



Woodley C of E Primary School
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Dear Parents

Welcome Back!

Mr Blakely and I were so pleased to see the children before school on Wednesday looking so smart and excited to be back with their friends.

I would like to welcome our Foundation Stage parents and children and wish them every success at the start of their journey here at Woodley C of E. I would also like to welcome parents and children who have joined other year groups and I know our children have made our new pupils feel welcome.

Mrs Blakely

As you are aware, Mrs Blakely has been appointed as our new Inclusion Manager and was due to commence her role this week. Due to the fact that Mrs Powell is having an operation later this month, Mrs Blakely has agreed to take up her old post as KS1 Phase Leader and Ash Class Teacher until Mrs Powell returns. I am sure parents will be delighted that we have such an able teacher to take over this role until Mrs Powell returns, which could be anything from two to six weeks. Mrs Hickmott and myself will be continuing in the role of SENCo.

Meeting for Parents

We have some important meetings occurring very soon and we do our best to communicate information to you for September before the summer holidays. It is difficult to know what is best as many things discussed before the break are forgotten over the six week holiday.

If for some reason you are concerned or think you have missed some communication, please contact the office. We are always here to help. With this letter, you will receive all the dates for the Autumn Term. Please remember Meet the Teacher on Monday next week. 6.00pm for KS1, 6.30pm for LKS2 and 7.00pm for UKS2. School age children are welcome to attend as long as they are able to sit quietly and listen to the presentation. All these meetings will take place in the school hall. Please enter the school via the front entrance.

Little Canada for Year 6 Parents

We have scheduled a final meeting to share further information with you on Monday 17th September at 6.30pm in Cedar Class. If you are unable to attend this meeting please let the school office know and they will ensure that forms are sent home for you.

School Uniform

As I have said earlier, it is great to see all our children looking so smart. Please can I remind you to look at the Uniform Policy on the website particularly with reference to shoes and earrings. If there is a problem, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Clubs

Clubs will commence on Monday 24th September and we hope that many of the children will take advantage of the extra-curricular experiences that we offer. You will receive the forms to enrol your child in a club no later than Friday 14th September.

School Disco

You will see from the dates attached that we are planning to hold the next disco on Friday 5th October. Our PTA from last year stood down after a number of years of service and we are hoping to elect a new PTA at the AGM on Monday 24th September. We really need new parents to come forward to fill these post as a number of events will not be able to happen without a PTA, the first being the disco that our children enjoy enormously.

Airfield Club

Just to remind all parents that we run a breakfast and after school club and if you would like further details, please contact the school office.

"Inspiring Hearts and Minds"

Our motto is used to help the children relate to our Core Values and BRIGHT learning we hold dear here at Woodley C of E. I remind the children that our Core Values help us to develop our hearts to become better citizens and our BRIGHT learning develops our minds to become good learners. We focus on one aspect from each every half term. This half term our core value is LOVE and we are focusing on the "B" from BRIGHT Learning discussing how we become better Brave Learners and take on new challenges. Please talk to your children about this and Mr Blakely will be adding more about these areas to our website.

Home Learning

I always say when meeting parents, as the children enter Foundation Stage, the most important thing you can do for your child is to read regularly with them. Modern life is very busy and we have noticed over the years that we have lost the strong reading culture that many families would promote.

Learning is a partnership between home and school. The demands that the children face in the Year 6 SATS reading paper requires children to be taught reading skills at school that are practised at home regularly. To this end, the staff and I have decided that we would like to see a real push on reading.

We have developed some new strategies at school that I will be telling you about in my next newsletter but we would like every parent to read with their child at least five times a week, recording this in the Home School Diary. Children need to discuss their books with you and parents with children in Year 1 – 6 will find the "non-negotiables" for your child's year group in the front of the Home School Diary. This will be the only homework set until after our New Homework Launch. This will give parents the opportunity to spend plenty of time reading and discussing books with their children.

As part of the new Learning Launch Evening on Thursday 4th October, Mrs Powell will be giving more guidance to parents on home reading.

New Home Learning Launch

We will be holding, for parents and school age children as above, a Home Learning Launch on Thursday 4th October at 6.30 pm. This is an area that we have identified for improvement from parent and children surveys. We will be explaining our new plans and giving ideas for how you can support children with their home learning. Please try to attend if possible as I think you will find it really useful.

Survey

We are always keen to hear the views of our parents and to this end we will be sending home a survey on Monday 10th September. Please try to find time to complete the survey. Thank you.

We look forward to working with you again this term to achieve the best possible outcomes for every child in our school.

Best Wishes

Mrs Louisa Gurney
Head Teacher

Enc. Dates attached at bottom of letter.

AUTUMN TERM 2018

DATES

September

Monday 10th – Meet the Teacher 6.00pm (KS1) / 6.30pm (LKS2) / 7.00pm (UKS2)

Friday 14th – Family Friday's start 8.40-9.00am

Monday 17th – Year 6 Little Canada Final Meeting 6.30pm – Cedar Class

Tuesday 18th – School photographs

Wednesday 19th – Coffee Morning F2/KS1 parents from 8.30am followed by Harvest Festival Assembly (not KS2)

Friday 21st – KS2 Harvest Festival – St Johns Church arrive from 8.40am service starts 9.00am

Friday 21st – 9.15am – Reading Chronical visiting Foundation Unit

Monday 24th – Clubs start (letters to follow)

Monday 24th – 8.00pm PTA AGM – Cedar Class

Thursday 27th – McMillian Coffee Morning from 8.45-9.30am

Thursday 27th – F2 Phonics meeting in the hall starting at 9.15am

October

Thursday 4th – Home Learning Launch – (details to follow)

Friday 5th – PTA Disco (tbc)

Monday 15th – Year 6 residential visit to Little Canada, Isle of Wight

Wednesday 17th – F2 – Year 5 Nasal Flu Vaccinations (details to follow)

Thursday 18th – Year 6 return from Little Canada

Friday 19th – INSET Day school closed to pupils

Monday 22nd – Friday 26th – HALF TERM

Monday 29th – Head Teacher / Chair of Governors Parent Surgery 2.30-3.30pm

November

Wednesday 14th – F2 Stay and Play Afternoon – 2.00-2.45pm

Friday 16th – Children In Need (information to follow)

Monday 19th – Parent Consultations 3.30-6.00pm

Thursday 22nd – Parent Consultations 5.00-8.00pm

Friday 23rd – PTA Dress Down Day

Wednesday 28th – Coffee from 8.30 in the Central Area followed by KS1 Christingle 9.00am KS2 Christingle 9.30am

December

Saturday 1st – PTA Christmas Fair (tbc)

Monday 3rd – Last week for clubs

Thursday 6th – KS1 Nativity – 6.30pm

Friday 7th – KS1 Nativity – 2.15pm

Monday 10th – KS1 Nativity – 6.30pm

Wednesday 12th – Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 12th – Dress Down Day

Thursday 13th – F2 Tableau performance to parents – 2.15pm

Monday 17th – KS2 Carol Service – St Johns Church – 9.00am (tbc)

Wednesday 19th – School finishes 2.30pm