





## Dear Families

We have decided to enliven the format of the newsletter – hope you like it? After the torrential downpours, there is a definite chill in the air. Please ensure the children are suitably equipped for these colder conditions in school. Please can we remind you that children need to wear the agreed school PE uniform as stated on the school web site. Leggings and branded sports wear are not permitted, thank you.

The run up to the festive season is well underway at school. It is marvellous to see and hear the children telling the story of Christmas, in readiness for the performances in school in just under two weeks. For many of you, it will be your first experience of watching 'Christmas' in school and for many more, a welcome return. This is a special time. We do see that the change of routine in school for some children can be very challenging and can I ask that we are supportive of each other. We also can see an increase in illness of both the children and school staff. Can I remind families that school is just like any other work place and there will undoubtedly be staff absence over an academic year. Our priority is that children and staff recover and are fully fit to return to school/work. We will do our very best to maintain consistency in the learning at school for the children, following the planned curriculum, overseen by a member of the senior leadership team. Should this situation arise, please can families refrain from making assumptions and judgements via Whats App groups and instead, as communicated, contact myself or Mrs Parsonage. Please look on the school web site calendar so you know exactly what is taking place and when, during this busy time.

On Wednesday, it was wonderful to welcome Year 4 families to school and to share the learning from their brass and woodwind music lessons. This opportunity provides the children with potentially their first experience of playing a musical instrument and as part of a musical ensemble. We are hopeful that this will encourage them to continue. Although I was teaching and missed the concert, I have well and truly heard their progress over the weeks in school! Well done Mr Eborall and Year 4.

School Attendance Matters-We aim for 100% our target is 98%. Foundation 2 = 92%, Year 1 = 96%, Year 2 = 96%, Year 3 = 90%, Year 4 = 94%, Year 5 = 90%, Year 6 = 89%. Overall school attendance 93%.

REMEMBER #EVERYDAYCOUNTS.

## READY, RESPECTFUL and SAFE







## 'Magic Moments'

- **F2** We have been creating instructions for the 'perfect' jam sandwich after the Christmas Elf 'Snowflake' failed miserably at his attempt.
- Year 1 We have been investigating George Stephenson's famous locomotive: We used an interactive iPad simulation to look at the parts and mechanics of The Rocket so that we could learn more about how it was constructed and how it worked.
- Year 2 We have been preparing for making our Christmas cards in DT lessons. We have been learning about different types of mechanisms used in moving pictures, and this week we investigated 'sliders' by experimenting with pieces of card and paper.
- Year 3 We have learnt to use figurative language, writing similes and metaphors to describe a storm.
- **Year 4** This week we have been writing setting descriptions for the Isle of Berk from our class book 'How to train your dragon.' We have been. We have also been looking at water colours in art to blend and have made doves for our class Christmas tree. The House Captains and Vice Captains decorated our school Christmas Tree at St Barnabas Church with Mrs Armstrong.
- **Year 5** We have used the altlas to locate the largest ten countries in the world and then used six figure grid references.
- **Year 6** We have been designers and constructed Christmas themed games for the children to play at the Christmas Social. We responded to the design brief, planned, constructed and evaluated our games.
- The PTA Christmas Social Tuesday 6 December 2022 4.00 6.00 pm -Thank you for your very generous donations for the 'Christmas Social' following on from the non-uniform day last week. We really do hope that the Brookhurst BIG Family will support this event in the excellent way that you do!
- **ECO-Club Christmas Jumpers/T-Shirts** If you have any donations of unwanted items of Christmas Jumpers/T-shirts, our ECO-Club would be very grateful to re-sell them. **Christmas Jumper Day is 8 December 2022. The Great Battery Hunt has officially started again!**

Funding for NEW reading books for children – Following my request to families, I am delighted to share with you that we have had a very generous donation of £2000 from Visa V Limited. Please can I remind you to ask your employer if they can kindly help us. These new reading books will replace the current very tired and dated reading texts we have here at school. We are also working in partnership with the English Hub, who are supporting us in the purchase and banding of all the new books that we will be bringing into school. Before we close for the holiday, I will share with you the progress we are making against our school improvement priorities for 2022/2023.

Kind regards

S. Williams

Steve Williams

AND FINALLY...... Today we have wished Mrs Parsons good luck as she leaves Brookhurst Primary School after almost 16 years service. Mrs Parsons has been employed as both a teaching assistant and lunchtime assistant. I know that she will be missed by the Brookhurst BIG Family, but she has the calling from her own grandchildren and other exciting projects to now concentrate on. Thank you Mrs Parsons!











