

Wootton-by-Woodstock CE Primary School

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10th January 2019

NEWSLETTER 5

Dear Parent,

Welcome to 2019 and a new term in school.

The value we are exploring this month is Justice. ***“When justice is done it brings joy to the righteous but terror to evildoers.”*** Proverbs 21:15

We do not think we have any ‘evildoers’ in the school but, if we have, may their own conscience also be their terror! We will be looking at how to be fair, how to include others and how to make the right choices as well as the consequences of not choosing the right path. Perhaps, at home, you could encourage your children to play fairly with their brothers and sisters, share equally and not make hurried judgements about others when they have not heard all of the facts.

COMMUNITY WORSHIP AND SHARING ASSEMBLY

This term community worship will take place in the church, at 9.10am, on Friday 11th January and Friday 1st February. Sharing assembly will take place in the church, at 1.30pm, on Friday 15th February. Please join us whenever you can.

CURRICULUM

This term Oaks are learning about How we can Know what God is like, Saplings about how they can Fold a Tree and Acorns about Toys and Books.

PTIs

Parent Teacher Interviews will take place during the week beginning 4th March. Please look out for the sign-up sheets in the playground. We can tell you at this time, for forward planning, that none of the dates offered will be on the Wednesday.

ODST INSPECTION SUMMARY EVALUATION

During the past week the ODST has undergone a MAT (multi-academy trust) inspection summary evaluation procedure. This is similar, in practice, to an OFSTED inspection. Section 1 involves HMIs inspecting a batch of academies in the MAT and section 2 involves HMIs visiting the MAT and some schools within it which have not already been subject to an inspection. This school was chosen as one of those schools. The HMI is visiting on Thursday 10th January and governors and staff will to give feedback about the school conversion process and the school’s experience, to date, as being part of the multi-academy trust.

SAFEGUARDING AUDIT AND SCHOOL GATE

Further to previous notification (Newsletter Extra November) about the very successful safeguarding audit, the surveyor visited the school, as planned, just before the Christmas holiday. The ODST have taken concern about the gate very seriously and, whilst there is no requirement to lock the premises, after some

discussion we have, in any case, arrived at a plan to secure the site more thoroughly. The plan is to install a second gate within the school premises and, for this, planning permission will need to be granted and other permissions sought. It will not be a quick process but it is being addressed. In the meantime the school is following a suggestion to padlock the gate during the school day. This is not without its challenges from an operational point of view and it does delay egress considerably. As one of the youngest children stated, 'This padlock thing's not working!' However, we will be running fire evacuation practises to help us speed up and we have also installed a temporary doorbell so that we know when visitors want to enter. The gate will be padlocked from 9am each morning. Anyone visiting the school during the school day will need to ring the door bell, which is fixed on the gate, in order to gain access. A member of staff will unlock the gate at 3.15pm to enable parents to collect children and it will then be locked again until the school clubs are over. We know that some parents and other visitors have already found this frustrating but please bear with us; it is a temporary solution and will help everybody to get into training before the full solution to school security is put in place.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINE REMINDER

Please note that applications for reception places at this, or any other primary school, must be in by Tuesday 15th January.

Best wishes,

Valerie Lucas

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Valerie Lucas', with a horizontal line underneath.

Head Teacher