

WOODLEY

C of E Primary School



MONDAY UPDATE

Issue: 3

Date of Issue: 28th September 2020

Dear Parents

First of all, can I thank the vast majority of you who have supported the school and made the new arrangements since we have returned to school successful. I know the staggered start and finished times have inconvenienced many parents and they have had to make new work arrangements accordingly.

The Behaviour of Woodley C of E children in the community

We pride ourselves on the excellent behaviour of our children in school and in the community. Unfortunately, I have received complaints about our children, mainly Year 6, swearing and fighting in our local park. This seems to be because many Year 6 children now have permission to walk to and from school on their own. Please can I remind parents that we can withdraw this privilege from Year 6 and the expectation is that they walk to and from school directly, not stopping off in the park or in the local shops. I have spoken to all of our Year 6 children about the reputation of the school and how we expect them to behave when they are wearing their school uniform.

Staffing the school

One of the things that is needed when trying to run a school is the flexibility to move staff. Bubbles, whether class or phase, has made this much more difficult. We have stringent plans in place at Woodley C of E to manage all the issues that social distancing brings, as well as recovery plans for the education of the children. You will find the Senior Leadership Team of the school involved in all aspects of COVID management and Mr Blakely and I are also looking forward to being lunch time controllers next week! To this end, we just need more staff at all points in the day. Where teachers could manage a rolling start from 8.40 am, our official start time has always been 8.50 am. Pupils could not be deemed as being late before this time. My TAs and office staff do not start work until 8.45 am, 5 minutes before the official start of school. The school budget will not allow me to change working patterns so 8.50 am has to be our first arrival time. If this is causing you insurmountable problems, please do not hesitate to contact me. Maybe a friend can bring your child in or look after them for a few minutes.

Recovery Plan

After being out of school for 5 months, the children have come back in a range of different places, both educationally and emotionally. Some children have thrived during lockdown whilst others have found it incredibly difficult. The first 4 weeks have given the children time to settle and get back into school routines. We have already seen learning improve over the last 4 weeks. Assessments have now taken place which have allowed us to plan future work to fill the gaps. New learning must be built on firm foundations as otherwise it will not become part of our children's long term memory. From Monday 5th October, grouping will start in phase bubbles and this will ensure that learning is more targeted. More details about "recovery" will follow in the following weeks.

The School Day

We may now have the capacity to lengthen the school day, at the end of the day by 10 minutes. This would mean that the first pick up time would be 3:10pm, then 3:20pm and finally 3:30pm. In the next few weeks you will be receiving a survey asking you whether you would like pickup times to stay the same or to be extended by 10 minutes. Mr Blakely and I will take this into account before making any changes.

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Our Vision

'At Woodley C of E, each person is unique and accepted as a child of God. Through strong Christian values and our BRIGHT attitudes to learning, we inspire hearts and minds to create lifelong learners, who have the knowledge, skills and understanding to shine brightly in the world.'

Exciting News

We are pleased to inform you that Miss Adkins is expecting her first baby in April. We would like to congratulate her and I know that you will all be sending her your good wishes. Plans for Ash class will be shared nearer to the time of Miss Adkins' departure.

Census Day Meals

Please remember to sign up for a hot school meal on Census Day. As explained in previous letters, the take up of a meal on this day is extremely important to school budgets as it is the indicator of the amount of money allocated to the school through the infant free school meals grant.

School Clubs

At the moment, all staff are involved in the lunch time arrangements for the school and have extra responsibilities at the end of the day. This means that at the moment, we are not able to run any extra-curricular clubs during lunch time or after school. We hope that when things return to 'normal' these activities will start again.

Best Wishes,

Louisa Gurney

Head Teacher

PTA Information continued on next page...

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PTA Update 25th September 2020

PTA Welcome: As we enter the start of a new school year, the PTA would like to take this opportunity to welcome new parents and share information on the current PTA committee members. As always, we welcome all support, however much you think you might be able to offer. If you would like to get involved, please do get in touch. Currently, the best way to contact the PTA is via Facebook (PTA Gang and Supporters or Woodley CE School Parents and Carers) or via Email (woodleycofe.pta@googlemail.com).

Committee:

Chair (Co-Chairs) - Amy Hardy (Year 2 and Year 4) and Esther Coomer (Year 4)

Vice Chair - Jane Von Benecke (Year 2 and Year 6)

Treasurer - Ros Bonner (Year 3)

Secretary - Helen Simmons (Year 2)

PTA Annual General Meeting (AGM): There is the opportunity for anyone wishing to get involved in the PTA to attend the Virtual AGM on Tuesday 20th October—Please contact the PTA, using our email address if you are interested in attending. In this meeting we will have an update on our financial position and what our funding has been spent on and what fundraising ideas we have in the Autumn term. There will also be the formal selection of Committee members. It is essential we have a good turn out to the meeting for the committee to be appointed and allow the fundraising to continue. Despite the current constraints, we still have some great fundraising ideas!

Autumn Term Events:

⇒ Non-School Uniform Day on 15th October

This October we are doing a **Krispy Kreme Doughnut** fundraiser for the PTA. We will be selling boxes of 12 Krispy Kreme glazed doughnuts and delivering them to your door on Friday 23rd October. We have a maximum of 50 boxes available, further details to follow.

If you have allergies or need dietary information about the doughnuts here is a link for the ingredients.

<https://www.krispykreme.co.uk/original-glazed.html>

We are also currently working on other events such as a 'Bags for School' and a few Christmas activities such as a Christmas Trail, Raffle, Cards, Tea Towels and Cook Book (which would make lovely gifts). We are in the process of working through these initial ideas so more details will follow on these.

Thank You: We would also like to take the opportunity to say a massive Thank You to everyone that contributed to the 'Go Fund Me Page', which raised a massive £1,260 during lockdown. Whether you did a sponsored bike ride, walk, bake or just made a contribution, the positivity and support has been amazing. As you know the school are in the process of rolling out learning resources such as Accelerated Reader which this money is essential for. It is not too late to make a contribution on the above Go Fund Me Page should you wish. Otherwise, we look forward to your support during the Autumn term.

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