



Brunswick House Primary School

“Enjoying the journey to Success”

Governor Newsletter

July 2016

IT'S HOLIDAY TIME!

...we hope you all have a great Summer – you deserve it!

Before we all leap off to enjoy the sunshine (fingers crossed that there is more to come), this is just a brief note from Governors to highlight and celebrate some of the more recent achievements at Brunswick that we are particularly proud of.

School Sports Award

We have achieved Silver status for the School Sports Award, and Miss Fullagar has identified actions required so we can “go for Gold” in the next academic year.

Science Teacher Of The Year

Congratulations to Mrs Beadle for achieving this award in the KM Teacher Of The Year awards 2016. We received an amazing 15 nominations from parents for different members of staff this year, which is a great achievement.

Science Award

We received the KM award for science school of the year (outdoor learning)

Cricket

Our mixed cricket team bowled us over by achieving third place out of 24 schools in the Maidstone Kwik Cricket Tournament this year – our highest placing in the last four years.

School productions

What a marvellous mix of entertainment has been served up to us by the children and staff this term! We have seen impressive school productions such as Oliver! There have been so many energetic and always entertaining school assemblies. Brunswick's Got Talent served up a great show,

demonstrating the depth of skills that exist across all year groups...and our ears are still ringing from the Samba performances!

As always, none of this achievement would be possible without the continuing efforts of parents and carers, supporting your children every day in their learning, and ensuring our pupil behaviour and attendance is something to be really proud of. Well done to all of you!!

OFSTED update

As you know, following our OFSTED inspection in February this year the school was rated “Good” in all areas other than Leadership which was assessed as “Requires Improvement”. Whilst we were happy with the endorsement of the good quality of teaching, early year provision, pupil outcomes and pupil welfare at Brunswick we did not agree with the overall assessment and made a formal complaint against some unsatisfactory aspects of the inspection. Whilst acknowledging the validity of some of our concerns, OFSTED were not minded to change their overall assessment. This is frustrating, but we have taken a number of actions over the last few months to strengthen leadership capacity across the school and produce evidence to demonstrate this. As a result, we are now strongly focused on getting the inspectors to return as soon as possible so we can prove that this is a good school in all aspects, with some areas clearly demonstrating “Outstanding” achievement.

Hellos and goodbyes

As always at this time, we have said a sad farewell to some long-standing members of staff. Their contribution to the school, collectively and individually, has been huge. We wish them all very well in the next stage of their lives and careers, and we know they were all very touched by your kind messages and gifts of thanks.

We are delighted to be joined by fantastic new staff, who are very excited to get their teeth into life at Brunswick in September.

Governing Body

As a governing body our main role is to make sure the school is delivering the best learning outcomes for every pupil, holding the

Headteacher and senior leadership to account for all aspects of the school’s performance.

We take the ongoing development of our school very seriously and every year we contribute, alongside staff and senior leadership, to the School Development Plan, which sets the overall direction and targets for the school.

How do we do it?

An important part of our work is our **monitoring visits**. These visits focus on evidencing how well the school is delivering the School Development Plan. During our visits we meet staff, visit classrooms and see for ourselves a wide range of pupil achievement in action.

This year we've attended numerous meetings with staff, assemblies, external moderation visits, openings, and much more.

The School Development Plan areas we monitor range from pupil achievement in reading, writing and maths, to creative development and computing. You can see which governors monitor which areas by visiting the governor page on the school website.

Monitoring visits are used to:

- understand school operations
- ensure value for money is being achieved
- ensure vulnerable groups progress is tracked and interventions are of the highest quality
- gain knowledge to assist in policy making and decision taking
- support the efforts of staff

The outcome of these meetings is a monitoring report which is shared with the governing body and the staff. These visits occur regularly across the academic year.

We pride ourselves in being a part of a collaboration of local schools where we learn from each other's good practice. We are proud to report our school is increasingly recognised locally as a fine example of collaborative learning for the benefit of the entire community.

Our aim is to be an approachable and open governing body, and so we welcome comments, feedback and suggestions on all aspects of school life.

You can find out more about the Governing Body on the school website, or by following this link:

http://www.brunswick-house.kent.sch.uk/page_viewer.asp?page=Governing+Body&pid=152

You are welcome to contact us at

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We look forward to hearing from you!