



9 September 2014



Autumn term is under way and the children are settling in with their new teachers. We particularly welcome Reception children and other newcomers to the school and wish them a happy and successful time at Woodfall.

We welcome Miss Anna Blain and Miss Carly Schwarz who have joined us as Y5 and Y4 teachers.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Ms Donoghue, from the school office, and her family on the birth of Katie Alice.



School Uniform

Thank you for your support of our school uniform policy. All the children look very smart for the beginning of term. Please remember to **clearly label** all articles of clothing and kit with your child's name, so that they can be easily identified if mislaid.



Musical Notes

Just a reminder that payments for music lessons were due on Friday, 5th September, once again many thanks to those parents who have paid promptly. Lessons commence week beginning 8 September.

Orchestra will commence on 12th September at 3.20pm.

Absences

If your child is going to be absent from school please let the school office know either by phone or email before 9.15am on the first day of absence.



PE Kit

Your child will be made aware of which days their classes have PE. It is most important that they have a change of clothing, including footwear, for these activities, available on the right days.

We ask that Infant children leave their PE kits in school.

In the interests of Health and Safety, children should not wear jewellery and long hair should be securely tied back.

Autumn Clubs / Activities

You will shortly be receiving details of our new programme of clubs and activities for the Autumn/Spring Term. I would remind you that this important enrichment to your children's lives in school is dependant upon the voluntary good-will of the staff involved. I thank them all on your behalf and trust that your children will enjoy these additional opportunities.



Safeguarding

The school has a legal duty to report any non-accidental injuries to children. Where children have had an injury from an accident outside school, we ask that parents please inform the school so that we respond appropriately. The school's Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy will involve links with police and/or social care as appropriate. It is therefore essential that parents inform the school of accidental injury to pupils whilst they are at home. The school cannot hesitate to report any instance of abuse. Thank you for your help with this.



School Lunches

A significant number of pupils at Woodfall are taking part in the Government's new scheme of providing all infant children with a free hot meal at lunchtime.

Can we please remind **junior** parents that:

- Lunch money should be paid in advance on a Monday morning. If you wish your child to take a meal on an ad hoc basis we suggest you send in £10.75 which will be credited to their account and would enable them to take a lunch on 5 occasions. **Please avoid sending £2.15 in daily.**
- Cheques would be the preferred method of payment and should be made payable to **Cheshire West and Chester Council**. If the name on the cheque is different from the child's name then please put the child's name on the back of the cheque.
- Cash or cheques sent into school must be in a sealed envelope clearly marked with your child's name and year group and the amount enclosed. If you require a supply of envelopes please ask at the school office.
- Families with more than one child in school can send in one cheque indicating on the envelope how the money is to be divided between each child's account.
- There is a '**posting box**' inside the main entrance for all dinner money payments. Payments can be sent in with your child via the classroom; however, the posting box offers a higher degree of security particularly if you do send in cash. There will be no money left in this box overnight.



Juniors

Playtime Healthy Snacks

Just a reminder that we expect all snacks children bring to school for their playtime break from Monday - Thursday to be healthy snacks: fruit is perfect (no sweets or crisps please) Toast will continue to be sold at playtime. On Fridays children may bring in crisps, should they wish to.

Many thanks for supporting us with this.

Please note that Infant children will continue to be provided with fruit daily from the National Fruit Scheme.



Water Bottles

We expect children to bring in water bottles so they can have access to drinking water throughout the day. Please note all research indicates that water is best for hydrating our brains: no fruit juice please.



Reading



Please ensure your child is reading every day (and at weekends and during the school holidays). Whilst reading skills are being taught at school, all the extra practice is vital for children to be successful readers.



Homework Club

We welcome children and parents together to attend our Homework Club which is open from 8.20am every Monday. Whilst you are very welcome to join your child every Monday, you may also use our Homework Club as a 'drop in' to receive guidance for specific homework. You may also wish your child (on his/her own) to attend homework club every Monday and should this be the case, please contact our school office for a permission slip.



Arrive on Time - Ready to Learn

We have noticed that a number of children continue to arrive late in the mornings. Late arrivals at school result in children missing the introduction to their first lesson, cause disruption to the rest of the class and can feel unsettled for the rest of the day. All children are expected to arrive in school ready for registration by 8.55am as lessons start promptly at 9.00am.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Holidays in Term Time

Can I please remind all parents that national regulations state: "**Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time**". The Department for Education requirement states "**current law does not give any entitlement to parents to take their child on holiday during term time**".



Communicating to Parents

As you are aware we are now using email as our main form of communication. Therefore in order to avoid missing out on important information can we please remind parents to inform us of **any changes to email addresses or mobile phone numbers**. For those parents who do not have an email address, we will, of course continue to send hard copies.

Thank you for your support.



Woodfall's Website

www.woodfall.cheshire.sch.uk

Don't forget that if you miss a newsletter they can be found on our website. The message board is very useful for up-to-date information on whether clubs are running.



RotaKids



This year we will be continuing our work with the Rotakids. We will be fund raising alongside the Rotary Club of Neston for their international charity - 'End Polio Now'. This will include selling crocus plants that we will grow and selling crocus pins.

For our local charity this year we will be supporting Ronald McDonald House at Arrowe Park Hospital. The first fund raising event will be a non-uniform day on Friday 24th October for a suggested donation of £1.

We will keep you updated on our journey throughout the school year.

