

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

Brookfield Newsletter

13th March 2017

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

'LEARNING TOGETHER ACHIEVING MORE'

Events this week...

- Monday** - Y5 Maths masterclass pm
Wednesday - Nursery parents' workshop 9.00am
Spring concert 10.00am
Thursday - Open afternoon (school closes 1.45pm)
Friday - 2G visiting CLC
Red Nose Day

Open Afternoon

This Thursday will be Open Afternoon and we are all really looking forward to feeding back on the children's progress. Teachers will be sharing the children's strengths and areas for development and there will also be an opportunity for you to look in the children's books. If you haven't signed up for an appointment, please do so asap. There are still some spare slots.

National Science Week

As part of National Science Week, Year 6 were invited to take part in a Science Afternoon at The Hall school in Belsize Park. The children experienced Biology, Chemistry and Physics experiments, all led by Year 8 boys from the school. Highlights included dissecting a sheep's heart and earning a 'bunsen burner licence'! The pupils and staff at The Hall were very welcoming and we all had an enjoyable visit - plus, the children learned a great deal.



At the end of the week, Mark also drew attention to a fantastic web-site called 'Science Bob' which is full of great experiments and investigations to try out. He tried out 2 investigations - a balloon rocket and a lava lamp with some success and considered how to improve them further by using better quality materials (stronger masking tape and food colouring).

Red Nose Day - Friday March 24th

This Friday we will be celebrating Red Nose Day and the children have been enthusiastically purchasing their red noses and perfecting their joke telling skills.

There are going to be a range of fundraising activities organised by school council which include:

- Dressing up in your pyjamas - 50p donation
- Having your hair sprayed red - 50p donation
- Having your noses painted red - 20p donation
- Telling your best joke - free

If you haven't bought your red nose yet, the office have managed to acquire an additional 150. The first 250 sold out in 3 days! Priority will be given to those children who haven't bought one yet.



Proceeds from the day will be donated towards Comic Relief who are raising money to support a range of different projects, individuals, communities and organisations. There will be buckets on the gates and a bake sale to round the day off.

Charity begins at home - 'Fundraising for Brookfield'

I have been deeply moved and humbled at another unexpected and generous donation from a child in YR who has given the contents of his pocket money towards the school. Whilst I do not want to deprive children of their pocket money, any money that is donated from children will be put together and then used to purchase something appropriate e.g. some new books, toys and playground equipment.

Thank you so much to these 2 YR pupils!

On an equally encouraging and supportive note, 2 parents have stepped forward to make donations towards the Y2 baby chicks and the web-site changes. 'Mydonate' has already raised its first £100 and if you haven't already signed up then please do so. It's a simple and free way of raising money through online purchasing. For more details, visit the school's web-site.

Speak out against Fairer Funding!

Please consider responding to the Fairer Funding Consultation which is closing this Wednesday. Fairer Funding is designed to address inequalities in funding between schools nationally, by redirecting funds away from inner city schools to other schools.

Whilst we do not disagree that schools outside of London should receive more funding, it should not be at the expense of schools in the capital, who are already struggling to make ends meet.

The impact of Fairer Funding to Brookfield will be a further reduction to our income of 1.5% per pupil for 17 - 18 and a further 1.5% per pupil in 18 - 19. This equates to approximately £60000 over the next 2 years.

The consultation takes about 5 minutes to complete and if you do not have that time to fill it all in, just say NO to the first question.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/consultation/intro/>

Governors have already responded to the consultation and if enough people vote against the current proposal, the Government may rethink how it calculates the formula, or scrap the idea of a new formula altogether.

For more guidance, go to:

<http://www.fairfundingforallschools.org/act-now.html>

I will also be sharing some information via email from Javier (who attended the meeting at Yerbury School last week) and his wife Karine, about how else Brookfield parents can support the school at this time.

Brookfield Choir at The Camden Choir Festival

On Friday, I had the great pleasure of attending one the Camden Choirs Cluster Festival at Camden Town Hall to hear the Junior choir sing as part of a concert featuring other Camden schools. The standard of singing was excellent and Brookfield did us proud!

