

Woodfield School

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

Dear Parents/Carers

As we head towards the half term holiday we look back over what has been yet another busy half term which seems to have gone incredibly quickly. Thankfully we have been able to get through the half term without having to disrupt school life due to snow.....here's hoping we now get through to Easter without snow disruption!!

Wishing you all a happy half term holiday.

DIARY DATES

- Half Term: Mon 16th February to Fri 20th February
- Opportunities Evening: (Lower & Upper Seniors & Post 16) Thursday 26th March at 7:00 pm
- End of Spring Term: Thursday 2nd April at 2.30 pm
- 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



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.

Please do not attempt to text back a response to any texts received via Parentmail as school doesn't have the facility to receive text messages. Nor are you able to text message our main school phone.

HOUSE GROUP SYSTEM

In assembly at the beginning of this term we launched our new House Group system. We now have 4 'Houses' all named after areas of Hemel Hempstead:

RED - Apsley.

PURPLE – Boxmoor.

NAVY BLUE – Chaulden.

GREEN – Felden.

House Captain: Bishnu

House Captain: Marcelle

House Captain: Becky

House Captain: Aaqib



All pupils and staff have been allocated to a House; and new pupils/staff will be allocated to a House when they join the school. Any member of staff or House Captain can award House Points to any pupil, at any time for any positive reason, for example:

- Outstanding** learning
- Outstanding** behaviour
- Outstanding** communication
- Outstanding** participation



NEW PUPILS & STAFF

We would like to welcome 2 new pupils, Troy and Julia, who have joined us this term in Class 2. We also welcome our new Teaching Assistant Lucy, who is working in Class 1. We also welcome back Michaela who has returned from her maternity leave and is working in Class 1 and Class 2.

GOODBYE

Sadly we have to say goodbye to Danielle Marley who has decided not to return following her maternity leave. Danielle was the teacher in Seniors 3 prior to going on maternity leave. We wish her all the best for the future as she enjoys spending time with her daughter.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you feel that you may be eligible for free school meals but do not yet claim them, please speak to Jenny in the office or ask about applying. We can offer help to fill in the form if needed.

Even if you think your child would not eat the meals, it may be worth applying or speaking to us as just being eligible allows the school to access other funding and resources for the benefit of your child.

SUPPORTED INTERNSHIPS

At the beginning of this term two of our Post 16 students, Marcelle and Bishnu, started their supported internships. We are running a supported internship pilot project; supported by a member of staff from the Department for Education and the Local Authority, to see how Supported Internships work in a school environment (they are usually run in a college environment). The supported internship project involves the students working for 2 days per week with a local employer. They are supported by school staff in order for them to learn the job. At the end of the Supported Internship, if a vacancy exists in the company, the students will have the opportunity of paid employment when they leave school. Marcelle is working in a local hairdresser and Bishnu is working at the Holiday Inn – they are both doing brilliantly!! This is a very exciting opportunity for our students and we are all very proud of Marcelle and Bishnu. Well done to both of them!

ICT MARK AWARD

At the end of the Autumn Term we had our re-assessment visit for our ICT Mark and we are pleased to say that we achieved our re-accreditation with flying colours 😊 During the visit the assessor spoke with a range of staff, governors, parents and children as well as having a tour around the school with Andrea, our ICT subject leader. The Assessor wrote in her report:

"The school has a clear vision, which is driven by the desire to provide 'destination-led learning'; the aim of the school is to equip the children for life. Staff, governors, parents and students understood this vision. They also understood and could articulate the impact of technology to enable the students to make choices and 'to develop the most appropriate communication skills so that they are empowered to exercise some control over their own lives'. As one of the students said 'We learn so much at this school!!' Andrea and David constitute a very strong ICT leadership team. They ensure that ICT is used effectively and safely to enhance learning across the school and their work is very much appreciated by staff, governors and parents alike"

A huge thank you to Andrea and David for all their hard work to ensure our ICT work is embedded effectively throughout the schooland to ensuring we continue to meet the ICT Mark standards!!



Bishnu



Marcelle

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 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. **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.**



MESSAGE FROM OUR KITCHEN STAFF

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.

If your child has school lunches and for whatever reason they are going to be late in to school, please let the office know if they will be having lunch. It is very difficult to add another lunch after the numbers for the day have been finalised at 10 am.

DSPL NEWSLETTER

To keep you updated with what is going on in Dacorum with regard to Developing Special Provision Locally (DSPL) you will find the latest edition of the DSPL newsletter (Issue 2. Feb 15) on our school website in the parent section.

Woodfield School

FUNDRAISING FOR OUR NEW POOL

Two staff from Parker Hannifin Ltd, based in Maylands, Hemel Hempstead came to assembly at the end of the day on Friday 16th January to present us with a cheque for £2,000 towards our swimming pool fund. Our PTA – WASPs has been the nominated charity for Parker Hannifin over the past year and their staff have participated in various fund raising events. We are extremely grateful to all the staff at Parker Hannifin for their hard work and support in fundraising towards our pool. A huge **THANK YOU** from all of us at Woodfield School.



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

We re-launched our PTA (WASP) on Thursday 5th February with a very productive committee meeting..... a huge thank you to everyone who came along. It was great to have some new members join the committee and give ideas for future events to raise money for our new pool and sports hall. Look out for more information over the next few weeks about our race night, quiz night and a 100 club. We will let you have 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 meet on the first Thursday of every month.

PLEASE come along and join us at our next meeting on **THURSDAY 5th MARCH 2015 at 7.00 pm. 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](#)

SCHOOL WEBSITE

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.

SCHOOL BLOG

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



NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT FOR CLASS 2

A new piece of playground equipment, in the shape of a hedgehog, arrived in school on Monday 26th January for Class 2 playground. The class named him Harry!! All the children enjoyed exploring the hedgehog and practising their climbing skills. They will hopefully have lots of fun with Harry on their playground.



SCHOOL UNIFORM & BELONGINGS

Please make sure you put your child's name on all of their belongings. School uniform, boots and wellies etc all look the same to us!