Thank you for continuing to support us.

Hayley Foster

Rotary Liaison Leader



Infant Mural

During the Summer Term a visiting artist, Kim Evans, worked with the children in the Infant Department to create leaf tiles which have formed part of the mural at the pupil entrance to the Infant building. I am sure you will agree it has greatly enhanced this area.



Y4 - Rainforest Issues

Last term the children in 4G all wrote to our local MP Andrew Miller expressing their concerns regarding issues around rainforests. Mr Miller has replied individually to the children.

Summer Term
Writing Competition
Superhero Stories

The winners of last term's Writing Competition were as follows:

Year 5/6 - **Olivia McCrave**

Year 3/4 - **Holly Abbott-Balmforth**

Year R/1/2 - **Kaitlin Archer**

Runners-up

Year 5/6 - **Lucy Baxter**

Year 3/4 - **Esme Baylis**

Year R/1/2 - **William Gomm, Lucie Rodd**

Poppy Bean, Alfie Hurine

Well done to all children who submitted entries into the Woodfall Summer Term 'Superheros' writing competition. Original and creative plot ideas included: Wonderwoman helping Santa by keeping children asleep on Christmas Eve, a team of children travelling the World to collect objects to stop the 'Rubber thief', plus lots of unusual superheros with unusual names such as: Graphene-man, Zeusi, Polar-blast, Shadow-mist, Herosaurus, Captain Zoom, Recycling Rob, Zero, Piranha-boy... with even more unusual special powers!

Copies of all entries have been collated into a book on display in the Junior corridor, please find time to have a look. The originals have now been submitted to a National writing competition and we will let you know if we hear of any success. Thank you for your continued support and for encouraging your children to engage in additional school activities and opportunities.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Mya Harrison for earning The Robinson Trophy as a result of her determination and perseverance with every challenge set. Mya is an inspiration to us all with her positive attitude to learning and as a result of receiving the trophy is a daily reminder of what a difference such a positive outlook can make to our lives.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

On Tuesday 30 September 9.30 - 10.30am we will be holding a MacMillan Coffee Morning in our Infant Hall. Please feel free to join us and any offers to make cakes would be gratefully received!

Reminder

Just to remind you we have an open invitation for you to contact us regarding queries and / or problems. Please help us by letting us try to help straight away, rather than letting things build up.

Your Feedback

If you have any queries or comments to make about any of the items on this newsletter, please contact Mrs Hough, Mrs Bramham or Mrs Hogg in the School Office.

Autumn Term 2014

September		
Monday	8	Music Lesson Start
Friday	12	Orchestra Rehearsals start
Monday	15	5.00pm Meeting for Y6 parents / carers re Winmarleigh Residential Visit
Wednesday	17	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (1 of 10)
Monday	22	Autumn / Spring Term Clubs and Activities Programme commences 8.00am Fencing Club 1 of 4 (Juniors only) 2.00pm Y3 to visit Little Neston Methodist Church - Harvest 7.30pm AGM PA Meeting - Junior Hall
Wednesday	24	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (2 of 10)
Thursday	25	2.00pm Literacy/Numeracy Meeting for parents/carers of children in reception 7.00pm Full Governing Body Meeting
Monday	29	8.00am Fencing Club 2 of 4 (Juniors only) Neston High - Working Day Visits for Woodfall Pupils (9.00 - 11.00)
Tuesday	30	9.30 - 10.30am MacMillan Coffee Morning - Infant Hall Open Day for Prospective Parents 9.30 - 11.00am & 1.30 - 2.30pm
October		
Wednesday	1	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (3 of 10)
Monday	6	Year 6 Residential Visit to Winmarleigh (Monday 6 - Thursday 9 October)
Wednesday	8	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (4 of 10)
Monday	13	8.00am Fencing Club 3 of 4 (Juniors only)
Wednesday	15	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (5 of 10)
Monday	20	8.00am Fencing Club 4 of 4 (Juniors only)
Tuesday	21	9.15am Y3 Harvest Assembly for parents / carers (Junior Hall) 2.15pm Y1 Grandparents Toy Party (Infant Hall)
Wednesday	15	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (6 of 10)
Friday	24	Non-Uniform Day in aid of Rota Kids Charity (£1 voluntary donation)
Half term Monday 27 - Friday 31 October 2014		
November		
Monday	3	Inset Day - School closed to pupils
Wednesday	5	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (7 of 10)
Monday	10	Parent / Teacher Interviews 3.30 - 6.30pm
Wednesday	12	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (8 of 10)
Thursday	13	Parent / Teacher Interviews 3.30 - 6.30pm
Wednesday	19	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (9 of 10)
Tuesday	25	Open Day for Prospective Parents 9.30 - 11.00am & 1.30 - 2.30pm
Wednesday	26	Y3 Swimming 1.00 - 2.00pm (10 of 10)
December		
Monday	1	10.15am Y3 to visit Little Neston Methodist Church - Christmas Characters
Friday	12	10.00am Reception Christmas Performance
Monday	15	1.45pm Y1 / 2 Christmas Performance (1 of 2) 6.30pm Y3/4 Christmas Performance
Tuesday	16	6.30pm Y1 / 2 Christmas Performance (2 of 2)
Wednesday	17	Christmas Lunch for pupils 6.30pm Y5/6 Christmas Performance
Friday	19	School closes for Christmas - School re-opens on Monday 5 January 2015