Many thanks to Faye and Alex for preparing the children so well and to all the parents/carers who came along to support.

If you weren't able to attend, a video of Brookfield's performance can be found on the school's web-site. under News and Events - enjoy!



2E's Class Assembly

Well done 2E for a fantastic assembly last week. We all really enjoyed the traditional African story Y2 shared with us, and it was all the more impressive when we heard from Emily at the end of the assembly that the children had written the script themselves - great collaboration!

It was a lovely performance, with some fantastic costumes, lovely singing and clear, confident performances from the children. There was a great turnout from parents, carers and friends too, so thank you as always for your continued support.

Other news

Soft Start for next term

Today, a letter will be going home announcing the trial of a soft start in the KS2 playground during the summer term. We think this change will allow us to address some of the ongoing concerns surrounding drop offs and to improve punctuality and increase learning time in class.

Headteacher's Update - Tuesday March 21st

Do come along to my headteacher's update in the main hall tomorrow morning at 9.00am. During the meeting, I will be reporting back on progress towards this year's key priorities.

Sports News

Visit from London Contemporary Dance School



Last Thursday, we were very lucky to watch a performance from the London Contemporary Dance School; a perk for being a partner school with The Place. The performance was enjoyed by KS2 in the top hall and even though some pieces were tricky to interpret, by the end of the session, we realised that like dreams, some dances can be interpreted in a range of different ways. The performance allowed children's young minds to be stretched and they had an opportunity to question the dancers on their pieces and to give their thoughts about what they had seen - which the dancers appreciated.

Last week our Gymnastic team took part in a competition. They really enjoyed the event and Y4 finished 7th and Y6 came 6th out of 10 schools. The difference in points between us and 3rd / 4th places were very close.

The **SWIMMING GALA date is Thursday 20th April 2017!**

Please come and see me/ email me for any more information.

Clubs News

IMPORTANT NOTICE—THERE WILL BE NO CLUBS NEXT WEEK INCLUDING PE

Art Club for KS1 has finished and it will be the turn of someone else next term.

News from the office

School lunches

This half term's lunches will cost £69

The end of term is also the end of our financial year.

With this in mind, please ensure that all your accounts are cleared in full. If you feel this could be a problem, please talk to Carole in the office.

And Finally

3 of your Headteacher's corniest jokes for Red Nose Day

Two aerials on a roof fell in love. The wedding wasn't great but the reception was fantastic.

I needed a password 8 characters long - so I chose Snow White and the 7 dwarfs.

I heard a rumour that Cadburys are bringing out an oriental chocolate bar - it's called a 'Chinese Wispa'.



Special Plug for Friday's Comic Relief Programme

There is lots to look forward to on Friday evening - a reunion of the Love Actually Cast, just one of the many highlights.



Brookfield PTA News

March 20th-March 26th

Open-afternoon bake sale

On **THURSDAY** Y3 are having their bake sale after school finishes for the open-afternoon, so lots of treats will be on hand to reward those fantastic class reports!

As ever, they can't do it without support, so please, please can you bring items for them to sell? Despite the fact that cakes and biscuits are always popular, you could also bring savouries like cheese straws (which kids can help to make) : D

Please can you hand in your donations to the office before the end of school on Thursday?

No nuts!

And please remember that because some children have serious allergies, Brookfield is a nut-free school so we can't accept donations which contain nuts.

Thank you!

Easyfundraising – good news

Some great fundraising news! **You** have now helped Brookfield make more than £100 since the beginning of the year just by signing up to Easyfundraising and shopping online – excellent work! If you haven't already, please sign up via the easyfundraising website and search for 'Brookfield Primary Highgate' or simply paste this link into your browser: <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/brookfield-primary-highgate/> You can also ask your employer to help by signing up too – every little helps.

If you want more information about how it works, drop us a line, details below.

Sonia and Charlie

Send us your thoughts: brookfieldschoolpta@gmail.com