



HOW WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED 1968

Head Teacher: Mrs C Rowe
Newsletter 2

23rd September 2016

Dear Parents,

The past three weeks have been very busy and productive and I have really enjoyed teaching in Year 5 and Year 2. The children discussed why having a growth mind-set is so important to their learning and they shared their future aspirations considering what they would like to become when they are grown-up. Amongst the children at How Wood School we have: budding scientists; artists, including a cartoonist; vets; firemen, policemen, many footballers and gymnasts – to name but a few! Keep an eye on the Wall of Fame display board in the hall where the children's self-portraits are appearing labelled with their future professions.

School Website

Mrs de Fransz has been beavering away updating the website and the school calendar. Please check the site regularly for latest school news and newsletters. I would appreciate any feedback regarding information on the website. Thank you.

Parent Teacher Meetings

Thank you to all the parents who managed to come along to the Parent Teacher meetings over the last two weeks. We hope you found the sessions useful and informative. I would like to take this opportunity to apologise for the short notice of some of these meetings. I will endeavour to give at least a fortnight's notice of events in the future.

Gardening Club Success

This year we entered two gardening competitions, the first was 'Parish in Bloom' which we have entered in previous years; this year we were delighted to hear we came first! The prize-giving ceremony was held at Greenwood Park and we were awarded a trophy, certificate and a £50 gardening voucher by the Parish Committee.

For the second competition, 'District Schools in Bloom' we were up against over 16 other schools from St Albans. The award ceremony was held at the St Albans Council Chambers and we were awarded 'Highly Commended' for our Super Duper Sunflower entry and we were 'Runners Up' in the Vibrant Vegetable category. A big thank you to Mrs Thompson and the children from Gardening Club who help keep the school garden and grounds looking fantastic!

Calling all 'Green Fingred' parents

Following on from The Gardening Clubs recent successes, Mrs Thompson and I have decided to have a thorough tidy-up of the school grounds and flower beds. We would like to invite volunteers to help us on Saturday 15th October from 10.30am to approximately 12.30pm. Please can you register your interest at the School Office with Mrs Gooch. Thank you.

Clubs

Here is an overview of the clubs we are offering this term. Most clubs have started now but Home Learning Club will commence after half-term as will lunchtime Drawing Club for Reception which is being run by two Year 6 children.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchtime	Home Learning Club Mrs Osborne Years 2-6	Coaching Club KS1/KS2 Mr Mardle		Coaching Club KS2 Mr Mardle	Dance Club Mrs Croucher Years 1,2
Lunchtime	School Council Miss Berry Half-termly 12.40 to 1.10	Drawing Club Reception Year 6		Choir Mrs Reed	
After school	Cheerleading Y4,5 & 6 XLR8 External provider	Football Mr Grace Y5,6	Home Learning Club Mrs Wright and Mrs Meakin	Football Mr Grace Y5,6	Elite Feet Football All year groups
After school		Football Fun KS1 Mr Mardle	Cheerleading Y1,2 & 3 XLR8 External provider	Multi Sports KS2 Mr Mardle	Art Club External provider
After school				Gardening Club Mrs Thompson Years 1,2,3	
After school				Netball Club Mrs Croucher Years 5,6	

PTA

At How Wood School we are very lucky to have a very active and productive Parent and Teacher Association who work extremely hard to raise funds for our school by organising fun events for families and children throughout the year. Please look out for the PTA Newsletter and visit their Facebook page, *How Wood School PTA*, where you will find lots of information about their fundraising and future events, some of which I have listed below.

- Halloween Themed Movie Night – Monday 31st October
- School Disco – Date to be confirmed
- Christmas Fayre – Saturday 3rd December

Please put these dates in your diary.

E-safety

E-Safety is an important part of keeping children safe at How Wood School and is taught to all our pupils taking into account their age and understanding. We discuss and explain how to stay safe and behave appropriately online throughout the teaching of the National Curriculum and whenever children are accessing the internet. It is essential that all parents remind their children about how they can keep themselves safe and behave appropriately online. Both parents and the school must be vigilant when children are using the internet and act to ensure they are protected from people who may pose a risk to them. Children can accidentally or deliberately be exposed to unwanted or unpleasant content, comments or activity online. At school our internet is filtered through Herts Local Authority so children do not access inappropriate content.

I would ask all parents to take a look at our school E-Safety Policy which can be found on our school website. You will also find a useful link to resources about this area.

As e-safety is an ongoing priority for the whole school community it is the focus of our ***Curriculum Enrichment Day on Tuesday 11th October.***

Netball success

We were delighted to hear that How Wood School were the winners of our local netball league. We have only just received the trophy and we would like to say a very big 'Well Done!' and 'Congratulations!' to last year's netball team.

Snacks- a further reminder

Please note if junior children bring in a mid-morning snack it should be a healthy one and consist of a ***piece of fruit***. Crisps, chocolate biscuits and sweets are not acceptable. The infant children will continue to receive a 'free' piece of fruit or vegetable at break time each morning. ***As there are some children across the school with nut allergies we ask all parents not to send in any nut based products.***

Midday Supervisory Assistants – Come and be part of our friendly and supportive team.

We have two vacancies for Midday Supervisory Assistants. If you enjoy working with children and have the skills to ensure the safety and wellbeing of pupils during the lunch period we would love to hear from you.

Hours: 12 to 1.15 Monday to Friday

Hourly rate: £7.53.

Application forms from the School Office

And finally...

Harvest Festival

Our annual Harvest Festival will be held at **10.30 on Wednesday 5th October** in the School Hall. We are now collecting non-perishable donations as we provide baskets of goodies for our local senior citizens. Please see separate letter.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Rowe
Head Teacher