



PARENT INTERVIEWS (P1 – P7) 20, 21 & 22 NOVEMBER 2018

School will close at 1.30 pm (P1 - P3 and older siblings) and 1.45 pm (P4 - P7) to facilitate Parent Interviews on these days.

NO 123 Club on these days.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS 2018

Wed 12 December School will close at 1.30pm
Evening Concert @ 6.45pm

Thursday 13 December School will open at 10.30am on this day and close at 1.30pm. Evening concert @6.45pm.

Friday 14 December – School will open at 10am today. Normal closing.

MONEY DETAILS

SNACK October £6.00 (NOTE: If you paid £6.30 for October then 30p will be carried over to November. Apologies for this error).

EARLY BIRD CLUB 8.15 AM - 8.45AM

This club continues to be popular and costs 50p a day for any child wishing to attend.

In the past we have been made aware of the upset caused by children feeling 'left out' when party invitations are distributed in class and all of one gender are not invited. This upset hinders children's ability to focus on their learning and puts teachers in a difficult position. Our priority is children's happiness, contentment at school and their progress in learning. Please be aware of our school policy as follows:

PARTY INVITATIONS IN SCHOOL

Party invitations should only be given out during the school day when all of the same gender in a class, or the whole class are being invited.

Obviously parents may still arrange smaller parties outside of school hours by texting parents or delivering invites outside of school. Thank you for your understanding.

Online Safety

Safe Use of the Internet is a top priority for us all. We are sending home an ICT Code of Practice Agreement for pupils and parents and are asking all families to read through this document and discuss it as part of homework. P1-3 parents should sign it and return it to school.

PACKED LUNCHES AT SCHOOL

We would ask parents not to send in tins in their child's lunchbox as the sharp edges could cause cuts.

October Dates

P3 Shared Education Trip to Greenmount	4 October
School Photographer	5 October
P4 shared lessons at St Trea's P S	10 & 18 October
P3 shared lessons at Woods P S	10 & 18 October
Tri-county Football Tournament	12 October
Flu Immunisations P1-7	17 October
P7 Parent Interviews	23 & 25 October
P3 shared lessons at St Trea's P S	24 October
P4 shared lessons at Woods	24 October
Sponsored Fitness Day (NON UNIFORM)	26 October
123 Club Party 2-3pm	26 October

School Photographer Visiting Woods

Friday 5 October 2018

(Please note the change of date!)

Make sure you are looking your best!



Pre-school children may come in with their parents for a photo with their family before school from 8.30am.

P7 children may bring in their own clothes and props such as Rugby ball, football, instrument etc. to have a more casual photo with their friends.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME TRIP – 18 DECEMBER 2018

The final payment for The Millennium Theatre trip is now overdue.

If you have not returned the reply slip please fill in and return the attached slip along with your £10 contribution to your child's class teacher ASAP

MUSIC LESSONS - P4-7 CHILDREN

We have three music tutors in school who teach groups of children instruments as follows:

- Guitars Tuesday
- Woodwind (Flutes) Thursday Morning
- Drumming & Pipes Thursday afternoon (starts 4.10.18)
- Violins (Strings) Friday

If your child has committed to taking lessons during the year then we would ask that parents should encourage their child to practise their music pieces 4-5 times (approx. 10mins) during the week, in preparation for their next music lesson, in order to make the desired progress. Please also make sure your child remembers to bring in their instrument on the correct day to make the most of lesson time.

ONCE A WEEK... TAKE A PEEK!

We have been informed that there are some children in school who have been treated for headlice. When there are headlice in the school population they can spread easily and quickly. Treatments are available from local pharmacies. Please check your child's head and treat accordingly.

123 CLUB HALF TERM PARTY

FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER 2018 2 PM-3 PM

Any child from P1 – P3 who wants to attend should return the reply slip and £2 to their class teacher ASAP.

