



# Wood End School

Learning Together, Respecting Each Other

News 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018

## **Year 6 Applications for Secondary School**

Year 6 parents will need to make an application online or on paper by the closing date of Wednesday 31st October 2018. We would recommend that you complete this by Friday 26th October, as there will be limited support available over the weekend for anyone having trouble applying. Apply [online](#) or request a printed version of the website information and application from the Hertfordshire County Council Customer Service Centre by calling 03001 234043.

The application process for the Katherine Warrington School is separate to the four preferences permissible by HCC this year. The Katherine Warrington application is an additional choice for parents. Application forms can be completed by visiting [www.kwschool.co.uk/admissions](http://www.kwschool.co.uk/admissions) and submitted to HCC. On national offer day on March 1st 2019, places permitting, parents can decide to accept one of the preferences or Katherine Warrington.

## **Parent Consultations Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October and Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October**

Entry to the school for consultations will be: KS1—Main office entrance; KS2—Corridor entrance (middle playground) Junior Building. All other entrances will be locked for security purposes. Children's work will be available for you to look at in the classroom before or after your appointment. You do not need to bring the children's work to the hall.

Five minutes before your appointment please make your way to the relevant school hall and wait in the corridor until the bell is rung. This is an opportunity for parents to talk to the teachers privately and confidentially. We would therefore appreciate it if you could make alternative arrangements for your children during these appointments. In extreme circumstances, where this is not possible, the children may wait for you in the dining room or the infant library. It would be helpful if they could bring a quiet activity to gainfully occupy them whilst waiting for you.

Under NO circumstances should children be left unsupervised on the playground or climbing apparatus. Due to the parent consultations there will be no school-run clubs on these days, nor Yoga, Next Thing Education and Touchline on Tuesday, and Kew Dance, Art Club and Next Thing Education on Thursday.

## **Meet the Team**

**Name: Mrs Gillian Bird**

Title/Position: School Business Manager



### **What does your role involve?**

As part of the SLT I ensure the most effective use of resources in support of the school's learning objectives to provide the best outcomes for the children. I also manage a fantastic team of clerical, technical and site management staff and work with the dedicated Governors and Headteacher, providing strategic financial support to the Resources Committee. Property management is a large part of my job, ensuring safe maintenance and the security operation of the school premises, including all aspects of Health and Safety.

### **How did you get into this role?**

During the first half of my career, before children, I worked as a buyer/marketing manager, commuting daily to London. When my children started school I looked for a job which enabled me to work term time only – that's when I started working in a school office; first at St Luke's in Redbourn then at Crabtree Infants School in Harpenden. I completed my CSBM (Certificate of School Business Managers) and together with my seven years' school office experience and my degree in Business Studies and Psychology, applied for the position as SBM at Wood End School.

### **What do you enjoy about it?**

My favourite part of the job is observing the children enjoying the resources that we have been able to provide. Huge thanks go to our fabulous PTA who raise an enormous amount of money each year and of course our generous parents who attend these events. This has enabled us to transform the outdoor play areas and also increase the use of IT in school, including the purchase of iPads and LED screens. It gives me great satisfaction to achieve best value when purchasing these items; hearing that we have been successful when placing bids with County (window walling, roofing, cladding, heating), and achieving successful grant bids (National Lottery for partial funding of the picnic area canopy and Hand on Heart Charity for a defibrillator machine). My triplets came to Wood End School (now at university) and it is a privilege to work for the school that gave them such a brilliant start.

### **What might surprise people about your role?**

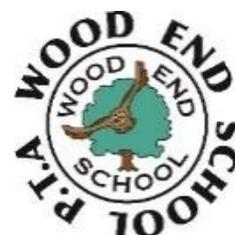
Occasionally I also get to work with the children, from listening to the views/ideas of the Eco-council to organising and delivering the Year 4 Road Safety initiative.

Whether I'm updating the school website or satisfying Herts County Council Internal Audit Team, no two days are the same. Every day has its own little challenges which makes the job both interesting and rewarding.

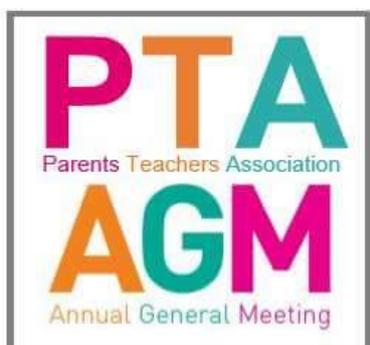
## **PTA News**



We had a fantastic time at the **Parents' Disco** at Bennet's Club last Saturday. The last few costs are being finalised; but it looks like the evening has raised over £1,700 for the PTA. A massive thank you to Morven and Martin for organising and to the absolutely amazing band, Akiva!



