

Woodbury C of E Primary School



Flier 17

18th January 2019

Dear Parents

How you can help your child's reading

We have noticed that a number of children are not reading sufficiently out of school and this is having an impact upon their learning. All children should be reading at least 4 times a week at home and ideally more when possible. The length of time depends upon their age from 10 minutes for the younger children and 30 minutes for the older children.

If your child is learning to read with the reading scheme books there is advice inside the front cover about which to talk to your child. My advice is to choose a regular time to read, when your child is not tired and there are no distractions. Keep the time positive and start with a 'walk through the book' talking about the pictures, making predictions together and telling your child 2 or 3 words which they may find tricky. Then read together, pointing at words and sounding out when needed. Help your child understand what they are reading as you go with questions and positive confirmation between what they have read and the pictures. Once complete, re-read the book again; this time expecting your child to be more confident and fluent – trace your finger slightly ahead of the words as they read so they learn to scan ahead.

Older children also need to be heard to read from time to time, with the focus upon using the punctuation and reading with intonation. However, the main focus with older children needs to be upon their level of comprehension as they read when reading independently. You do not need to have heard them read to talk to them about what they have read – pick out unusual words and see if they know what they mean, can they explain the plot, the character's motives and are they 'reading between the lines' and able to justify how they know something using 'clues' in what they have read? It is possible for children to be able to 'read' a book with very superficial understanding, when this happens they soon lose interest in reading.

PE Kit

Please can you make sure that your child has their PE kit in school for their timetabled lessons and ideally every day.

Request for Help

If anyone has time to come and skim off a small path around the big Forest School shed so we can extend the woodchip path, we would be very grateful. The path has been marked out and just needs digging. Please let Liz Dymond or the School Office know if you can help. Many thanks.

Clubs

There are still spaces for children to join the following clubs: Times Tables Rocks, Netball, Art and Sewing clubs. Please register online by Monday morning if you wish your child to attend.

Change4Life

Your child will today be bringing home a booklet from Change4life for your information.

School Dinners

If you are paying for more than one child's school meals on school gateway, please could you ensure that you pay the correct amount against each child rather than a combined payment on one child's account.

New Security Door system

This week we have had a new security system installed on the entrance door. We are therefore asking parents to leave the premises by the gates in the morning and afternoon. The gates will be locked at 9.00am and 3.30pm respectively. When collecting your child from an after school activity, please wait in the foyer and the teacher running the activity will bring the children to the door.

Congratulations to Effie

Effie currently has very long hair, which on 26th January is going to be transformed into a shorter style. Effie has decided to do this so she can donate her hair to The Little Princess Trust, which will use it to make a real hair wig for a child who needs it. This will cost £350 - £500 to make and Effie would like to raise money towards this. If you would like to support her please go to www.justgiving.com/EffieGreenway. We are all very impressed with Effie's benevolence and are looking forward to seeing her new hair style.

Wishing you a lovely weekend

Mrs Sparks
Head Teacher