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*Head teacher: Mrs Sarah-Jane Whiteside, **Bed (Hons)***

Dear Parents/ carers,

As we have welcomed a large number of new families to Brookfield Park this year, I am writing with a few reminders about items being brought into school.

Mobile Phones

Children may bring a phone into school if they need it for contacting parents after school or for safety reasons when travelling home, however this is just a reminder that phones must be given to your child's teacher during the day, in order to prevent them from becoming a distraction from their learning. Although every effort will be made to keep mobile phones safe, school cannot be held responsible for the loss or damage of any phones brought into school so please bear this in mind if sending in expensive phones. If your child is caught using their phone during the day or deliberately concealing it in their bag it will be confiscated and may be collected by parents or other another adult from the school office, at the end of the day, a message will be sent to parents in this event.

Toys (including fidget toys)

Only those children with a specific care plan for medical reasons will be allowed to have fidget toys in school, this includes brining in blue tack etc. There use will have been advised by a medical practitioner and will be provided by the school, therefore these toys will not need to be brought into school for any reason.

Other toys, as has always been the case, are also not permitted in school as they can be an unnecessary distraction from learning. Items brought in for show and tell will be directed by specific teachers on specific days.

Stationary/pencil cases

School will provide all necessary equipment which means that pencil cases and other stationary are unnecessary and only serve to distract children.

Water bottles

Very large bottles, especially metal ones, are completely unsuitable because of their weight when filled with water. Please make sure water bottles are around 20cm tall and are plain (without squirts or other attachments) and made of a clear material. They must contain only water. Remember appropriate bottles can be purchased at school. If your child brings in an unsuitable bottle as described above, they will be asked not to bring it in again.

Snacks

Please remember that appropriate snacks for children in KS2 are cereal bars or fruit, we have seen a recent increase of chocolate and sweets being brought into school recently, which although nice for a treat we try hard to encourage healthy eating habits whilst the children are at school.

Book Bags and School bags

As we have lockers which offer much safer and tidier storage for children's belongings, it is even more important that children do not bring large ruck sacks into school. PE kits and swimming kits seem to be coming to school in very large bags containing lots of other, unnecessary items. The small drawstring bags for PE and swimming kits are widely available from shops, they are very cheap and much easier to fit into lockers. It is still necessary for each child to bring in a small bag or book bag to carry reading books and homework books and any important documents to and from school but these will be stored in the classroom. We have the purple book bags available to purchase from school.

Thankyou for your continued support in this,

Yours Sincerely,

Sarah-Jane Whiteside

(Headteacher)