



Woodland Grange Primary

NEWSLETTER September 2017

Tel: 0116 272 0401

www.woodlandwideweb.org.uk

Welcome to the New Academic Year from Mr Hayles

Welcome back to the new school year and a special welcome to the families with children new to the school whether that be in the Pre-School, Foundation Stage or in any other year group.

We are thrilled with our new building at the rear of the school; please wander down to the bottom playground to have a good look at it. It is where Year 4 is currently based with Miss Bowe and Mrs Fletcher.

The class organisation and teachers for this year are:

Pre-School— Mrs Smith

Foundation Stage — Mrs Hibbard and Mrs Turner / Mrs Smyton

Year 1— Mrs Hajat and Miss Rose

Year 2— Mrs Chadwick and Mrs Henton / Mr Parker

Year 3— Miss Benjamin and Mr Smith

Year 4— Miss Bowe and Mrs Fletcher

Year 5— Mr Healey and Mrs Wood

Year 6— Mrs Barrs (nee Bedding) and Mr Fletcher (last year known as Mr John as we had two Fletchers!)



For those of you who don't yet know me well, I have a complete non-tolerance approach to bullying and forms of behaviour that impact upon others and the wonderful ethos at Woodland Grange. The staff and I will deal with such matters swiftly and firmly; this will almost certainly involve contact with parents. I continue to be thrilled with the exceptional standards of behaviour at Woodland Grange and thank parents for their own high standards that lead to behaviour at our school being the best I have known in ANY school that I have worked in or visited.

Good punctuality & attendance is vital to the success of your child. As a reminder, the school day starts at 8.50am - this is the time that your child should be coming into the cloakroom or classroom. Please also ensure you are here promptly to pick up your child(ren) at 3.15pm. Thank you pre-school parents for picking up your children so promptly at the end of their sessions in 'school'.

The law relating to **holiday authorisation** changed two years ago and I am not in a position to authorise term-time absence apart from in exceptional circumstances. Children are in school for just 190 days each year and holidays should therefore be taken out of school term-time. Any requests for term-time absence, which should be rare (and never in excess of 10 days), must be made using a 'Leave of Absence Request Form' which is available in the Foyer or can be downloaded from the school website (Our Office / Absence & Medicine Forms). I am always more likely to authorise holidays where you make them coincide with some school holiday dates as this way you can still get a cheaper holiday but have some or even the bulk of the time off, in the holiday period.

On the wall, just inside the main front doors before the large foyer area there is a secure '**OFFICE POST**' box. Rather than queuing to drop off forms, letters etc - just drop it into the box. It is checked every day and could save you some time.

I am passionate about education and the health, safety and happiness of the children in our wonderful school and hope you and your children have a great year.

Please find, over the page, a list of dates for the year. I would like to highlight our curriculum evenings coming up soon in September and our first Parents' Evenings in October.

Mr Hayles

Donations needed Could you or a company you work for donate any card or paper to school that we could use for our art projects (not cardboard boxes)? All shapes, colours, sizes and thicknesses would be greatly appreciated.



Our first **bookfair** begins on Tuesday 26th September through to the Monday 2nd October. Many lovely picture and story books will be available for you to buy for your child(ren).

JEWELLERY POLICY & SWIMMING GOGGLES

NO jewellery should be worn for PE (including swimming) sessions as it presents a health & safety concern. If stud earrings (no dangly ones!) are worn, then your child must be able to remove them him/herself or simply do not let your child wear them on P.E. days.

Bracelets & necklaces are not suitable to be worn to school & again would have to be removed for P.E. anyway.

All children well enough to be in school should be going swimming and we request no goggles please.

