Dear Parents

Effectiveness of Leadership

Christmas Fair – Village Hall
What can I say but a huge thank you to all who helped support the School and Village Christmas Fair. It was a great day with excellent stalls, refreshments and Father Christmas who worked very hard to keep the children happy. Bronya and Sarah did an exceptional job in linking the parents and the community to pull together a mammoth task. It really is a community event and has gone beyond the level of a simple Christmas fair in the school hall. To have such big aspirations and pull them off putting the school firmly on the map never ceases to amaze me. I doff my hat in admiration to them.

School Crossing
It has come to light that a number of parents feel we are not committed to the issue of the school crossing. Since July when we heard the school crossing patrol were not replacing Mrs Olney we have tried to keep parents informed of the ongoing situation by including items in the following newsletters:
No 19 - 21st July
No 2 - 22nd September
No 3 - 7th October (plus a handout from the PTA)
No 4 - 20th October—PTA handed all children hi-viz jackets
No 5 - 10th November

http://www.brockenhurstceprimary.co.uk/page/?title=Newsletters&pid=78

We are and always have been committed to the safety of the children, but also have to ask parents to ensure the safe crossing of their own children. Every child was issued with a hi-viz jacket (courtesy of the PTA) to ensure drivers are more aware of the children on the way to school. Unfortunately the number of children wearing the jackets has been decreasing and we are only seeing on average 20 children coming into school in the mornings wearing them.

If you have any concerns regarding Sway Road and the school crossing, please send them to:
school.crossing@hants.gov.uk
or call: 0300 555 1388 for Hampshire County Council Highways.
Councillor Mans email address is: keith.mans@hants.gov.uk
Complaints to Hampshire County Council can be made via: https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/contact/commentsandcomplaints

Brock Primary Parents Facebook Page
I would like to inform parents that this Facebook page is not owned, subscribed to or monitored by us as a school. The forum was set up several years ago for parents to communicate with other parents. Unless a parent tells us, we do not know what is being discussed. If you feel strongly about something, please communicate directly with the school.

As you will all be aware, I operate an open-door policy in that I am always available for discussion. I am available informally at the pupil school entrance both before and after school on most days and reply to messages for meetings within 24 hours on average. I am always here for your children and all discussions no matter what they are about are important to us. Social media is an excellent tool for informing and helping each other but not the best method for discussion. If you would like to contact me via email, please do so through the adminoffice@brockenhurst-primary.hants.sch.uk as all communications are forwarded to me.

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

Christmas Activities
Please note the activities for the build up to Christmas; these have been included on the calendar on page three of this newsletter. The children are all very excited and are looking forward to the coming celebrations.

I would like to remind parents that all performances that have children involved can be photographed/filmed, but that any image that has children other than your own within it cannot be distributed beyond your own personal use. Not all parents wish their child’s image to be circulated in any forum and we must respect this right; we do not have permission and nor do you. Your support in protecting all children’s rights and the requests of parents is much appreciated.
**Hampshire Constabulary—Online Safety Letter**

With the Christmas holidays approaching and the prospect of children perhaps receiving digital media as a gift in some shape or form – tablets and gaming consoles, for example – we thought it would be an appropriate time to remind you about the responsible use of such devices.

Following, the recent news stories relating to the Police’s increasing concerns about child exploitation through social media ([http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-42224148](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-42224148)), please do take the time to set up robust parental controls on devices and ensure that you set the passwords and codes so that only you know them.

There is some helpful advice relating to this on Hampshire County Council’s website: [https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/onlinesafety](https://www.hants.gov.uk/socialcareandhealth/childrenandfamilies/safeguardingchildren/onlinesafety)

If your children are likely to be using the internet, you may find it helpful for them to be aware and to have viewed this website: [https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/5_7/)


Aside from the risk of exploitation and cyber bullying, it is unfortunate in this day and age that content exists on social media that would be inappropriate, and potentially harmful, for young children to view.

If you receive images or videos on Snapchat, Instagram, Whatsapp or via any other social media featuring people that are naked or are sexual in nature, these should be deleted immediately and reported to the Police on the non-emergency 101 telephone number. Many people are still unaware that showing or sharing such images or videos with others could mean they are committing a crime. However, if a genuine mistake is made, it would be treated as such by the Police.

You may be aware that a story has been covered in local and national media regarding on-line safety. Hampshire Constabulary has arrested and charged a man in connection with the incident. Full details of the charges are included in the letter attached.

**Extended School Provision**

Please see attached sheet regarding the Clubs Timetable for Spring Term 1. The timetable is on the website, but the booking system will not open until Monday 11th December.

**Emergency school closures—please make a note**

If for any reason the school may be closed please check the following:

The school website at [www.brockenhurstceprimary.co.uk](http://www.brockenhurstceprimary.co.uk)

Solent Radio/Wave 102

Hampshire County Council Website on school closures.

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**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural**

**Don’t forget the Brockenhurst Village Christmas Evening—Friday 8th December 6.00pm.**

Why don’t you join for the village celebration of Christmas? The PTA will be there with their stall so, please, go and support them.

**Riding for the Disabled—Help Required**

Never mind about renewing the gym membership when you can exercise for a couple of hours for free each week whilst helping children with special needs to receive riding therapy. Your help each week during term time would be greatly appreciated by everyone at Brockenhurst Group of Riding for the Disabled. The therapy we provide allows children to shine in a world where they will find it difficult to achieve. We operate on Wednesday afternoons at Ford Farm, between 12.30pm and 2.45pm, giving you plenty of time to pick up your children from school.

For further information contact Sue Lynes by email: [sue.lynes@btopenworld.com](mailto:sue.lynes@btopenworld.com)

**Honeypot Shoe Box Appeal—thank you.**

The new Forest Rotary Club have sent a thank you to the school staff, children and parents for our participation in their shoebox scheme. There will be some very happy children this Christmas.

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Yours sincerely

*John Littlewood*

Head Teacher
Pause for thought…..

*Dreams and dedication are a powerful combination.*

By William Longgood

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**Parent View**

We need to know your views on our school they are very important to us. Please don’t forget to log on to the Parentview:

https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views

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**Vision**

At Brockenhurst CE Primary School our vision is to inspire, sustain and develop high quality teaching and learning; with excellent behaviours and safety for all, founded on Christian values.

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**Dates for your diary:**

*PLEASE NOTE DATES AND TIMES OF EVENTS MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE*

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<td>KS1 Nativity rehearsal</td>
<td>9.00am Woodwind assembly</td>
<td>9.00am Brass Assembly 9.30am YR/Y6 height &amp; weight</td>
<td>9.00am Piano Assembly</td>
<td>Christmas Jumper Day—please wear your decorated Jumper to school.</td>
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<td>- in church all day (back to school for lunch)</td>
<td>1.30pm Nativity Performance</td>
<td>6.00pm Nativity Performance</td>
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<td>11.00 Y6 to Forest Oaks</td>
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<td>1.15pm Vocal Group Assembly</td>
<td>Christmas Lunch</td>
<td>1.30pm KS2 Carols round the Tree</td>
<td>INSET—No children in school</td>
<td>Holiday</td>
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**INSET Day Thursday 21st December**

Christmas Holiday Friday 22nd December and returning to school on Thursday 4th January 2018

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**Half Term Holiday**

Monday 12th to Friday 16th February 2018

Children return to school on Monday 19th February