

# Newsletter

*Pride, Passion, Achieving Together*

## Dear Parents

After nineteen years at Tanners Brook the time has come for me to leave. I will be taking early retirement at the end of this academic year.

I came to Tanners Brook Infants in September 2000 as a new headteacher, the schools were amalgamated in 2013 and we became part of the Trust in 2015. I took on the Junior school as I wanted all the education at Tanners Brook to be good. Now, at last, we have the recognition that Tanners Brook Primary School is a GOOD school and I can leave with my dream achieved.

The Trust are in the process of recruiting a new Principal to lead the school from September. We will keep you informed.

## UKS2

The children are all working hard and Years 5 and 6 had a review carried out by the Trust. This went very well and there was praise for the children as well as staff:

“Attitudes to learning are positive and the children display an eagerness and enthusiasm for school. Pupils look smart. The behaviour of pupils is very good, particularly in the morning.”

“Teaching is strong in the phase. It is consistent and effective.”

Maths teaching was particularly praised, and it was pleasing to see that expectations in all areas have risen over time.

Well done everyone!

## Homework

At school we have been discussing homework. Many of you will remember being asked your views about homework at the parents evening back in November. There is research by the Education Endowment Fund that says homework makes little difference to pupils’ attainment at primary level. It is felt that the benefit does not warrant the teacher time spent in preparing and / or marking the homework. The broader evidence base suggests that short focused tasks or activities which relate directly to what is being taught, and which are built upon in school, are likely to be more effective than regular daily homework.

The Independent last year said “More than a third of [parents](#) do not think homework in primary school is helpful to their children, a report suggests.

[Homework](#) is a “huge cause of stress” for many families – and for children with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND) it can be detrimental to their health, feedback to [Ofsted](#) says.”

The results of our Tanners Brook survey said:

	1 too little	2	3 about right	4	5 too much
Do you think your child gets the right amount of homework ?	11%	13%	67%	1%	8%
	1 not at all	2	3 some	4	5 a lot
Do you think homework helps your child to make progress ?	5%	13%	27%	25%	30%
	1 Not at all	2	3 ok	4	5 loves it!
Is your child happy to do their homework ?	17%	12%	34%	14%	22%
	Worksheets	Projects	Reading / times tables		
What kind of homework do you like best ?	16%	37%	47%		
	1 Not at all worthwhile	2	3	4	5 really worthwhile
Do you think that projects – carried out over a few weeks are worthwhile homework tasks?	5%	14%	18%	31%	32%
	Half termly	Termly	Twice a year	Once a year	
How often do you think projects should be set ?	35%	46%	16%	4%	

It seems as though most parents at Tanners Brook value homework but feel that it should either be project based or focused on key skills like reading and times tables. Parents are fairly happy with the amount of homework given.

We will be revisiting the homework policy shortly – if you have any further comments about homework that you would like us to take into account please email [info@tannersbrookpri.org.uk](mailto:info@tannersbrookpri.org.uk) before half term. Thank you.

**Rita Baker**  
Principal

### Icy Weather

You will have noticed the cold spell of weather we are experiencing! As the site is so large Mr Hamilton can only salt certain areas of the playground. So please make sure you and your children stick to the salted pathway around the school in the mornings and please take extra care. Thank you



## Playground Improvement

The Friends of TBPS are always thinking about ways that they can help give the children the best experience of school life and feel that the children would benefit by undertaking improvements to the playground which in some parts are looking a bit run down.



We would like to start by making some improvements to the raised flower beds. You've probably noticed that these are in a poor condition and have been for some time. Unfortunately the school has no funding to be able to replace these themselves so unless we can help find a way to replace them they will continue to deteriorate.

Southern Water have kindly donated £500 to help pay for the materials needed, however, this will not be enough to pay a contractor to undertake the work.

Before we carry on trying to raise more money to pay a contractor we thought we would ask whether there is anyone out there who could help us with the work. We know that there are a lot of parents with all sorts of skills. If you are someone who thinks you might be able to help, please get in touch via the friends email: [friendsoftannersbrookschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftannersbrookschool@gmail.com). Any help will be really appreciated.

