



PARK WOOD SCHOOLS FEDERATION
HEADTEACHERS NEWSLETTER
JULY 2017

THANKS

I would like to start this newsletter by saying a huge thank you to one of our grandparents, Mrs Hurst, for their very kind donation of a defibrillator to the school. What a thoughtful and helpful donation.

LAST DAY – A REMINDER

As I'm sure parents are aware, the last day of term is Thursday July 20th. As is traditional on the last day, the Year 6 children will finish at midday, following their leavers service and all the other children will finish at 2pm.

GRATEFUL FAREWELLS

I would like to take this opportunity of letting parents know of some departures we have at the end of term. Miss Smeeton will be leaving us, after more than a decade at Park Wood, in order to embark on different adventures in life, away from teaching. This is a big step, but one I'm sure she will take with confidence and great success and we all wish her all the very best in the future. Mrs Treeby will also be leaving us at the end of the year, as she chooses to pursue other ventures and enjoy spending time with friends and family. From all of us at the school, we would like to thank her for all she has done and wish her happiness in her next steps.

Also leaving us, in order to have her first baby, is Mrs Farley. We await news of baby Farley and all wish her family a really special summer together.

SUMMER FAIR AND SPORTS DAY

Sport Day and the Summer Fair were a great success. Both were very well attended and parents were incredibly supportive, not just of their own children, but also of the events in general. This is now a really big day in the school calendar and brings all the children and our families together for the best reasons. The PSA do an amazing job of arranging the Fair and children, parents and staff work really well together as a team. The federation relay, followed by all the children sitting together after sports day, with parents behind them, as they always are, is one of the key moments in the school year for me and I speak for all the staff, in saying how proud of the school it makes us. Well done to everyone involved.

NEW CLASSES AND NEXT STEPS

The children have done incredibly well as they have experienced their first transition days, moving on to and experiencing their new classes. Parents have been supportive and the efforts made by teachers to get it right, have been tremendous. A longer, more supportive transition, allows our children to go into the summer feeling more relaxed about what to expect in September, which is so important.

It has also been lovely meeting our new Foundation stage parents, with some new to the school and some familiar faces, and the children have settled really well. Tears were few and smiles were abundant.

BIKES AND DOGS

The children have been asked not to leave bikes at school. We do not encourage children to cycle to school as when we have taken advice on the matter, the roads are simply seen as too dangerous. Children who cycle to school with parents, or come on scooters and such like, should have their bikes and scooters taken home by parents. A reminder to all parents that dogs are not allowed on the school site.

SUPER SPORTS

There has been considerable success in the sporting arena of late. The school football team performed well in the recent mini youth games, finishing 10th out of over 50 teams. In June year 4 and 5 children attended a tournament for much older children at the Julie Rose Stadium in Ashford. They did really well with Eleanor Watson winning the hammer throwing event.

Later in the month, Year 6 athletes competed in the mini youth games. Out of 54 teams they came sixth! Daniel and Mitchell both Won 3 individual medals on the day and several of the others won individual medals too. Four of the team have enjoyed athletics club so much, they have now joined Medway and Maidstone AC and are training three times a week!

It also turns out we are a school of keen golfers. The infant tri golf team secured a top 15 finish at the recent tournament, the junior golfers finished in the top 5 for a second year in a row, and as Headteacher, I've done my bit by winning the first two inter Medway Headteacher golf trophies, beating two other local Headteachers and ruining their scorecards and weekends in the process.

Further great news comes from Miss Moore's 'agility' team who went forward to represent Medway in the Kent Agility Competition. The team finished 11th overall, which is a fantastic result.

I would like to wish Mr Wintle and his football squad all the best in the upcoming 'Park Wood Football Festival' and thank him for setting up and hosting this event.

ATTENDANCE

I want to thank parent/carers for their continued support with their children attending school. Attendance levels are up by 0.1% for both Infant and Junior children and is well over 96% in both schools. Well done!

DIARY DATES INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOL

7 July	Football Festival
10 July	School Nurse visiting Foundation Stage
11 July	School Nurse visiting Foundation Stage Year 2 Production to Parents 2.30pm
12 July	Year 4 Trip School Nurse visiting Foundation Stage Year 2 Production to Parents 6.00pm
13 July	Beach Party – Infant Children Only 3.30 – 5.00pm Year 6 Production to Parents 6.00pm
14 July	Year 3 Trip
17 July	Year 2 Trip
20 July	Year 6 Assembly 11.00am - finish at 12.00pm Last Day of Term – 2.00pm finish for both schools
21 July	Staff Development Day – No Children at School

Mr A Moir
Headteacher

