



# HOW WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED 1968

Head Teacher: Mrs C Rowe  
Newsletter 2

21<sup>st</sup> September 2017

Dear Parents,

## Ofsted

*'How Wood provides a warm, caring, happy, safe and stimulating environment in which pupils thrive both academically and personally.'*

You have now received the letter from Joan Beale, our Ofsted inspector who visited the school for a short inspection on 13th July. She made the judgment that How Wood continues to be a 'good' school.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a HUGE 'Congratulations' to all my staff and children! I am thrilled that the work of my staff was recognised to be 'consistently good' with 'some outstanding practice'. We have a highly committed and talented team of teachers, teaching assistants and ancillary staff who make How Wood the wonderful school it is. They work very hard for the children and do a superb job every day. It is the quality of their work, and its consistency which has led to such a glowing Ofsted report.

I am of course equally proud of our lovely children. They were welcoming and helpful to the inspector and keen to show themselves off in the best way possible. Their behaviour was described as 'impeccable' – the very highest of accolades.

Thank you to all the parents who helped inform the inspection by giving your views on Ofsted Parent view and those who took the time to write letters to the inspector with your views. It is very touching to know that so many of you think so highly of us.

The letter will be published on our website shortly and on the Ofsted website on 25th September. The governors and senior leadership team will take on board the recommendations and create an action plan to make us even better.

Onwards and upwards towards "outstanding!"

## Praise Postcards



Evie Russell and Marta Lupu in Year 3 received Praise Postcards this week for excellent learning. Well done!

## **Behaviour policy**

The Behaviour Policy, which can be found on our website, has been updated and I ask that parents take the time to read it. As well as including the many rewards your children can receive during the course of the school year, I would like to draw your attention to sanctions on page 6/7. If a child receives a Level 5 sanction and is sent to me, I will now be sending home a letter that will clearly explain the unacceptable behaviour.

## **Volunteers**

I would like to welcome our volunteers to the new school year and take this opportunity to thank them for their time and commitment to How Wood School, the teachers and children. For your information, I have included a list of volunteers and where they support.

Mrs Chown	Nursery	Tues and Fri morning	Classroom support
Mrs Bernhart	Reception	Mon afternoon	Hearing readers
Mrs Gunn	Year 2	Tues and Fri afternoon	Hearing readers
Miss Whittle	Year 3	All day Mon	Classroom support
Mrs Maille	Key Stage 2	Thurs morning	Hearing readers
Miss Derham	Key Stage 2	All day Tues & Thurs am	Classroom support
Mrs Monk	Key Stage 2	Weds & Thurs afternoon	French

If you are interested in becoming a valued volunteer, please contact the school office to make an appointment to see Mrs Osborne. Thank you.

## **Safeguarding**

I hope that all our parents and carers have now read my letter regarding the increasingly serious issues around e-safety at home.

As you are aware, I have organised an online awareness information session that I strongly advise you attend. I have invited Siobhan Reading, a Family Support Co-ordinator, who has extensive knowledge and experience in e-safety for children, to lead the sessions. I cannot emphasise how important it is that you come to one of these meetings and gain a deeper insight of the very real risks your child may face online, and learn strategies that will help you safeguard your child.

To ensure that all parents have the opportunity to attend one session, I have organised three dates. Please contact the office by phone, email or in person to register your attendance at one of the meetings. Alternatively, please return the tear off slip at the bottom of this newsletter. Thank you.

Friday 13th October @ 9.30am  
Friday 20th October @ 9.15am  
Thursday 2nd November @ 6.30pm



**HERTFORDSHIRE**  
**safeguardingchildren**  
BOARD

**Helping Parents  
to Safeguard their Children**  
Saturday 14th October

Conference and workshops run by the  
Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October 10.00am to 2.00pm  
The Oak Room, Hertfordshire Development Centre,  
Robertson House, Six Hills Way,  
Stevenage, SG1 2FG.

To book a place, please send an email to  
[HSCB.parents@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:HSCB.parents@hertfordshire.gov.uk)  
Or call the HSCB Business Unit on 01992 588757

Internet Safety  
NSPCC  
Families First  
play sport stay safe  
enjoy and achieve

Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board is also holding a conference and workshops on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October at the Hertfordshire Development Centre in Stevenage.

## **Harvest Festival**

Our annual Harvest Festival will be held at **10.30 on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October** in the School Hall. We are now collecting non-perishable donations as we provide baskets of goodies for our local senior citizens. Letter to follow.

## **Communication**

There have been a few technical 'hic-cups' with our new texting service but we have been assured it will be up and running by the end of next week. I will send a welcome text to let all parents know that we are 'live'.

May I remind parents that if they have any concerns or issues regarding their child that they make contact with the class teacher in the first instance. If the issue is not resolved or it is of a more serious nature, then please contact the office to make an appointment to see me.

## **Key dates for the term**

I have included a list of key dates for the term. Further information about the various forthcoming events will be sent out to relevant classes. ***It is important that all parents read newsletters regularly so that they are aware of all events and any changes that may take place.***

## **Autumn Term 2017**

Half-term – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October

Children back to school – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October to Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017 - Occasional Day

## **Spring Term 2018**

Children back to school – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January to Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Half-term – Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 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

Please keep handy for future reference- additional dates and changes will be shared on future newsletters. Please ensure you read all newsletters carefully.

### Key Dates for the Autumn Term 2017

Date	Event
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	The Toy Museum visit Year 1
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Year 4 visit the Ashmolean Museum
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Perform Drama Workshops for all classes
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> October 10.30am	Harvest assembly (All parents welcome-subject to space in the hall)
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 9.30am</b>	<b>Online Awareness Information Session</b>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October 3.30-6pm	Parent Consultations
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 5-8pm</b> – Date change	Parent Consultations
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Black History Curriculum Enrichment Day
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Black History Curriculum Enrichment Day
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 9.15am</b>	<b>Online Awareness Information Session</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Half Term</b>
<i>Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 3.30 to 5.30pm</i>	<i>PTA Halloween Party</i>
<b>Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 6.30pm</b>	<b>Online Awareness Information Session</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Curriculum Enrichment Day Anti-Bullying
Tuesday November 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 3 Lee Valley School Trip
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Occasional Day ( School closed )</b>
Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December 12 to 3pm	How Wood Christmas Fayre
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Flu Vaccination – Reception to Year 4
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 10.30am	Christmas Carol Service at St Albans Cathedral
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 10.30am	Foundation Stage dress rehearsal
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 6pm	Foundation Stage evening production
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> December - Time TBC	Aladdin Pantomime. Whole School Trip to The Alban Arena – St Albans
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December 10.30am	Key Stage 1 dress rehearsal
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December 6pm	Key Stage 1 evening production
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December 1pm	Christmas lunch
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle assembly (Y3 parents invited)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas class parties
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December - <b>Finish at 1.30pm</b>	Last day of term

### Assemblies

Parents are invited to their child's class assembly at 9am. Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will not be sharing an assembly as they will be performing an end of year Christmas production.

Date	Class	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6	Parent Assembly
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 5	Parent Assembly
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 4	Parent Assembly
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 3	Parent Assembly

**Online Awareness Information Session**

Name .....

Year group of child/children: .....

I/we will be attending (please tick box/boxes):

Friday 13th October @ 9.30am

Friday 20th October @ 9.15am

Thursday 2nd November @ 6.30pm