



## UNDERWOOD WEST ACADEMY

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<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/link-to-us>

*Newsletter September 13th 2019*

### **A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRINCIPAL**

Welcome back!

I'm really excited to be starting in my new role as Principal of Underwood and have had a wonderful first week and a bit back with all the children.

We all had a fantastic first few days last week learning about how our planet is in danger and the ways in which we can help keep it healthy. The children were so interested and enthusiastic that we will be setting up a group of Eco warriors who will be working towards us as a school becoming much more aware of recycling and in the future plastic free!!

Future things to look forward to will be a Bingo Night that we are starting to plan for before the half term break.

Thank you for all your support in settling the children back into school routines and for making sure they are all in school uniform – they are all looking very smart, especially our wonderful new starters in Reception.

Mrs Jones

## RECEPTION NEWS



All the children have spent their first full week in school and have settled in very well. They have been learning about number blocks, doing "Cosmic Yoga" and a 'Big Thank You' to parents for sending their children in with water bottles. Please ensure that your child's uniform is labelled with their name etc.,

## YEAR 1 NEWS



Firstly, we'd like to say welcome back! We hope that you have all had a lovely summer holiday! We have really enjoyed getting to know the children and they have blown us away with their enthusiasm! This week the children have been on train journeys (with a little help from our imaginations) where they have written some fantastic sentences about what they saw. We have also been learning about the countries that make up the UK. Ask us to name them!

## YEAR 2 NEWS



Welcome back to Year 2 children! They have settled well into their new classes and have enjoyed finding out about London this week. They have learnt about landmarks in London and have practiced drawing skills to create a portrait of the Queen.

## YEAR 3 NEWS



Welcome back everyone! Year 3 have had a fantastic first week and are settled into their new routines. They have started learning about our new topic of Africa and we were really lucky to have a surprise trip to Clonter Opera! The children had a fantastic day. We learnt to sing, dance and create amazing stages which are now on display in school! Then in the afternoon we were able to watch an incredible performance! What a great day had by all! :)

## YEAR 4 NEWS



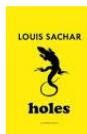
Welcome back to everyone in Year 4! What an amazing start to the school year. Everyone has settled in extremely well and we were lucky to start the term with a surprise visit to the Clonter Opera Theatre. We have begun to look at our new class book 'Coming to England' by Floella Benjamin.

## YEAR 5 NEWS



Year 5 are enjoying learning about the countries of the world particularly South Africa which is where our class book 'Journey to Jo'burg' is set. As part of this, we are learning all about the apartheid movement and the life of Nelson Mandela. We are also returning to our swimming lessons that we started in year 3. We have got our reading books and we would like someone to be on the 10 star mark by next week!

## YEAR 6 NEWS



Welcome back from all of the Year 6 team! The children have settled in well and have been working hard in Literacy, using the book Holes by Louis Sachar as inspiration for their writing. In Maths they have been ordering and comparing numbers up to 10,000,000 and have started to research Texas as part of their Geography/topic work. This week they have also listened to their peers explain why they think they would make a good Head Boy and Girl and have voted for their favourite.

## ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

Attendance and punctuality is very important here at Underwood West Academy.

Arriving on time for school ensures a good start to the day for all of the children and prepares them for their learning.

The attendance team would like to remind you that:

Parents are expected to ensure that children are present at registration.

School operates an 'early open door' system with the school day beginning at 8.50 in the morning.

**Registration takes place between 8.50 and 9.00 with classroom doors closing at 9.00.**

Parents **MUST** bring their child to be signed in at the office when arriving after the classroom doors have closed.

The back gates leading onto the school field will be locked at 9.15 daily

The afternoon session begins at 1.15 with registration.

The Attendance Team monitors the punctuality of all children. Persistent lateness will result in a meeting with the Attendance Team.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mrs Gill the Academy's Attendance Support Worker.

Children arriving between 9.00 and 9.15 will receive a late mark.

Children arriving after 9.15 will receive an unauthorised mark.

Children arriving between 1.15 and 1.30 will receive a late mark.

Children arriving after 1.30 will receive an unauthorised mark.

The Attendance Team monitors the punctuality of all children. Persistent lateness will result in a meeting with the Attendance Team.

If you have any queries or concerns, please contact Mrs Gill the Academy's Attendance Support Worker.





### **ParentPay - our new online payment service**

We are pleased to announce that we will shortly be accepting payments online for items such as dinner money and school trips. Using a secure website called ParentPay you will be able to pay online using your credit / debit card. ParentPay will be our preferred method of making payments to school.

### **What are the benefits to parents & pupils?**

- ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7
- The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely – offering you peace of mind
- Payments can be made by credit/debit card
- Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime

### **How to get started with ParentPay?**

We will send you your account activation details with the school reports so you can activate ready for September. Once you receive these: · **Visit [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)**

- Enter your Activation username and password in the Account Login section of the homepage

### **NB. These are for one-time use only, please choose your own username and password for future access during the activation process**

- Provide all the necessary information and choose your new username and password for your account - registering your email address will enable us to send you receipts and reminders
- Once activation is complete you can go to straight to Items for payment, select which item(s) you want to add to your basket proceed to complete your payment.

### **COMPETITION**



Inspired by Sky Ocean Rescues 'Plasticus', the children in Y6 have been busy creating our own whale during super learning week and now he needs a name. Entries cost £1 and should be brought to the office, no later than Friday 27th September.

The funds will be used to help around school where needed.

## Uniform News

Due to ongoing supplier issues and to give more options to parents, we are moving our uniform to an on-line shop at [www.myschoolstyle.com/school/underwood](http://www.myschoolstyle.com/school/underwood). Now it is finished it will look like the page below:



Please note that this website is not run by the school but is our official supplier. Payments are made directly on-line and orders will be delivered directly to your door.

We do have a very small amount of uniform available to buy in the office now, however sizes are limited to what we have left.



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T&Cs apply



**MRS L JONES**  
Principal

