



Brinkley Grove Newsletter

March 2017



Dear families,

As you are all aware, Ofsted visited us on Tuesday and Wednesday last week. It was an expected visit as our previous inspection was over four years ago, in July 2012.

An inspection does place some additional pressures to a school day and staff worked hard to make sure that there was no impact on the children's day. In fact, the inspectors were very pleased with the children and commented to me on more than one occasion that they were impressed by their confidence and positive engagement in the inspection.

I will be able to inform you of the judgements made about the school when the full report is published on the Ofsted website in approximately 28 days' time. We will provide all families with a copy of the report on its publication.

During the inspection we were very proud of your children who gave a fantastic account of themselves and the school. Their conduct and attitude to learning was brilliant.

I would also like to thank all families who completed the ParentView survey. The responses were very positive with 96% of parents saying that they would recommend Brinkley Grove as a school and 97% of parents saying that their child was happy, safe and that the children were well behaved. You can view all the responses at <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results/survey/result/20186/current>

As with all inspections and inspection reports, there will be things that we need to develop. We look forward to working with the whole school community to bring a wonderful school experience to all the 'Brinkley children'.

Darren Smith

Opera *B* Brava

Friday saw the culmination of another week of Opera Brava working with our year 5. As ever, it is a great opportunity for the children to work with and alongside professional musicians and opera singers. I know that the children had to work very hard this week, pushing themselves in previously unexplored directions and we all applaud them for this. Well done everyone for making a hectic week such a success!

Facebook

Unfortunately, it has come to my attention on two separate occasions since the last newsletter that some parents have used social media, Facebook in particular, to talk negatively about other children in the school. This can be very upsetting for the children and parents involved as well as not setting a good example to our children about the perils of social media.

If you have a reason to be concerned about a child's conduct, particularly if it has affected your children, please speak to your child's class teacher or myself. In the event that this does not resolve your concern, can I politely request that you speak to the parents rather than directly to the child or place unhelpful comments on the internet.

Thank you for your support.

Uniform

We have recently updated our school uniform policy which can be found here:

<http://www.brinkleygrove.essex.sch.uk/about-us/policies/>

I would like to remind all parents that trainers do not form part of the uniform unless for PE lessons and that school jumpers, rather than hoodies should be worn.

If there is a genuine reason for improper uniform, please write a brief note to the class teacher explaining the issues. The school can support families with some uniform if the child is eligible for the pupil premium.

We will deal with every situation sensitively.

Play Pod

Unfortunately, due to the inspection on Tuesday of last week, we had to postpone the opening of the PlayPod to the children. Instead, this will be happening on Tuesday 7th March. We are inviting parents to a brief meeting on Thursday 9th March at 3.10 so that you can see for yourselves what the PlayPod is, as well as seeing your children having a good time with all the resources.

Diary Dates

Monday & Tuesday 13 th & 14 th March	Skateboarding & Scooter Demo
Tuesday, 14 th March	FoBGS Mothers Day Gifts
Wednesday, 15 th March	FoBGS Mothers Day Gifts
Thursday, 16 th March	FoBGS Mothers Day Gifts
Monday, 20 th March	Year 1 Phonics Screening Meeting @ 3.15pm
Friday, 24 th March	Reception height, weight & vision checks
Monday, 27 th March	Reception height, weight & vision checks
	FoBGS Easter Egg Hunt after school
Wednesday, 29 th March	Parents Evening 3.30pm – 5.30pm
Thursday, 30 th March	Parents Evening 3.30pm – 7.30pm
Friday, 31 st March	BREAK UP for Easter holidays