



# HOW WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED 1968

Head Teacher: Mrs C Rowe  
Newsletter 11

16<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Parents & Carers,

As always, the children have been keeping very busy in school. Since my last newsletter we have been treated to a show by Saltmine Productions, followed by a workshop for Year 5 & 6; Year 4 took part in a Roman 'Wow Day'; Reception had a trip to Boxmoor Trust; Year 1 celebrated their learning in their Parents' Assembly; many infants and juniors danced and grooved at the PTA's Disco; the Netball team represented How Wood at St Albans Netball Tournament; the choir sang at the Royal Albert Hall and the Trim Trail is currently being installed in the Key Stage 1 playground!

### Year 4 'Wow' Day by Jessica Reed and Surani Perera

*On Roman Day, Year 4 did Roman numerals for maths. We made number sentences out of straws with the person next to us on our tables. We sang a song about Roman numerals to help us learn. Then, we did a role play about Boudicca's Army. A minute later, we went outside with our shields and the girls threw balls at the boys when they were in tortoise position. Finally, we had a big feast (if you got a short bit of spaghetti you were a slave otherwise you weren't a slave.) The slaves had to serve the rich people before they could eat. The slaves held the grapes above the rich Romans' heads so they could pick the grapes and eat them.*

*We had a great day and really enjoyed dressing up as Romans.*

### World Book Day

Due to 'The Beast from the East' our dressing up day had to be postponed to Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March. All the exciting activities including puppet making, story-telling with Liz Frost and a visiting author, Steve Hughes, will go ahead and the children will parade their outfits in an assembly at the end of the day.

The Book Fair raised £620 giving the school £300 to spend on new books. Thank you for supporting this event.

### Sporting Achievements

How Wood Hurricanes win best in league!!!

By Mr Adams

How Wood netball team got renamed How Wood Hurricanes last weekend as they stormed through the Netball tournament held at St. Albans High School for Girls, winning best in the league. Coached by Mrs Croucher, the Year 6 team, including Sophie Holliss (Year 5) played some fantastic netball and really played well together as



a team. Mya “rocket-shoes” Levick, Lucas “ace-shooter” Hartley, Megan “the giant” Adams, Jessica “darting dragonfly” Breeze, Daisy “calm as a butterfly” Saunders, Katja “spring-shoes” Belmont, Castor “super-goalie” Warrilow and Sophie “interceptor” Holliss.

They were up against some tough competition from private schools with big squads and posh netball uniforms, but this didn't worry them, How Wood Hurricanes were cheered on by supporters and they won through and through. They didn't quite get enough points to get through to the final of the tournament, but came away with a trophy for best in the league after winning all of their games home and away since Christmas.

### Quicksticks Hockey Tournament by Mrs Hartley



How Wood took a small team of 5 hockey players to the Quicksticks tournament on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March. They were Megan, Mya, Lucas, Thomas and Oliver. Unfortunately, Joshua was ill and couldn't be there. The games were 4-a-side and every team had to have a girl on at all times. How Wood were the smallest team there and one of the smallest schools but that didn't stop us from making our mark! We came out strong and won our first match 4-0 against Windermere. Unfortunately, we lost the next 2 against Crabtree and The Grove but they were strong teams with proper hockey players on them. We turned it around in a close match against Prae Wood, winning 2-1. From then on we were on a winning streak! We beat local rivals,

Killigrew, 3-0, then won 4-0 against Markyate. Another close match with Cunningham Hill ended in a 4-2 win. We then went on to play Bowmansgreen and won 4-0. Our biggest win was next. A 7-0 win over Wheatfields! Last up were St Dominic's which we knew was going to be tough as they'd won most of their matches. How Wood finished strong with a 2-0 victory! Overall, we were 4th in our pool which was a great result especially as The Grove from our pool went on to win the whole thing. Well done How Wood Hockey players

### Tag Rugby Festival

Lucas Hartley, Charlie Knight and Thomas Maher –Year 6 and Katie Coleman, Bella Prazer, Georgia McKenna, Sam Stewart and Sophie Holliss – Year 5, took part in St Albans Tag Rugby Festival at the Harpenden Rugby Club on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March.

The children had a great afternoon and were the overall winners of their pool winning 6 matches and drawing 1. As always, they were super ambassadors for How Wood School.



## Choir and the Royal Albert Hall



I felt privileged to join our choir and Mrs Reed at the Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March to perform in a celebration of singing and instrumental music with live art, dance and the world premiere of *If I Had Wings* by Will Todd. Watched by their families and an audience of hundreds, the children embraced this memorable event and sang beautifully, creating an unforgettable and moving experience.



