



P6 SWIMMING

COMMENCING FRIDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2019

Our P6 class will attend swimming lessons on a Friday for Term 1 (12 weeks) commencing 6 September until 29 November. There will be a charge of £32 per child for transport costs to the swimming pool for Term 1. The school will pay for each child's swimming lessons. This first payment of £32 must be received by Friday 23 September at the latest.

PARENT INTERVIEWS (P1 – P7) 19 (3-4.15PM) , 20 & 21 NOVEMBER 1PM – 4.15PM

School will close at 12.15pm (P1 - P3 and older siblings) and 12.25 pm (P4 - P7) to facilitate Parent Interviews on these days. Parents are asked to let school know, by filling in the reply slip below, if there is a day that **would not suit** them and we will do our best to accommodate parents where possible.

NO 123 Club on Wednesday and Thursday.

For larger classes we will also hold a few interviews on Tuesday 19 November between 2.30 and 4pm.

PARENT INTERVIEWS (P7)

Primary 7 parents of children who **are** sitting the Rainey Entrance exam are being offered an opportunity to meet with Mrs Brooks (P7 teacher) on Thursday 24 October (from 9 am – 3 pm). All other P7 parents will be invited to attend for interview with the rest of the school in November. Please complete the reply slip attached.

Money Details

SCHOOL DINNERS ARE £2.60 A DAY.

Snacks are 30p a day.

SNACK	SEPT	£6.30
	OCT	£5.70

123 CLUB P1 - P3 (SEPT/OCTOBER)

If you have not already filled in a form please collect one from the school office and return it to school accompanied by the fee, as soon as possible. Please note that Monday activity will now be team games. Primary 1 children may attend this club from **Monday 23 September** if they have completed the registration form and sent the money to school. This club can be paid for with cash, childcare vouchers or a separate cheque (not to be included with dinner money).

All cheques should be made payable to 'Woods Primary School'. We are registered with Employers for Childcare, Sodexo, Care 4 and Busy Bees childcare vouchers.

Please note that if your child enrolls for a Monday it is every Monday in the session.



As we commence a new school year we want to welcome back all of our returning pupils and give a warm welcome to our new pupils who have joined us. We also want to welcome our 25 new P1 pupils and their families. We hope everyone will have an enjoyable learning experience with us and settle quickly into life at Woods Primary.

Thank you to all of our support staff and teachers for getting the school ready for the new school year. We especially want to thank Ms Mary Devlin and Mrs Tracey Crooks for the spotless classrooms, toilets and corridors. We are very fortunate to have such a bright, attractive and highly resourced school with dedicated and caring staff.

STAFFING

We want to welcome Mrs Brooks back to teach the P7 class each Monday to Wednesday alongside Mrs Bell who will teach the class on Thursday and Fridays. Mrs Bell will be timetabled for SEN teaching on a Thursday for a block this term, during these weeks Mrs Brooks will teach P7. Unfortunately, due to serious reductions to our budget we have had no option but to reduce this provision.

WE ARE AIMING TO BE A 'NUT FREE' SCHOOL



WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO HAVE A NUT ALLERGY ENROLLED IN OUR SCHOOL. THEREFORE, WE WOULD ASK ALL FAMILIES TO HELP US TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS OF SERIOUS ALLERGIC REACTION.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN BOXES USED FOR CEREALS CONTAINING NUTS FOR CRAFT ETC. DO NOT SEND INTO SCHOOL ANY NUTELLA OR NUT CONTAINING FOODS.

YOU MAY READ OUR FULL POLICY ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE. ANY QUERIES REGARDING THIS NEW POLICY SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MRS WHITE.

WHILST THE STAFF REALLY APPRECIATE THE VERY KIND EDIBLE GIFTS WE RECEIVE ON OCCASIONS FROM PARENTS FOR THE STAFFROOM WE WOULD ASK THAT THESE COMPLY WITH THIS NEW POLICY AND ARE NUT FREE.

IMPORTANT DATES

29 August	New Term commences with 123 club and Early Bird clubs open
2 - 6 Sept	Star Reader Tests administered for P4-7 children
9 September	After school clubs commence for P4-7
20 September	School council 2018/19 to be introduced in assembly
9 October	School Photographer in school today – make sure you look your best! All siblings welcome from 8.30am for family pictures.
16 October	Flu Immunisation Prog P1-7
24 October	P7 Parent Interviews with Mrs Brooks
25 October	Sponsored 'Ditch the dark' fun run – fund raising for school funds. Children wear florescent/reflective sports clothes to school on this NON-UNIFORM FUNDRAISING DAY.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2019/20

OCTOBER 29 – 31 (4 DAYS)

NOVEMBER 1 (1 DAY)

DECEMBER 20- 31 (8 DAYS)

JANUARY 1- 6 (4 DAYS)

FEBRUARY 17-19 (3 DAYS)

MARCH 17 (1 DAY)

APRIL 6-17 (10 DAYS)

MAY 8 (1 DAY)

MAY 22-25 (2 DAYS)

SCHOOL WILL CLOSE 30 JUNE @11.45 AM

P7 PARENTS

IF YOUR CHILD PLANS TO SIT THE RAINEY SCHOOL ENTRANCE TEST IN NOVEMBER 2019 THEN PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS TO RAINEY IS FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2019. VISIT THEIR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The children are looking really well in their uniform and we want to remind everyone that black footwear should be worn daily. Thank you for your support in maintaining our high standards in behaviour and attitude to school. We have some 'like new' uniform items available for anyone wanting a spare change for their child.

