



Woodland Grange Primary NEWSLETTER July 2020

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Welcome to our final newsletter of the year. It has certainly been a very strange end to the term. We hope that during the summer break things improve and we are able to return to school in a normal way.

At the moment it is difficult to predict what school life will be like in August. We know that things like swimming, clubs and trips will have to be carefully planned if government restrictions still apply. We may be asking children to continue to bring in packed lunches and we might even have to consider staggered break, lunch, drop off and pick up times.

One thing we do know for certain is that everyone at school is looking forward to things getting back to normal. The final half term has given us a brief glimpse of 'normality' with Year 6s briefly returning, but following the reintroduction of a local lockdown, we also recognise how important it is for everyone to follow the guidance and stick to government rules. **In the meantime, please keep checking your emails and the school website during the holiday for any updates.** Term is due to begin for Y1-6 pupils on Wednesday 26th August. For FS pupils there will be part time sessions from 3/9 and full time starts from 10/9.

See you, safe & well, after the summer holidays.

T-wit T-wow!

We are very proud to unveil a new sculpture at school. Parents may recall that we have two metal minibeast sculptures next to the path near the main entrance. Older pupils will remember them being installed, they have been there for 14 years.

We thought it was time to install something new, using natural materials, made locally with a link to our school animals.

Peter Leadbetter is a chainsaw sculptor who works at **Beacon Hill** in Leicestershire. He has produced an owl which looks amazing and will welcome visitors for many years to come. Thank you to **FoWG** for raising the money to pay for the sculpture.



Any keeping in touch pics to end the year...

We would love to hear about what you get up to over the Summer holidays. Email in any pictures and we will share them when we return after the summer break. Alternatively share them via Twitter, we are **@Woodland_Grange**.

New pets and skipping competitions. What have you been up to?



Summer LEARNING

Don't forget the LEARN sites will continue to be available throughout the summer holidays. We will not remove any of the work that has been uploaded so you can revisit favourite activities or continue to practise those important skills before we return.

We have also added videos and class lists (so you can find out which class you are in next year) and transitional resources. We hope this will support children as they move up the school.

This summer **Leicestershire Libraries** are delivering the all-new Summer Reading Challenge (from The Reading Agency) digitally so that they can reach as many children and families as possible. There are plenty of fun activities to join in with. Head to **sillysquad.org.uk** and create your profile. Then read as many books as you can over the summer, from digital to print. There are activities, games and rewards along the way.

We want every child at school to get involved in the challenge during the holidays. Reading is the most important way to support your child at school.

So meet the Silly Squad and celebrate funny books!

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present

SILLY SQUAD

Summer Reading Challenge 2020

sillysquad.org.uk



Goodbye and Good Luck...

Where can we start with **Mrs Francis**? There are few staff members who have worked at the school for a longer period of time. Mrs Francis joined in August 1995. Initially, she worked in the classroom (completing her lists of jobs from Miss Butcher!) Eventually her talents were spotted and she made the move from classroom to office where she succeeded Mrs Bramwell.



Mrs Francis has also been a school governor for many years. Through this voluntary role she has helped to shape our school in many ways, making sure every child is treated equally and fairly.

Altogether Mrs Francis has been part of WGPS for 25 years. Her knowledge of the school is unsurpassed as is her dedication to her role. We will all miss her tremendously next year.

Mr Morley started working at Woodland Grange in 2000 in a part-time position alongside Mrs Deacon. He continued on a full time basis when she retired in 2013.

It is no understatement to say that Mr Morley is one of the unsung heroes of our school. Staff would agree that he will sort out any jobs that need doing around school and is a kind and generous character.

He has helped to set up (and clear away) lots of FoWG events too.

Many of the children know him (not just when he retrieves balls off the roof!) and Mr Morley is as approachable with our pupils as he is with staff. We will miss him next year, school will just not be the same without him.



Staffing Changes

We are welcoming several new staff members at the start of the next academic year. We have appointed 4 new teachers: Miss Yadav, Miss Hageman, Mrs Sabir and Miss Scott. We also have Mrs Hibbard and Mrs Turner returning to school. They will replace Mrs Hajat, Ms Hopewell, Mrs Cobbold and Miss Rabheru (see below). Mr Fletcher and Mrs Henton will not have overall class responsibility next year. Instead they will be supporting and releasing newer members of staff.

We will be saying a temporary goodbye to Mrs Smith who is leaving us to have a baby (Good Luck to both Mr and Mrs Smith). Miss Murdock will be working in pre school next year.

We have also appointed some new members of support staff: Mrs Chambers, Miss James, Mrs Fisher and Miss Gunn will all be joining us in August.

Finally we have appointed Mrs Longstaff as admin assistant in the office and Mr Juneja to replace Mr Morley as School Premises Officer.

We are also sorry to be saying goodbye to **Miss Rabheru** at the end of term. Although she has only been with us for a short time she has contributed to our school and we will be sorry to see her go. She is taking up a new post at a school in the City from August and we wish her well for the future.

FoWG

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Friends of Woodland Grange for their continued commitment to fund raising for our school. It was very strange not having a Fun Day this year (we missed getting pelted by soggy sponges!)

We hope for better times ahead. Once things return to normal we will be able to start planning events for the new school year. We also hope that these will continue to be well supported by everyone at school.

If you would like to join FoWG email the office and find out more. The AGM is planned for **9th September**.



Staffing from August 2020

Preschool:	Miss Murdock
Foundation Stage:	Mrs Hibbard and Miss Yadav
Year 1:	Miss Rose and Miss Hageman
Year 2:	Mrs Chadwick/Mr Parker and Mrs Sabir
Year 3:	Mrs Fletcher and Mrs Santy/Mrs Turner
Year 4:	Miss Benjamin and Miss Scott
Year 5:	Miss Bowe and Mr Healey
Year 6:	Mrs Barrs, Miss Smith & Mr Smith

(There will be 3 classes in Year 6).

Learning South Leicester School Sports Partnership Awards

We have had 3 nominations for the annual LSLSSP awards. This year the ceremony took place via Youtube. We were also lucky enough to have one winner (in the outstanding contribution to school sport & well-being award) Mr Flanagan! As many of you will know Mr Flanagan runs Woodland Wheelers Cycling club every Saturday morning and also promotes various cycling opportunities across our school. We are incredibly lucky to have him and the opportunities he offers the children are invaluable. As a result of his hard work and dedication we have noticed an improvement in the health and well-being of the children who attend. It promotes a healthy lifestyle, keeps them active and is crucial in developing their core strength. We have also benefited from school sessions for older and younger pupils. We are proud that he has been recognised for his hard work.