 9.00am

### **Curriculum news**

#### **Time Keeping**

Please can I remind you at the start of this half term, how important it is to arrive to school on time!

The bell is rung at 8.55am and this is when we expect all children to be ready to line up.

We need lessons to start lessons promptly so learning time is not impacted. Unfortunately, when children arrive late, it not only disrupts what is taking place in class but it is very unsettling for those children arriving late.

Please can everybody make a concerted effort to be in the playground by 8.55am so we can get the day off to a prompt and settled start. Thank you!

#### **Key dates for this half term**

- 28<sup>th</sup> February – Y5 and 6 CSSA football playoffs  
2<sup>nd</sup> March – World Book Day  
3<sup>rd</sup> March – Y1 PAC Maths  
8<sup>th</sup> March – 4B class assembly  
W.B. 13<sup>th</sup> March – Mini Science Week  
15<sup>th</sup> March - 2E class assembly  
17<sup>th</sup> March – Y3 open morning  
KS2 Choir Cluster Festival  
22<sup>nd</sup> March – Spring Concert  
23<sup>rd</sup> March – CSSA Swim Gala  
Open afternoon (school finishes  
At 1.45pm)  
24<sup>th</sup> March - Red Nose Day  
29th March - Rock Steady concert  
1st April - Last Day of term

#### **World Book Day**

On Thursday 2nd March we will be celebrating World Book Day. We will be inviting authors and illustrators, holding a book fair and, best of all, on

the day, all children and staff are encouraged to come dressed as their favourite book character. You've all got just under two weeks to create something wonderful and possibly win a prize for the best individual outfit or help your class to win a collective prize.

#### **School's Finances**

Following on from previous letters regarding the school's finances, towards the end of this week, I will be sending out an update regarding the consultation which was carried out last half term. In the update will be details of how we are planning to address the current financial challenges next academic year.

Many parents/ careers have already asked what they can do to help and with this in mind, the fundraising committee will be meeting in the next couple of weeks to facilitate a co-ordinated approach. A letter will then be sent out, with some suggestions and ideas for how you can help. We hope that as many of you as possible will get involved.

As you may be aware from the media, many schools nationally are having to deal with rising costs with no corresponding increase in funding. This and the proposed government changes to the funding formulae ('Fairer Funding') will have a significant impact on school's budgets; particularly those in London. Schools, local authorities, trade unions and parents up and down the country have already started to mobilise themselves for action and a recent article in the Evening Standard identified Camden as being one of the hardest hit London authorities.

The governors are currently responding to stage 2 of the 'Fairer Funding' consultation and will continue to give opposition to this and any other policies which necessitate further reductions to school budgets. At a time when schools are under unprecedented pressure to raise standards, it is essential that all schools are given sufficient resources to do so. It is to the school's enormous credit, that despite all this uncertainty and unwelcome distractions, the staff have conducted themselves so professionally and responsibly. I cannot thank and praise them enough.



## 2G's Class Assembly



Congratulations to 2G, Gemma and Rokib for a really engaging and imaginative assembly just before half term. 2G used their recent experiences of watching some baby chicks hatch and grow in class as an inspiration for some science, dance, singing and writing. The assembly finished on a musical note with a well written song by the children about their feathered friends.

### Assemblies this half term

Linked to the global goals for sustainable development, this half term, we are going to be focusing on reducing extreme poverty. Children will be exploring how extreme poverty impacts on education, health and well being amongst other things and will start by considering commonly held misconceptions about poverty.

### Assessment Week

Next week, the children will be participating in termly assessments in reading, writing and maths. In line with our core value 'Achievement', please ensure that all children get plenty of sleep in order to be able to give a good account of themselves. Many thanks!

### Sports News

This half term, Years 1 - 6 will still be doing gymnastics and will be focusing on various different apparatus and how we combine them with the floor routines we have been learning. Also, today is the first day of the year 3 pupils going to Archway Swimming Pool. A reminder to all Y3 parents that children should have a swimming hat.

### Clubs News

There will be no DT Club for the next two weeks. Drama Club finished last term and will not resume until further notice. Art Club now has a new group of children starting this half term. Science Club for Y5 children starts tomorrow. There are some spaces left, if any Y5 children are interested. We also have spaces in the years 4 - 6 Art Club on Tuesdays and years 3 - 6 Film Club on Mondays. Please email Sam on:

[s.lewis-purkis@brookfield.camden.sch.uk](mailto:s.lewis-purkis@brookfield.camden.sch.uk) if your child would like to take advantage of one of these vacancies.

### News from the office

This half term's lunches will be £69. We would like to thank all those parents and carers who pay their accounts regularly every half term. Could we remind you all to follow this example, keep an eye on your account and settle up regularly.

### Jumble Sale to help refugees

Katy Hermer (Y5 pupil) writes :  
Together with some friends, we are having a jumble sale to raise money for a charity called 'Help Refugees'. This is the charity's website - <http://www.helprefugees.org.uk/>.  
The sale will be on Saturday 4th March from 10.30am outside the rug shop at 14 York Rise and there will be toys, books and cakes on sale.  
Do come along to support us if you can.

### Half-term highlights

What were your half term highlights?  
A couple of highlights from my half term were attending David Hockney's retrospective at The Tate Britain and seeing some snow drops in the Chinese Garden at Trent Park.



If like me, you are not a big fan of winter, it's reassuring to note that March is just around the corner with all the promise of Spring - new life, colour and warmth.



[Don't forget to sign up to easyfundraising.org.uk](http://easyfundraising.org.uk)

Brookfield PTA News  
January 16th-January 22nd

*Valentine Bake Sale Bonanza and Winter Fair totals*



Thanks to Y4 for organising and everyone who baked or bought sweet things for their sweet things at the Valentine Bake Sale. Former parent Carol Dean also got a healthy order book from lovelorn Brookfielders and together they raised more than £250 for school activities and equipment funded by the PTA.

We love you all very much – thank-you!

**Speaking of money raised** - and sorry this is a bit late - the Winter Fair, organised brilliantly by the unflappable Victoria and her team raised £4,100. To give you some idea about what it will do for Brookfield pupils, that amount would pay for the whole school and nursery to go to the Christmas pantomime, with some money left over. Spectacularly well-done!

Thank-you again to Victoria, Clio, Collette, and all of the volunteers, staff, reps, parents, children and local businesses who helped make such a success of our Christmas shindig.

*The Gnome of Knowledge is calling...*

Are you a whizz with quizzes?? Practised with patter??? In short, do you want to organise this year's School Pub Quiz and preside over the annual custody battle for the golden Gnome of Knowledge? You've never seem competition like it outside the Olympics and you're sure of an appreciative audience. It needs to be held before the May Bank Holiday so if you fancy giving it a go, get in touch asap, you know where we are...

*Sonia and Charlie, PTA Chairs*

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