

Friday 15 January 2021

Dear Parents

As I am writing to you this morning the sun is streaming in through the window and what a difference it makes. These cold but crisp mornings make everyone feel more positive and certainly beats the damp and cloudy skies we have seen so much of these last few weeks.

Staff Wellbeing

We are most mindful of the mental health of our colleagues at Broadhurst, particularly at this difficult time. We have this week introduced 'Wellbeing Wednesday' as an opportunity for us all to take just a little bit of time to focus on looking after ourselves, which in turn will give us the strength and resilience to look after the children in our care. Miss Trollope shared an inspiring You Tube Clip with us, to get us started, and we look forward to sharing other wellbeing posts and ideas with our team over the coming weeks.

Lyndhurst House School Visit

As the school's usual assessment process has been affected by the pandemic, we were very happy to assist by enabling a visit to us at Broadhurst. Yesterday, we welcomed Mrs Danz of Lyndhurst House School, who came to observe a group of our boys, in their familiar environment, in the garden. Mrs Danz was delighted to meet the boys and found the visit most insightful.

Prospective Parent Tours

I have enjoyed meeting a number of new parents this week, who are looking to join Broadhurst in September 2022. Our meetings are now on Zoom rather than face to face, which is a shame, but it has none the less been fantastic to be meeting some of the future generation of parents that will be joining our School.

We are also now receiving many enquiries for a September 2023 start and I look forward to meeting these families later in the year.

Broadhurst remains heavily oversubscribed for the next two years and if you do know any family or friends that may be interested in our school, please advise them to make contact soon.

Full Day Assessments

The Government has now given confirmation that schools may hold face to face assessments. Parents who have been anticipating news about amended arrangements for assessments, have now been given the information they have been waiting for. Now that we have the assessment dates confirmed, we can continue with our assessment preparations and would like to wish all parents the best of luck with the upcoming visits.

I hope you all have a relaxing weekend.
Best wishes
Mrs Sylvester

Curriculum News from Miss Belzer

Rough and Tumble Fantasy Play

There are occasions when young children develop role play sequences that may involve references to aggressive themes such as superhero or emergency services play. This behaviour is not necessarily a precursor to hurtful behaviour, although, in certain contexts may need addressing. We recognise that rough and tumble play are normal for young children and are acceptable within limits. We also recognise that role play is an important avenue for children to express their feelings and emotions. Staff intervene as necessary to contain play and children are taught behavioural boundaries to ensure children are not hurt. We recognise that fantasy play may develop to contain physical drama, for example 'goodies and baddies'. In such scenarios, staff will redirect this form of play, and as such, offer opportunities for us to explore the concepts of right and wrong. We are able to tune into the context of play, perhaps to suggest alternative strategies for heroes and heroines, making the most of teacher input to encourage empathy and lateral thinking. Exploring alternative scenarios also enables strategies for conflict resolutions.

Rough and tumble play has a variety of benefits for children, helping them to understand the limits of their own personal and physical boundaries and negotiate their social relationships. It can also play a part in children's psychological resilience. You are likely to see excitement and pleasure on their faces. The opposing social skills of competition and cooperation are explored which enables children to develop skills which will support their understanding of rule-based sporting activities and language based competition. Competition includes defending oneself, facing adversity, and dealing with conflict in a prosocial manner. A healthy sense of competition enhances children's self esteem and makes it more likely they will stand up for their rights. Basic aspects of cooperation include being able to listen to others, see things from the other person's viewpoint, taking turns, and sharing.



Miss Belzer

Diary Dates:

Term Dates:

Half term:
Monday 15 February-
Friday 19 February

End of Term:
Wednesday 30 March

Summer Term starts:
Wednesday 20 April

World Book Day-
Thursday 4 March

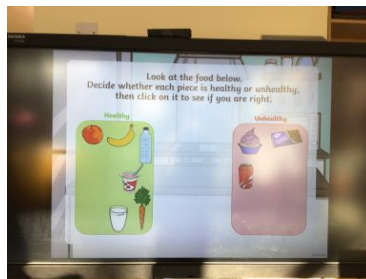
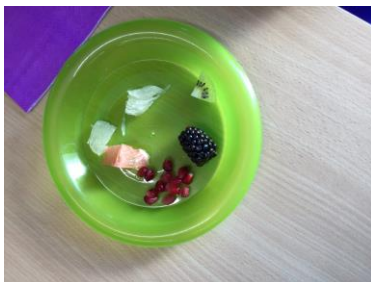
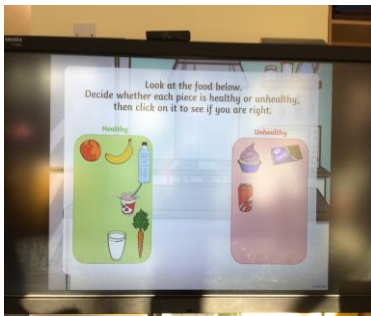
Parents Evening-
Monday 8 – Thursday
11 March, further
details to follow



Full Day Classes Learning About Healthy Eating

I hope you enjoy looking at some photos taken today, of the children tasting a variety of fruits. We aim to promote healthy eating by: making snack and lunchtime relaxed and comfortable, sitting and eating with the children, talking in positive ways about healthy foods, encouraging children to try new foods and being a good role model with the foods we eat.

We appreciate your support with this by providing an interesting and varied selection of snacks and food for your children at School.



Healthy Eating at Broadhurst



Nutrition is important for everyone. When combined with being physically active and maintaining a healthy weight, eating well is an excellent way to help your body stay strong and healthy.

Healthy eating means eating a variety of foods that give you the nutrients you need to maintain your health, feel good, and have energy. These nutrients include protein, carbohydrates, fat, water, vitamins, and minerals.

As part of our Personal, Social and Emotional Development curriculum, all classes have explored healthy and unhealthy foods this week.

You can see how much fun we had!