

# WOODLEY

## C of E Primary School



Issue: 1

October

2017

Dear Parents,

What a busy half term! The children are now all settled in their new classes and have completed some amazing work around their new topics.

### Little Canada, September 2017

For those of you who are not aware, it was my pleasure to accompany the Year 6 children and staff on our residential trip to Little Canada on the Isle of Wight. A great time was had by all and the spirit of team work amongst the children was outstanding. It was lovely for me to spend so much time with the children and really get to know them. They were all a credit to their school and their parents. I would also like to thank the staff who are on duty from 7 am to 10 pm and through the night if necessary. Their commitment to the well-being and safety of the children is second to none.

### Parents' Survey

Thank you for the overwhelming positive response to our survey. The staff here at Woodley C of E are fully committed to the education and care of your children but it is nice for us all to see that our efforts are appreciated. Mr Blakely will be putting the full results of the survey on the website after half term. We will also be putting the results of the survey that the children completed and you will be happy to know that they also feel really positive about our school. Feedback is really important to us and it is one of the reasons that I have decided not to change Family Friday as many have let me know how much it is valued. We will be carrying out further surveys into areas that need development. One of the areas that I have targeted for development is homework/home learning and it was interesting for me to see that some parents are concerned about this from our survey. We have already made some small changes but we will be conducting another survey about homework after half term to see how parents think it can be improved further.

### Staffing

I am sure that you have noticed that our office has been rather short staffed since the departure of Mrs Eveleigh and Miss Brett. I would like to thank Mrs Smith and Mrs Thomas for all their hard work and they have done a fabulous job over this period. You will be pleased to know that new staff have been appointed and will start with us over the next half term. We would also like to congratulate Miss Brett on the recent birth of her baby daughter.

Have a really good half term and we look forward to welcoming you and your children back on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

Best Wishes

Mrs Louisa Gurney

Head Teacher



# Curriculum News

## Foundation Stage:

We are very pleased with how the foundation children have settled into school life at Woodley C of E. We have spent the first few weeks establishing our rules, routines and behavioural expectations. We have worked very hard showing the children how to use the different areas within the environment making sure we respect our resources and each other. Please can you re-inforce this at home with your child.

We have been reading the story 'We're Going On A Bear Hunt' and the children have thoroughly enjoyed making their bear bread and going on a real bear hunt!

Thank you to all that attended the Phonics information session, we do hope that you found it useful. Everyone should have received a phonics resource pack that has lots of ideas for use at home.

I have activated the Tapestry accounts for which I have received the consent forms. If you have not had an activation email then please let me know.

Many thanks for your support.

Mrs Emma Luzolo, Foundation Phase Leader

(As you may already know, I have recently got married)



## Key Stage 1:

In KS1, the children have been enjoying their new topic 'Wonderful Woodley'. We have been out on our walk of the local area and we would like to commend the children on their fantastic behaviour. Our topic has a geography theme and the children have been learning about maps which have keys and they will also look at compass directions and co-ordinates. In maths, the children have been focussing on addition and subtraction. The Y1s are learning to count in steps of 2, 5 and 10 and the Y2s are moving on to multiplication and division.

We started off our new book in English with a 'Disaster in the Central Area'. The children came in to find empty packets of food, spilt milk, cracked eggs and flour everywhere. As they began to solve the mystery they spotted a tiger wondering around the Lower Junior corridor. We interrogated the tiger and some of the children pointed out similarities to the story of 'The Tiger Who Came To Tea'. Mysteriously, Miss Adkins was missing that morning but she was just as surprised as the rest of us to find out what had happened. We asked the tiger to come back and visit us once more and the children prepared all kinds of questions to ask the tiger.

Thank you so much for all the amazing donations of junk modelling for our D&T project. The children have made some fantastic creations with hinges, curled and folded card and other inventive ideas. Thank you also for the amazing effort the children are making with homework. We are always grateful for the effort made on the home learning and we can see how much more confident the children are in class when they have practised their maths, spellings and handwriting at home. Please remember to sign the diaries as often as you read together.

Mrs Emzy Blakely, KS1 Phase Leader



# Curriculum News

## Lower Key Stage 2: (Years 3&4)

After a restful six week break, the lower junior children are back and ready to learn. We have been pleased with the way the children have settled into year three and four where they have already learnt many new things. Our topic this half term is the rainforest and the children have stepped up to the challenge of becoming intrepid explorers throughout all areas of the curriculum.

In English, we have been writing exciting poems including alliteration, similes and adventurous adjectives. Please ask your child to see their poem if you pop in on Family Friday; you will be amazed. Place value and addition has been the focus in maths. The children are becoming much more confident in using larger numbers and are now applying these numbers to problem solving situations. Some of our children are even adding numbers up to one million! In art we have been replicating the work of Henri Rousseau and the children have been learning how to draw several rainforest animals in stages in order to make them look life-like. Your child may give you an art lesson at home! Just before half term, we had some special visitors joining us to help the children step into the rainforest without travelling to the Amazon.

Mrs Lucy Powell , LKS2 Phase Leader



## Upper Key Stage 2: (Years 5&6)

The Upper Juniors started the year with a skills fortnight, looking at the Ancient Islamic Civilisation. This involved: creating some stunning Islamic inspired artwork using compasses, understanding the significance of the ancient city of Baghdad and comparing life there with the dark ages of Europe at that time. Year 5 continued work around this topic, whilst the year 6 were on their residential. And what a fantastic time they had at Little Canada. They developed new friendships, conquered their fears, chalets were inspected, and photos taken....lots of photos. Please visit the website to see some of them if you haven't already done so. The children are now typing up their projects and we will give parents an opportunity to look at these and more photos soon. Since returning, we have started our main Autumn topic which we have named 'Beer, Bulbs and Biscuits' – a study of Reading. This is proving to be very interesting and the children are already engaged by our class text of 'Street Child'. Trips will follow to Reading Museum and a walking tour of Reading, to consolidate the children's learning and understanding of the history of our 'fascinating' town. This topic will take us into a study of the Victorians leading up to Christmas. In science we are learning about light and how it travels and in RE we have learnt about the five pillars of Islam. A very busy month, now we are looking forward to designing our own biscuit tins (influenced by Huntley and Palmer) and our own wallpaper influenced by William Morris.

Mrs Alison Shaman, UKS2 Phase Leader.



# Sporting News

Another busy year ahead of us in Sport which kicked off last week with our first cross country competition at Cantley Park. Once again the children ran their socks off and finished with some impressive placings. It was great to see new runners taking part and enjoying the lovely, sunny afternoon which we were lucky to have. A big thank you to the children who ran, and the parents who supported and marshalled. We look forward to our next event on Friday December 1<sup>st</sup> when we are heavily involved in the organisation of the cross country competition to be held at Ludgrove House School. Details will be released after half term.



Our boys football squad also began training this week and are looking forward to their forthcoming matches.

Finally can I remind all parents and pupils that all PE kit should be in school Monday to Friday. After half term, we will be sending letters home if children do not have their kit. Kit should include trainers, jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt (without a hood) for outdoor activities as the weather becomes colder. Red shorts and white t shirt for all indoor and outdoor activities.



Mrs Jane Poole, PE Co-ordinator

## Reminders from the Office

Office hours: 8.00am - 4.25pm

Peak times: 8.45am - 9.15am / 3.00pm - 3.15pm

### **Absence:**

If your child is unwell please phone the school office and select option 1. If you need to speak to someone regarding your child's absence, please mention this whilst leaving your message and someone will phone you back. Please make sure you phone and give a reason if your child is not in school. The Attendance Officer will make contact with anyone who has not phoned in to find out the reason why a child is not in school.

If your child arrives after the gates have shut please make sure you accompany them into the school office and sign them in. Even our older children need to be signed in by their parents.

### **Dinner money - junior children:**

Please make sure dinner money arrives in a clearly named purse or envelope. If possible it is better if children take their money into school with them and hand their money to the member of support staff in their class. Dinner money does not have to be handed into the school office.

