

**The Governing Body of  
Brookland Junior School and Brookland Nursery and Infant School**



*Creating opportunities, supporting aspiration, striving for excellence*

**Autumn Newsletter**

December 2013

As the autumn term comes to a close, the Governors would like to take this opportunity to share a few things with all parents and carers and wish you all a very pleasant holiday break.

**Infant Ofsted**

As you may already know, the Infant and Nursery School recently underwent an Ofsted inspection that resulted in an [Outstanding](#) rating. This is an incredible achievement and thanks go to Headteacher Brenda McCafferty, Deputy headteacher Amy Simpson, our Chair Mark Leibling and all the teachers, staff and governors who work so hard to make Brookland a wonderful place to learn. Many thanks to parents and carers for your input too – the very positive feedback from the [Parentview](#) survey contributed to the overall assessment from Ofsted. We are very proud to have two Outstanding schools now. Just before half term, the governors hosted a small tea for the staff to thank them for their efforts and to congratulate them on their achievement. Many thanks to the Infant PA for supporting this event and to Sara Wolfin for her “Outstanding” cupcakes!

**New Governors**

The Governing Body is pleased to welcome two new Junior parent governors, Anna Black and Sara Wolfin, a new Infant staff governor, Emma McCabe and a new local authority governor, Emma Howard. Laura Bier has become a community governor and has stepped down from her post as Vice-Chair. We thank her for her years of dedicated service and welcome Katie Attwood as the new Vice-Chair. We would also like to say farewell and thank you to Jonathan Black for his invaluable contribution as parent governor.

**School events**

Thank you to all involved who helped the children put on wonderful assemblies for the holidays and throughout the term. We have some very talented children!

The Bonfire night organised by the Infant PA was a huge success and was enjoyed by all. Many thanks to the PA and all staff, parents and carers who helped out on the night.

The Winter fair hosted by the Junior School was very successful, raising over £9500. This money will go towards funding our swimming pool, a valuable school resource. We are extremely grateful to the Junior PA and their energetic team for putting on a lovely community event for us all.

## **School Trips**

The Governing Body is required to approve all residential school trips. At our meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November we were delighted to approve the educational visits to Moat Mount for the year 2 pupils and to Whitby for the year 6 pupils.

## **Curriculum**

This term, the governors have reviewed the data analysis from both schools regarding last year's results and the target setting for future years. Congratulations to the children on their wonderful achievements and to the staff for all their effort and support to the children. Each year, the governors are overwhelmed with the amount of information and analysis undertaken of every child, to understand the progress and potential of each child.

Going forward, a few governors will be assigned to get more involved with the actual data analysis to then feedback to the full Governing Body. If you have a particular interest in this area and would like to get involved as an associate 'data governor', please contact the Chair of Governors to find out more.

## **Parking and Driving**

You will have seen numerous references in the headteachers' weekly newsletters to parking and driving incidents around the schools. We take the safety of children and adults very seriously and have a responsibility to act with courtesy and respect to our neighbours who live in close proximity to the schools. We strongly encourage you to walk to school but if it is necessary to drive please try to park a short distance away from the school gates to avoid congestion in this area. Please remember that it is possible to access the site from the Christ's College playing fields and there is ample space to park on Clandon Gardens and Connaught Drive. We are working closely with the London Borough of Barnet, the Hampstead Garden Suburb Residents Association and the Metropolitan Police to improve both road safety and neighbourhood courtesy in our community.

## **Junior School Co-Headteachers**

As you may know, this year the Junior School has not one but two headteachers who are sharing the role 60:40 (Jenny Aylen is in school Monday-Wednesday and Heather Blackmore works on a Thursday and Friday). This arrangement of co-headteachers has been working extremely well and together with Shirley Bates (deputy headteacher) and Cara Christie (assistant headteacher) we have a very strong and experienced senior leadership team. All of these positions are temporary for one year and the governors will begin the process to appoint a permanent headteacher next term.

If you have anything you want to discuss or share with the governors please contact the Chair using the email address at the foot of this page. You can find further information about the governors on the [schools' websites](#).