

Brinkley Grove Newsletter

Reaching for excellence, creating understanding and opportunities for all



This month at Brinkley Grove ...

Dear parents,

It's amazing how fast memories of summer turn into autumn and the season is truly upon us now. The children have settled well and are working well in their new classes. I am have received some very positive comments about the new homework system and I am glad that it is working better than before. The children are also getting used to the new format for teaching reading and writing – just ask them to tell you a story using a story map to find out more!

YEAR 7'S PROGRESS

I am very proud to let you all know that no less than two former pupils have won prizes in the Year 7 poetry competition at the Gilbert. Both Jodie Martin and Lucy Shipton were recognised for their poems. Well done girls! Below is an extract from Jodie's 'Birds in Summer.'

How pleasant the life of a bird must be,
Fluttering about in each leafy tree
In leafy trees so broad and tall,
Like a green and beautiful palace.
"Come up! Come up! For the world is fair
Where the many leaves dance in the summer air."
And way through the air what joy to go,
And to look on the green, bright earth below!



LOOKING AFTER LIBRARY BOOKS

Can I ask that all children and families take extra care with the new library books. We are pleased that the children are enjoying the new selection but a few books have been returned damaged and with pages missing. By caring for the books, we can ensure that everyone gets to enjoy them for a long time to come.



Leave of absence requests

You may know that the school cannot authorise children to not be in school unless they are unwell or there are exceptional circumstances. If you do wish to apply for a leave of absence, please go to the office for a form to complete. It would also be helpful to include a letter explaining why your request could be considered exceptional. We will respond to all requests as quickly as possible.

Healthy Snacks

We are running a snack bar for children in KS2 which is 20p a day and provides a suitable healthy snack. We ask that all parents who provide their child with a snack ensure that they are also healthy. We do not allow children to have chocolate or crisps for their break time snack. Your help in keeping your children healthy is appreciated.



Parking Restrictions

On Thursday 5th October there were three parking enforcement officers ensuring that the children could enter and leave the school safely by enforcing the zig zag lines out the front of the school. All parents need to remember that the lines are there for the children's safety and we ask that all families travelling to school by car respect the parking restrictions.

“Thank you for supporting my child particularly at the beginning of the term when it seems she was struggling.”
Parent 2017



Classes for parents, grandparents and carers

Good reading and writing skills can help you feel more confident with everyday life. Good maths skills can also help you progress at work and are key to many education opportunities. Run by Essex County Council, ACL offers a wide range of free, face to face tuition, run by friendly tutors, that allows you to learn at a level and time that suits you. **To find out more, call 0345 603 7635**



PHONICS FOR PARENTS

We teach children to read by using sounds for each letter and combination of letters. To explain this system further, we will be holding two parent workshops in October. The aim is to share with families of children in reception, years 1 and 2 the way we teach phonics and how you can help at home. The two parent workshops will be in main hall and are on Wednesday 18th October and Thursday 19th October between 9 and 9.30am. Please let us know via the office if you will be coming.

Diary Dates

5th and 6th October	Prayer Space
Thursday 12th October	Terrific Technology Assembly 2.20 pm
Friday 13th October	Year 4 Chocolate Workshop
Monday 16th October	Blackwater Street Dance Sessions
Tuesday 17th October	Reception Phonics Meeting @ 2.30pm
Wednesday 18th October	Phonics Parent Workshop 9-9.30 am
Thursday 19th October	Phonics Parent Workshop 9-9.30 am
	Halloween Discos @ 3.10pm and 5.30pm
23rd - 27th October	Half Term
Monday 30th October	Non Pupil Day
Monday 6th November	Year 2 trip to Ipswich Transport Museum
Tuesday 7th November	New Intake Parents' Tour 9.45 - 10.45am
Wednesday 8th November	Parents' Meetings
	Individual and sibling photos
Thursday 9th November	Parents' Meetings
Monday 13th November	Royal Hospital School Visit
Tuesday 14th November	New Intake Parents' Tour 1.45 - 2.45pm
Wednesday 15th November	Year 6 visit to Town Hall for Debate
Friday 24th November	Non uniform day
Thursday 30th November	Flu nurse visits
Friday 1st December	Christmas Fair
Wednesday 6th December	Year 3 / 4 Christmas Production 2 pm
Thursday 7th December	Year 3 / 4 Christmas Production 5 pm
Friday 8th December	Christmas Dinner for all school
	Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 11th December	KS1 Nativity 2.15 pm
	Reception Nativity 5 pm
Tuesday 12th December	Reception Nativity 2.15 pm
	KS1 Nativity 5 pm
Wednesday 20th December	Last day of term
Tuesday 2nd January	Non Pupil Day
Wednesday 3rd January	First day for pupils