

**Woodlands Primary and Nursery Newsletter**

**August – October 2019**

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a new school year, all of the children have settled very well into their new classes and it is great to see them all looking so smart.

**Meet the Teacher** 

Our meet the teacher night will take place on **Thursday the 19th of September with a session from 3.15pm until 3.45pm and another from 5.30pm until 6.00pm.** This will give you the opportunity to visit your child’s class, meet their teacher and try out some of the resources that your child uses every day in school. We would encourage you to come along with your child and hear about some of the great things they will be trying out this year.

**Xpressions (School App)**

Due to the increasing costs of texting parents, we have been looking for a more cost effective but efficient way to provide parents with updates and reminders. We will continue to put messages out via the school blog and twitter however to ensure that messages are sent direct to parents we will using the Xpressions Messenger App. All parents are encouraged to go onto the app store and download this ASAP as it will ensure that you do not miss anything. Please ensure that school has your email address and that you inform us of any changes.

**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, joggers and 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.

**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.

**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 and allow access for the school bus, 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. 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 Linda Travers (Monday - Wednesday), Yvonne Brown, Morven Henderson, Kellie Cunningham and Alison McLaughlin (Thursday and Friday)

Primary 1 Miss Pamela Donald

Primary 1/2 Miss Eilidh Murray

Primary 2 Mrs Diane Lang

Primary 2/3 Mrs Katie Lennon

Primary 3 Mrs Katy Bellamy

Primary 4 Mrs Lorraine Maher

Primary 4/5 Mrs Cathy Macleod

Primary 5 Miss Jennifer Donaldson

Primary 6 Mrs Fiona Pollock

Primary 6/7 Miss Deborah Park

Primary 7 Mr Jack McMullan (Acting PT during Mrs Thomson’s absence)

McCrone Mrs Diana Rutherford

Learning Support Mrs Alison McMillan

Head Teacher Miss Nicola Ferguson

Principal Teacher Mr John Green

Principal Teacher Mrs Mairi Thomson

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.

**Breakfast Club **

A breakfast club operates within the school between the hours of 8.15 and 8.50am and children are provided with cereal, toast and fruit juice. Children are supervised by Mrs McLaughlin 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. Breakfast club is free of charge for all children in receipt of free school meals including all children in primaries one to three otherwise the cost is £1 however the cost reduces to £1.50 for families with two children and £1.80 for families with three children.

**Photographer**

The photographer will visit the school on Thursday 10th 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. If you are waiting in the entrance area please do not open the door for others as this often means staff are not aware of who is waiting. 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**.

**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.

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.

Finally, all parents and carers are invited to attend nursery on Wednesday 18th of September at 10.45am for children who attend the am session and 3.00pm for children who attend the pm session.

**MacMillan Coffee Morning**

You are invited to join us for coffee and cakes on Friday 11th of October to raise funds for a worthy cause. The children will be coming along in their classes to entertain you with some of their favourite assembly songs. Times and details will be issued in due course.

**Dates for your Diary**  

Wednesday 18th September Nursery Stay and Play

Thursday 19th September Meet the Teacher

Friday 27th September School Closed - Holiday

Monday 30th September School Closed - Holiday

Friday 11th October MacMillan Coffee Morning

Monday 14th October School Closed - Holiday Week

Monday 21st October School Re-Opens

Wednesday 30th October Halloween Fun & Disco

Thursday 7th November Parents Night

Monday 18th November School Closed - In Service Day

Tuesday 19th November School Closed - In Service Day

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.

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/>

As always, if you have any concerns or queries regarding your child’s education, please do not hesitate to myself or another member of the management team 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