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Newsletter No 6 - July 2015

Dear Parents,

It was great to see so many of you at the PTA Social - from what I could see and from the comments made, a great time was had by all. I'm sure you'll join me in thanking the PTA for all their hard work to make the event such a success and also the volunteers who made sure everyone had full plates and glasses as well as had fun - the weather helped too!

Thank you also for the cooperation shown with regard to the building works. For those of you coming to the Upper Junior 'Time Lord' production please take care when delivering your children for the play. You should have already received details of timings etc - if not please ask.

A reminder that this is the final week for clubs - except film club, code club and scrapbooking, which all ended last week.

It is that time of year when we wish 'Bon Voyage' to our children who are moving on to other schools to start the next phase of their education. We are also bidding a fond farewell to some of our staff; Miss Field and Miss Harman who have completed their apprenticeships with us; Mrs Pande and Mrs Little who are taking up Teaching Assistant posts in very different types of schools; Mme Webb, our French specialist who is taking up a different career path; Mr Cutting and Mrs Smith who covered Mrs Powell's maternity leave and finally Mrs Simmonds who is returning to Cambridge to take up a new leadership role. I am sure you will join me in thanking them for all their hard work and wish them well as they move on to pastures new.

Although we are sad to see them go we are delighted to welcome back Mrs Powell who will be returning on a part-time basis to co-teach with Mr Blakely. We are also welcoming Miss Palmer back to our KS1 department having completed the teacher training she started with us a few years ago. Our new apprentice joining the Foundation Department is Mr Clark. Whilst it may appear that more people are leaving than starting, we will still be maintaining a similar staffing ratio with modern languages and music taught by existing staff. There will be an opportunity for you to meet the staff and find out what will be on offer at the 'Meet the Teacher' meetings on Monday 20th July KS1 6.00pm LKS2 6.30pm & UKS2 7.00pm. More information about these meetings will be sent home with your child's report later this week.

As we move into the final few days of this term I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support throughout the year. With the introduction of a new national curriculum; assessment without levels; universal free school meals; changes to SEND provision and Ofsted to name but a few, it has been quite a challenging year. But, as we discovered through our research for the 160th Anniversary Celebration, Woodley C of E has successfully risen to the many challenges over its history and this year has been no exception.

My thanks to all of our children who have worked hard, been ambassadors for the school in so many ways - sporting events, choir, Woodley Carnival, showing visitors around the school, raising money for others and, quite simply, making us proud. It certainly has been a year to remember and we will be celebrating our Leavers' memories at our end of term Leavers' Assembly at 1.15pm on Wednesday 22nd July. This will be followed at 2.45pm by our traditional Staff V Y6 Rounders match and then the Leavers' Party from 6-8pm

For everyone else, a reminder that school will close at 2.30pm and reopen for pupils for the new academic year on Thursday 3rd September.