



Brookside Primary School

Every Child Counts

Newsletter Autumn Term Issue 5

www.brookside.oxon.sch.uk



@brooksidetweets

2nd November 2018

Dear Parents,

It was great to see all of the pupils back at school this week after half term looking refreshed and ready for the term ahead. This term is always a busy term in school as we begin to prepare for the Christmas celebrations in December. We have included at the end of this newsletter the dates of the various performances which your children are doing in the last couple of weeks of term. Please take the time to add these dates to your diary so that you do not miss your child's performance. Information about how to get tickets will be shared with you nearer the time.

Y6 Residential in France

25 children from Y6 have spent this week in northern France exploring the battlefields of WWI, the Somme Museum and the war cemeteries. Pupils laid a wreath at the Thiepval Memorial on behalf of all members of the Brookside School community. Thank you to the Leach family for donating the wreath which was laid at the memorial. These visits support the learning pupils have done in school about WWI.



Whilst in France children have also visited the local town to order a hot chocolate, made corn dollies and also completed some adventurous activities such as raft building, fencing and rifle shooting. Children have had a great time and have even been photographed cleaning up after themselves! Thank you to Miss Mooney, Mr Simpson and Mr Cornell who have taken the children on the visit. I am sure that both children and staff will sleep well this weekend. More photos of the week can be found on the school's Twitter page.

Hill End Trip

Children from years 5 and 6 visited Hill End in Oxford at the beginning of term. After dressing up in uniform, they spent the day training to be a World War I soldier. Training included; crawling under 'string barbed wire', whilst under attack; exploring the trench network and finally splitting into two groups to re-enact an attack across no-man's land. After all this they understood why so many men were lost during each battle, and why the War took so long to end.



Year 5 and 6: World War 1 in Bicester

As part of the World War 1 topic, Nigel, and his wife Barbara, from the Bicester Historical Society came in to school to teach the years 5 and 6s about Bicester's involvement. Unfortunately, due to the rain, they could not walk around Bicester seeing the buildings utilised at that time however he came in and showed them photos as well as some taken of the men who went from Bicester. It was interesting to learn about our involvement and we look forward to researching those men more in the forthcoming weeks. Thank you to the Y5/6 staff who have organised a great week for those pupils who have not been in France this week.

FOBS Halloween Disco

Many children enjoyed a great afternoon at the Halloween Disco. Aaron Williams was a real hit and the children looked incredibly menacing in their Halloween costumes. Thank you to the hardworking members of FOBS who organised a great afternoon for all children in school. We will let you know how much was raised in the next newsletter.

Waddesdon Manor Christmas Carnival Schools Competition

Brookside was given the theme of 'The Magic Mirror' and asked to create a piece of art for the competition. Several of the children have worked really hard and created an ornate frame with an evil apple, step mothers face in the mirror. The work will be displayed at Waddesdon from November 10th. Visitors to Waddesdon will vote so if you visit Waddesdon over Christmas please vote for our entry. A larger photo of the entry (with it's protective layer still on) can be seen on our Twitter page. Thank you to Mrs P Davies for coordinating this exciting competition entry.



Attendance

Well done to the classes with the highest attendance over the last two weeks.

Class	Week beginning 15th October	Week beginning 29th October
BM	90%	93%
DF	97%	100%
CP	98%	98%
AW	95%	98%
LD	95%	97%
FH	96%	88%
CC	93%	94%
RM/TS	98%	98%
CS	94%	98%

Health and Attendance

The NHS is supporting parents in ensuring that their child is able attend school as regularly as possible by providing the influenza nasal spray for pupils in YR – Y6. The vast majority of parents have opted for their children to have the flu vaccine when this is administered in school. If you have not returned your form, please do this as soon as possible. If your child is absent from school on that day, please speak to the school office who will be able to give you the details of the catch up clinics at St. Edburg's School. If your child is in nursery or Y6, please contact your GP to see whether your child is eligible for this vaccination.

As the winter begins the number of pupils with colds and sickness increases. It is important that we all encourage children to look after their health. The School Health Nurse team have provided us with the information below to share with parents.

Norovirus

Norovirus, also known as the winter vomiting bug, is a highly infectious virus that causes diarrhoea and vomiting. It can be caught by close contact with an infectious person or by simply touching objects that have been handled by an infectious person. Symptoms can be severe but usually only last for a few days.

The following simple steps will help prevent children catching or spreading norovirus:

- *Encourage children to wash their hands regularly with warm water and soap*
- *Do not allow children to share toys or other items with other children*
- *If a child has symptoms of norovirus they will need to stay home from school until they have been symptom free for 48 hours*
- *If a child is unwell ensure they stay well hydrated by giving them plenty of water*

FOBS non-uniform day - Monday 5th November

On Monday pupils are invited to wear their own clothes, in return they need to bring into school unopened toiletries which will contribute towards a tombola at the Christmas bazaar.

Dates for your diary

Monday 10th December	KS1 Christmas Production 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday 11th December	KS1 Christmas Production 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday 12th December	EYFS Production 9:30 a.m.
Thursday 13th December	EYFS Production 1:30 p.m.
Thursday 20th December	FOBS Christmas bazaar (after school) KS2 Carol Concert 5:30 p.m.
Friday 21st December	End of Term 3:00 p.m. finish <i>Christmas and New Year break</i>
Monday 7th January 2019	Children return to school 8.45 a.m.

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell