

# WOODLEY

## C of E Primary School



Issue: 6

June

2018

Dear Parents

I hope you are enjoying the warm weather and are trying to stay cool as you go about your daily tasks. Schools, as you may be aware, do not have the luxury of air conditioning but we are coping well inside by using fans and outside by finding the shade whenever possible. The children have been very good in remembering to wear their sun hats and drink lots of water. We have also had classrooms open for them to come into when it has just become too hot outside. Recent changes to our grounds have made us aware of a lack of shade outside. This to this end, we have purchased some gazebos that we will be able to use on Sports Day but they will also be used every summer to get us through periods of really hot weather.

### The Role of SENCo

They say that you do not truly know what someone does until you step into their shoes and this has really been the experience for me taking on the role of SENCo. I always knew that Mrs Irving worked hard and was excellent in her role but now I have a greater understanding of what she did for the parents and children of our school. Thank you for your patience if you have been trying to see me this term. The role of SENCo involves many meetings, referrals to outside agencies and numerous phone calls. Although I have enjoyed this work immensely, on top of my own role it has made this term quite challenging. The role of the head teacher is multi-faceted and part of this is to cover things that are not being done for one reason or another. Nevertheless, I will be happy to hand this role over to Mrs Blakely in September when she becomes our new Inclusion Manager. Mrs Blakely will take on the role of SENCo but will also add to this responsibility the provision of more able children and continue her great work furthering mental health within our school. Mrs Blakely will be carrying out this role from Monday to Thursday and will be teaching in Maple Class (Year 3) on Friday, as Mrs Poole will be working for 4 days a week in September. I will be supporting Mrs Blakely initially in her new role.

### Staffing Structure for September 2018

Attached you will see the staffing structure for next academic year. We are very fortunate in this time of difficult teacher recruitment to welcome three really good teachers to our school. Mrs Helen Parsons is joining the senior leadership of the school as Assistant Head and will be teaching Aspen Class (Year 5). She will be working with teaching assistants both in the classroom and in the playground to ensure that our provision and practice continues to improve. Miss Claire Minchinton will be joining us to teach Rowan Class (Year 3/4) and Miss Helen Moutray will be teaching the Year 1/2 children in Oak Class. With the coming of new staff, we also need to say goodbye to Mrs Carey who has been working with our Year 3 children. We would like to thank Mrs Carey for all she has done here at Woodley C of E and wish her well for the future.

Letters will be issued on 13<sup>th</sup> July informing you of your child's class teacher for next year.

Organising classes takes time and consideration. The current teachers look at age, ability, maturity and friendships before making decisions. Please talk to your child about their new classes ahead of their visits to the new classes on the morning of 19<sup>th</sup> July.

### Woodley Carnival

And finally, the Woodley Carnival. We were all very excited on the float to win again! Thank you to all the parents, children and staff who put in their time and efforts to make this another memorable event. This was a real team event.

Best wishes Louisa Gurney, Head Teacher



# Curriculum News

## Foundation Stage:

Foundation have had a lovely month learning all about under the sea creatures. We started by writing questions that we would like to find out, an example being 'How many teeth do sharks have?' We then set out finding the answers by looking through fact books, using the internet and watching videos. The children were very excited to create their very own fact book using some of the new facts that they had learnt!

We have also participated in Science Week which the children absolutely loved! We carried out some of our own experiments and investigations. The children were fascinated by the way the 'magic' beads changed colour in the light and lots of discussion followed.

The children have been working hard with their maths this month, in particular adding and taking away. We have looked closely at reading number sentences and working out whether we need to add or take away. The children have been using a variety of resources such as cubes, their fingers and number lines to solve the calculations. We have also been busy practising our number formation. This is something that we would encourage you to do at home with your child.

A definite favourite this month has been our visit from the police. Mr Plowright very kindly volunteered to come in and spend some time with our Foundation children and what a treat it was. He spoke to the children about what a policeman does and showed them some police equipment. The children then got a chance to ask some very thoughtful questions. The best bit was when we got to go out to the junior playground where a police car was waiting with its flashing lights and sirens along with various items of police kit. The children had such a great experience sitting in the police car, talking through the radio and testing out all of the equipment. We have been very impressed with how all of the children are now coming into school independently in the mornings. This will aid the transition into year 1 where they also come into school on their own. We cannot believe that we only have a short time left with our current foundation children. We have got lots of fun activities planned over the coming weeks including reading the story of the 'Rainbow Fish' and also learning all about pirates. We will be holding a pirate party at the end of the term where the children can come to school dressed as a pirate. More details to follow.

Mrs Emma Luzolo – EYFS Phase Leader



## Key Stage 1:

In KS1 we have started off our new topic 'Glorious Gardens' with a school trip. Over the day, the children took part in various workshops where they learnt how to identify trees through the shapes of the leaves, learnt about seed dispersal by handling different seeds and went on a seed hunt. We found out about pollination by dressing up as flowers and bees and playing a game! The children had an opportunity to make their own paper plant pot and create a colourful leaf by 'nibbling' little parts off like caterpillars! We even had time to visit the playground after lunch, much to the children's delight. The leaders at the Nature Discovery Centre were amazing and everyone (including the adults) learnt a lot.

The children have written some fantastic thank you letters which we will send off. This half term, we are really looking forward to learning more about plants in science. We will be doing some still life drawings in art and, later on in the half term, we will learn about natural dyes in D&T. We have done a little work around Jack and the Beanstalk in our 'Golden Books' and the children have, once again, amazed us with their hard work. We are starting to look at other traditional tales from around the world which focus on growing.

In maths, we have been working hard on the non-negotiables (these can be found in your child's home/school diary). We will be practising skills needed to tell the time and count money and would love children to focus on these at home too. Adding up coins and being able to read an analogue clock are skills which can be hard to acquire without plenty of real-life practise. Please continue to read regularly with your child. It is lovely to see so many parents are now signing the home/school diaries.

Mrs. Emzy Blakely, KS1 Phase Leader



# Curriculum News

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

It might be the final term in this academic year but the lower juniors are still as busy as ever! We kicked off this half term with our new topic: 'Sports around the World' by thinking about the sports that we enjoy doing in school and out of school. We are in full World Cup spirit and have enjoyed following the results.

We were lucky enough to visit the Madejski stadium this term. Whilst we were there, we took part in four activities including; a stadium tour (involving a sneaky peak into the changing rooms!) a football lesson; a healthy eating workshop and a commentating activity. We loved learning about Reading Football Club and we are armed with lots of facts that we did not know before.

In English, we have been working on writing persuasive texts. We started by playing lots of language games to help us practice talking persuasively. We had to try to persuade a snowman to come in from the cold, which was fun! We hope that the children save their persuasive skills for the classroom and not try them out in the supermarket.

Shape, space and measure has been our focus this half term with a close look at different types of angles. We are now confident angle hunters and can tell the difference between acute, obtuse and right angles.

We have started to design our own sports t-shirts in art and have come up with some interesting designs. Watch this space for the colourful additions to the children's wardrobes - we think you will be impressed!

Mrs Lucy Powell , LKS2 Phase Leader



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

This term has been a very creative one. Starting with, of course, the winning of best float 'Heroes of History' in the Woodley Carnival. Well done to all involved – we were worthy winners and the children on the float thoroughly enjoyed being part of the carnival procession. In science, we are currently enjoying developing our engineering skills and have progressed our vacuum cleaners to the build stage. We are solving design problems as we go along and being very innovative, especially on where to locate the fan and motor.

In English, we have been using video media to inspire our descriptive writing. Our theme has been 'suspense' writing using a short film called Whitby Abbey. Rhetorical questions, short sentences and ellipsis have all been included, or have they.....?

In art this term, we have continued to make our fantastic models. Adding modroc to the armatures was fun but messy, it did give our models strength though. Some are now at the painting stage and the characters are taking shape – the children have really loved creating these.

In maths, Year 5 have been working hard on their non-negotiables and Year 6 have started a new project called 'Spiral maths', which is generating some intriguing patterns. A trip to Waingels was a highlight for a group of mathematicians, where problem solving and coding activities were tackled enthusiastically.

We have been fortunate this term to have an ex pupil, Jennifer Morton, come in to teach a few lucky pupils some Latin and again, our visitors from Waingels, were very popular as they taught Sycamore and Rowan German through fun activities.

We are now looking forward to an exciting Science Week and our trip to Reading University, as we have all been 'swabbed'. Year 6 have transition days to their secondary schools, very exciting, and some will be doing Bikeability. And of course, rehearsals are now taking place for our end of term production of 'The Key Master'. Children have learnt (are learning) their lines and song words. Details to follow on the ticket releases. We hope you can come and see it.

Mrs. Alison Shaman, UKS2 Phase Leader.



# Sporting News

It was a busy end to the first half of the term with Woodley Sports Week. Most of the children in the school had the opportunity to take part in an organised sporting activity. As always Woodley C of E was well represented showing our sporting ability and sportsmanship.

After the half term holiday we went straight into the Carnival Football competitions for year 5 and 6. The boys competition was on the Wednesday afternoon and despite not losing a game they finished 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in their groups. As always they played their hearts out and represented the school admirably.

The girls competition was on the following evening and they headed there full of excitement and coaching tips from Mr Blakely and Mr Clare. Despite the results they had a wonderful evening and their enthusiasm never wavered. A credit to the school!

This is also a good opportunity to mention two of our Year 6 boys who played for the Wokingham District U11s this year – Josh Murray and Archie Shefford. We had glowing reports about their behaviour and attitude, from their coach when we bumped into him at a meeting recently. They finished the season on a high, when their team became National Champions at the English Schools Football Association finals held in Liverpool. Still to come this term we have Sports Day and cricket matches so plenty of sporting activities happening at Woodley C of E School.



