26th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you all had a good half term and enjoyed the break from home learning. It is encouraging that the rates of infection have fallen and the number of people vaccinated is increasing. The good news is that this means all children can return to school on Monday 8th March. We are really looking forward to welcoming every child back and will make sure that they quickly settle back into the routines of school life and get back on track with their learning.

We will continue to operate in the same way as we did before Christmas and there are no changes to the routines for children in primary schools. Children in primary schools do not need to wear masks and will not be tested with lateral flow tests. Sadly, children are still unable to mix with other classes and this will continue until we are told it is safe.

Home learning

Next week will be the last week of home learning. Well done to all children (and parents) for their resilience in keeping on top of the work during the lockdown. We have been really impressed with the work children have produced during their time at home.

Work completed whilst at home

It would be great if every child in school could choose one piece of work which they are proud of from the time they have been at home. Could parents please take a photograph of it and email it to closure@brookside.oxon.sch.uk. It can be a piece of artwork, something they have built or a piece or written work. We will then display these in school when we return to demonstrate how much work the whole school completed whilst the majority of children were working from home. If you could please email this to us by Monday 8th March when the children return.

Parents' Evenings

The next parents' evenings will be held early in the summer term on Teams. This will allow time for teachers to assess how children have settled back into school and will allow an opportunity to discuss the progress your child has made and any gaps in their learning.

World Book Day

Next week is the annual celebration of all things reading: World Book Day. Alas we can't be in school but we can still get excited about the wonderful world of reading. The official day for WBD is next Thursday but at Brookside we always celebrate on the Friday, 5th March. Not only does it suit a 'Friday Feeling' but also it is the last day of lockdown learning -hooray! Teachers will be setting some book-related activities for the children to enjoy at home and if you still want to dress up then go for it, maybe send us a picture of you in full costume too.

Comic Relief—Friday 19th March 2021

Advanced warning that Comic Relief is on Friday 19th March. The theme is superheroes and we are asking all children to come to school dressed as a superhero on this day for a donation to Comic Relief. We do not expect anyone to buy an outfit especially for this.

Dates for your diary

Monday 8th March—Brookside reopens to all children

Wednesday 31st March—last day of Spring Term (3:00 p.m. finish)

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell and the staff of Brookside