



Wood End School

Learning Together, Respecting Each Other

News 16th November 2018



Christmas Performances

Please refer to your [Autumn Term Dates List](#) for the dates and times of the Christmas Performances. Please note there are two dates for each performance.

We will be using the 'Parent Evening' software to allocate tickets for the Christmas performances again this year. The system will **open this Saturday 17th November** and close at **23.55 on Thursday 29th November**.

Tickets, in the form of a programme, will be sent home via your child w/c **Monday 3rd December**. Entry will only be gained on presentation of the programme. Due to health and safety restrictions we can only offer a **maximum of 2 tickets per family**. This will ensure everybody is able to come to at least one of the performances.

In the event of spare seats, extra tickets may be available. These will be distributed after the initial 2 tickets per family have been allocated. If you would like an extra ticket, please speak to the school office. An email with a link to the booking system will be sent to you on Friday 16th November with a short guide on how to book your tickets.

If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the school office who will be happy to book tickets on your behalf.



Name: Mrs Sarah Brocklehurst Learning Support Assistant / Teaching Assistant / Midday Supervisor Assistant

What does your role involve?

I have a number of roles within the school, sometimes you will find me in the dining hall at lunchtime ensuring that our children are safe and have enough to eat. I also work one to one with children across a couple of year groups, supporting children with their specific learning and working on Monday afternoons covering the Teaching Assistant role in Reception, helping the class Teacher.

How did you get into this role?

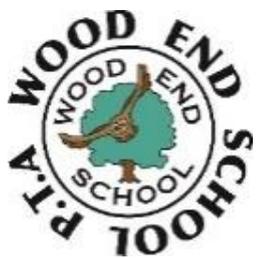
After working in the Food Industry for 20 years managing teams of Food Technologists and Nutritionists, as well as visiting food factories across the world, I decided to take a career break when my daughter started school at Wood End. Shortly after this I kept reading in the Newsletter that the school was very short of Midday Supervisors (as is still the case so applications would be very welcome) so applied to see if I could help. In common with many parents at Wood End I also got involved in the school on a volunteer basis both in the classroom and outside, including as one of the parent leaders of the successful Gardening Club. Subsequently an opportunity arose to work in the school more regularly as a Learning Support Assistant which then led to the Teaching Assistant position.

What do you enjoy about it?

I absolutely adore working with all the children at Wood End. Every day is different and it is a real delight helping children experience new things and sharing their joy when they realise they have learned something new. I also thoroughly enjoy working alongside all the dedicated staff and parent volunteers that make the school so special.

What might surprise people about your role?

Probably not a surprise really but getting to know so many fantastic children as individuals and see their development, especially as I work with every single year group from nursery to Year 6.



PTA News

Friday 30th November we are holding a Christmas Event! At drop off in the morning on Friday 30th, please bring in any donations of:

- Unwanted and unopened gifts for the Secret Gift Room - anything an adult would like as a gift
- Bottles for the tombola
- Jam Jars filled with wrapped sweets (NUT FREE)
- Cakes/Mince Pies (NUT FREE)

We'd love plenty more general helpers on the day. If you can spare just a bit of time for setup, or during the Christmas Market (4pm to 6pm) or for tidy up please get in touch with Joanne, Morven or Kirstin – thank you! (Email: PTA@woodend.herts.sch.uk)

- Please look out for Raffle tickets coming home in book bags from week commencing 19th November
- Children are welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper/top to school (for a suggested donation of £1)

THE MAN CAN

Bottles for the tombola

Unwanted and unopened gifts for the Secret Gift Room
- anything an adult would like as a gift.

Jam Jars filled with wrapped sweets (NUT FREE – e.g. no snickers / picnic bars or similar!)

Cakes/Mince Pies (NUT FREE)



Easyfundraising have started their **annual competition** to see which PTA can raise the most money through **Easyfundraising** in the run up to Christmas. Last year thanks to the efforts of Wood End parents we won the competition which was a lovely extra Christmas present.

Can we win again?!

This year the competition to raise an **additional £500** for the school is running from **5th November to 16th December** so when you are doing your shopping online please remember Wood End School and **shop** through [Easyfundraising](#).



Support our PTA by purchasing a Christmas Tree! Friends of Harpenden Academy have organised a "Christmas Tree Shop", buy through them and choose "Wood End School" to allow a commission to be donated back to the PTA. Last orders by 3rd December. Trees can be collected or delivered on 7th /8th December. For more details please see the website:

[:https://foha.ecwid.com/Fundraising-Christmas-Trees-c25042182](https://foha.ecwid.com/Fundraising-Christmas-Trees-c25042182)

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

Email: PTA@woodend.herts.sch.uk

Links to Recent Events on the School Website:

[Year 5 Enterprise Sale – Friday 9th November 2018](#)

[Children in Need Day – Friday 16th November 2018](#)

[Sport w/c 12th November– Table Tennis/Cross Country/Boys Football](#)

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.

Community

St Albans Mental Health Conference – Saturday 24th November

Please see attachment for a programme of the day and how to book. www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-albans-mental-health-conference-tickets-49687176683

Sustainable St Albans

Sustainable St Albans is a charity and one of our projects is to run information sessions whereby people can come and see how they can find out where heat is leaking from their house and book to borrow one of our Thermal Imaging Cameras to use themselves in their home.

The project is free, run by volunteers, the cameras were purchased from Locality Budget grants.

Most sessions are small and run in our volunteers homes, however we have one large session arranged at The Harpenden Arms on Monday 19th November. For further details please see leaflet attached.

Video Standards Council (VSC) Presentation at St. Helen's School

What games should I buy for my child this Christmas?

We're the VSC Rating Board whose job it is to review every video game released in the UK and then apply an appropriate age rating. We do this using the PEGI rating system – you've probably seen our symbols on game packaging. Our ratings aim to ensure that you get to make informed buying decisions for your children.

We will be giving a presentation on our work and how you can keep your children safe in the gaming world:

7pm Wednesday 21st November

St. Helen's CE VA Primary School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, AL4 8AN

We would urge you to come along and attend our presentation. We are sure that you will find it useful and informative. We're keen to show you, with video examples, why we rate games, including some of the more mature games, as we do. It will also give you a chance to let us, the UK video games regulator, answer any questions you may have about video games and your children's gaming habits. Most importantly, we can go through any games that are on your children's Christmas list and explain what PEGI rating it received and why!

Due to the nature of the content, this presentation is for adults only.

Hope to see you there!

The Harpenden Christmas Carnival

The Christmas Carnival will take place on the 25th November down the High Street. A spectacular event in Harpenden High Street, it encompasses a carnival procession, walkabout entertainment, charity stalls, a farmer's market, turning on of the town's Christmas Lights, fairground rides and festive shopping!! Father Christmas and his Elves will be stopping by again to visit the children of Harpenden, and our famous Christmas Lights will be switched on as the sun goes down at 5pm.

Carols by Candlelight at Harpenden Public Halls – Sunday 2nd December

4pm Family Carol Service and 7pm Carols by Candlelight.

Free admission and refreshments.