



Woodmancote School
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Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

Newsletter 19 3rd July 2015

Requests for authorised absences

You are already aware that authorisation of holidays is no longer possible. Any requests for authorised absences must go through the Headteacher. Only forms available from the Office or an email direct to the Headteacher are permissible. Please do not simply write in the home/school diary. All requests will be considered and a response will come back to parents as soon as possible. You may email Mr Tucker direct and he will email back authorising the absence or not. He will then inform teachers via a hard copy for the register. If parents ignore a negative response or do not make a request then absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Please may we take this opportunity to urge all parents not to ask their children to lie if you are planning to go on holiday. They do have the knack of simply telling us the truth!

Every six weeks the attendance register will be looked at by our Parent Liaison and Attendance Officer. Anyone with an absence rate below 90% will be flagged up and action taken. If you decide to take an unauthorised two week holiday or have two separate one week holidays, you will be referred to the Education Entitlement and Inclusion Team. Warning letters may be issued if necessary. It is hoped that this is sufficient to ensure that fines are not issued. *You will have received a copy of our Attendance Policy with this newsletter.* Please take the time to read it.

Clubs

The following clubs have now finished for the term as staff have other commitments in the coming two weeks.

Athletics with Mr Tucker and Miss Steer

Awesome Adders with Mrs McCormack and Mrs Siveter

Creative Writing with Mrs Meredith-Smyth and **Cricket** with Mr Carter.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Nathalie Smith who recently raised over £100 for Winston's Wish by swimming 104 lengths at Tewkesbury School. It is always heartening to hear of our children doing something for others.

Kenyan Visit

Mr Clark will be travelling out to Kenya in October with teachers from Grangefield, Swindon Village and Gotherington. Before he



does, Headteachers from the schools in Kenya will be visiting us at the end of September. If you feel that you could host our

Headteacher, NJERU JAMES MWANGI from Kariani Primary School, Lailipia, for all or part of his 9 day stay, we would like to hear from you. The four schools in the Cleeve Cluster will organize activities for each of the days, but we are looking for hosts who can provide a bed and meals for their stay. If you feel you could help, please contact Mr Tucker or Mr Clark as soon as possible as they are visiting at the end of September.

This link with Kenyan schools, funded by the British Council is designed to address misconceptions and lead to a greater awareness between the two communities. Children from our school have already sent over a 'Culture Box' and have received many letters from the children in Kariani School. Children in Year 3 have been looking at Kenya and it is hope that this link will strengthen our children's understanding of what it is to be a Global Citizen.



Classes for 2015-16

Current Class	YEAR 15-16	TEACHERS	Class Name
	Reception	Mrs Trigg	Oak
	Reception	Miss Waters	Ash
Ash	Year 1	Mrs Badham	Maple
Oak	Year 1	Mrs Meredith-Smyth	Beech
Mixed	Year 2	Mr Hoyle	Cedar
Mixed	Year 2	Mrs Holding	Willow
Willow	Year 3	Mrs Howard (Miss Carless)	Holly
Cedar	Year 3	Miss Perkins	Lime
Pine	Year 4	Mr Carter	Pine
Fir	Years 4	Mrs McCormack	Fir
Mixed	Years 5	Mr Williams	Yew
Mixed	Years 5	Mr Evans	Hazel
Yew	Year 6	Mr Clark	Sycamore
Hazel	Years 6	Miss Chandler	Rowan

Those parents with children in Year 1 and Year 4 will have received a separate slip today in their child's Home-School Diary with details of classes for next year.

Teachers have taken a long time looking at combinations of children and how the classes can be balanced in terms of ability, gender and behaviour. Friendship is also a factor that is considered.

Maths at Woodmancote

I am delighted to announce that Mrs McCormack has been accepted as one of only four teachers in Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire and Worcestershire to be given a place on the Department of Education's

MaST (Maths Specialist Teacher) programme. She will be working with colleagues across the country developing approaches to mathematics.

Area Sports at Prince of Wales

Thank you to all those children who represented the school last Friday at the Prince of Wales stadium. They were all fantastic and there were some stunning performances. It was a real pleasure being at the finishing line and watching the children finish. We finished 10th this year, with one notable win in the Year 5 boys race, with Ben Williams coming in first. We had several children in the finals as well. An enormous thank you to parents who supported the team so vocally and to the teachers who accompanied the team on the evening. We would not be able to participate in these events without their attendance.

Year 4 Cricket Team

Well done to the Year 4 cricket team which has progressed to the county finals at Wycliffe College next week. We wish the children every success and hope the good weather holds for them.