ECO UNIFORM SALE will take place on Monday 23 September 2019 2-2.30pm In the school hall. Everyone welcome!

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 track bottoms/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 Kits, uniform and coats to avoid confusion and help to prevent loss.

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. Online Childcare Vouchers may be used as payment for the club.

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.

SAFETY AT OPENING AND HOME TIMES

We ask all parents/carers to collect their child inside the school gates and walk them safely to their car each day. This is for your child's safety.



TEACHER DIFFICULTIES WITH CHANGE

Getting correct change for children to take home or send to other classes is always a problem for teachers and valuable class time is being used trying to balance class registers. Therefore, it would be appreciated if you could adhere to the following as far as possible:

- **It is essential, if at all possible, that the correct money should be sent to each child's own class teacher.**
- Dinner money is payable each Monday for the number of meals you wish your child to have that week. (This money is lodged each Monday afternoon.)
- We would encourage the use of personal cheques (**made out to 'Education Authority, Southern Region'**) in payment for dinner and snack money. These can be included on one cheque but we would ask that each child has their own cheque/cash payment to be presented to their classroom teacher. **The use of cheques and payment of monies on a monthly basis has proved to be very successful.** If you wish to pay for the whole month please send in a note to your child's teacher detailing which days dinner is to be taken. This will only work if you are paying for **the month in advance.** NO CREDIT CAN BE GIVEN AS THE SCHOOL MUST PAY FOR THE DINNERS ON A WEEKLY BASIS.
- If however, due to unforeseen circumstances, money is brought in during the week please ensure that the **correct** amount is sent as it is very difficult for us to provide change after the Monday lodgment.
- **All money should be in an envelope with the child's name and money details on the outside.** Envelopes are available from the school office at a cost of £2.50 for 40 envelopes.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a number of hoodies, coats, hats, PE shorts, plimsols and other pieces of uniform in our lost property box. If your child has lost an item of uniform please call in and check our box.



If not collected by 6 September 2019 all of these items will be recycled in our clothing bank.

P4 – P7 AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

See Attached Timetable.

Please return the attached reply slip to school on Monday 2 September with payment to secure a place. Some clubs are limited to 24 spaces. Places will not be reserved for your child unless payment has been made for the club. Payment can be made by sending in the correct cash, a cheque (**made payable to 'Woods Primary School'**) or using childcare vouchers online. If you are starting to use childcare vouchers for the first time you must speak to the Principal first. Always state on the child's form which method of payment you have used.

We are fortunate to have such a good variety of clubs running but unfortunately this is not provided by the Department of Education and is an extra school cost. With budgets being reduced we will only be able to continue with clubs that are popular and can cover their costs.

RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER ABSENCE

Good attendance at school will help your child to reach their potential and do well at school. You should only take your child out of school when necessary and you should attempt to make all appointments for outside of school hours when possible. However, if your child is ill or sick during the night do keep them at home for at least 12 hours and ensure that they are able to eat again and have the energy needed for the school day. If returning to school after an absence a parent **must send in a signed note** giving the reason why his/her child was absent. This is to comply with the department of education guidelines and our school policy.

SEPTEMBER HOME TIMES

We encourage our children to be as independent as possible and would like them to walk to their classroom by themselves, as soon as possible – certainly by Half term at the latest. There will always be a member of staff at the front door from 8.45 am to 9.00 am, when the bell rings for classes to commence, to ensure your child's safety. If your child arrives after 9.00 am they should be **brought into school** and signed in at the school office.

Parents of P1 children please remember that your child will be staying in school until **12.15pm until Friday 13 September**. During the week **16 - 20 September P1 will stay in school for lunch and go home at 1.30 pm** and from **Monday 23 September P1 children will go home at 2pm**. If any travel arrangements have changed since filling out the data form, please let Mrs Gardiner know.

Please note: If your child is paying for Healthy Snack it is not necessary for them to bring any additional snack.

CHILD PROTECTION UP-DATE

PLEASE NOTE: To comply with our up-dated Safeguarding school policy no child should bring a mobile phone/electronic toys into school.

However, if you feel there is an occasion that it is necessary for your child to bring a phone into school it **MUST** be given to the secretary or class teacher on arrival and collected at the end of the school day.

