

10th July 2020

Dear Parents,

This is the final newsletter of a very strange academic year. I do not think any of us would have believed that all schools would be closed to the majority of pupils and most of the world's population placed into lockdown for a few months. Whatever your experience of the lockdown and restrictions during the last few months, I am sure that most people are glad that life is slowly beginning to return to normal. The children are certainly pleased to be back in school and have returned with enthusiasm, excellent attitudes to learning and impeccable behaviour. The resilience of children should never be underestimated.

Following the latest Government guidance I am pleased to confirm that Brookside will be open 5 days per week for all children in September. Children will be in whole class bubbles and we will still have a number of protective measures in place to keep everyone safe. But the main thing is that children will once again be able to come to school Monday to Friday. A letter will be sent out before the end of term with further details about September. Any plans may be subject to change if the Government guidance is amended or if there is an increase in the rate of infections. Hopefully this will not be the case.

I would like to thank the staff of Brookside for their hard work to ensure that we were able to remain open for keyworkers' children whilst also providing home learning for all other pupils during the lockdown. Staff then worked hard to enable the school to reopen to all pupils. Finally, thank you to all parents and carers for your support of your child's education. Juggling your own work commitments, parenting and home teaching is not an easy feat. I hope you all manage to have a well earned rest over the summer break.

#### **End of Term**

A reminder that the term finishes on Monday 20th July for Bubble A and Tuesday 21st July for Bubble B.

#### End of Year Reports

End of year reports and information about your child's class for next year have been sent home today for children in Bubble B. If your child is in Bubble A these have been posted and you will receive them today or tomorrow.

If you have any comments about your child's report then please complete the online form which can be accessed here:

Report feedback form This replaces the paper form we usually send home.

We will not be having a transition day this year but teachers will be visiting their new classes to introduce themselves to the children before the end of term.

### **Staff News**

Mrs Green is retiring at the end of the term following many years of service at Brookside. We thank Mrs Green for her dedication to the children of Brookside and wish her a very happy retirement

Miss Sadie is also retiring at the end of term. Miss Sadie has been a great teacher and has led our school choir to a very high standard during her time here. We thank Miss Sadie for her hard work and also wish her a happy retirement.

Mr Verschoyle will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. We would like to thank Mr Verschoyle for his hard work and wish him well for the future.

#### **Baby News**

Congratulations to Miss Morris and Mrs Cooper who are both expecting new arrivals. Miss Morris is expecting her second child in November and Mrs Cooper is expecting her first baby in January.

#### **Free School Meals**

The parents of children who are eligible for Free School Meals will be receiving a food voucher from the COVID Summer Food Fund. They will be delivered by email on three Mondays during the summer holidays. If you have any questions about this scheme please speak to the school office before the end of term.

## **Cherwell District Council Summer Hubs**

Unfortunately Cherwell District Council are not providing their summer holiday hubs which many children have attended in previous years. These normally take place at The Cooper School. They are hopeful to start these again during the Easter break.

# **Dates for your diary**

Monday 20th July Tuesday 21st July End of Term for Bubble A End of Term for Bubble B

## 2020/2021

Tuesday 1st September Wednesday 2nd September Thursday 3rd September

INSET Day School Closed INSET Day School Closed Autumn Term commences (Nursery and Reception children will be given their start dates soon)

Term dates for 2020/2021 can be found on our website.

Best wishes,

Mr Cornell and the staff of Brookside