



WELCOME TO THE NEW ACADEMIC YEAR

Dear Parents,

I hope your children have enjoyed their first full week back in school. The atmosphere around the school has been exceptionally positive with children showing positive learning behaviours in class and around the school. So far, we have focussed on ensuring that all children are settled and happy in their new classes, implementing COVID guidelines for schools and starting a catch up curriculum for all children. Over the next couple of weeks, we will start to teach your children the curriculum for their new year group whilst closing any gaps that they might have from the previous year.

This morning, I spent a few minutes on the edge of our foundation bubble. Our new cohort of children have made an exceptional start at Woodlands, displaying a love of learning and making positive friendships. I look forward to seeing this group of children develop in the future.

After you led home learning in the summer term, I'm sure lots of you are happy to pass the majority of the responsibility back to us in school! However, this week, homework will be sent out by all teams which will enable your children to consolidate key concepts taught in school. Please support your children with these activities. In addition, please continue to support your child's reading progress by finding a time, at least 5 times a week, to share a book or to listen to your children read. We will send resources home during the year to help you to develop comprehension as well as fluency. Thanks for your continued support with this.

Steve Bone, Headteacher

SUPERSTAR CERTIFICATES – Friday 11 September Alex Wood, Aimee Sheerin, Zac Matthews, Ferne Pickering, Harry Rogers, Amelia Evans, Elliot Jennings, Zach Dawe, Priya Stock, Yasmin Walby, Sam Granville, Ella Punchedard, Emma Willis, Hamza Sorour, Max Roper, Freya Earl, Evelyn Glassock, Aldo Larriou-Price, Layla Brittin, Josh Tebb, Hazel Rich-Pearce, Herbie Beswick, Austin Jones & Jess Richardson.



COVID UPDATE - As we're moving into Autumn and the children are mixing again within their bubbles, the usual Autumn colds with runny noses and sore throats are prevalent. Your child does not need to be kept off school for these reasons, only if they are too unwell in themselves to attend school or are showing the following coronavirus symptoms as outlined by Public Health England below. If your child has symptoms a test will be required and siblings must stay at home until you receive a negative result.

Symptoms of coronavirus in children

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature.
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

What to do if your child has symptoms

If your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get the test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get the result.

SAFEGUARDING – Our designated safeguarding officers at school are Mrs Hunter, Mr Bone and Miss Walker. Should you need to talk to one of them, please contact the office. Our Safeguarding Governor is Mr Moyes. Please use the following link to our website to see all our safeguarding policies and links to various websites for more information <http://www.woodlandspark.devon.sch.uk/page/?title=Safeguarding&pid=11>

ATTENDANCE/HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME – Children's regular attendance at school is essential to ensure that they maximise their learning opportunities to achieve their full potential. If your child is unwell please leave a message on the absence line before 8.50 am on the first day of absence. If your child is off school poorly for more than one day could you please send in a letter on their return covering them for the whole period detailing their absence. As you are no doubt aware holidays in term time are strongly discouraged and the school will continue to follow Government guidelines which do not allow for authorisation of holidays in term time.

NEXT STEPS, YEAR 6 SECONDARY TRANSFER 2021 – Although the children have only just started in Year 6, the online application facility for transfer to secondary school is now available. You must submit an application by Saturday 31 October 2020 at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline or contact the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019 where an adviser will be happy to assist you. National Allocation Day will be Monday 1 March 2021.



PARENTPAY & PAYMENTS ONLINE – We are in the process of installing Meal Manager which is a system whereby you can order your child's food options for the day or week with your child at home. As you book a meal after viewing the menu, payment will be taken. If you forget to do it in the morning, the children will be able to make their choice in class. Once a choice is made at home, it will not be able to be changed in school. All food orders are sent through to the kitchen directly, who will make meals according to the selections made. More information will follow



HOME SCHOOL COMMUNICATION - Please can you notify us of any change of details such as change of address, telephone numbers or email address so that your contact information is correct. With regards to emails, we are able to send correspondence to two addresses, so if you'd like us to add another address, please notify the office. There is also a wealth of information available on the school's website that includes a calendar, letters from school, newsletters, homework, clubs, lunch menu and useful links.

THINGS THAT GET FORGOTTEN OR YOU JUST DON'T KNOW?

- The following items are NOT part of our school uniform: trainers, boots, coloured socks, make up, nail varnish and jewellery with the exception of watches and stud earrings. We will be asking children to remove any jewellery, apart from stud earrings and will not accept any responsibility for loss. Children not able to remove earrings will need to cover them with tape. If they are not able to do so, they will miss PE.
- We recommend that **ALL** children have **book bags** as these go into class with the children making their book easily accessible for reading time, which happens daily. Any communication from school can also go directly into the book bags and hopefully make it home in one piece!
- Please can long hair be tied back as it can cause a distraction in class. It needs to be tied back for all PE lessons for safety reasons.
- Please can all toys, trading cards and personal items from home not be brought into school for fear they could get lost and damaged, resulting in upset children.
- Tablets, cough sweets, lipsoles or skin creams (except for sun-block to be self-administered) should not be brought into school.
- We are also a **nut free zone** due to the severe allergic reactions they cause to some of the children in our school, so please think really carefully when packing your child's snack/packed lunch (this includes peanut butter and cereal bars).
- Water bottles are encouraged for morning break and KS2 classroom use during the day, these bottles should be clear and contain water. Squash and fruit juices are only for lunchtime.
- Foundation children have a carton of free milk daily until their 5th Birthday which can continue up to Year 6 at a subsidised cost of 22p per day if parents/carers wish.
- Foundation/Key Stage 1 children have a fresh piece of fruit and universal free school meals daily until Key Stage 2.
- Please can lunch accounts with ParentPay be in credit at the start of each week before lunches are taken.
- **MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS** – When submitting an S2 form for medical appointments, please also include the doctor/hospital letter. We can photocopy it, so that you have the original to take to the appointment.
- **FREE SCHOOL MEALS/SERVICE FAMILIES** – Some children are entitled to free school meals due to all kinds of personal circumstances. To see if you are eligible you can contact 'My Devon' on 0345 155 1019 for an immediate assessment or contact the office for advice or a form. Free school meal entitlement and Service Families attract additional funding which is beneficial to your child's education, so please let the office know if you are entitled.
- **SCHOOL MILK, FREE AND SUBSIDISED** – If your child is under 5 years old they will automatically be registered to receive free milk until their fifth birthday (please contact the school if you wish for your child NOT to receive free milk or has an allergy). Children over the age of 5 years can receive subsidised milk by registering at www.coolmilk.com the cost is approximately £15.00 a term. Those children entitled to free school meals are also entitled to receive a carton in school each day. Please contact the office if you would like your child to have this.
- All copies of letters, homework and newsletters we send out are on the school website if you need a copy.