**Medication:** Please make sure any medication, including inhalers and throat sweets, come into school clearly labelled with a completed medicine administration form, available on the website. Medicines should be presented to the member of staff on the gate entrance or handed into the office. Children should not have medication in their book bags.

### **Peak times:**

Unless urgent, please avoid phoning the office during peak times. To avoid queues during our busy periods please post any forms or office correspondence in the post box on the main front door. This box will be emptied in the morning and at the end of the day.

**General enquiries:** To help reduce queues in the morning, you are more than welcome to email any questions or notices to [admin@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:admin@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk)





# Airfield Club

Opening Times: 7.45am - 8.40am / 3.15pm—6.00pm

If you would like to use the Airfield Club to help with childcare support please fill in a registration form and return to the school office. Please allow 48 hours for your confirmation letter. This letter will enable you to go online and book sessions and make payments. Please remember the “48 Hour Rule” - 48 hours to book and 48 hours to cancel. Any queries please email [TheAirfieldClub@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:TheAirfieldClub@woodley-pri.wokingham.sch.uk)

You will still be charged if your child is sick or unable to attend club unless you have given 48 hours notice.

A reminder to please not park in the car park when dropping or picking up children. It makes it very difficult for staff to park first thing in the morning if spaces are taken up by parents.

Forms and hand book can be found on our website [www.woodleyceprimary.co.uk](http://www.woodleyceprimary.co.uk) under the parent tab.

# PTA News

**Thank you** to all of the parents and teachers that were able to attend our AGM this month, it was appreciated. We have a very busy year of fundraising ahead, with our main focus being on paying for the school hall to be refurbished which includes new flooring and a new sound system. Something which all our children will benefit from.

The school disco was also a great success, thank you to all of the parent and teacher helpers and to all of your children for coming, we hope they had a fun night. We made a fantastic £775, which is a great start to the years fundraising, and we are hoping to do matched giving which will raise this profit even more.

A plea from the PTA if any parents work for a company that offer matched giving for fundraising please do let us know, it's a great way to raise our profits.

**Dates for your diary:** Christmas Shopping Evening on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November, Foundation phase cake sale on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November (of which all the proceeds will be given to Foundation to buy much needed items that they choose), Dress down day Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November and the Christmas Fair on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. We have had to postpone the Adult Retro Disco to early next year but this will happen.

**The next PTA meeting will be on Thursday 2nd November**, please come along if you are able to as we need all the help we can get to run all the events planned. You can email ideas to: [Woodleycofe.pta@googlemail.com](mailto:Woodleycofe.pta@googlemail.com).

Liz Sainsbury – PTA Chair, Taryn Parker – PTA Vice Chair, Gail Murray/Lindsey Claydon/Beverley Collett – PTA Secretaries, Rebecca Maddams – PTA Treasurer



# Dates

## October

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> – Half Term

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> – school returns 8.40am

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> - school nurse to visit Year 6 for Height and Weight

## November

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> - Football match away to Southlake at Woodford Park (more details to follow)

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> - Silver Birch and Sycamore Class visiting Reading Museum

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> - Aspen Class visiting Reading Museum

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> - PTA 80's disco (more details to follow)

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> – F2 Stay and Play afternoon – 2.00pm (more details to follow)

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Parent Consultations 3.30pm – 6.00pm (more details to follow)

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Parent Consultations 5.00pm – 8.00pm (more details to follow)

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – PTA Dress Down Day (more details to follow)

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> – Christingle Service – KS1 9.00am / KS2 9.30am

## December

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> - Cross Country Event, Ludgrove House School

Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> – PTA Christmas Fair

Clubs finish week 4<sup>th</sup> December

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Nativity Performance 2.00pm

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Nativity Performance 6.00pm

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> – KS1 Nativity Performance 6.00pm

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Dinner (tbc)

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> – Dress Down Day

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> – Foundation Tableau 2.00pm (details to follow)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> – Junior Carol Service – St Johns Church

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> – School finishes 2.30pm

## January

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> – INSET day school closed

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> – school returns 8.40am

