



**PARK WOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION**  
**HEADTEACHERS NEWSLETTER**  
**SEPTEMBER 2018**

**WELCOME BACK**

A warm big welcome back to all our children after the long and rather sunny Summer Holiday. The children have settled in extremely well and the school is very calm. Our new staff are rapidly becoming part of the team and having completed a learning walk last week, the gentle sound of learning and progress is apparent. A big well done to our new Foundation Stage, who appear to have settled very quickly and a big thanks to parents for their support as the children prepare to go 'full time'.

**MEDWAY TESTS**

Good Luck to all the children in Year 6 who are taking the Medway Tests on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. I know you will all do your best and whatever the individual outcomes, we believe all our children have the potential and ability to go on to great things in their next schools.

**CHARITY AND FUNDRAISING**

As a school, we aim to make it clear at the start of the academic year, charities and fundraising events we plan to support across the school. This avoids continuous requests on the wallets and purses of hard working families and allows our parents and staff to plan ahead.

This year we have decided to support Caring Hands as part of our Harvest Work, Children In Need, Comic/Sport Relief and MacMillan Cancer. Any merchandise sold will see the money go directly to these charities, i.e Noses, Wrist Bands and such like.

Parents will also be aware that schools in general face tough economic times. At Park Wood we have weathered this challenge quite well, but now depend on an extremely tight budget. Therefore any whole school 'own clothes' days or other fundraising work, will see money split evenly between the school and our chosen charities. In addition this year, each year group will have a term to stage their own fundraising event, such as cake sales. This is when the children may choose their own fundraising charities. Again, this will be split equally between the charities and the year group for extra resources and identified priorities by the pupils. This year, Term 1, Year 6 will be the focus.

Whilst talking about raising funds, may I remind you about our very active and successful PSA, who run events where all proceeds go in to the school. As well as attending events, giving your help is also greatly appreciated. We look forward to seeing you at the PSA AGM on 3<sup>rd</sup> October, details to follow.

**THE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

In July, I staged a talk for Parents, outlining the main targets of the School Improvement Plan, the reasons behind them and also what parents can do to help. The headlines of the school improvement plan are as follows:

**HEADLINES FOR SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

1. For the Leadership of the School at all levels to focus on implementing the vision of the school in order to improve outcomes, both academic and personal, for all children.
2. For Inclusion for all to be at the centre of the school ethos.
3. For the Quality of Teaching and Learning in all aspects of Maths to become a strength of the school.

4. For children's outcomes and language skills, in all aspects of Reading and Writing to be improved and enhanced.
5. For the Sciences (and Design Technology) to facilitate our learners with extra opportunities and skills as they continue their learning journey through the school.
6. To continue, via action research and latest information, to explore and embrace emerging technologies, which can be linked to improving pupil outcomes.
7. To design, monitor and promote a language, maths and science rich curriculum, which inspires the children and fully covers all aspects of the national curriculum in all subjects, to a good or better standard.
8. For the children in the school to have good physical and mental wellbeing and be aware of their responsibilities as citizens.
9. For the Early Years to show outstanding practice in terms of the children's active learning; playing and exploring; creative and critical thinking.
10. That the school can demonstrate the correct procedures, policies and practices which meet the Safeguarding requirements of any setting to a very good standard.

#### **A NEW DRIVE ON ROAD SAFETY**

Last term I spoke with some very frustrated parents, about their views on how some parents choose to park and drive. I have also been, and will continue to be, in close contact with the local police and Medway Council, as well as Local residents and other schools. Whilst it is apparent that the vast majority of our parents park very well, and drive sensibly at the start and end of the school day, this is not always the case.

There are those that choose to do the right thing by the law and out of respect for the school and the community and I thank those parents genuinely, and those who, on occasions, do not have the same level of care or consideration for the same. There have been incidents of reckless driving, inconsiderate and illegal parking and abusive language to those who dare to challenge. Therefore, I appeal to the minority **"Please do not park or drive inconsiderately near the school."** We are fairly lucky with the amount of parking available. Many schools have no parking at all, let alone a car park opposite. So please abide by the law and the school rules. Thank you.

#### **BUSTER BOOK CLUB**

We are really proud as a school to have been awarded the Literacy Mark for an outstanding effort in reading as evidenced by the number of readers hitting their target as part of Buster's Book Club. Awards and prizes for Buster Book Club are given out in assembly and clearly this enthuses the children and enhances their love of reading. I thank parents for their continued support as we continue to promote a life long love of reading at Park Wood.



#### **THE CLUBS ON OFFER THIS TERM**

As a school we are having a real push on the number of clubs on offer during each term. This term we have the following clubs running in various age brackets. If there aren't many for your child's year group this term, more will be offered next term. All clubs are run voluntarily, but we encourage this as a school. Some clubs run in lunch times and some after school, with more information provided by the teachers running them as they get closer. Most clubs have a limited amount of space and are run on a 'first come first served' basis. Which means there will always be disappointment, which will aim to even up over the year. We ask that when children commit to a club, they commit to the duration of the time and the number of sessions.

**CLUBS AT PARK WOOD****TERM 1**

<b>CLUB</b>	<b>MEMBER OF STAFF</b>	<b>YEAR GROUPS</b>
French	Mrs Crosfil	1, 2, 3 and 4
Recorders & Ocarinas	Mrs Pigott	2 and 3
ICT	Miss Lloyd	3 and 4
Cross Country	Miss Edgley	5 and 6
Sports Hall Athletics	Miss Edgley	5 and 6
Football	Mr Wintle	5 and 6
Swimming	Mrs Wintle and Mrs Easom	4, 5 and 6
Badminton	Mrs Park	3 - 6
Gardeners	Mrs Park	5 and 6
Reading	Mrs Park	All
Gymnastics	Mrs Park	1 and 2
Basketball	Mr Wintle	5 and 6
Tri Golf	Miss Moore	3 and 4
Art	Mrs Cairns	All
Lego Club	Mrs Cairns	All

**DIARY DATES INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL**

- 18 Sept Medway Tests
- 19 Sept Medway Tests
- 1 Oct First Class Photographs – Foundation Stage Only
- 3 Oct PSA – AGM
- 8 Oct Phonics Meeting – Foundation Stage Parents 2.30 – 3.30pm & 4.00pm – 5.00pm
- 10 Oct Individual Photographs – Infant School
- 11 Oct Individual Photographs – Junior School  
Year 5 Production 6.00pm
- 16 Oct 'Fun with Phonics' 2.00pm Foundation Stage Parents
- 19 Oct Last Day of Term
- 29 Oct Term 2 – Children back to School
- 6 Nov Parent Tour for Foundation Parents 2019 Start 9.15am  
Parent Tour for Foundation Parents 2019 Start 2.00pm

**Mr A Moir**  
**Headteacher**