We would also remind all parents to make sure that their children do not bring toys or special belongings to school as we do not want items to go missing or get broken. Playground toys and equipment are provided for playtime. Thank you for your co-operation.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

ALL CHILDREN WILL BE GOING TO THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST ON TUESDAY 17 DECEMBER 2019 TO SEE THEIR PANTOMIME 'BEAUTY AND THE BEAST'. A DEPOSIT OF £1 PER SEAT HAS ALREADY BEEN PAID FROM SCHOOL FUNDS. TO ENABLE US TO MAKE THE FINAL PAYMENT WE ARE ASKING FOR A CONTRIBUTION OF £13 PER CHILD TO BE PAID ON OR BEFORE WEDNESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2019, AT THE LATEST. THE COACH TRANSPORT COSTS WILL BE PAID FROM SCHOOL FUNDS HOWEVER THIS YEAR DUE TO THE DIFFICULT FINANCIAL SITUATION WE ARE IN, WE ARE ASKING PARENTS TO MAKE A SMALL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE TRANSPORT £2 PER CHILD INCLUDED IN THE £13 DUE. PLEASE FILL IN AND RETURN THE REPLY SLIP ATTACHED ALONG WITH YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO YOUR CHILD'S CLASS TEACHER.

IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT THESE REPLY SLIPS COME IN PROMPTLY AS ALTERATIONS TO NUMBERS CANNOT BE MADE AFTER THE FINAL PAYMENT WHICH WILL BE PAID TO THE THEATRE ON FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2019.

KEEP OUR CHILDREN HEALTHY

WE ENCOURAGE ALL CHILDREN TO KEEP HYDRATED DURING THE DAY SO PLEASE REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL WITH WATER IN A REUSABLE BOTTLE. WE WILL ALSO BE ENCOURAGING AS MUCH PHYSICAL PLAY OUTSIDE AS WE CAN SO REMEMBER TO SEND A NAMED COAT TO SCHOOL FOR THE COOLER/RAINY DAYS.

RECYCLING

Thank you to everyone who has recycled textiles or clothing in our collection bank. The school received over £100 for clothing recycled from June to August. Well done everyone!



**KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL ...
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST PHOTOS AND SCHOOL NEWS.**

www.woodsprimary school.com

HOMework POLICY



We would like to remind parents of the importance of your child reading at home. Written homeworks should be signed by parents to show that you feel that your child has done their best. It is important that children take special care of all reading books and/or textbooks sent home as these items cost money to replace and the budget is especially limited this year.

RECORDERS

Primary 5 – 7 children are given the opportunity to learn to play the recorder as part of the music curriculum. Over the three years the children will develop their skills but they need to practise their recorder at home to make good progress.



Due to hygiene compliances we no longer keep a supply in school. We have purchased recorders at a reduced price of £3. Therefore we would ask that all children would send in their £3 to school with their replies before 7th September.

I would like to buy a recorder and enclose £3.

Child's Name: _____ Signed: _____ (parent) _____ (date)



WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

I Do allow*/Do Not Allow* My Child(ren) _____

To Go To The Grand Opera House to see 'Beauty and the Beast' on 17 December 2019.

I Enclose £ _____ contribution (£13 PER CHILD).

Signed _____ (Parent) _____ (Date)

It is very important that these reply slips come in promptly as alterations to numbers cannot be made after the final payment which will be paid to the Opera House on Friday 27 September 2019.

P7 PARENT INTERVIEWS – RAINEY ENTRANCE TEST CHILDREN ONLY

I would like my P7 interview to take place on (Children sitting the Rainey Test)

Thursday 24 October 9.30-3pm _____



P1 – P7 (including P7 not sitting the Rainey Test) 20 – 21 November

P1-7 PARENT INTERVIEWS

I would*/would not* like to have an Interview with my child's class teacher:

Name: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Signed _____ (Parent) _____
(Date)

COMMENTS:

Please give details of any days/times which are unsuitable for you and we will try to accommodate you.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE REPLY SLIPS AND RETURN TO SCHOOL ASAP WITH PAYMENT WHERE APPROPRIATE.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS TERM 1 - REPLY SLIP TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL ASAP
SEPT/OCT 2019

Please tick the boxes of the clubs your child wishes to join this term.

P7 Numeracy Transfer Club - £18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P4-7 Netball- £12	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P4&5 Art Club -£10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P5-7 Tennis Club - £14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P4 Book Club - £8	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
Literacy (P7) - £18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P5-7 Hockey - £12	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____

I give permission for my child to take part in the After School Clubs ticked and have enclosed payment.

I enclose: £ _____ or have made an online payment using vouchers.

Signed: _____ (Parent) _____ (Date)

PARENT REPLY_ Updated School Policies

Please visit our school website and read the following updated school policies. Once you are familiar with the contents tick the box and return to school ASAP for our school records. If you have any questions or queries about the contents of any policy, please speak to Mrs White.

Food Allergen Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Intimate Care Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk Assessment Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cyber bullying Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>
Educational Trips	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equal Opportunities & Inclusion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photography Policy	<input type="checkbox"/>

Parent name _____ Date _____

PLEASE RETURN ALL CONSENT FORMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to working with you during the school year to help your child to learn and make good progress.

Please note if P1 parents have already returned their consent forms they do not need to return a second copy.