



P1 INDUCTION AFTERNOON ON MONDAY 12 JUNE 2017

Please note there will be an early dinner on this day and **school will close at 12.30pm for P1, P2 and P7 pupils** to accommodate the new intake and their parents visiting school. **There will be a normal school day for P3 - P6 pupils.**

REMINDER OF HOLIDAYS

Our school will close for the summer break on Friday 30 June 2017:

P1 - P3 11.30am

P4 - P7 11.45am.

Please note that school will close early on the following dates:

Tuesday 27 June – P7 will go home at 12 noon.

**Wednesday 28 June – P1-P3 & older siblings 12.15pm
P4 - P7 12.30pm**

Staff would like to thank all parents and carers for their interest in their child's homework. You will all be pleased to learn that homework will finish on Friday 16 June.



SCHOOL REPORTS

School Reports will be sent home in your child's school bag on **Tuesday 27 June 2017**. If your child is not in school for any reason on this day you should arrange to collect the report from the office or send in a stamp addressed envelope for it to be posted to your address.



MILK SNACK

June **£3.99 £5.70**

Please note that we will not be supplying milk in school at breaktime from September.

SCHOOL BUDGETS

In the absence of a Stormont Assembly schools in Northern Ireland have not been allocated a budget for this or the next school year. We are working according to our financial predicted 3-year plan that was prepared in 2015. The Education Authority is warning of budget cuts to come but no one has any definite information for school leaders and Boards of Governors. In the meantime we are told to work on an estimated cut of at least 2-4%. This makes our job extremely difficult as we want to provide the very best education for our children but to facilitate this we need resources and people, which all come at a cost. We test your children using standardized tests from GL Assessment in England to ensure that they are making good progress in school; we buy resources to help us to teach and to help make learning more successful for all of our children; and employ assistants, supervisors and teachers who are an essential part of our school. However, all of these things cost money and in the future we may need to be thinking of ways to fundraise to pay for these crucial components of our school. Please support our school as we seek to raise some funds through a sponsored activity in June. The Pupil Council has arranged a sponsored Fitness Day through which we will reap the extra benefit of getting our hearts pumping.

PUPIL COUNCIL SPONSORED FITNESS DAY MONDAY 26 JUNE 2017



Our Pupil Council has decided to organise a Sponsored Fun Fitness Day in June to raise much needed funds for additional items of sports equipment and new resources. We will be sending home sponsor cards for all families and we will look forward to a fun day of sport and games for everyone. We have set a provisional date of Monday 26 June. However, we will watch the weather forecast and let you know if we need to change the date. Children should wear sports clothes and trainers on this day. Money should be returned to school by **Monday 19 June, at the latest**. Thank you for your continued support.

PAYMENT FOR SCHOOL MEALS, SNACKS AND MILK

We have still a number of parents throughout the school who have not paid their child's music tuition, swimming bus fee, dinners, snack and milk money. If you are one of those parents please send this money to school ASAP.

Unfortunately the school will not be able to continue to provide milk in school at break-time next school year. We will continue to provide healthy snack for children whose parents choose for them to have it. **Please note that snack money must be paid on the first Monday of the new month.** If the money is not received by **the Friday of the first week of the month** your child will not receive a snack in school the following week. This new policy is essential as our school is responsible for the payment of all snacks eaten in school provided by the School Meals Service. This is not an essential part of school but an optional convenience for parents. Please inform the school immediately if your child no longer wants to eat a snack in school.

Parents must pay school dinners on a Monday for the week. If you choose to pay monthly this money **MUST be paid in advance for the period**, from the week including the first day of the month until the last Friday of the month. Overpayments will be credited when the money is balanced at the end of the month. **WE CANNOT PROVIDE CREDIT.**

SCHOOL FUN DAY

THURSDAY 29 JUNE 2017

We will be having a special day of activities for all the children in school on Thursday 29 June. No uniform is needed on this day. We are asking all families to send in £3 per child to help contribute towards the costs of the bouncy castle, sports coach and crafts. This can be sent to your child's class teacher on **any Monday in June but not later than Monday 19 June please.**

SPECIAL CUPS AND TROPHIES

If your child received a special cup or trophy at last year's Prize Day this needs to be returned to school ASAP. If you know any of last year's P7 children who received trophies please remind them to return their cups to school cleaned. Thank you!

TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

Thank you for visiting the recent book fair. Our school used the commission to buy more reading and Accelerated Reader books.

Congratulations to Jack Eakin who has been invited onto the Gymnastics Olympic Start Squad for Ireland. He is the youngest of 7 boys in the squad and this is a huge achievement for him. We wish him continued success in his gymnastics!

Well done Jack!



SPORTS DAY

7 JUNE 2017

AT MEADOWBANK SPORTS ARENA 10 am -12.15 pm.

Children should wear their school PE Kit (blue school t-shirt and navy shorts with trainers and sports socks) and sun cream, if it is dry. Children should bring a water bottle – no fizzy drinks please!

Parents should drop off children at the pitch situated at the back of Meadowbank Sports Arena by 9.45 am. However, if it is wet, please drop children **off inside** the sports arena. Please ensure that your children have visited the toilet before being dropped off. Children should stay with their class at all times during Sports Day so please do not encourage them to run over to talk to you during the activities. There will be a fun parents' race so wear suitable shoes if you plan to participate. Pre-school children will have the chance to take part in a sprinting race at the end of Sports Day. Let's hope the sun shines on Wednesday and we all have a great day of fun.

Everyone is very welcome to stay and spectate. Parents not attending should arrange for their child to be collected at 12.15pm as this will be a half day for all children.

PRIZE DAY

FRIDAY 23 JUNE 2017

P1 - P3 Day will commence at 10 am sharp. There will be a short programme of entertainment, followed by sports day prizes for P1 - P3 children. The school hall will be in use until 9.30am so parents should plan to arrive after 9.35am. We anticipate a 10.35 am -10.40 am finish.

If you have a child in P4 – P7 only and want to attend just the second half then arrive between 10.40 am and 11am. P4 - P7 Prize day will commence at 11 am sharp. P4 to P7 children will provide a short programme of entertainment followed by a prize distribution. **Everyone Welcome!**

After Prize Day the photographer will be in school and we plan to have a normal school closing on this day.



DROP OFF AND COLLECTION INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

We are delighted with the new traffic management system and 2G pitch. Hopefully you are finding it less stressful at drop off and pick up times. We would like to remind parents to come inside the gates at 3pm to collect your child as we need to keep the pavement clear for people to walk to and from their cars! Please collect your children promptly at 3 pm. Those children who remain after 3.10 pm will be brought inside to wait in the P7 classroom.

TAX-FREE CHILD CARE

The Government is now inviting parents to sign up for tax-free childcare. Tax free childcare is a new online government service to help parents to pay for childcare. For every £8 a parent pays into their childcare account, the government will add £2. Parents can then use this money to make payments to childcare or after school providers. If you are interested in finding our more about the scheme then please go online to:

www.childcare-support.tax.service.gov.uk

Good bye to P7 Class of 2017!

We want to wish all of our P7 pupils a very happy last few weeks at Woods. For those families who are leaving us we want to thank you for your support and contributions to our school. We are proud of all of our P7 children and have enjoyed watching them grow and develop over the years. We will miss them and wish them all continued success in the future.

Enjoy a well-earned break over the summer months!