PAYMENT VOUCHERS

We would appreciate it if any parents paying After School/123/Early Bird clubs by voucher would **itemize these clubs and name the child on their payment.**

BUILDING INDEPENDENCE

Now that your children have settled into class again we request that in the morning P2 - P4 are left at the front door and children from P5 - P7 should be left at the gate. ALL parents should watch until their child walks safely in through the front door. This gradually builds independence in your child. Parents of P1 children are welcome to come in with their child, if needed. The aim should be to leave them at the top of the corridor, working towards dropping off at the front door **after Half Term.**

PE UNIFORM

This should be sent to school in a named bag ASAP.

- Sky blue round neck t-shirt with motif (available at RA Cuddy)
- Navy shorts
- Navy joggers/leggings for cooler weather
- Black plimsols for indoor PE lessons. Trainers will only be needed for certain outdoor activities and you will be notified when they are required.

We would remind all parents to name each item of PE Kit, uniform and coats to avoid confusion and help to prevent loss.

50th Anniversary Celebrations

DVDS are available of our 50th anniversary concert which took place at the end of June 2018. A DVD costs £3 and can be purchased from the school office.

The Child Protection policy is that all visitors should sign in at the office when entering the building. If you need to talk to the teacher, please speak to the secretary to arrange a suitable time to visit school or phone and have a chat. Thank you for your support.

CERTIFYING PASSPORTS

Unfortunately, due to the large number of requests for staff to certify photos for passports we will no longer be able to provide this service.

Parents, can you help us?

We need some help from parents over the next year to help our school provide a broad range of experiences for our children. If you are willing to assist with After School sessions in Football, Hockey or Art and Craft, please let us know. **If you are willing to do this voluntary work please complete the reply slip attached and return to school ASAP.**

ECO WORK AT WOODS



Recycling Batteries

We can recycle old household batteries at school. If you have any, please send them into school and put them in the red collection box at the front door.

ECO COUNCIL 2018/19 - Class representatives have been elected and badges presented in assembly. Look out for updates on the website about our work during the year.

FLU IMMUNISATIONS P1-7

THE SCHOOL NURSE TEAM WILL BE IN SCHOOL ON 17 OCTOBER 2018 IN THE SCHOOL HALL TO ADMINISTER THE FLU IMMUNISATIONS P1-7. PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR CHILD'S CONSENT FORM HAS BEEN RETURNED TO SCHOOL.

SPONSORED FITNESS DAY AT WOODS P S

WE ARE PLANNING A WHOLE SCHOOL SPONSORED FITNESS DAY ON **FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER**, DURING SCHOOL HOURS. THE CHILDREN WILL WEAR THEIR OWN CLOTHES (SPORTS SHOES PLEASE) AND PARTICIPATE IN FUN DANCES, SPORT AND TEAM GAMES PREPARED AND LED BY MEMBERS OF STAFF. THIS WILL HELP KEEP EVERYONE FIT AND HOPEFULLY RAISE SOME EXTRA SCHOOL FUNDS FOR **NEW ICT EQUIPMENT AND LITERACY RESOURCES.** SPONSOR CARDS SHOULD BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BEFORE **26 OCTOBER**, AT THE LATEST! THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY. THIS MONEY WILL ENHANCE THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR ALL OF OUR PUPILS.

Reconstitution of the NEW BOARD OF GOVERNORS 2018-22

We want to thank all of the members of our current board of governors who are stepping down from their position after a lengthy period of time. In particular, Mr Alastair Stewart and Mr Adrian Booth who have both served 16 years. These governors have made a huge contribution to our school through their attendance and contribution at meetings and school functions. Adrian assisted the school in the past to obtain a grant for interactive whiteboards and Alastair reviews and verifies the school's annual accounts. We thank both men for their dedication to our school over the years and wish them all the best for the future.

We are delighted to inform you that following a meeting of parents on 17 September Mrs Deborah Campbell and Mrs Amanda Church were elected as parent representatives on our new board of governors. Deborah will return after already serving 4 years and Amanda will take on this new role for the first time.

Rainey Endowed Entrance Exam - familiarization morning - Saturday 13 October @10am.



