

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021

38 Oaklea Road Magherafelt BT45 6HX

Tel: 02879418415

www.woodsprimaryschool.com

Money Details

SCHOOL DINNERS ARE £2.60 A DAY. SNACK OCT £4.80 NOV £6.60

Money should be sent into school on a Monday for the week ahead or month ahead. It is easier if money is paid for the month ahead.

123 CLUB P1 - P3 (NOVEMBER/DEC 2021)

If you wish for your child to attend this club, please complete and return the form to school accompanied by the money due, asap. This club can be paid for with cash, childcare vouchers or a separate cheque (not to be included with dinner money please). 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 enrols for a particular day it *is every day* in the session e.g. every Monday. This club has been very popular this term. We have a limit on the number of children we can cater for in 123 Club, so places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis.

EARLY BIRD CLUB 8.15-8.45am

Where? In the school hall or outside in the playground weather permitting £1.50 a day

Vouchers can be used as payment or correct CASH.

Early Bird form and payment should be sent to school before half term to allow us to plan for 1 November 2021.

Please note school will close early on Friday 22 October as follows:
P1-3 & older siblings 1pm
P4-7 1.15pm

There will be no buses on this date. This is a Non-uniform Day £1 for charity

CASH FOR CLOBBER RECYCLING

Thanks to all families who are using our clothing bank. We received a cheque for £318 for last quarter which is amazing!

Well done everyone!

WE ARE AIMING TO BE A 'NUT FREE' SCHOOL



WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO HAVE NUT ALLERGIES 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 ANY NUTELLA OR NUT CONTAINING FOODS IN YOUR CHILD'S LUNCHBOX.

School Holidays 2021/22 (All dates Inclusive)

<u>Autumn Term</u> Commences Friday 27 AUGUST 2021 Half term Break 25-29 October (5 days) Christmas Holiday 21-31 Dec (9 days) 3-4 Jan (2 days)

Spring Term Commences Wednesday 5 January 2022 Half term Break 14 -18 Feb (5 days) St Patrick's Day 17 March (1 day) Easter Holidays 11-22 April (10 days)

Summer Term Commences Monday 25 April 2022 2 May 2022 (1 day) 23 May 2022 (1 day) 2-3 June 2022(2 days)

Dates for the diary...

Tuesday 19 October 2021 PHOTOGRAPHER IN SCHOOL – Make

sure you are looking your best! Single photos will be taken and family photos of children in school. No parents or pre-school children to come into school this year due to COVID 19 restrictions.

Thursday 21 October 'Name the Character' Competition

£1 entry P4-7 only.

Friday 22 October NON UNIFORM DAY £1 for Compassion

Sponsored Child Project

Early Closing today P1-3 @1pm

P4-7 @ 1.15pm

Monday 1 November 2021 Flu Immunisation Clinic in school

Tuesday 9 November 2021 CASH FOR CLOBBER COLLECTION

Please fill up the collection bin outside first. Once it is full the extra bags can be left into the school hall, if necessary, on Monday 8 November.

Healthy Breaks and Lunchboxes

The Northern Ireland Curriculum includes the need to educate children to make healthy choices for themselves in relation to food, drink, habits and lifestyle. We encourage our pupils to think about having a balanced diet and try to include physical activity in their daily routine in order to help exercise their bodies.

We are asking parents to support us with this aim and encourage your children to bring a healthy break to school, if they are not participating in the school healthy break initiative.

We would also encourage healthy lunchboxes in school which means keeping sugary snacks and crisps to a minimum. This is part of our ECO work in school. Please visit our school website for more information and ideas on what to include in a healthy lunchbox.



HOMEWORK

Please ensure that your child completes their homework to the best of their ability.

We also recommend a *minimum of 15 minutes reading each night for P4-7 pupils*.

P1-3 will benefit greatly from reading a story with parents/carers each night.



School Funds

Some families are yet to pay the £10 for books and stationery. Please ensure that this is paid before 21 October 2021.

Thank you to all families who have contributed to the school funds already.

Advance notice for parents - World Book Day 2022

This year World Book Day will be held on **Thursday 3rd March 2022**. We are looking forward to celebrating it in style at Woods Primary School. We love to celebrate this special day as a way of maintaining, promoting and engaging reading amongst the children. This year we hope that your child will come to school dressed as their favourite character from any book. This is a great way to lead discussion with your child about who their favourite character is and why. The dressing up possibilities are endless and you do not need to purchase a costume for this as many costumes can be made at home! Also, many of the characters are simply little boys or girls e.g. Matilda, Dirty Bertie, Horrid Henry, Charlie from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory etc. We are hoping that letting you know about the costumes in plenty of time, will make this process easier for you, and give you time to get your imaginations flowing! More information will follow closer to the event.

PARENTAL HELP REQUEST

We would like to thank George Berryman and his daughter, Ann for all their hard work re-painting the sheds and playhouse, and fixing some of our picnic tables. They are all looking great and the children are enjoying using the garden area during playtimes and outdoor play.

We are planning to further develop the garden area for outdoor play provision in school and would be delighted to hear from any parents who could help us with a small area of paving or construction of a wooden shelter to store large play equipment.

NEW POLICIES

Please visit our school website to read our Updated 'Use of Reasonable Force Policy'. Once you are familiar with the contents please complete and return the parent consent form to your child's class teacher for school records. Please note it is only in exceptional circumstances that any member of staff would ever have to restrain a pupil in school. The updated 'Relationships and Sexuality Policy' is also on the website.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE

School Principals have recently received a letter from Mr Stephen Briggs, Head of EA Catering Service stating that: "Many of the schools' kitchens have been experiencing some disruption to their normal orders. There are several factors contributing to this; including:

- 1. A decision made by a supplier in August to cease trading with the EA Catering Service. This has meant we are redistributing the goods to other suppliers within our catering service. This is taking time for stocks to be ordered and delivered into our suppliers.
- 2. Manufacturers supplying our suppliers reducing their product lines and, in some cases, removing products we purchased previously.
- 3. Manufacturers not having the capacity to meet demand due to staff shortages.
- 4. The availability of raw materials for certain food lines.

We envisage the current issues in relation to deliveries will ease over the next 2-3-week period." We would remind parents that our catering staff will do their very best to ensure that the food on offer is as stated on the published menu each month, but there may be times substitutes have to be made. Thank you in advance for your understanding.

SCHOOLS NI APP

All parents are encouraged to download the 'Schools NI App' and click on 'Woods Primary school' to receive updates to our website. We will also use this as a means to send private messages to parents but parents need to accept the invitation to register for private messaging and check the 'Schools NI App' regularly for updated information and messages.



Dear Parent/Guardian

As part of our duty to safeguard your child/children we hav	ve a Reasonable Force Po	licy. This policy refers to the
procedures which may be required in school to protect you	ur child or other children	from physical harm.
This policy applies to children within P1-P7. Parents/Guard	lians are asked to comple	ete the consent form below.
Mrs K White		
Principal		
********* PARENT REI	PLY *************	********
Safeguarding in Woods P S -	Reasonable Force Policy	
I (parent/guardiar	n) of	(child)
give permission for any of the Staff in Woods Primary School	ol to restrain my child, if	necessary, in response to their
actions as outlined in the policy.		
I have read and understood the Reasonable Force Policy wlwwwwoodsprimaryschool.com.	hich is on the school web	site
Signed:		