

Wootton-by-Woodstock CE Primary School



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3rd June 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

NEWSLETTER 9

Welcome back. We hope you enjoyed your week in the company of your children and are looking forward to sharing in the end of year events in term 6.

Our focus in worship this month is Worship, thinking about how we show respect through prayer, special buildings and sacred objects. This will then lead us, as the term draws on, to think more deeply about reverence for God and what that looks like in everyday life.



Train up a child in the way he should go – even when he is old he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

CURRICULUM

This week is arts week. Children will be spending most of the week engaged in large compositional creations and music activity focussed on Prokofiev's Peter and the Wolf. They will then move on to class topics of The Lady with the Lamp (Florence Nightingale) in Acorns, Jurassic Journeys and Heroes in Saplings, and, Dragons and Monsters in Oaks. Classes will also be working towards the end of year production. Please look out for details of events over the next few weeks.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Community worship will be held in the church on Friday 7th June and Friday 5th July. All parents and carers, relatives, friends and villagers are welcome to attend.

The Year 6 Leavers Service will be held in the church on Wednesday 17th July at 2.30pm. This is also open to all parents, not just those of children in year 6; come along and be entertained!

Sharing Assembly will be held in the church on Thursday 18th July at 9.30a.m. This will include the presentation of end of year certificates. Please join us to celebrate another year of hard work at Wootton School.

SCHOOL ORGANISATION

As we begin the final term of the academic year we would like to provide an update on the school structure for next year 2019-2020. Some of you will already be familiar with proposals made earlier in the year.

As you will know from previous communications the school has had to take steps to manage the budget by reducing costs. The school has completed its re-structuring process and there will be a change in class structure from September 2019.

From September there will be two registration groups of pupils known as: Chicks, consisting of Key stage 1 - reception, Year 1 and 2 children, and, Ospreys, consisting of Key Stage 2 - Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 children

All pupils will be **registered** in these **two** groups by the teacher who is working on that day after which they will split into **three teaching groups** for the core subjects of English and Maths **during each morning**. The registration and teaching group names have been selected by the children. There will, from time to time, be some flexibility about who is taught and who teaches within these groups but as a general rule the teaching will be led as follows:

Ash	Reception, Year 1 and 2	Mrs Vicky Lawrence Mrs Jo Palmer Mrs Sylwia Arneil	Monday and Tuesday Wednesday Thursday and Friday
Maple	Year 3 and 4	Miss Valerie Lucas	Monday – Friday mornings only
Willow (and Maple afternoons only)	Year 5 and 6	Ms Sarah Brown Mrs Jo Palmer	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday Tuesday

Organising the teaching in this way means that the school can make best use of the available teacher expertise. The teaching staff will work together as a strong team to plan lessons across the whole age range and ensure continuity for the children. Afternoon sessions will be led by two teachers but children will be split into smaller groups, some of which will have learning facilitated by TAs. All children will receive teacher and TA support as they do currently. Children will be taught in mixed age groups and ability groups as appropriate for various areas of the curriculum.

Over the course of the next few weeks the teaching staff will be re-designing the school curriculum to ensure that all pupils will benefit from whole school topics, application of different learning styles, and changes occurring with regard to the OFSTED framework. We aim to have the long-term plans published on the school website by September. After this time the termly plans will be shared with you in the same way as they are now.

To achieve the above we have needed to change the timetable slightly and your children will find that worship and play times are at a different time during the morning.

TRANSITION DAYS

The school will be holding two transition days during term 6. These will be on the same days that Year 6 pupils visit The Marlborough School for their induction: Tuesday June 18th and Thursday July 4th. We will run the days using the intended school organisation so that the children can experience what it will be like next year and will know which teachers they are working with. We will all need to practice the new pupil group names!

HEAD TEACHER ACCESSIBILITY

It will not have escaped your notice that my own teaching commitment will change from September 2019. Because I will be committed to teaching each morning my time will, necessarily, be far less flexible. As many of you know, I am, currently, always happy to hold impromptu meetings with parents when requested. Next year, however, there will be limited opportunity for doing this and I politely request that any parent wishing to meet with me arranges this by telephoning Maria Withey in the school office in advance. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

MRS CHAPMAN

Mrs Julia Chapman will be leaving the school at the end of the summer term. We wish to thank her for all of her work while at this school including, in addition to teaching, leading English, supporting with SEND and running gardening club on a Friday afternoon. We send her forward with our best wishes for the next chapter in her life.

RESIDENTIAL VISITS

As you will be aware the Oaks class currently attends a residential visit each year on a three-year cycle, visiting each of the Oxfordshire rooted centres in turn. From September the new teaching structure changes the opportunities for organising residential visits slightly. We can either:

Take children in year 3-6 each year on a two or four year cycle to the various centres (one visit in each and every academic year) or,

Take children in years 3-6 on alternate years (one visit every two years). This would mitigate against costs for parents who have more than one child in attendance but would provide less opportunity for outdoor experiences at residential centres.

We would be interested in receiving your views. Please complete the form at the end of this letter and return to school by Friday 7th June, or, just email the school office. Thank you.

SCHOOL REPORTS

End of year summary reports on your child's progress will be sent home towards the end of term. These will look significantly different from previous years as they will be computer generated using the school's Target Tracker assessment software. Teachers will report on the core subjects as well as behaviours for learning, attitudes and personal skills. Children and parents will be expected to make their own comments as usual.

TERM 6 EVENTS

Please look out for more information about end of year events coming soon.

Best wishes,



Valerie Lucas
Head Teacher

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RESIDENTIAL VISITS FOR OSPREYS REGISTRATION GROUP

I would prefer that the school:

<small>*Please tick referred option</small>	
Takes children in year 3-6 each year on a two or four year cycle to the various centres (one visit in each and every academic year)	
Takes children in years 3-6 on alternate years (one visit every two years). This would mitigate against costs for parents who have more than one child in attendance but would provide less opportunity for outdoor experiences at residential centres.	

Signed.....

Parent of:.....