If the Friends are able to get the raised beds replaced we would then like the children to plant them up with flowers and shrubs to make the playground a nicer place for them to play and have fun!

## Parking

Parking continues to be a problem outside the school. Please think before you park– Am I parking legally?  
Am I endangering children – by parking on the pavement,  
or blocking the road?



How fast would you want the emergency services to get to your house or school? How would you feel if the emergency services were delayed by inconsiderate parking?

## Pantomime

The children all enjoyed seeing Peter Pan 'flying' across our hall last week. Much excitement, singing and shouting could be heard and even some of the staff were press ganged into joining in with the fun.



Thank you to the Friends of TBPS for arranging and subsidizing the event and to you all for your donations

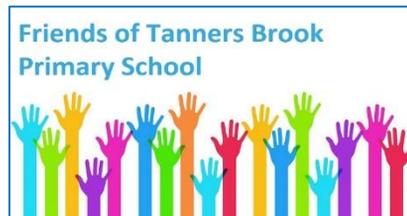
## Friends of Tanners Brook Primary School

Happy New Year! We all hope 2019 has started well for all the families at Tanners Brook Primary School!

### Message from Vicki Parker – Chair of Friends of TBPS

It is with sadness that I have regretfully decided to finish as Chair of the Friends. This is largely due to personal reasons.

I have thoroughly enjoyed leading the group over the last year and seeing the difference we have made to the experiences of children at Tanners Brook through the money we have raised. I have given three months' notice and sincerely hope that we can find a replacement during that time. It would be a real shame to see the organisation fold and not be able to run much loved events such as the Summer Fair each year. Additionally, it would be great to get some new enthusiasm and maybe some modernisation in leading this worthwhile charity. Please do attend our next meeting to offer your support to the group, thank you.



### Next Meeting – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March - 2:00pm

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March at 2:00pm**, held at Tanners Brook Primary School. We would really love as many parents and friends of our school to be there, to share ideas and plan ahead so we can continue to support the school in enriching the children's education.

The minutes from our previous meeting on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January are available on our website. Please visit: <https://friendsoftannersbrook.wordpress.com/>

### Christmas Fair

Thank you for everyone's support at the Christmas Fair – it was a fantastic success and we enjoyed discussing ways of spending the money on the children in the school at our latest meeting!

### Bingo Evening – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019

Eyes down! We will be hosting another brilliant Bingo Evening on **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019, 6:00 – 8:00pm**. The previous one held last March was such a fantastic success and we are hoping that this one will be too. All profit from ticket sales and the evening go directly to Friends of TBPS. For us to run this event we really do need volunteers to help prepare, and on the evening – please volunteer at our next meeting, by email or on Facebook – thank you!

### Contact us:

email (please note new email address): [friendsoftannersbrookschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsoftannersbrookschool@gmail.com)

Website – <https://friendsoftannersbrook.wordpress.com/>

Facebook – <https://en-gb.facebook.com/friendsoftbps/>

- or leave a message at the school office!

**INSET Days 2018/2019**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2019  
Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Dates / Activities**

	Activity
<b>Spring Term 2018</b>	
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 residential to Little Canada
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Half Term Break (School Closed)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	INSET Day (School Closed)
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Newsletter home
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> , Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> , Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Book Fair
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening (more information to follow)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening (more information to follow)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Last week of Clubs
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Newsletter home
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Break (School Closed)
<b>Summer Term</b>	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	School Term starts
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Newsletter home
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Clubs start
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	May Day Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATs
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Newsletter home
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	INSET Day (School Closed)
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term Break (School Closed)
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	KS1 Phonics checks
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Class Photographs
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	New YR (September 2019) Parents' evening
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Infant sports morning
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Newsletter home Junior sports day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Last week of clubs
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports home
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Parents' evening for reports only
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Performance
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Newsletter home
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Disco
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers assembly End of term