Important Dates

September

- 4th Clubs Start
- 13th 7pm Friends of Woodland Grange (FoWG) AGM - all parents invited
Please come even if you can only help out a little this year
- 18th Curriculum Evening Yr 2, Yr 4 and Yr 5 6.30pm
- 19th Curriculum Evening Yr 3 6.30pm
- 20th Curriculum Evening FS 6.30pm and Yr 1 7pm
- 21st Curriculum Evening Yr 6 6.30pm
- 26th Bookfair begins

October

- 4th Whole School Parents' Evening (not PreSchool) 5pm to 8pm
- 5th PreSchool Parents' Evening 4pm to 7pm
- 9th Whole School Parents' Evening (not PreSchool) 4pm to 6pm
- 11th Whole School Parents' Evening (not PreSchool) 3.30pm to 5pm
- 16th - 20th *HALF TERM BREAK - PreSchool open for year round pupils*

November

- 2nd Individual school photographs
- 17th Children in Need fundraising day

December

- 1st Decorations Day - parents invited into school in the morning
- 8th Flu vaccinations
- 20th *END OF TERM - main school closes Wednesday evening (PreSchool open for year round pupils)*
- 22nd PreSchool pupils finish for Christmas on Friday 22nd Decemner

January

- 2nd Pre-School (*for year-round pupils*) restarts Tuesday 2nd January
- 9th Main school re-opens for all pupils Tuesday 9th January

February

- 12th-16th *HALF TERM BREAK PreSchool open for year round pupils*

March

- 26th - 6th April *SPRING TERM BREAK- PreSchool open (for year round pupils) but shut for two Bank Holidays as below*
- 30th Good Friday Bank Holiday - PreSchool closed

April

- 2nd Easter Monday Bank Holiday - PreSchool closed
- 9th Main School opens

May

- 2nd - 4th Beaumanor Yr 3 residential trip
- 7th May Bank Holiday (whole school including PreSchool closed)
- 28th - 1st June *HALF TERM BREAK PreSchool open (for year round pupils) apart from Bank Holiday as below*
- 28th PreSchool closed for Spring Bank Holiday

June

- 4th Teacher Day - Main School Closed to ALL pupils (PreSchool open)
- 12th Sports days this week across school tbc

July

- 9th-11th Year 7 transition days for Beauchamp, Gartree, Manor
- 12th END OF TERM - Last day of school year today (PreSchool remains open for year round pupils)
- 13th SCHOOL CLOSED TODAY- PreSchool open for year-round pupils

August

- 24th PreSchool year finishes this evening for all year round pupils
- 30th School opens to all pupils

Notes re important dates

Even if you have previously attended a **Curriculum Evening** for a year group your child is in, the curriculum and sometimes our approach can change from year to year and we always have new information to share so please prioritise coming to these meetings. The focus is on you understanding our work with your child but will also include information as to how you can best support your child's academic development at home.

Further information and booking slips will come home about Parents' Evenings in due course. These first Parent's Evenings will include how your child has settled into the year are also about you helping your child's class teacher to get to him/her better. **It is vital all parents attend Parents' Evening in October and March each year.**

More information will follow about Christmas performances and of course additional dates will be given for the spring and summer terms.

All dates are subject to change and we will update you via newsletters, email and the school website.

Parking

As ever, I thank parents who park courteously and safely. Please do not park on junctions and NEVER on the yellow zig-zag lines. For the benefit of our neighbours can I also ask that you never block their drives, especially on Wright Lane where this seems to happen from time to time.

Can I also ask that you do not turn around in the school entrance at the start or end of the day.

The Grange Pub are happy for parents to park there in the morning and afternoon; it is a two minute walk from there to school.

For Curriculum and Parents' Evenings we will leave the gates open and you are welcome to park in the carpark or in the bottom playground.



Worst parking offenders so far!

Breaktime Snacks & Birthdays

Can we please ask that break time snacks are just healthy ones and not sweets, cakes or biscuits. Fruit and vegetables are a great option but we have a few pupils coming in with 4 or 5 items in a full sized packed lunch box and unsurprisingly are struggling to eat their dinner. A fist-sized portion in a good guide at this age.

Can we please ask for no sweets or cakes being sent in for birthdays please? A box of raisins, a pencil or pen would be better.