



BROOKFIELD ACADEMY NEWSLETTER



3rd February 2017

Reminder about dates for your Diary: -

07/02/17 Safer Internet Day
09/02/17 Year 6 parents meeting about Residential Visit: 6:00pm

School closes for half term on **Friday 17th February** and re-opens on **Monday 27th February**.

Safer Internet Day: 7th February

We will be taking part in Safer Internet Day 2017 which is celebrated globally on Tuesday 7th February with the slogan 'Be the change: Unite for a better internet'.



The event is coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. The day offers the opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and to explore the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community.

Children will be involved in activities which promote safe use of the internet, including how to keep themselves safe and an awareness of cyber-bullying. If you'd like to find out more, including accessing parent information about how you can keep your child safer on the internet visit www.saferinternetday.org.uk.

Teaching and Learning Review

Last week the school underwent a review of teaching and learning by WCAT senior staff. The review recognised the progress made to date whilst also recognising there is still more to be done.

Mrs Anne Butel, WCAT Regional Director of Primary Academies, wanted to share the following comments:

"I was delighted to visit the academy last week. Displays in the classrooms and communal areas showed high expectations and consistency in routines. Touring the classrooms, I was particularly impressed with the pride the children had in their handwriting. The progress they had made was lovely to see.

Subject leaders spoke to me about the enthusiasm that the children have for their learning. They told me that the children are keen to know what to do and respond positively to the chance to do their best.

The group of children who I met in the afternoon were a credit to the academy. They spoke confidently and articulately about their roles and responsibilities on the School Council and as Anti Bullying Ambassadors. The children told me that they felt safe in school and that they knew who to go to if they had a worry. They also told me how Golden Time was reducing the amount of poor behaviour.

There was a calm and positive environment which the children said was helping them to concentrate more on their learning. Thank you to Mrs Mills, the staff and children for all their hard work!"

Thank you to all family members for your continued support and help in improving our school.

Attendance: 97% challenge – Thank you

May I take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for their support in improving attendance at the academy. This has been particularly challenging given the recent outbreak of chicken pox and flu type virus, which has affected pupils and staff alike.

Thank you for continuing to work with us, I'm pleased to say 20% of the pupils at the school have achieved 97%+ attendance since launching the challenge – well done!

Playground supervision: before and after school

May I ask that parents and carers ensure their children are appropriately supervised before and after school. Staff are available on the playground from 8:45am, but prior to this children should be supervised by a responsible adult.

May I also ask for your support in discouraging children from climbing on the walls and fences. I recognise that the school site has many fences, railings, steps and grass banking which for young children look like an adventure playground, but can I ask for your support in helping to keep your children safe.

30 hours free childcare

Currently all three and four year olds are entitled to 15 hours per week of free early years learning (from the term after their third birthday). From September 2017, this will be doubled to 30 hours for working families.

To qualify both parents need to be working (or the sole parent must be working in a lone parent family) and each parent earns on average:-

- A minimum equivalent to 16 hours per week at national minimum wage or national living wage
- Less than £100,000 per year.

The local authority would like to know how you would like to take up the free 30 hours childcare entitlement so they can make sure there is enough places for everyone. You can make your views known on www.rotherham.gov.uk/consultations

Year 6 SATs parents information event:

Thank you to all the parents and children who attended our recent SATs information event. I hope you found the event useful and informative. Lookout for further information being posted on the parents section (KS2 tests) of the academy website – if you have any further questions please feel free to speak with Miss Wilkinson, Mr Batley or myself.

Thank you for your continued support during this challenging time, if you have any questions, queries or concerns please speak to myself or your child's class teacher.

Mrs J. Mills
Executive Headteacher