

High Academic Standards: Sporting Opportunities: Caring Relationships: Musical Excellence: Christian Values

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back. I hope that you have had an enjoyable holiday and enjoyed the sunshine. We are looking forward to another year and all it has to offer the children. It's great to see that the children have settled back into school life well. If you would like to meet your child's teacher prior to the Parent, Child and Teacher meetings in October please let them know. Appointments are always better at the end of the school day (rather than the morning), so children can settle quickly to their task of learning.

A newsletter will be issued half termly giving dates for that half term and a bulletin will be issued fortnightly (electronically on Thursdays) which will detail any changes or important information. Where possible, we endeavour not to change dates/events or times but as with all schools, change and the unexpected can happen and we have to respond! A paper copy of the newsletter can be collected from reception should you want one.

Warmest wishes

Mr Hopwell

What's happening in your child's class this term?

Keep an eye out in book bags and on the website for individual class termly information letter written by the class teacher, giving details of what's happening in each class and what your child will be learning about during this term.

Staffing

We welcome Mrs Bird who is teaching Year 3 and 5, covering Miss Kilbane's maternity leave which is due to start in October. We also say goodbye to Mr Warren and wish him well in the future.

Harvest Festival 9.30 Friday 14th September

You are invited to attend a Harvest Festival Service at St. Swithun's Church. This year we will be reflecting upon how it feels 'to receive'. Therefore, we are asking for the children to bring any harvest food donations during the week after our Harvest Service from Monday 17th September onwards. This is to develop further contacts between the school and community. We will also be taking this opportunity to celebrate the outstanding school inspection achieved at the end of last year. Father Matthew from Nottingham and Southwell Diocese will join us to present the school with a certificate to recognise the wonderful achievements of children, staff, governors and community.

School car park

Please do not park in the school car park to drop off and pick up your children. Staff members 'block' one another in as we know the cars will be there all day. If you do take the risk and park your car could be 'blocked in'. You would have to wait until a normal break in the school day for staff to move their cars around so you can exit the car park. I must also reiterate how dangerous it is to use the car park opening as a drop off point or turning circle. There are over 200 children coming into and leaving the school at the same time, the potential for an accident is heightened by cars being driven, turned and parked irresponsibly. Please park a safe distance from the school and walk the remainder of the way.

Morning drop for families in infants and juniors

We understand dropping children off in the juniors and getting round to the infants can be a challenge. The infant doors are kept open a bit longer to allow for this.

School field

The Y5 and Y6 children should bring in a spare pair of trainers and tracksuit bottoms that they can keep in their PE bag. They will wear these to go on the field when the grass is wet to play football. Other year groups will have time to play on the field too. This will mean we can play a wider range of games on the playground.

School snack policy and nut/food Allergies

All children in the infants are given a piece of fruit every day. Children are welcome to bring in a healthy snack as well; however the governor's request that they do not bring in crisps, sweets or chocolates.

We have a number of children in school with an allergy to nuts; in some cases the slightest contact can cause a severe reaction. Please remember that nuts should not be brought into school under any circumstances. If you haven't already, please let us know if your child has any allergies we should be aware of.

This is also reiterated in our Healthy eating policy, which a copy is available from the school office

Reading Challenge Assembly 9.30 Monday 24th September

Congratulations to all the children who took part in our summer reading challenge. There will be a special assembly next Friday to celebrate their achievements. You are all very welcome to join us.

Class assemblies

Dates for your child's class assembly are on the dates for the diary.

Class R and Class 6 snow drop appeal.

We would like to ask classes R and 6 to donate snow drop bulbs which can be planted on the bank in the front playground as a way to celebrate their time at the school. Please send them into school before the end of September. Also, are there any gardeners willing to prepare the ground for planting the snowdrops? Please let us know, you bring a gardening fork and we will bring the cups of tea.

School uniform policy

The Governors are very keen to see all children dressed in either the summer or winter school uniform. There is also a PE kit which all children are expected to wear. The required list of clothing is on the school website. Only formal school trousers should be worn, (depending on the fashion either flares or skinny trousers are sometimes worn).

