

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

# Brookfield Newsletter

**September 6th 2017**

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

**'LEARNING TOGETHER ACHIEVING MORE'**



I would like to extend a very warm welcome to everybody at the start of this new academic year. I trust you all had an enjoyable summer holiday and are looking forward to the start of this term. A very special welcome extends to all our new children and families and to the following staff: Daisy and Charlotte - Nursery teachers, Sus - YR teacher, Kate - YR teacher returning from maternity, Georgina - EYFS cover teacher, Michelle - Y1 teacher, Norah - 1:1 LSA, Gabrielle and Emily - EYFS apprentices, Julia returning from maternity and Sophie - Admin Officer. We trust that all our new staff settle in quickly and enjoy a happy and rewarding time at Brookfield.

## **Term Dates for 2017 - 2018**

### **Autumn term 2017**

**Monday 4th September to Friday 15th December**

**Inset days 1 and 2** - Mon 4th and Tues 5th September

**Half term** - Mon 23rd October to Fri 27th October

**Christmas break** - Mon 18th December to Tues 2nd Jan

### **Spring term 2018**

**Wed 3rd January to Thurs 29 March**

**Inset day 3** - Wed 3rd January

**Half term** - Mon 12th February to Fri 16th February

**Easter holiday** - Fri 30th March to Fri 13th April

### **Summer term 2018**

**Mon 16th April to Wed 25th July**

**May day** - Mon 7th May

**Half term** - Mon 28th May to Fri 1st June  
(includes bank holiday)

**Inset day 4** - Monday 4th June

**Last day of term** - Wed 25th July

NB - this year, we have decided to take our last inset day as a series of extended staff meetings during the course of the year.

## **Key dates for this term**

Fri Sep 8th - Curriculum letters out  
Fri Sep 15th - Trips letters out  
Weeks beginning Sep 18th and 25th - Curriculum Meetings (please see below)  
Fri Sep 29th - KS2 CSSA Cross Country  
Sat Sep 30th - Brookfield Fun Run  
Tues Oct 3rd - Headteacher's Update  
Fri Oct 6th - Y4 PAC Maths  
Thurs Oct 12th - Open Afternoon  
Fri Oct 20th - Y3 PAC Maths  
Wed Nov 1st - Y2 PAC Maths  
Fri Nov 24th - Y1 PAC Maths  
Tues Dec 5th - Infant Concert  
Wed Dec 6th - Rock Steady Concert  
Thursday Dec 7th pm - Shakespeare Performance for Years 1 and 2  
Tuesday December 12th - Junior Concert  
Other dates will be shared as they become available

## **Curriculum News**

### **Beginning of Year Curriculum Meetings**

During the course of the next few weeks we are going to be providing you with lots of helpful information in relation to this coming term / year.

On Friday, we will be sending home curriculum letters which will outline plans for this coming term and an invite to the following curriculum meetings which will take place in the lower hall at 9.00am with teachers and phase leaders:

**Y1** - Thursday September 28th

**Y2** Tuesday September 26th,

**Y3** - Thursday September 21st

**Y4** - Monday September 18th

**Y5** - Wednesday September 20th

**Y6** - Tuesday September 19th

Do please come along if you can!

### **Inset Days 1 and 2**

Over the last 2 days, staff have undertaken some helpful and inspiring training linked to key areas of this year's school improvement plan (SIP); familiarised themselves with policies, protocols and procedures and undertaken some classroom preparation. The 2 days have been extremely helpful and a special thanks extends to the senior leadership team, Gemma, Barnaby, Seren, Mike Yule, Elizabeth Dormandy and the office staff for all their input.

## **This year's School Improvement Plan (SIP)**

This year we have decided to streamline the number of SIP targets to increase their importance and priority.

The SIP targets link to areas identified from our ongoing self - evaluation and will be as follows:

1. Raise standards of children's writing across the school
2. Accelerate the progress of pupils who are eligible for Pupil Premium and are new to the school so that they are able to make expected progress from their end of KS1 results
3. Enable more children with special needs to meet their end of year targets through high quality first teaching
4. Embed new assessment systems in the core and foundation subjects

## **Other News**

### **Soft Starts**

Following on from the successful introduction of Soft Starts to KS2 last term, we are also going to be trialling Soft Starts this term in years 1 and 2. These will be phased in over the coming weeks and will begin with Y2 next week. Details of these arrangements were shared at the end of last term and we are confident that like KS2, the KS1 Soft Starts will increase the amount of learning time in class and facilitate a smoother and more settled start to the day. Mark will be holding a meeting on Wednesday June 27th at 9.00am in the lower hall to receive any initial feedback.

### **Clubs News**

In the next 2-3 weeks, Sophie (our new admin assistant and clubs co-ordinator) will be providing details of the clubs which we will be running at Brookfield this year.

Due to financial constraints and in line with most Camden schools, we will be charging for the majority of clubs from now on, with the exception of children eligible for Pupil Premium.

Gymnastics and trapeze activities which were formerly based at Highgate and Newtown Community Centre have now transferred over to Brookfield and this will provide us with some useful income as a result of increased lettings.

### **Sports News**

Please note that Y4 will not be swimming until Monday 25th September due to work being carried out at the Sports Centre. If you are able to support with the walk to and from the centre every Monday afternoon once the lessons recommence, then do please let me know.

Children in KS2 will be covering Netball and Cross Country and we will be using the Heath to run on again. Again, I will need parental support to help with the transfer and supervision.

The final team selection for the Y5 and Y6 Netball team will be confirmed this week. Letters will be given out to

starts on Tuesday 12th September from 4pm—5:45pm at La Saint Union.

**Please make sure your child has their PE kit: t-shirt, shorts/leggings and plimsole/ trainers.**

Finally, with the recent staff changes, I will be looking to you all to help as already mentioned and to support the school teams when we are away for competitions.

If you are interested please email at:

[h.khan@brookfield.camden.sch.uk](mailto:h.khan@brookfield.camden.sch.uk)

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## **News from the office**

### **'Meet the Parents Event' - September 21st**

We will be holding another 'Meet the Parents' event in September, inviting families from local secondary schools to come and talk frankly about their experiences of our local secondary schools.

Madeline Holt writes

*Our annual Meet the Parents event will take place at Brookfield on Thursday September 21st from 6.30 to 7.30pm. Families from Acland Burghley, Parliament Hill and William Ellis schools will be here to answer any questions you might have about their experience of the local secondary schools. Parents from all year groups are welcome. This is a really useful event which is unique to Camden, so we do hope you can make it.*

Do come along - refreshments and a crèche will be provided.

### **Maintaining good punctuality**

Following on from a letter which we sent out towards the end of last term regarding strengthening site security, we have introduced a new intercom system on the front gate. From now on, children and parents who need to enter the building outside normal school hours will have to do so via this. With the office in mind, please make sure that your child arrives to school on time with everything they need - packed lunch included, to avoid causing any unnecessary disruption first thing in the morning.

### **Summer activities**

In addition to strengthening site security by installing a new intercom system, we have also increased the number of internal telephones to improve communication; created a new barrier between the infant playground and the recycling area and started responding to some recommendations highlighted in a statutory fire risk assessment at the end of last term. The immediate priorities have already been addressed and any outstanding actions will also be addressed over the coming weeks and months. Thankfully Camden are supporting us in meeting the costs for some of the changes e.g. upgrading our fire doors.