



# Woodbury C of E Primary School

6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## Flier 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year, and an especially warm welcome to all the new families who have joined 'Team Woodbury'. It has been an absolute pleasure to be back with the children and see them so happy in class and at break times with their friends.

Over the summer several changes have taken place in school in addition to various repairs and decorating projects. You may have noticed that we now have a summer house in the spiritual garden. This will be used by children who at times need an alternative space; it may be when they need quiet time, emotional support or a group needs additional space to learn.

The year ahead promises to be an exciting one as we build upon last year's achievements – when the plans for the year are finalised I look forward to sharing them with you. Over the term, preparation will take place for the formation of Cedar Tree Federation and the Governing Body will provide updates to keep everyone informed, including the election of governors to the Federation Governing Body.

### **Welcome to all the new staff members of Team Woodbury**

I would like to warmly welcome: Mrs Harwood, who teaches Oak class, Mrs Butler who supports Oak class and Mrs Mellor who is currently supporting both Willow and Maple class on a temporary basis.

Forest School lessons will continue to be taught on a Wednesday by Mrs Harrison from Primary Forest School and Education and this half term the classes will be Willow and Oak. Mr Troman and Mr Murray will continue to teach PE lessons to some classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I am delighted to also welcome Ms Hawker who will be teaching music lessons to all classes at some point during the year and initially to Willow, Cherry, Maple and Chestnut classes.

### **Class Welcome Curriculum Meetings**

Each year we begin the term with a meeting for you to meet your child's new teacher and find out about what they will be learning. At this meeting you will also be given a letter of the details discussed at the meeting. Should you be unable to attend the meeting, this letter will be sent home with your child the next day. The meetings will be held on the following days:

Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September: Beech (FS), Willow (Y1) and Ash (Y6)

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September: Oak (Y2) and Chestnut (Y5)

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September: Maple (Y4) Cherry (Y3)

If you have children in classes where the meetings are on the same day, please attend the meeting of your youngest child and see your other child's teacher separately if you have any queries.

### **Clubs**

Woodbury School is very fortunate in the number and range of after school clubs and sporting activities which are available to the children. Football club will start next week and all other clubs the week after. A letter detailing which clubs are available this half term and how to sign up, will be sent out electronically on Monday.

### **Annual Contribution**

Each year we ask parents for a contribution of £10 per child towards curriculum costs for consumable resources such as ingredients for cookery or batteries for projects as well as to help resource lessons in ways which make them more enjoyable and memorable for the children. This contribution is voluntary but if you are able to support the school in this way we would be exceptionally grateful as our budget, as for all schools, is under significant pressure. Contributions can be made online at [www.schoolgateway.com](http://www.schoolgateway.com) . Thank you.

### **Morning drop off**

The school gates open at 8.45am and the children need to be in class and ready for lessons to start for 9.00am. Please can the children be in class by 8.55am at the latest in order for registration to be completed on time. We aim to develop independence in the children. If your child is in Year 2 or older, please can you say goodbye on the playground and let your child come into the building on their own. For the first few weeks the children in Beech and Willow may need to be brought into class and helped to settle with the expectation that by half term they will also be able to come into class on their own.

### **Parking and driving around school**

To ease congestion and make the roads safer around school, there is a long standing convention that a **'one way' system operates in Castle Lane with parents driving up the hill and either circling back round through Long Park or leaving via the Common.**

Please do not drop children off directly in front of the gates as this blocks the road and is not safe for others crossing the road. If you need to park on the road please could I ask you to be considerate of our neighbours by avoiding blocking their entrances, turning in their drives or parking so visibility at junctions is impaired.

### **Payment for school meals**

If your child is in KS2 and has a school meal, **please can you ensure that these are paid for in advance.** Should there be an unforeseen reason that you need your child to have a meal, your child can have a meal but it needs to be paid for **by the end of the week.** We are not in a position to 'carry forward' arrears for more than a week and cannot provide further meals until outstanding amounts are paid. The current cost of a school meal is £2.55 and you can purchase a minimum of 5 meals at a time, with credit balances being carried forward. Children in Foundation Stage and KS1 are automatically provided with a free school meal, paid for by the government and school.

### **Families in receipt of Income Support**

If you are in receipt of Income Support, and you have not already done so, please could you inform either the office or myself so that we can make sure that the school receives the full entitlement for additional 'Pupil Premium' funding which we can use to support your child. This will also entitle your child to receive free school meals, both in KS1 and in KS2. If you think you may be entitled to these please see our website for further details or speak to Mrs Wells or myself in confidence.

### **Service Families**

If you have joined the school and either parent is employed in the army, navy or air-force, please could you let the office know as this will mean that the school can apply for a small amount of additional funding to help support your child.

### **Pupil responsibilities and roles in school**

**'Team Woodbury'** is everyone who strives to make Woodbury School the best place it can be to learn and grow. I have been talking with the children about this and their part in the team – each and every child has a role to play in helping each other learn, feel safe and be happy at school. The way in which the children rise to the responsibilities and the pride they take in their school is superb and something we constantly promote through our Values.

As the eldest children in the school, the children in Year 6 have special responsibilities. In the first weeks of term they will be taking on roles as Sport, Playtime, Office, Environment and Library Mentors. These positions carry genuine responsibilities as the children will be involved in helping to make real decisions in how to improve the school and helping with day to day responsibilities. This not only benefits Team Woodbury but also the Year 6 children who will develop their personal, leadership and team skills. They will also each have a 'buddy' in Beech class, visiting the younger children each week to help them learn and read to them. They also keep a look out for each other at lunchtimes, often playing together. These friendships will develop over the year and many lasting memories will be made.

Next week, the children from Key Stage 2 will be invited to apply to be part of the **Ethos Group**. This group will work with myself, Mrs Vernon and the governors to help lead on aspects of school development related to our Christian Foundation. All classes will soon be holding class elections to choose representatives for the **School Council**, who will meet regularly to lead and help with whole school projects led by the children, including the appointment of new members of staff. I am hoping that the children can help lead on reducing our use of plastics and other waste materials as well as improve our recycling.

#### **Year 6 Residential to Pixies Holt Meeting**

Miss Pyle will be holding a meeting for Year 6 parents on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 3.15pm in Ash Class to talk about the residential including a timetable of activities, menus and kit list.

#### **Dates for the term**

As dates for the term are confirmed they will be added to the calendar on the website and listed on next week's Flier.

Wishing you a lovely weekend and I am looking forward to a fantastic year working together to achieve the best for all the children.

Mrs Sparks  
Head Teacher