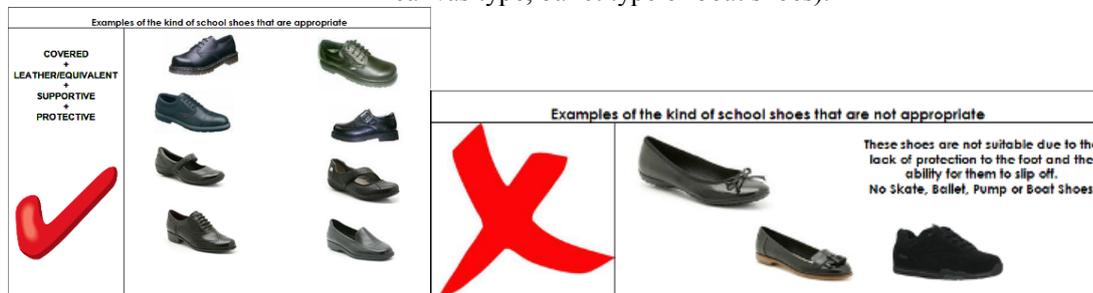
Appropriate footwear is very important to avoid injury and to be in line with the traditional style of school uniform. We have published in our policy and copied below guidance on this. This is in line with many schools and prepares the children for expectations of secondary schools. Trainers should only be worn for PE and at no other time in school. Shoes must be black (including the sole and laces) and cover the bridge of the foot, no platforms, sling-backs, open-toes, skate shoes, trainer-style, or dolly shoes or boots.

The only pieces of jewellery allowed are watches. Bizarre hair styles, tramlines, letters or patterns shaved into hair and unnatural colours are not allowed. Hair bands should be plain and a dark colour. We strongly recommend that if children wish to have their ears pierced, they should do this at the beginning of the summer holidays so that they have time to heal. Children will not be allowed to do PE with an ear ring in.

Wood's Foundation School has two uniform suppliers; full details are available in the uniform part of the prospectus on the school website.

ACCEPTABLE SCHOOL SHOES

- School shoes must be made of a sturdy material and offer adequate support to the foot. (No canvas type, ballet type or boat shoes).



Playtime Equipment

Children should not use the SNUG or activity trails equipment before or after school. If your child would like to bring a skipping rope or sponge ball into school they can, but please ensure they are named and the children must make sure they are responsible for their own toys.

Safeguarding

As a school it is paramount that we keep the children safe at all times and we have to follow strict guidelines set out by the Government and Ofsted which includes making sure that we are aware of all adults on the school premises at all times. Some parents will already be aware that we have enhanced our signing into school procedures and now issue a badge to all visitors. This means that a visitor can be clearly identified from a member of staff by wearing the badge at all times and a clear record is held of who is on the premises in

case of a fire. I understand that there may be occasions when you need to come into school to help your child find a lost item or clothing or piece of equipment but I must ask that you do not come into school without signing in at the main reception. The junior entrance door is an entrance for children only and should not be used by parents to access the school, if you need to come into school please sign in at the main reception before entering the building. For the families who have a child in both the infants and the juniors, drop off at the junior first and make your way around the back of the school building to the infant classes entrance doors, the teachers will be made aware of those children who may be a minute or so behind getting to the entrance door and will not be marked as late.

Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning (SEALs)

Our school thinks that your child is of great importance and we believe that to be able to learn they need to be happy, confident, understand themselves, understand their feelings and know how to get on with each other and make friends. To help all our children with this we will be working in school on special activities that develop these skills. Each half-term we will be looking at a particular theme. The theme will start with an assembly and be followed up in class. The theme for this half-term will be New beginnings. During the term the children will be exploring how to create a learning environment that helps the children learn together in a happy, busy and safe way. They will also learn about the feelings they have when they are happy, sad, scared and excited, and how to manage these feelings in the classroom. We will be happy to talk about this with you if you would like to.

Changeable weather

We intend the children to use the school field to play on as much as possible and the sun is still quite strong at this time of year. Please remember sun cream and hat when necessary and a shower proof coat as the weather can change very quickly.

Christmas performances

We would like to try something new this year with the Christmas performances. EYFS and Y1 will perform together, as will Y2 and Y3, Y4 and Y5 will also perform together. Year 6 will lead the Christingle. We hope this will mean more children will be on stage for more time. Year 6 also have a big performance in the summer, hopefully this will allow the other year groups to have leading roles in the Christmas performances. The Christingle is a very important part of our celebrations and we hope Y6 will be able to take a lead in planning and delivering this special service.

