

**Woodlands Primary and Nursery Newsletter**

**August – October 2017**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year, I hope that you all had an enjoyable summer despite the weather. All of the children have settled very well into their new classes and it is great to see them all looking so smart.

**School Uniform** 

It is a joy to see the children wearing their school uniforms. This encourages school pride and promotes a sense of belonging. However, with so many identical items of clothing things are already getting lost. Please label all of your child’s clothing to ensure that items are easily identified. Leggings or black denims are not part of school uniform and I would ask for your co-operation in ensuring that all pupils are dressed appropriately. Can I please remind you that no football colours are permitted and hooded tops are only allowed to be worn outdoors therefore in colder weather children should bring along a school jumper or cardigan to wear in class.

**Water in School** 

All children have the opportunity to bring water to school. At the moment our water dispensers are out of commission and we are awaiting repairs therefore it would be helpful if children could come to school with their bottle filled. This must be plain water only, no flavoured water or juice is allowed in class.

**Medication** 

If your child needs to take medicine in school please contact the office as you are required to complete an administration of medicines form which is retained in school. To ensure health and safety of all children, please do not put any medicines in your child’s school bag, these must be taken directly to the office for safe keeping. Please note that we are not permitted to administer paracetamol even in the form of Calpol.

**Car Park** 

To ensure the health and safety of all children could I please remind you that the car park is for **staff only** and should not be used by parents when dropping off or collecting children from school. **In order to ensure the safety of all children the gates to the car park will be closed at the start and end of the school day.** Access to the school during the day is via the main gate and entrance. To ensure the safety of all children, no parents are permitted in the school playground during morning break or lunchtime while the children are out playing. Please note that parents must make use of the nursery entrance and not enter nursery via the playground, this is to ensure the safety of all children.

**Staffing** 

The classes for this year are as follows:

Nursery Miss Brown, Mrs Henderson, Mrs McGinlay, Mrs McLaughlin and Miss Travers

Primary 1 Mr Kiernan

Primary 1/2 Miss Murray

Primary 2 Mrs Lang

Primary 2/3 Mrs Lennon

Primary 3 Mrs Bellamy

Primary 4 Mrs McMillan & Mrs Macleod

Primary 4/5 Mrs Maher

Primary 5 Miss Donaldson

Primary 6 Mrs Pollock

Primary 6/7 Miss Donald

Primary 7 Mr McMullan

McCrone Mrs Rutherford

As always, classes may be subject to change during the school year however our priority is to ensure continuity for the children and we strive to keep disruption to a minimum.

**Homework**

Homework will now be issued via the class blog every Tuesday, starting on Tuesday 5th of September. **However homework must now be returned weekly – in order to allow time over the weekend homework must be handed in to the class teacher on a Monday with the new homework issued on Tuesday. This is not optional and it is our expectation that all children will complete and hand in their homework.** There will be special check in times with myself, Mr Green or Mrs Thomson which will appear on the school blog.

**Breakfast Club **

A breakfast club operates within the school between the hours of 8.20 and 8.50am. For 20p children are provided with cereal, toast and fruit juice. Children are supervised by Mrs McConnell and Mrs Watson and are allowed to access a range of games and activities once they have finished their breakfast. Children in primaries 3-7 are allowed to go outside at 8.50 to line up with their class, the younger children are escorted to class. In wet weather all children remain inside. Please note that in order for children to have time to eat their breakfast they must come no later than 8.40am.

**Photographer**

The photographer will visit the school on Tuesday 3rd of October to take individual, group and class photographs. Letters will be issued in due course.

**Dogs** 

Could I also remind you that dogs are not permitted on NLC property and therefore should not be in the school playground or grounds at any time. **This includes small dogs even when carried by their owner.**

**Security Entrance **

**To ensure the safety and security of all pupils parents are not permitted beyond the fire doors at the front entrance.** Should you need to speak to a member of staff please enter via the main door and someone from the office will attend to you as soon as possible. Access to the school during the day is via the main gate and entrance. Please note that to ensure the safety of all children, no parents are permitted in the school playground during morning break or lunchtime while the children are out playing. Please also note that the main entrance should not be used for access to the junior playground, all children must walk around the school and not through it!

**Data Check** 

All children have today been issued with an envelope containing a range of information including the Data check forms, please ensure that all forms are returned to school ASAP as these are essential should we be required to contact you in an emergency. **Should your details change during the school year it is vital that you inform the school immediately as our main form of communication is by phone or text**.

**Meet the Teacher** 

You and your child are invited to come along and meet with your child’s teacher and try out some of the resources in use within their class. This will take place on Thursday 14th September at 3.00 – 3.30pm and 6.00 – 6.30pm. We would encourage you to come along with you child.

**Nursery News** 

The children in nursery attend from 8.45 – 11.55am and from 1.00 – 4.10pm.

Each group has their own sign in folder and should be completed when you enter and exit the nursery with your child, it is also essential that you inform us who will be collecting your child at the end of the session.

Finally, we ask that parents contribute £2 each week to cover the costs of snack and other visits and trips that the children undertake throughout the year. This can be added to the Minions tin next to the sign in sheets in the nursery cloakroom at any time throughout the week.

**School Holidays**  

The school holiday dates for this term are as follows:

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| **First Term** |
|  | Friday 22nd September | Closed |
|  | Monday 25th September | Closed |
|  | Friday 13th October | Close at 3pm |
|  | Monday 23rd October  | Pupils Return |

Full details of school holidays for this session can be found on the school website and a paper copy can be found in your pack issued today.

I would encourage you to regularly check your child’s class blog for updated information and also the sign up for alerts for our school blog by going to:

 <https://blogs.glowscotland.org.uk/nl/woodlandsprimary/>

**Finally, throughout last session there were a number of children being collected at the end of the day by older siblings in high school and by taxi. This often results in children waiting in school for a significant time at the end of the day. We fully understand that circumstances can arise that prevent children being collected on time and we are more than happy to supervise children in emergencies. However we are unable to do this on a regular basis and would ask that alternative arrangements be made.**

As always, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child’s education, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time. I look forward to an exciting year in Woodlands Primary School and to seeing you at the many events we have planned.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Ferguson

Nicola Ferguson, Head Teacher