



PARK WOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION

HEADTEACHERS NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2018

50TH CELEBRATIONS

Next week, on June 14th, we have an aerial photo of the school and the children, being taken by a drone. This is very exciting. We will also be putting together a whole school photograph, of all the children, for our 50th anniversary celebrations. A special afternoon for the children will take place on July 9th. We will have some visits from past staff and pupils as part of a whole school assembly to celebrate Park Wood. I would like to thank Mrs Stubbs for organising this event so well.

WOODPECKER CLASS AND MRS RANDALL

We wish Mrs Randall all the best as she starts her maternity leave. I am sure she will have a fantastic time with her new arrival and with her family. It is a really lovely thing when we see members of staff becoming parents. It is scary to think my little girl was born a couple of months after I started as head at Park Wood and will turn 9 later this year. Since then many other little boys and girls have joined our staff's wider family and it's really fantastic to see. Woodpecker Class, I am sure, will greatly miss Mrs Randall, however, an adult they are very familiar with, Mrs Jeffrey, will be taking the class for the last 6 weeks of term and Mrs Boswell and Mrs Tilley will also be helping in the class. We have two experienced senior leaders, in Mrs Pigott and Mrs Hardy, who will continue to oversee the year group. All these adults are very familiar faces for our Woodpecker children and I know, with the excitement of the production, will have a fantastic end to Year 2.

CLASS SWAPS

During term 6, all children will be finding out their new classes, class names and teachers. The children in all year groups will be mixed up and therefore children will be working with different groups of children next year, although they will also be working with some of the children they are currently in classes with.

When we allocate new classes; teachers, year leaders, the inclusion team and the senior leaders in the school look carefully at the balance and make up of each class. We take on board the knowledge we have of children but also any historical issues children have had within the class, or issues previously raised by parents about relationships, both positive and negative within the class.

Our criteria for making decisions looks primarily at the academic balance within the class, the level of need, the gender balance of boys and girls, the character and behaviour of the children, friendship issues, the house teams within the class and even the first names of the children. It takes a great deal of thought. The final decisions on classes and staffing are made by the school.

Some children will have one teacher and others will have two. We have a number of teaching staff who have commitments to their own families, including their children and grandchildren and we support our staff in this, as would be the case in any work place. As Headteacher, where I pair teachers together it is after a great deal of consideration.

MRS HARDY

Mrs Hardy will be leaving Park Wood at the end of the current academic year as she prepares to take on a new challenge in a primary school in Minster. Mrs Hardy has worked at Park Wood for 18 years, the majority of which were spent looking after our youngest children in Foundation Stage. Having given such a commitment to the school and influenced the lives of so many young people, I am sure parents and former pupils would wish to join me and the rest of the school staff in thanking Mrs Hardy for her significant contribution to Park Wood and wishing her all the best for a successful next step in her teaching career.

CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Our Chair of Governors is now Mrs Suzanne Emson. Our previous chair of governors, Mr John Pearson, has retired from the role after four years and we wish him all the best for a long and happy retirement. Mrs Jane Hudson is the Vice Chair of Governors.

THE PARK WOOD OFFER

At the end of term we will be releasing, to our parents, the Park Wood Offer. This will show what we provide for all our children. It will also show and share with parents, what our school improvement plan priorities are, and how parents can help the school with this. It will also explain our way forward in the next academic year and our approach to extra curricular activities, which will show some significant changes. This will also be presented on the school website.

However, I would very much like to explain our plans directly to parents ahead of the new academic year. Therefore, I would like to invite parents in on Friday July 6th at 2.30, for me to present our ideas for next year and to talk openly about priorities as a school. The talk will last no more than half an hour and will take place in the Junior School Hall. It will be open for all parents, but for those who have children about to leave year 6, it may not be as relevant.

SPORTS DAY – JUNE 28TH

We look forward to seeing a great many parents at Sports Day. The day will be as follows;

AM – Infants School and Years 3 and 4

PM – Years 5 and 6, Whole School Relays and Presentation.

The PE team will send out further details in the next few days. The PSA will be providing the option of refreshments for parents. As is always the case for parents who are staying for some or all of the day, bringing an easily carried and unfolded garden chair is never a bad idea for those who do not wish to stand.

