



**PARK WOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION  
HEADTEACHERS NEWSLETTER  
DECEMBER 2017**

**ACADEMY UPDATE**

***As I'm sure you are aware, there is an expectation that all schools in Medway will become academies. The majority of schools have already taken this step. Over the past year, the Senior Leadership of the school and Governors, have explored different options for moving forward on this issue, which is so important to the future development of the school. We are now working closely with Rainham Mark Grammar School and their Education Trust, to explore our intention of Park Wood becoming part of the Multi Academy Partnership and begin the application process. These are obviously early days in a longer process, part of which will involve parent consultation but will hopefully lead to a new and exciting adventure in the life of the school, which gives our children and staff some excellent new opportunities. I will continue to keep parents informed, throughout the coming months.***

**FINAL REMINDER**

**The school closes at 2.00pm on the last day of term, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December.**

**CHRISTMAS FAIR**

Thank you to all the parents who attended the Christmas Fair on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. The children made some incredible products which raised plenty of money for the classes and showed how amazing they are as young entrepreneurs. Lord Sugar needs to watch out!

**LITTLE STARS AND AMAZING PERFORMANCES**

A massive well done to the Foundation Stage children, who staged two Christmas Productions last week and showed a huge amount of confidence, singing really well and remembering lots of lines.

We also had a series of spectacular Federation Christmas Carol Concerts, which were fantastic. Children from several year groups worked together to present a spectacular reworking of the Christmas story.

Well done and thank you to all the staff and children involved in these performances.

**ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS**

As we have been experiencing some cold weather and snow and we approach the coldest part of the year, I felt it was important to remind parents of our approach to periods of adverse weather.

Park Wood remains open, during periods of adverse weather, whenever possible. The reasons why the school might close is purely down to conditions. If it is too dangerous on the site, too hazardous to travel or the school can't be staffed sufficiently to keep the school running safely, then the school closes.

Decisions on any closure are made as soon as possible and we aim to get information out, wherever possible, by **7.30am**. Parents can find out about any school closure by:-

**Checking on [kentclosures.co.uk](http://kentclosures.co.uk)  
Checking for text messages from the school  
Checking on the scrolling bar on the school website  
Listening form information on Heart FM (96.6FM)**

If conditions (such as heavy snowfall) become apparent during the school day, I will make a decision on school closure and parents will be contacted and will need to collect children.

#### **MACMILLAN CAKE SALE**

A massive well done to Jessica Kemp and Charlotte Maycey, from Year 6, who staged a cake sale in the school, to raise money for Macmillan Cancer and raised a princely sum of £656. This will now go to a great cause and the girls should feel very proud of their efforts.

#### **SPORTING EXCELLENCE**

Park Wood continues to achieve well in the sporting arena. The school Cross Country Team currently lies 2<sup>nd</sup> in the combined team event, with both the girls and boys teams in the top 3. Individually we have several children in the top ten and a number of others pushing to break into it. Wow!

Congratulations also to the Year 5 and 6 Sports Hall Athletics Team, who came 14<sup>th</sup> in the Kent Championship. However, this was competing as a school against Athletics Clubs and Park Wood came 2<sup>nd</sup> out of all the teams in Kent, and were top of the Schools which only entered one team. Very well done!

Wishing everyone a happy and peaceful holiday.

#### **DIARY DATES INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL**

20 Dec	Last Day of Term – Children finish at 2.00pm
3 Jan	Staff Development Day – No Children in School
4 Jan	Term 3 – Children back to School



**Mr A Moir  
Headteacher**