Dates for the diary

Date	Event
September	
Friday 14 th	Harvest Festival at St Swithun's 9.30am
Monday 17 th	New Class R applicants' parents visit 2pm
Monday 24 th	9.30am Reading challenge assembly
26 th – 28 th	Year 5 Residential
Tuesday 25 th	New Class R applicants' parents visit 2pm
October	

Friday 12 th	Individuals school photos in hall (siblings at 8.30am)
Wednesday 17 th	New Class R applicants' parents visit 10am 9.30am YR 6 Basketball CFS
Friday 26 th	9.00am Class 6 parents coffee morning 9.30 Class 6 Assembly Non-uniform day
Friday 19 th	INSET
29 th – 2 nd November	Half term
November	
Friday 9 th	9.00am Class 5 parents coffee morning 9.30 Class 5 Assembly New Class R applicants' parents visit 2pm
Monday 12 th	2.30 – 5pm Parent child and teacher meeting
Tuesday 13 th	2.30 - 6.30pm Parent child and teacher meeting
Friday 16 th	8.20-9.40am Parent child and teacher meeting
Tuesday 20 th	2.30-5pm Parent child and teacher meeting
Wednesday 21 st	8.20 – 9.40am Parent child and teacher meeting
Wednesday 21 st	Year 6 Author Visit
December	
Friday 7 th	8.30 - 9.30am Christmas breakfast and coffee morning followed by Choir Christmas assembly
Tuesday 4 th	9.30am Christingle led by Y6
Wednesday 5 th	9.30am YR 3 Handball at Colonel Frank Seely School
Tuesday 11 th	6.30 Y4 and 5 carol concert
Thursday 13 th	EYFS & Y1 Nativity 2.30pm
Friday 14 th	2.30pm Y3 & Y4 Christmas concert
Monday 17 th	New Class R applicants' parents visit 10am pm Class 5 & 6 party
Tuesday 18 th	9.30 – 11am Panto Class 3 & 4 party pm
Wednesday 19 th	Class R, 1 & 2 party pm Christmas Dinner
21 st	Inset day
25 th – 5 th January	Christmas holiday
January	
7 th	School reopens for children

Please be aware that whilst we take every step to keep dates for the year as published, there may be occasions where events/dates need to change. Dates for the rest of the year to follow soon.

Applying for a place at Wood's Foundation School

"This is an outstanding school. The pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent." OFSTED

"Wood's Foundation Church of England Primary School is an excellent, high achieving school that has the Christian faith at its heart. The children benefit from teaching of the highest quality."

SIAMS Inspection School Report

If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 you should apply for a school place soon. You should receive information from the local authority by 17th November 2018 and you will be able to apply for a school place until 15th January 2018. If you have a child who will be starting school next September, or know anyone who has, and would like to visit our school please get in touch. We look forward to meeting you. I am always happy to show people around our wonderful school. You will receive an information pack about applying for a place in Nottinghamshire schools. If you are applying for a place at Wood's Foundation School you should also collect an additional pack from our school office. Children are admitted to the school using the admission criteria. Usually, half of the children who are admitted come from Woodborough, have a sibling or attend church, the rest of the children who join us do not meet these criteria. So please be reassured you have a good chance of securing a place. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Free school meals

From September 2014 there is a statutory requirement for state-funded schools in England to provide free school meals to all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2.

All children attending state-funded schools are eligible to receive a free school meal if their parent receives one of the following benefits:

- income support
- income-based jobseekers allowance
- income-related employment support allowance
- support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guarantee element of state pension credit
- child tax credit (provided they are not entitled to working tax credit) and have an annual income that does not exceed £16,190 (as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs)

Children aged 7 and under attending a Nottinghamshire County Council school will also be entitled to **free school milk** if the parent receives one of the qualifying benefits.

Additional funding for your child's school

It is important that all parents who receive one of the benefits listed above register for free school meals as this will enable your child's school to claim pupil premium allocation. The pupil premium is additional funding given to publicly funded schools in England to raise attainment. This additional funding for schools can help to buy new equipment and resources.

In the 2014-2015 financial year, schools will receive:

- £1,300 for each eligible primary-aged pupil
- £935 for each eligible secondary-aged pupil

Children who receive income support or income related employment support allowance in their own right are also eligible to receive free school meals (this situation often applies to post-16 pupils in special schools).

A greater number of school nurseries will now be offering sessions over the lunch time period in order to accommodate the new 15 hour entitlement. Children who attend school nurseries between the period 11am and 2pm may also be eligible to receive free school meals if they meet the eligibility criteria detailed above.

Registering for free school meals

Parents can contact the free school meals team by telephoning 01623 433009 or by visiting <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/school-dinners/free-school-meals/>. The information needed to register includes:

- personal details (including national insurance number and date of birth)
- partner's personal details and child's details in full including their date of birth and the school they attend
- If eligible for free school meals and/or milk the start date will normally be within two days of parents contacting us and entitlement being verified. We will also write to confirm the date the child's free school meals and milk will start.

Children will continue to receive free school meals and milk while parents are receiving the qualifying benefit.