

Woodfield School

Malmes Croft, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, HP3 8RL

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of yet another busy term, which seems to have flown by incredibly quickly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support throughout the year.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter.



DIARY DATES

- Summer Term Starts: Monday 20th April
- Parents Consultation Evening: Tuesday 28th April
- Half term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May
- School Sports Day: Friday 26th June at 10:00 am
- Leavers Prom: Wednesday 15th July at 7:00 pm
- Leavers Assembly: Friday 17th July at 10:00 am
- End of term: Friday 17th July at 2:30 pm



FUNDRAISING FOR NEW POOL

Thank you to all of you who have contributed so far to the fundraising for the new school pool. There have been several of you who have organised fund raising events or have family and friends who are fundraising for us; sent in donations or set up Just Giving pages for a range of events. We will try to pass on details of as many of these events as we can through our Parentmail system and/or emails. Please keep up the good work.....all contributions are much appreciated and the total of the funds raised so far is gradually increasing.

NEW TRANSPORT POLICY

We would like to alert all parents of 16-18 year olds, and those fast approaching 16, that the New 16-18 Transport policy is now published on Hertsdirect – see the link below:

www.hertsdirect.org/docs/pdf/admissions/NwTsportPcly16-18rs



We have also put the policy in the parent section of our school website.

1. **This new policy will apply to all those starting Year 12** in September 2015, and also to those over the age of 16, who are starting new courses
2. So for September 2015, the original policy (found at: www.hertsdirect.org/admissions) will also be in operation for those 16-18 not starting new courses

Key highlights of the new policy are as follows:

Herts County Council (HCC) has a pledge to support those in most need, be they young people from low income families (where no other funding source for transport is available and according to the new criteria published in the policy), or those young people with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (LDD) (according again to the detailed criteria in the new policy).

Where transport provision is provided to those young people with LDD, HCC will seek a financial contribution which is no more than 20% of the average cost of their transport.

You may be entitled to apply for the Bursary Fund for your son/daughter, which may help with transport costs. Please check out the Bursary Fund criteria and apply for this in preparation for September 2015 if you are eligible. Contact Sheila at school if you would like more information regarding the Bursary Fund; and contact Beverley if you have any queries regarding the new Transport policy.

NEW PUPILS & STAFF

We would like to welcome Nathan, a new pupil who has joined us in Class 1 this half term. We also welcome Marie who has joined us as a teaching assistant, currently working in Class 2 and Debbie and Dawn who have joined us as mid-day supervisory assistants.

GOODBYE

Sadly we had to say goodbye this half term to Jackie Annison, who has moved on to start a new life in Wales.....unfortunately too far to travel to Woodfield to work!! Jackie was a Teaching Assistant in Class 1. We wish her all the best for the future as she moves on to pastures new.

NEW SCHOOL FAMILY WORKER

Our next parents evening will be on **Tuesday 28th April 2015** from 4.00 – 6.00 pm. Please put the date in your diary. See the message below from our new School Family Worker, Jacqui, and come along and meet her at parents evening.



Saying Hello – I am Jacqui Ellis your new School Family Worker. I work for Dacorum Family Services supporting seven schools in the Dacorum area. I have worked for the last two years in Watford as a Family Worker. I have 3 children aged 11, 14 and 16. Being a parent can be a rewarding and happy experience. There are times of ups and downs. Each one of us has a different family background and a unique set of circumstances which affect our own parenting style. A problem shared is a problem halved. As a School Family worker I can assist parents in finding support they may need and help parents to get in touch with other organisations with special skills and knowledge. I am very much looking forward to meeting the parents and carers from Woodfield School.

ILLNESS

We currently have several pupils who have, or have had, chickenpox in the recent couple of weeks and unfortunately it seems to be spreading around school. We have many children who attend the school who are vulnerable to infection, or due to their special needs find it very difficult to cope with illness. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that children should not attend if they are not well. They will not benefit from being at school if they are ill and may pass on infection to others. If your child has diarrhoea and/or vomiting they **must** have a 48 hour period clear from symptoms before they can return to school. If your child has chicken pox they should not return to school until **ALL** the spots have scabbed over/dried up. **The school reserves the right to notify parents and ask them to collect their child if it is deemed they are unwell and should not attend school. This may be at short notice if your child becomes ill during the school day. Please ensure you have emergency arrangements in place if you are not able to collect your child yourself.**

HOUSE GROUP SYSTEM

In assembly at the beginning of this term we launched our new House Group system. House points have been given out during the term for a wide range of achievements and some in-house sporting competitions have taken place. The House Captains have taken on their role really well and are giving out House points as well as keeping a running total for their team. The points each House have achieved this term are as follows:

RED - Apsley.	58 points
PURPLE – Boxmoor.	49 points
NAVY BLUE – Chaulden.	52 points
GREEN – Felden.	39 points



Well done to **RED Apsley** for being the winning House this term.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS & PUPIL PREMIUM

Registering for free meals could raise an extra £1,300 (pupil premium funding) for our school, to fund valuable support like extra staffing, additional interventions or specific additional resources. Even if your child does not eat a school lunch they could still benefit from the pupil premium funding which we receive if you register for free school meals.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the qualifying welfare benefits. It is therefore important to sign up for free school meals, even if your child is in reception, year 1 or year 2, so we receive as much funding as possible. We want to provide our pupils with the best education and support by making sure that the school receives all the government funding to which it is entitled. If you think your child may be entitled to this funding please contact Jenny in the school office for a form.

CONTACT DETAILS

PLEASE remember to keep us up to date with contact details if you move house, change your phone number or emergency contact numbers. It is really important that we can contact you if we need to. Parentmail is one of the ways we can remind you of important dates/events and therefore we need to make sure we have the correct contact details or you may miss out on things.

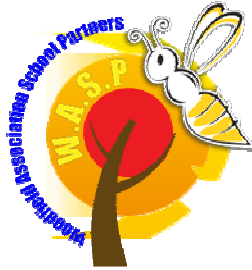
SCHOOL WEBSITE & BLOG

Our school website is regularly updated and contains useful information and documents which you may find helpful. Please take some time to have a look at the website www.woodfield.herts.sch.uk If there is any information you would like us to add to the website please let us know.

We have a link on the school website to our school Blog. PLEASE have a look at the Blog, comment and 'follow us' to keep up to date with events happening in school. Thank you to all of you who have already commented on the various articles on the Blog. Our Blog can also be accessed via woodfieldblog.wordpress.com

A MESSAGE FROM THE KITCHEN

Allergen information is available upon request should you require it. School should be informed of any pupils with a medically diagnosed dietary need in advance of them having school lunches.



OUR PARENT/STAFF ASSOCIATION - WASP (*Woodfield Association of School Partners*):

Since re-launching our PTA (WASP) in February we have had 2 very successful and productive committee meetings. There are some WASP events coming up over the summer term. Look out for more information over the next few weeks. We have provisional dates for our Race Night, Friday 8th May and a Quiz Night, Saturday 6th June. We will let you have confirmed dates as soon as possible so you can put them in your diary and come along and join in the fun.

Membership of WASP is open not only to parents of pupils at the school but also to extended family - grandparents, aunts, uncles, as well as friends and ex parents and staff. WASP committee usually meet on the first Thursday of every month but due to the Easter holidays our next meeting is on **THURSDAY 30th APRIL 2015 at 7.00 pm.**

PLEASE come along and join us **WE REALLY NEED YOUR SUPPORT.**

If you would like further information about WASP please contact Lorraine or Dawn (WASP Chair and Secretary) at the school, Gill or Beverley.

WASP is on Twitter – please follow us at [swimmingpool500](#)