EXCEPTIONAL CLOSURES POLICY (In the event of extreme weather)

An exceptional closure is unplanned, and is due to unforeseen circumstances such as adverse weather conditions, power failure, or situations which affect the safety of pupils and staff.

In times of extreme weather, such as a heavy snowfall, the Principal will consider and carry out a risk assessment based on the following issues:

- Transport – Can buses, meal deliveries etc. reach the school, particularly if the unforeseen circumstances affect a large proportion of pupils?
- Can pupils and staff access the school building safely?
- Can pupils and staff be evacuated in an emergency?
- In an emergency, could the Emergency Services access the school?
- Is the area designated for disembarkation from transport safe for pupils?
- If a limited number of staff and pupils can attend, is the pupil teacher ratio acceptable?

The Principal will endeavour to make a decision at the earliest possible time. Decisions the night before can only be taken when all the indications are that adverse conditions will continue overnight.

Every effort will be made by the School Building Supervisor to ensure that the grounds and building are safe for use.

Should continuing severe weather conditions throughout the school day impact further on the risk assessment then a decision to close early will be communicated to parents and staff at the earliest possible time.

We would appreciate every reasonable effort by staff to get to work. It is essential that staff and parents/carers keep in communication with the school as to their current position.

In the event of school closure, the following procedures will be followed:

1. A note placed on the School website front page.
2. A text to a parent's mobile or if you wish to nominate an alternative number, please contact the school office with details.
3. If we decide to close early a text or telephone call from the school.
4. If in doubt, please phone the school.

It is always very important that parents make informed decisions on the safety of their children travelling on dangerous roads regardless of whether the school is open or closed.

Parents should not post details of school closures on social media sites.

This is not controlled by the school and, as happened previously, inaccurate information can quickly circulate in the community.



I do allow*/Do not allow* my child(ren) _____

To go to The Millennium Theatre, Londonderry, to see 'Peter Pan' on Tuesday 18 December 2018.

I enclose £ _____ contribution (£10 PER CHILD).

Signed _____ (Parent) _____ (Date)

PARENTS WILLING TO VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOL

- After School Clubs – Football/Hockey/Art And Craft/Other _____ YES/NO
- Supervise voluntarily on school trips YES/NO
- Gardening YES/NO
- Paired reading with children during school hours YES/NO

Please indicate your willingness to undergo an Enhanced Police Check to comply with our Child Protection policy. YES/NO

Parent Name: _____ Child's Name: _____

ESSENTIAL FOR ALL PARENTS _ REPLY SLIP

I have read and familiarized myself with the following school policies that have been added to the school website (click Parents – Policies)

- Attendance
- Internet Safety
- Learning and Teaching
- Privacy Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Marking and feedback Policy
- Code of Conduct Policy
- Maths Policy
- 123 Club
- Pastoral Care
- Exceptional Closures
- Homework Policy Summary leaflet – in website under 'Parent leaflets'

I understand that if I have any questions regarding the contents of any policy I can direct these questions in writing to Mrs White.

Signed: _____ PRINT NAME _____ DATE _____

**123 CLUB HALF TERM PARTY FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER 2018 2 PM-3 PM
OPEN TO ALL CHILDREN IN P1 – P3**



My child(ren) _____ will be attending the 123 Club Half Term party.

I enclose £2 per child: £ _____

Signed: _____ (parent) _____ (date)

PRE-ADMISSION FORM

Education Authority policy dictates that all schools should make a 3-year financial plan. To assist us in making this as accurate as possible it would be very helpful to have a more accurate idea of future enrolment trends. With this in mind we are asking you to complete the attached pre-admission form and return it to the school office ASAP. If you know of any family, friends or neighbours who are considering sending their child to Woods Primary School it would be greatly appreciated if you could give them this form or ask them to contact the school so they can be added to our pre-admission list.

Please note that this form is for our information only and in the January of the year your child is to start school an official form must still be filled in.



**WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL
PRE-ADMISSION FORM**

*Together we Learn
Together we Achieve*

PARENT'S NAME	ADDRESS	CHILD'S NAME	DATE OF BIRTH



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