



9 September 2013



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 Mrs Vicky Hassall and Mr Tom Webb who have joined us as Y3 teachers. Also Mr Jason Rodd who has joined us as our Site Maintenance Officer and Mrs Debbie Rodney as a Learning Support Assistant.



Congratulations

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Harvey who are expecting their first child in December. Mrs Harvey will continue to teach RH until 6th December and is planning on returning to Woodfall Primary School following her maternity leave.



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, 6th September, once again many thanks to those parents who have paid promptly.

Orchestra will commence on 20th 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. 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.

Free School Meals

School has to keep up to date information on eligibility for free school meals. It is most helpful if all who qualify for a free school meal register with the Area Education Office, even if you do not intend your child to take them (not everyone chooses to). Please note, if your child is eligible for a free school meal they could be entitled to a substantial reduction in the cost of residential school trips and music lessons. Please telephone 03001237039 to check your eligibility.



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.



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.



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.



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

I would be grateful if all parents could please note that the new national regulations with effect from 1 September are very clear and specifically 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*". Parents will be aware that in the past we have applied some flexibility to holiday requests, but in the face of new legislation, much of this flexibility has now been removed.

Vacancies

Lunchtime Playleaders/Midday Assistants

We have a vacancy for a midday assistant to help supervise the children in the lunch hall and on the playground between 12.00 and 1.00 pm. There are also vacancies for casual midday assistants to provide cover from time to time. If you are interested in these vacancies please see Mrs Hogg in the School Office.



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.

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.



Woodfall's New Website

Woodfall has an exciting new website! Please take a look to find the latest information, updates, photographs, important dates, school meals and more..... Type the following address into your browser: www.woodfall.cheshire.sch.uk
Please let us know your views.

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.

Holiday Dates 2013 - 2014

HOLIDAY PERIOD	DATE OF CLOSING	DATE OF RE-OPENING
SUMMER 2013	TUESDAY 23 JULY 2013	WEDNESDAY 4 SEPTEMBER 2013
AUTUMN HALF TERM 2013	FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER 2013	TUESDAY 29 OCTOBER 2013
CHRISTMAS 2013/14	THURSDAY 19 DECEMBER 2013	MONDAY 6 JANUARY 2014
SPRING HALF TERM 2014	FRIDAY 14 FEBRUARY 2014	MONDAY 24 FEBRUARY 2014
EASTER 2014	FRIDAY 4 APRIL 2014	WEDNESDAY 23 APRIL 2014
MAY DAY 2014 - MONDAY 5 MAY 2014		
SUMMER HALF TERM 2014	FRIDAY 23 MAY 2014	MONDAY 2 JUNE 2014
SUMMER 2014	WEDNESDAY 23 JULY 2014	---

INSET DAYS

MONDAY 2 SEPTEMBER 2013
 TUESDAY 3 SEPTEMBER 2013
 MONDAY 28 OCTOBER 2013
 TUESDAY 22 APRIL 2014
 THURSDAY 5 JUNE 2014

Autumn Term 2013

September		
Monday	2	Inset Day
Tuesday	3	Inset Day
Wednesday	4	Start of Term
Monday	9	Music Lessons start
Tuesday	10	Y4 - Pirate Day Y2 - Places People Go Infant Assembly Neston Library - Summer Reading Challenge Junior Assembly Neston Library - Summer Reading Challenge
Monday	16	8.00pm PA meeting - Hinderton Arms
Tuesday	17	Junior Assembly - Fencing
Friday	20	3.20pm Orchestra Starts
Sunday	22	Centenary - St Michael's Church
Monday	23	Clubs and Activities commence this week 8.00 - 8.45am Fencing Course - KS2 (1 of 4) 8.00am & 1.15pm School Photographer - Individual Photos 2.00 - 2.50pm Year 3 to Methodist Church - Harvest
Monday	30	8.00 - 8.45am Fencing Course KS2 (2 of 4)
October		
Wednesday	2	Open Day (9.30 - 11.00 and 1.30 - 2.30pm)
Monday	7	8.00 - 8.45am Fencing Course KS2 (3 of 4)
Thursday	10	pm Tag Rugby Tournament @ Woodfall
Monday	14	8.00 - 8.45am Fencing Course KS2 (4 of 4) Y6 - Winmarleigh Hall
Tuesday	15	Y6 - Winmarleigh Hall
Wednesday	16	Y6 - Winmarleigh Hall
Thursday	17	Y6 - Winmarleigh Hall
Friday	18	Close for Half term
21 - 25 October HALF - TERM		
Wednesday	30	3.30pm - 6.30pm Parents / Teacher Interviews
Thursday	31	3.30pm - 6.30pm Parents / Teacher Interviews
November		
Wednesday	13	9.45 - 10.45am Anti Bullying Production - Y5/6 - Junior Hall 1.45 - 2.45pm Anti Bullying Production - Y2/3/4 - Junior Hall Maths Calculation Event - Junior Hall
December		
Monday	9	10.20 - 12.00 Year 3 to Methodist Church - Christmas Characters
Friday	13	10.00am Reception Christmas Performance
Monday	16	1.45pm Y1/2 Christmas Performance (1 of 2) 6.30pm Y3/4 Performance
Tuesday	17	6.30pm Y1/2 Christmas Performance (2 of 2)
Wednesday	18	6.30pm Y5/6 Christmas Performance
Thursday	19	Close for Christmas
20 December - 5 January 2014 Christmas Holiday		