Mrs Jane Poole, PE Co-ordinator

# Reminders from the Office

**School Clubs** - The final week for clubs will be 9th July 2018. During this week, you are more than welcome to come and watch your child participating in their club. Next terms club forms will be coming home at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

**Crossing Patrol** - You may have seen an announcement in the press advising that with effect from 3rd October 2018 crossing patrollers will no longer be outside our school. This means our long standing lollipop lady Mrs Holmes will no longer be in post. Our understanding is that we will be getting a zebra crossing as a way of safely crossing the road outside our school. At this point in time, these are the only details we have. We will keep you advised of any further developments as we hear them. Mrs Holmes will continue her role as part of the cleaning team in school after the crossing patrol role comes to an end.

**School lunches** - As we near the end of the school year please can we ask that you check your dinner money account is up to date. Advance warning that from September lunches will increase from £2.00 to £2.05.

## End of Term Arrangements

School finishes on Tuesday 24th July at 2.30pm. Due to the early finish time there will be no Airfield Club. Lost property will be put out during the last week for you to look through. Any items not collected at the end of term will be sent to charity or disposed of.

## Medicines

Due to the hey fever season, we have a large amount of medicine in the school office. Please may we ask that you collect any long term medicine that is held in school by the end of term. If your child has an Epi-pen in school these should be collected on the last day of term and a reminder to send them back in again ready for September.

Office hours 8.00am—4.30pm



# PTA News

## PTA Newsletter Update June 2018:

We are racing towards our yearly target of £10,000, thank you so much to each of you for helping us along the way. We can't do it without you.

Update on recent events:

The SENCO cake sale in May raised £180, this money goes straight to the SENCO team. Lots of teachers also showed their baking skills for this fund raiser, so a big thank you to them as well as all you parents.

We held an adult quiz night also in May, not as big a turn out as normal but we still had loads of fun and raised a healthy profit of £134.05. Thank you to all that came, this is still one of our favourite events. Hopefully we will see more of you at the next one.

Last weeks Ice Lolly Sale went down extremely well with kids and teachers. This was the first one we had ever done in 7 years, and due to its popularity, we had to follow up with another one a week later. At the first sale we raised £114.30.

Please remember to look into if your workplace offers matched giving.

Thank you for the year 6 parents for all your Leavers Hoody orders, we will let you know as soon as these arrive for collection.

Upcoming fund raisers:

One of the biggest fund raising events of the year, and our final one is the Summer Fair.

Details are Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> July, 12pm to 3pm, £1 entry for anyone over primary school age. Time may change due to the success of England but we will advise if this is the case. Back by popular demand are 'Reheat' the band, we also have bar, bbq, tea & cake, bouncy castles, penalty shoot out and more. Don't forget to sell your raffle tickets and return the slips in time for the draw at approx. 2.30pm. Extra tickets can be requested in the school office. In order for us to run this event we need lots of volunteers to help us, a letter has come out in book bags and we would be very grateful if you are able to offer 45 mins of your time at the event (otherwise some stalls will not run). Thank you to everyone that was able to donate a bottle or some chocolate at this weeks dress down day, we really do appreciate it. These items are for the tombola.

Many thanks and if you wish to email us with any ideas etc please do so at: [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

# Airfield Club News



Please note, due to the end of term, there will be no after school Airfield Club on Tuesday 24th July 2018.

Please remember to view information for the Airfield Club on our website where you will find information of all the wonderful things the children get up, menu choices and registration forms.

We are expecting the club to be very busy next term, with lots of interest from our new families starting in September. Look out for a further email with information regarding booking for the new school year.



# Dates

Date	Event	Time
02/07/2018	Bikeability (4 days Monday – Thursday)	
06/07/2018	Sports Day	9.15
07/06/2018	PTA Summer Social	12-3.00
09/07/2018	Reserve sports day—if necessary	9.15
10/07/2018	EYFS Group 1 visit	1.30
11/07/2018	EYFS Group 2 visit	1.30
12/07/2018	EYFS Group 2 visit	1.30
12/07/2018	Whole school visit their new phases	PM
13/07/2018	Letters home to parents announcing children's new class teacher for 2018-19	
16/07/2018	UJ Performance	6.30
17/07/2018	UJ Performance	2.00
19/07/2018	UJ Performance (note change of originally published date of 12/07)	6.30
19/07/2018	Whole school transition / new children in for lunch	
20/07/2018	Reports home	
23/07/2018	Teachers available to discuss reports	3.30
24/07/2018	Leavers assembly	Time tbc
24/07/2018	School finishes	2.30
24/07/2018	Rounders match Staff v Year 6	2.30
05/09/2018	School returns	
18/09/2018	School Photographs	All day
15-18/10/18	Year 6 Residential visit to Little Canada, Isle of Wight	