## E-Safety Day

Today, all the children have been learning about E-Safety. At How Wood we take this issue very seriously and go to great lengths to ensure that your children have every opportunity to learn how to keep safe online. It can be quite a challenge to present this information in an interesting and fun way but our wonderful teachers always manage to rise to this challenge. Here are a few snippets of learning from our E-Safety Day:



Year 5 have been looking at online influences. They discussed real life scenarios and how negative influences in particular can develop into pressure to conform or act a certain way. They used their learning to create leaflets and posters and thoroughly enjoyed exploring the concept of online pressures and influences.



Role play in Year 3



E-Safety dilemma activity in Year 4

*In Nursery we heard a story about Buddy the dog and how his song helped children keep safe on mummies and daddies iPad's and phones making sure that whenever they saw something they weren't sure about they asked for help.*

*This morning Reception have been talking about stranger danger and using our tablets safely. We talked about YouTube and how it can sometime be for adults and not children. We have learnt a song about using the internet safely and asking for help when we see something unusual.*

### \*E-Safety Concerns\*

During carpet-time discussions this morning, some of our infant children shared that they regularly watch YouTube and have heard swearing. An even more concerning revelation, is that some infant children have told their teachers that they have played on Grand Theft Auto and Call of Duty. These games carry an 18 rating and, to the best of my knowledge, include violent scenes and highly offensive language. I do appreciate that this information may be fabricated, however the children gave this information voluntarily and without the games being mentioned by their teachers. I strongly urge all parents to carefully monitor children's online activity so that we can limit their exposure to any age-inappropriate language, games and videos.

I will be contacting the parents of the children concerned to ensure that they are aware of what their children have said.

## **Praise Postcards**



Postcards are on the way to Thomas Barr and Harper Holding in Reception and Mauli Chandra, Sasha Hood and Chloe Williams in Year 1. Well done for excellent learning!

## **Tickets on sale - How Wood School's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ball**

Please support this exciting event and buy tickets for the May Ball on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> May. Mrs Oliver and I will be the Master of Ceremonies on the night and we will do our very best to keep you entertained! Please contact Mrs Oliver in Year 5 to buy your tickets.

[office2@howwood.herts.sch.uk](mailto:office2@howwood.herts.sch.uk)

## **School Dinners**

Due to rising food costs, it has been necessary for us to review the cost of school dinners. In order to ensure that high standards are maintained, the cost of school dinners will increase by 10p per meal to £2.45 with effect from Summer Term 2018.

## **Attendance**

<b>Winners of the Attendance and Punctuality Cup</b>	
<b>Week Beginning</b>	<b>Class</b>
1/1/18	Reception
8/1/18	Year 6
15/1/18	Year 2
22/1/18	Year 2
29/1/18	Year 3
5/2/18	Year 6
19/2/18	Year 2
26/2/18	Year 2
5/3/18	Reception

## **House Points Scores**

	<b>Courage</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Friendship</b>	<b>Respect</b>
<b>Total to date</b>	292	224	260	231

## **Key Dates for the Spring Term 2018**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Alban Arena Choir Performance 7pm
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day – Curriculum Enrichment Day – Children come to school dressed as their favourite character.
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	<i>The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> M&M Productions
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 trip to Gunpowder Mills
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March @ 9am	PGL meeting for Year 5 parents
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Dance Assembly – Year 3/4 Parents invited
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	PTA Event – Easter themed Bake-off
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March @ 9.30am	Year 3/4 Dress Rehearsal
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Holy Trinity Church Easter Egg Hunt
Wednesdays 28 <sup>th</sup> March @ 6pm	Year 3/4 Evening production
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of term - <b><u>Finish at 1.30pm</u></b>
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer term begins - children return to school

## **Spring Term 2018**

Children back to school – Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

## **Summer Term 2018**

Children back to school – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018

May Bank Holiday – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May – INSET Day

Half-term – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018

Children back to school – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – INSET- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – INSET - Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> July – INSET

## **Term dates for next year 2018 -19**

### **Autumn Term 2018**

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> & Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September – INSET Days

Children start new school year – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September to Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2018

Half-term – Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November

Children back to school – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2018

## **Spring Term 2019**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January – INSET Day

Children back to school – Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Half-term – Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2019

Children back to school – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019

## **Summer Term 2018**

Children back to school – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019

May Bank Holiday – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May

Half-term – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019

Children back to school – Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2019

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July – INSET

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – INSET

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Occasional Day