



BROOKSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rostherne Avenue, Great Sutton, Cheshire, CH66 2EE
0151 558 1123 www.brookside.cheshire.sch.uk

Headteacher – Mr D Orme BA (Hons) NPQH Deputy Head – Ms J Smith B Ed (Hons) NPQSL
"Happy and Successful in Everything we Do!"

Tuesday 1 October 2024

October Newsletter

Dear Parents

I'd like to share with you one of our most important strategic priorities for the year ahead, approved by our Governing Body: to improve and sustain high standards of behaviour around the school. Creating a culture with high expectations of behaviour will benefit both staff and pupils, establishing a calm, safe and supportive environment conducive to learning.

During our INSET at the beginning of September, I led staff through important changes which we are bringing in this year, and the research and thinking behind those changes. The children have now been inducted into new routines and systems during our first month and the impact around the school has been tangible.

Key to our new approach is the foundation stone of **rights** for every child. We are teaching the children that each of them has three fundamental rights at school: the right to **learn**, the right to be **safe** and the right to be **respected**. We have explored with them their **responsibilities** as citizens of the school towards others, for example being kind, working quietly in class, treating others with respect. Each class then agreed a set of age-appropriate **rules** which they will follow. We are teaching the children that the purpose of rules is to give protection to the rights which they enjoy. Each class has brought all of this together in a **Class Behaviour Agreement**, signed by each child and displayed in their classrooms. You will already have received a copy of this Agreement at home and I ask for your support in reinforcing the rights, responsibilities and rules which are contained within it.

A further important innovation has been the introduction of a weekly timetabled **Class Behaviour Meeting**. This takes place every Monday morning in class until 9:30 and allows the teacher to review behaviour in and out of the classroom and relate it back to the rights, responsibilities and rules which pupils have agreed. Teachers are therefore **explicitly teaching** good behaviour and what it looks like as opposed to merely expecting it in lessons and around school. It is an opportunity for all children in class to express their own views about how things are going and what could be better in the week ahead.

Sanctions and rewards have been given an update and you will see this in your copy of your child's Class Behaviour Agreement. The old half-termly Big Treat has now been replaced with a short Friday afternoon weekly '**Golden Time**'. On the rare occasion that a child needs to be sanctioned because of disruptive or unacceptable behaviour, they may lose 5 or 10 minutes of their break or that week's Golden Time but they can **earn it back** if their behaviour improves. This is important to provide an incentive for the child. If there is no improvement, a Yellow Card will be issued and 10 minutes' time out will be arranged. This will escalate to Red if on return to class poor behaviour continues to disrupt others' right to learn. Bullying, physical threats or abuse and intimidation are





not tolerated in school if found to have happened and will be sanctioned by a Red Card. If a pupil receives three cards, I will invite parents in to meet me to discuss our concerns and work with you to create a **Behaviour Support Plan** which will set targets we expect pupils to meet with help. I am afraid that suspension or even permanent exclusion from school will be an option of last resort where all support has failed and there is no improvement. I hope and expect that with your support this eventuality can be avoided.

This month we will be having parents' evening in the week we break up for the half-term holiday and I will send letters out for you to book your appointment in person or by phone call next week.

On Wednesday 9th October, our Autumn Disco is back by popular demand! Arrangements will be the same as last year:

- Children can come dressed in their disco clothes for the whole day
- Reception, Y1 and Y2 disco: 2:15pm-3:15pm, dismissed from class as usual
- Y3-6: after school from 3:15pm-4:15pm, dismissed from class as usual, not the main entrance

Those children who need a bit of time out will of course be looked after and be able to get some peace back in class. School will provide refreshments. We would like to ask for a £2 donation towards refreshments (and school funds) which the children can give to their class teacher.

On Wednesday 16th October, we will be having an assembly about the Christmas Shoebox Appeal which has been going for many years. It is of course entirely voluntary but is a lovely way for the children to think about and act on behalf of those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Thursday 24th October will be the day of the Y6 Class Assembly at 9:15am in the hall. Y6 parents please do come along for the show!

We break up for half-term on Friday 25th October at 3:15pm (3pm for Nursery). Children return to school on Monday 4th November at 8:45am (9am for Nursery). The last day of half-term will be a non-uniform day for a £1 donation to school funds.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Orme
Headteacher