Alpha Course

Please see the attached flyer regarding this course at St Michael's. It is a great opportunity to stop and reflect on a range of issues, whether you have faith, some faith or no faith at all!

Whitemoor Lakes

Our Year 6 children had a fantastic time at Whitemoor Lakes this week. The weather was incredibly kind to them and the activities, coupled with a visit to the National Memorial Arboretum on Wednesday provided a fitting and thoughtful end to their time at Woodmancote.



Woodmancote School

Our Chair of Governors, Mrs Armitage and the Chair of Staffing and Finance, Mr Storrie, spent the day with them on Wednesday, evaluating the robustness of our Safeguarding and Health and Safety arrangements. They reported back that the school and the Centre were working well together ensuring our children were superbly cared for during their week away.

Designs for the new school buildings

Thank you to all those parents who came along on Tuesday. The overwhelming response was positive, with most concerns being related to traffic and parking.

The display boards are still in school and if you did not get chance to see them, please ask Mr Tucker.

The new layout at the front of the school will separate pedestrians and vehicles, creating more parking spaces for staff and visitors. This does not solve the issue of cars parked inappropriately or illegally on Station Road or Britannia Way. We continue to photograph cars that are parked illegally and have sent several images to the local police. Your child's safety is our concern.

Can I also remind all parents that unless they are displaying a disabled badge, parents are not permitted to drive into the staff car park at 'drop off' or 'pick up' time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

End of Year Service

The End of Year Service for Year 6 will be at 1.45 on Thursday 16th July at St Michael's. All parents of children in Year 6 are welcome to come along. Children from Years 3-5 will be there to help celebrate with the Year 6. If you are able to walk down with the children (leaving school at 1.15pm) please contact Mrs Grosvenor or Mr DeGruchy. Spaces will be reserved for you in the church!

Cleeve School

Key Stage 3 & 4 production of

ROGERS AND HAMMERSTEIN'S

The Sound of Music

July 7th, 8th and 9th 2015

7pm in the MAIN HALL

£5 (£3 O.A.P.S and Students)

Tickets available from Cleeve's Finance Office or Available on the door.

All Welcome

Achieve Week 6th-10th July

- Friday 3rd July - Radio Winchcombe. Jim Hart will be in school recording performance poetry with Year 1.
- Monday 6th July - Meet the teacher afternoon for children to meet with their teacher for next year.
- Tuesday 7th July 9.00am - whole school assembly.
- Wednesday 8th July 2.00pm - Whole school 'Achieve Awards'. 2 children per class selected to receive a certificate. These children will also be invited to a tea party with Mr Tucker and receive a book voucher. Certificates will be awarded.
- Thursday 9th July 10.30am - Whole school assembly. Harry Shenton from the National Star College will share his story; difficulties he has faced and his achievements.
- Thursday 9th July 2.00pm - Award children have tea party with Mr Tucker



- Friday 10th July 1.30pm - Whole school assembly. Bloodhound visit, Dave Pollard. Demonstration objects from the Bristol Robotics Lab.

PTA News

Just 2 PTA events left for this school year.

Wednesday 15th July the welly-wang is being held. The wellies and prizes are ready. The children can throw a welly and the one who throws the welly the furthest gets a prize. 1 prize per class. Cost is £1 on the day.

Thursday 16th July is the year 6 leavers disco from 7-9pm. We aim to give our year 6 a lovely send off with an evening of fun and dancing.

With just 3 Fridays left and weather permitting, the PTA will be selling ice creams from the playground after school.

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the rag bag. We had another cheque for just over £65. Please keep donating any of your unwanted clothes to the clothes bank, located to the right of the main entrance of the school. Every item of clothing goes towards raising money for the school.

Thank you for your support.

The PTA.

Dates for the term ahead	
Tuesday 9th June	Sports Day Am-Infants Pm-Juniors
Tuesday 23rd	Independent Learning at Cleeve School for Year 6 (details to follow)
Wednesday 24th	Year 6 Play 7pm
Thursday 25th	Year 6 Play 7pm
Friday 26th	Area Sports-Track Prince of Wales-5pm
Monday 29th	Year 6 to Whitemoor Lakes
Tuesday 30th	Open Morning for Prospective Parents 9.30am
Wednesday 1st July	Afternoon session for Parents and Children starting in September 2015
Monday 6th	Afternoon session for children who are starting in September 2015
Monday 6^h	Year 6 Cleeve Induction Day
Friday 10th	Reports out to Parents
Tuesday 14th	Open Evening for Parents An opportunity to look around the school. No appointments
Thursday 16th	Church Service for Juniors Teddy Bear's Picnic for Infants
Friday 17th	Last day of Term School finishes at the normal time of 3.15pm

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