**PTA Christmas Card order forms** have been sent home in book bags this week. Please look out for the order form for your child's Christmas Card Design. Do check your child's name is spelt correctly and please return the form and payment to the school office by 7th November at the latest.



Our **PTA AGM will be on Tuesday 6th November at 7.30pm** in the Staff Room at Wood End School.

While the existing PTA Officers are happy to remain in their positions for another year, if anyone is interested in standing for any of these positions or sharing a position with an existing Officer, please email Laura Devlin, PTA Secretary at [pta@woodend.sch.co.uk](mailto:pta@woodend.sch.co.uk) to register your interest by the 24th October at the latest. Currently the PTA Trustee Committee is made up of 2 Co-Chairs, Secretary, Communications Officer, Treasurer and

Compliance Officer (as detailed here: <http://www.woodend.herts.sch.uk/home-1/about/about-1>)

Everyone is welcome to join us at this annual meeting. The PTA is of course not just the Trustees(!) Do come along to listen in or share your views - we'd love to see you there.

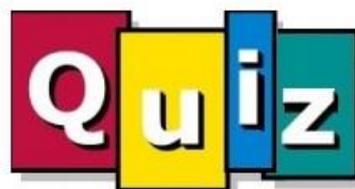
## Save the Dates: More details after half term



**Wood End PTA Christmas Event**

Friday 30th November 4 to 6pm

**PTA Quiz Night - Saturday 2nd February**



PTA Key News and Dates: <http://www.woodend.herts.sch.uk/home-1/about/news>

Email: [PTA@woodend.herts.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@woodend.herts.sch.uk)



### Rotary Shoeboxes

Apologies an incorrect deadline was published. The deadline for return is **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November** (after half term). Please bring the filled boxes to school w/c 5<sup>th</sup> November. If you haven't been able to fill your box, please bring it back to the school office and we can refund your £2. For up-to-date information and pictures of boxes being delivered, visit the Rotary website at [www.rotaryshoebox.org](http://www.rotaryshoebox.org)

[www.facebook.com/rotaryshoeboxscheme](http://www.facebook.com/rotaryshoeboxscheme)

### Community

**Harpenden Rugby Club Fireworks Extravaganza—Sunday 4th November - The Clubhouse Redbourn Lane, AL5 2BA. Gates open at 4pm, display starts at 6pm**

**Tickets sold at the school office.** £8 Adult Ticket/£5 Child Ticket (up to 16yrs)/£25 Family Ticket (2 adults and up to 4 children to 16yrs). Fireworks, bonfire, funfair, great food and bar. [www.hrfc.com](http://www.hrfc.com). Parking is limited at the club, please take the courtesy bus from Church Green – between St Nicholas Church/ Chef Peking (not as published on the posters).

**All sales made via the school will mean that 50% of the ticket price will be given as CASH BACK to the school!**



### Poppys will once again be sold in school w/c 5<sup>th</sup> November

Poppies (paper) donation/Wristbands £1\*/Reflector 50p\*/ruler £1\*/Pencil Sharpener 50p\*/Eraser 50p\*, are available to purchase from the school office.

\*Suggested donation



Year 6 children will also be collecting donations from the classrooms during next week if your child would like to purchase one themselves.

**[Adult Pilates Class at Wood End School – Wednesdays 7-8pm see leaflet attached.](#)**

**On Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th October, The Mall Luton will display a full size replica spitfire in Central Square all weekend to launch this year's Poppy Appeal**

Please find attached a leaflet with further information on the Spitfire. It's not every day that local children have the opportunity to get up close, and potentially sit in the cockpit, of a spitfire.

Further information on the event can be found here: <https://www.themall.co.uk/luton/whats-on/2018/poppy-appeal-2018/>

### **Links to Recent Events on the School Website:**

**Also available to view via the Wood End School App\***

[Buddy Groups](#) – Friday 12th October

[Year 4 Flamenco Workshop](#) Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October

[Maths Workshop KS2 Presentation](#) – Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> October

[Reception Visit from the Fire Brigade](#) – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October

[Boys Football League Friendly](#) – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October

**\*If you wish to receive news reminders and view past events from the website on your phone please download the School Jotter App. For iPhone users go to the App Store and for Android users go to Google Play. Follow the instructions on screen to find Wood End School. There is no need to add your payment details as all payments are made via Schoolcomms.**