WORLD CUP DAY

The day after Sports Day, June 29th, the children will be enjoying a 'World Cup Day' where each class will be studying a different country taking part in the World Cup. After school on that day will be the third Staff vs Pupils football match. Currently both the staff and the pupils have won one match each. More details on this will follow.

PHONICS

All Year 1 and a number of Year 2 children will be completing their phonics screenings over the next week or so. We wish all of our keen spellers and word experts, all the best of luck. The children have worked really hard and I'm sure they will do very well.

SPARE CLOTHES

We have a number of incidents during any given school week, when children require a change of clothes. We are very short on boys clothes. If you are able to donate old uniform or plain shirts, tracksuit bottoms etc, which may be suitable for our young chaps when nose bleeds, sickness or mud related disasters come knocking, we would be most grateful! Any clothes that do come in, can come to the office, for the attention of Mrs Yarrow.

I DON'T LIKE CRICKET, I LOVE IT...

A big well done to the Park Wood cricket team, for finishing 13th out of 56 teams in the recent Mini Youth quick cricket tournament. Our team won 4 matches and lost only 2, very narrowly (by under 10 runs) to teams which eventually finished in the top 10. The children were a credit to the school and behaved impeccably throughout the day. We also looked the best, as the only school wearing whites!

IN AN ENGLISH COUNTRY GARDEN....

Keen Year 5 Gardeners who daily tend their patch at school took up the challenge to create a show garden with a "supporting wildlife" theme. The children designed and built a stunning structure which was proudly displayed at RHS Wisley Gardens along with exhibits from many other schools across the South East. The Garden won a fully deserved Gold Medal - just like Chelsea, during the presentation were singled out as having an innovative and exceptional design - well done team keep on trowelling.

EVERYONE LOVES A CLUB

As a school, we are making a commitment that for the next year, every member of the school teaching team, plus senior leaders and some support staff, will run a school club. These will not just be sports clubs, but will also cover many other areas of interest beyond sport. Some of these clubs will be after school and some will be at lunchtimes. All details will be made available to parents by the start of the new academic year. In preparation for this, if we have parents who have a particular skill or knowledge that would be helpful in running a club, please make yourselves known to us this term so that we can put this in the mix. The commitment may only be for a few weeks but could turn a good club into a great one.

LAST DAY OF TERM – FRIDAY JULY 20TH

As is always the case at the end of term 6, Year 6 will go home at **12noon**, following their leavers service. The rest of the school will all finish at **2pm**, ahead of the summer holidays.

THANK YOU

A big thank you to parents. When ideas are framed in a positive way, they can be really helpful and it has been fantastic working with a number of parents on different projects and ideas lately. The PSA are also doing a great job and I look forward to their upcoming events.

My best wishes to all our families for a happy and successful summer term.

DIARY DATES INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

11 Jun Razzamataz Starts 15.15 – 16.15pm
12 Jun PSA – Father Day Presents for both Schools
13 Jun History Day – Whole School
14 Jun 50th Anniversary School Photoshoot
15 Jun Inflatables Day 3.30 – 5.30pm
18 Jun Isle of Wight Trip – Year 6
19 Jun Meeting - New Foundation Stage Parents 6.00pm
20 Jun Year 2 Trip
Drop in sessions – School Nurse 9.00 – 12noon
21 Jun Foundation Stage Trip
22 Jun Bottle Tag Day – PSA – Letter to follow
28 Jun Sports Day – Whole School
3 Jul Choir Concert 6.00pm
6 Jul Greek Day – Year 3
'Park Wood Offer' 2.30pm
7 Jul Summer Fayre 10.00 – 2.00pm
9 Jul 50th Celebrations – Afternoon
10 Jul Year 2 Production – 2.00pm
11 Jul Year 2 Production – 6.00pm
12 Jul Year 4 Trip
Beach Party – Infants Only 3.20 – 5.00pm

16 Jul End of Year Reports to Parents
17 Jul Open Evening 3.30 – 4.30pm
Year 6 Production 6.30pm
18 Jul Year 6 BBQ 5.30 – 7.30pm
20 Jul **Last Day of Term – Year 6 Finish at 12noon**
Rest of School Finish at 2.00pm



Mr A Moir
Headteacher