



Woodmancote School  
Belong · Aspire · Achieve

# Newsletter

www.woodmancoteschool.co.uk

19. 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

## Thank you

As we finally reach the end of yet another academic year, can I take this opportunity to thank parents for their continued support of the work of the school. It has been an extremely successful year, with a very good OFSTED report, super SATs results for Years 2 and 6, fantastic sporting achievements in a range of sports, the opening of our own Pre-School and several musical productions to rival those of the West End!

Our Year 4 children were wonderful on their three day trip to the Forest of Dean and the Year 6 children were a joy to take away for five days to Whitemoor Lakes.

The school has made extensive use of the various Festivals in Cheltenham and we have welcomed visitors to the school to enrich the education of every child.

Woodmancote is proud of its inclusive approach to education, its links with other organisations such as the University, Balcarras Teaching School, Cleeve and other local Primary Schools, as well as its strategic approach to managing the school site.

There have been many opportunities for the children over the year, but also a few challenges for staff and governors. A shrinking budget from central government, an inadequate social care service in Gloucestershire and an increasing number of children and families with complex needs, have all placed a burden on the school in terms of finance, time and energy. I believe that despite these challenges, Woodmancote School provides an all round education for your children, largely due to your continued support.

Thank you

## School Uniform

As we approach the end of term, thoughts turn to school uniform purchases for September. We expect parents to dress their child(ren) in uniform;

- *Boys-grey trousers/school shorts; white polo shirt and a bottle green round necked sweatshirt.*
  - *Girls-grey skirt/pinafore/trousers\*, white polo shirt and a bottle green round necked sweatshirt or cardigan sweatshirt. They may wear a green and white dress in the summer term.*
  - *Footwear-Black/dark shoes that enclose the toes. No open toe sandals.*
- \*Trousers' does not include leggings*
- *PE-Black shorts and House T-Shirt. Children may wear trainers for Games.*

To promote House allegiance and make PE lessons more interactive, we are changing our PE kit for September 2018. Rather than a white T Shirt, we expect all children to have an appropriate shirt in their House colours. These can be bought from Schooltogs, the same place that our school sweatshirts are from.

**Cleeve GREEN**

**Malvern BLUE**

**Nottingham YELLOW**

**Leckhampton RED**

We are envisaging moving to these new T-shirts over the next two years. Children may wear a watch and simple ear studs if they have pierced ears. Most other jewellery is inappropriate for school but, if there is a



particular reason for your child wearing a special item, please talk to the Headteacher.

**Year Six End of Year Service at St Michael's Church**

We hope that many of the Year 6 parents will join us at St Michael's on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 1.45 for our annual service. The service lasts for approximately an hour, with photos then outside the church.

Year 6 Parents are also invited to the End of Year assembly on Tuesday morning at 9am.

As we will be walking all Years 4-6 down to the church on the 23<sup>rd</sup> July, we need a band of volunteers to walk with them. If you can volunteer, we would be very grateful and as a thank you you will have reserved seats in the church! Please email me asap if you can leave school at 1.15 and walk the children to and from the church.

[head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:head@woodmancote.gloucs.sch.uk)

**Attendance**

Class	Average Attendance
Ash	97%
Oak	97%
Beech	96%
Maple	97%
Willow	96%
Cedar	96%
Pine	96%
Fir	97%
Holly	96%
Lime	96%
Yew	93%*
Hazel	95%
Rowan	97%
Sycamore	92%*

\*figures affected by long term absence

Out attendance figures for 2017-18 have been seriously affected by an increasing number of parents taking holidays during term time. Whilst we appreciate that some holidays are cheaper at these times, term time holidays can affect a child's learning and have a negative impact upon how they view education. Please check the term dates that can be found on the school website before booking any future holidays.

*65 children took a holiday of 10 sessions or more this year. Of the 65 only 13 (20%) had an attendance rate that was above 97% which is the county guidelines for attendance. 18 out of the 65 (27.6%) had an attendance rate of 96%.*

*7 (10.7%) of the children had an attendance rate of less than 90% which means that they missed more than 4 weeks of the school year.*

If you do take your child on holiday, please do not expect staff to set homework, or ask for the work that they have missed on your return.

Thank you

**Congratulations**

Well done to Sam Austin in Year 6 who recently won the 14U County Finals event of the "Road to Wimbledon" competition (without dropping a single game). This means that he qualifies to play in the finals which take place at the All England Club with all matches played on the same grass courts that the professionals used last week! As you can imagine, he's extremely excited to have earned this once in a lifetime experience and is a great reward for all the hard work and commitment he's been putting into his tennis recently. Good luck Sam.



**Medicines**

All medication other than inhalers need to be collected from the class teacher by Tuesday of next week. Children will not be given medication to bring home and all uncollected medication will be disposed of at the end of Tuesday.

**Prayer Group 2018-19**

Please feel free to come along on the following dates. The Group will meet at drop off time in the morning over in the Year 6 block.

- 7th September
- 5th October
- 2nd November
- 7th December
- 11th January
- 1st February
- 1st March
- 5th April
- 3rd May
- 7th June
- 5th July

Teaching Assistant with many years of service at Woodmancote behind her.

We will also be saying Goodbye to Mrs Morrish and Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Rushton, Mrs Kennedy, Mrs Cross, Miss Williams and Mrs Lively. They have all been wonderful members of staff and we wish them every happiness in the future. One of the key strengths of Woodmancote school is the sense of community and the genuine friendships that exist amongst all who work here. Many visitors to the school comment positively on the ethos and atmosphere around the school and this is certainly due to the relationships between everyone.

As we say farewell, we also say welcome to Mrs Phoenix, our new SENCo, who will be working across Grangefield and Woodmancote and Mr Ridal, our new Sports Coach.

<b>20<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Reports home to parents
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Leaver's Service-1.45pm at St Michael's Church, Bishops Cleeve
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	Year 6 Disco 6.30-8.30pm
<b>24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Y6 Leavers Assembly 9 am Parents of Year 6 children welcome to come along
<b>24<sup>th</sup> July</b>	Last Day of Term 6
<b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	First Day of Term 1 for children in all years except new Reception

**Reports**

Reports will be sent out today, but apologies for the glitch at the bottom! The date should obviously say 2018!

**A Final Farewell**

Tuesday will see the retirement of Mrs Greening, our long time Special Educational Needs Coordinator and Mrs Smith, a



Woodmancote School