

Woodfield School

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been another very busy and enjoyable term with many exciting activities and some fantastic achievements to celebrate. We have a particular focus in this newsletter on ICT and will share with you some of our ICT news. Whilst I have continued to meet more parents/carers there are still some whom I have not yet met. I will therefore be arranging a 'Meet the Head for coffee day' early into the summer term where you will have the chance at any time from 8.00 am to 8.00pm. to drop in for a coffee/tea and a chat. I will let you know the date at the start of next term. Hopefully this will give me the opportunity to meet those of you I have yet to meet.

As we come to the end of this term I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support.

I wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Gill Waceba
Headteacher

New procedures for ordering school uniform

All on-line ordering either via our website www.woodfield.herts.sch.uk and follow the link to School Trends, or alternatively visit www.schooltrendsonline.com

School Meals

If any of your children have special dietary requirements but would like school lunches, please contact the school to discuss this. We would also urge any of you that are eligible for Free School Meals to contact the school so your child may benefit from this entitlement.



Post 16 Music Project

Some of our students in Post 16 have been having lots of fun attending a music project called 'Get Set and Create' led by local professional musician, Tom Billington. They are going to be running a club night at the Watersmeet Theatre in Rickmansworth on the 6th June. Their club night 'Electric Umbrella' (as named by the students) will showcase their talent through performing and sharing music they have created for this special night.

Students have been collaboratively composing music for the event learning to play lots of different instruments, make sounds in a variety of ways and use different technology, including brass instruments, keyboards, voices and guitars.

Students are growing in confidence and have been learning to encourage and support each other through listening to each other's performances. They have been sharing their talents singing in karaoke and singing in groups. We are very excited that some of our Post 16 will be performing and helping to run this night. We hope parents, carers, staff and friends can support this night of entertainment. More details to follow.



Illness

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 have any contagious conditions. 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. **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. Please make sure we have your up to date contact details for emergencies.**

Focus on ICT

Dates for your diary:

- Tuesday 16th April
Summer Term begins for students
- Tuesday 23rd April
4.00pm to 5.45pm
Parents' Consultation Evening
- Monday 6th May
Bank Holiday
- 27th to 31st May Half Term
- Wednesday 24th July at 2.30pm Summer Term ends

PARENTMAIL

Communicating with parents/carers is an important part of what we do. We are currently in the process of changing the system we use to contact you in emergencies, for example if we have to close the school. We will in future be using a system called Parentmail. We will notify you when we are ready for Parentmail to go live and will give you information about how to register and how the system works. We are hoping this will be ready early into the Summer Term.

Naace Annual Competition for Schools

Andrea, David, Kayley and Sean have worked extremely hard in leading the school through the NAACE Annual Competition for Schools 2013.

We are very pleased to be able to say that we were not only the winners of the local area competition but also the national overall winners. Entrants were invited to create a digital artefact to show how technology helps us learn better. Our good news has been shared on the following page of the Hertfordshire Grid <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/learning/ict/news/whatsnew/index.shtml> where you can view our winning video.

A small group of staff and students went to Leicester to collect our award from the Chair of Naace, Miles Berry. As a school, we have won lots of goodies such as an animation program and a digital editing suite. Well done to all students and adults involved who have highlighted that Woodfield are great 3rd Millennium thinkers and learners.

We were also nominated by the Local Authority for the NAACE ICT Impact Award where we finished in the top 6.

Everyone had a good time and the pupils were a credit to the school.



Whilst at the Award ceremony we were able to have a look around the ICT exhibition. We had a turn on a bike which, when peddled, would power the printer.



3rd Millennium Learning Award

WEBSITE

We have continued to work on developing our new school website and are aiming for the new website to 'go live' after the Easter holidays. We will let you know when the new website is up and running.

Andrea and David attended the presentation at BETT 2013 to receive our prestigious 3rd Millennium Learning Award. The presenter of the award was Ian Livingstone, OBE, Life President of Eidos.

This is a fabulous achievement to gain this Award and is recognition of the fantastic ICT work which takes place throughout the school. Thank you to Andrea and David for leading and supporting ICT at Woodfield.

