



Wootton-by-Woodstock CE Primary School

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7th July 2021

NEWSLETTER 12

Dear Parent,

As we head towards the final weeks of the school year, we would like to update you on the plans for the future of the school. You may remember that the Governing Body wrote to you in February with news of Wootton and Tackley Schools working together from September 2021. Behind the scenes the ODST and the two school governing bodies, Mrs Murrey and I have been working hard to prepare for September. Please find, along with this newsletter, a separate letter from Mrs Murrey which contains all further detail.



<https://fighterverses.com/blog-post/a-new-creation-in-christ-2-cor-517/>

CLASSES

In order to reach a balanced budget the school will continue to operate as two classes from September: a Reception/Key Stage 1 and a Key Stage 2 class. It is predicted that there will be 26 pupils in the school so the pupil to teacher ratio in each class will remain very good.

TEACHING STAFF UPDATE

Ms Brown will be leaving Wootton School at the end of this term as she has secured a new post at Burford Primary School. I have no doubt that all parents and pupils will want to wish her well in her new role. Ms Brown and I have worked together for many years and share many memories of our time here in Wootton. I would like to, publicly, thank Ms Brown for her longstanding commitment to the school. I am sure that she will now go on to provide some wonderful learning experiences for the children at Burford. Good luck Ms Brown!

We understand that Mrs Palmer is recovering from her illness but is not yet well enough to return to work. This means that she will not be returning to school in the autumn term. I am sure that you will all join me in wishing her well as soon as possible.

Mrs Arneil and Mrs Lawrence will continue to teach the Key Stage 1 class.

Mrs Bake will reach the end of her contract in July and will also be leaving the school. I would like to thank Mrs Bake for stepping in and taking on her supporting role in school, taking care of everyone and keeping us all smiling. Again, I am sure that parents will want to wish her well going forward.

Mrs Cambrey and Mrs Clemons will remain in post.

Miss Hannah Slatter has been appointed as a TA working in Key Stage 2, five days per week, for one year from September.

Finally, as you will already be aware, I will be retiring from Education this month. I would like to thank all of the staff who have worked with me over the years to provide a safe and caring learning environment; for inspiring learning, analysing data, finding creative solutions to small school challenges, and giving up so much of their own time and resources to support learning – to name just a few things! I would also like to thank the many Governors for giving up their time, especially on dark winter evenings (!), to come into school and offer their skills to support the management of the school. I would like to thank the many parents, who have worked hard at raising funds and running events, who may have thought their work went unnoticed; it didn't. Thank you for your time and effort in providing the much-needed additional funds which helped to keep a small school afloat in hard times. Finally, I would like to thank the children themselves, many of whom are now young and successful adults, for being a continual inspiration, keeping me young and making me laugh. 😊



OFFICE STAFF UPDATE

From September, Mrs Withey and Mrs Blanche will share the office role, Mrs Withey working four days and Mrs Blanche one day per week.

MRS MURREY

Mrs Murrey has become increasingly involved with the school over the course of the year, building her understanding of the community so that she can lead well from September. Mrs Murrey will ensure that Tackley and Wootton Schools work closely together so that both schools reap the benefit of co-working staff and a single governing body. The changes afford many opportunities for the two schools to work alongside each other and broaden learning experiences for all pupils. We trust that you will all give your full support as the school enters a new era.

PARENT SURVEY

It is time for the annual parent survey. This year our survey takes place via an online link. However, should you require a hard copy then please contact the school office. To complete the survey electronically please follow this link:

<https://forms.office.com/r/RhBLAwTFqa>

Mrs Murrey and the team will be considering your feedback as they make plans for the forthcoming academic year. Thank you for your continued support.

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

New Job Opportunities within Oxfordshire Fire & Rescue Service's Cycle Training Team

We are looking for two enthusiastic, motivated and innovative Cycle Examiners to deliver National Standard Cycle Training and Road Safety Education in schools throughout Oxfordshire. For further information, please follow the link: [Road Safety Cycle Training Officer OCC83670 \(newjob.org.uk\)](https://www.newjob.org.uk)

MESSAGE FROM WOODSTOCK LIBRARY

Wild World Heroes Summer Reading Challenge 2021

Children across Oxfordshire can take part in the Challenge at their local Oxfordshire Library from **10th July to 11th September 2021**. This year the Challenge is celebrating nature and as they read, the children will help the Wild World Heroes save and improve their local environment.

Children will be encouraged to read at least six library books of their choice over the summer holidays. As they read, they collect stickers (some smelly) and rewards. If they complete the Challenge, they will be rewarded with a Wild World Hero medal, certificate and keyring and this year will be entered into a countywide prize draw. It's fun! It's free! It's local!

Woodstock library is open as usual now, for children and families to borrow books. To register for the Summer Reading Challenge and get their prizes – they will have to go to another library in Oxfordshire. We have added Kidlington or Witney libraries to the flier attached. Our overall aim is to encourage children to carry on reading over the long summer holiday and at the same time have some fun! In previous years over 8400 Oxfordshire children have taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge and we often receive comments from parents and carers:

'The summer reading challenge has turned by child into a reader overnight!'

'We've never read so many books over the summer before!'

There's also a website the children can visit: wildworldheroes.org.uk. It has ideas of books to read, games to play, competitions to enter and more....

For more information about the Summer Reading Challenge in Oxfordshire Libraries, visit

www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge

MESSAGE FROM THE OXFORDSHIRE MUSEUM

Join us for a summer of FREE fun @ The Oxfordshire Museum, Woodstock in collaboration with the Oxfordshire Library Service. **Every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 27th July – 26th August.**



Have a go at making some Anglo-Saxon grave-goods or your own fossil. Try one of our trails. Enjoy the Library Service's Summer Reading Challenge activities. Join our Finds Liaison Officer to take a close look at lots of small, rare and impressive archaeological finds from Oxfordshire.

Online booking is advised, but feel free to drop in! Children must be accompanied by an adult.

This programme is offered free of charge thanks to support from the Friends of the Museum.

Museum open

10am - 5pm Tuesday – Saturday

2pm – 5pm Sunday

With best wishes for a bright and restful summer,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Valerie Lucas', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Valerie Lucas
Head Teacher