



HOW WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
ESTABLISHED 1968

Head Teacher: Mrs C Rowe
Newsletter 8

12th January 2018

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope you all had a lovely break over the holidays.

Head Teacher Award

The first Head Teacher Award of 2018 went to Kayra Oney in Year 4. We are very proud of Kayra's achievements. Well done!

Praise Postcards

Gracii-Kay Collins in Year 4 received a Praise Postcard for excellent learning. Well done!



House Points Scores

	Courage	Determination	Friendship	Respect
Total to date	117	102	112	139

General reminders

- Please ensure that your child comes to school with a warm coat throughout the winter months and when the weather is inclement.
- Children should wear small stud-like earrings and no nail varnish or jewellery should be worn.

School Applications

The application process for children starting Reception in September 2018 opened on Monday 6th November 2017. The application deadline is 15th January 2018. The link below gives more information about the application process: http://www.intra.thegrid.org.uk/admissions/documents/under_11s_2018_leaflet.pdf

Time Out Club Vacancy

Time Out Club (Breakfast and After School Club) is looking for a friendly, caring person to join their team.

Please contact Angie on 07956306201 to find out more and have a chat. Thank you.

Attendance

I am sure you are aware that The Department for Education has made amendments to school attendance regulations. The amendments make it clear that **'Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances'**. Head Teachers no longer have the discretion to allow up to 10 days in a school year for a family holiday or to agree extended leave for parents to visit their country of origin.

You will no doubt understand that as the Head Teacher I have a duty, along with the school Governors, to promote the highest attendance levels possible. The school is set very high attendance targets by the Government; and our attendance data is regularly scrutinised by the Local Authority and Ofsted and is one of the factors by which they measure the success of the school. The academic progress of a child, whatever his/her level of academic ability, will be adversely affected if they miss school. If a child is unwell then they should not come to school, but if, in addition, they have other time off school, then this will definitely have a detrimental effect on their progress. ***Please take this into consideration when planning trips in the future***

If you believe your circumstances may be exceptional, then please discuss your request with me before making final plans. I will review each request for absence carefully, consulting with the Local Authority's Attendance Improvement Officer where and if necessary, and give you an answer as soon as possible. If you need to make a request for leave, then please download a holiday request form from the school website or school office. We ask that all requests are put in writing using the form at least two weeks prior to any leave.

The overall attendance record of the vast majority of our pupils is very good and I very much appreciate your support in respecting and supporting the school's policy on attendance. ***The policy can be found on the school's website. Part of our new policy outlines the requirement for all parents to provide a written note or letter explaining their child's absence. Staff will actively be requesting letters and it would be most helpful if parents could send this letter in with their child when they return to school.***

May we also remind you that if you need to collect your child from school for any reason, they must be signed out and signed in if returning to school on the same day.

Key Dates for the Spring Term 2018

Date	Event
Monday 15 th January	Florence Nightingale workshop for Y2
Monday 15 th January @ 9.30am	Nursery Tour
Tuesday 16 th January	Fire Fighters visit EYFS
Monday 22 nd January	Children from Y3/4- Maths Mastermind Workshop @ Bowmansgreen School
Tuesday 23 rd January	Nursery Tour
Wednesday 24 th January	School Governors visit School Council
Monday 29 th January	Year 5 visit How Wood Station – Adopt a Railway Project
Wednesday 31 st January	Nursery Tour
Tuesday 6 th February	Nursery Tour
Tuesday 6 th February	Parent Consultation Meetings 3.30pm to 6pm
Wednesday 7 th February	Parent Consultation Meetings 5pm to 8pm
Friday 9 th February	PTA Event - 'Bag to School' collection day
Friday 9 th February	Start of half-term – school finishes normal time
Monday 19 th February	School begins
Thursday 22 nd February	Book Fair arrives for 1 week
Friday 23 rd February	Perform dance and drama workshops
Friday 23 rd February	Y2 trip to Apsley Paper Mill
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day – Curriculum Enrichment Day
Friday 2 nd March	World Book Day – Curriculum Enrichment Day – Children come to school dressed as their favourite character. More details to follow
Thursday 8 th March	Reception trip to Boxmoor Trust
Saturday 10 th March	Netball Tournament
Friday 16 th March @ 12.45pm	Year 6 Crucial Crew Visit @ St Albans Fire Station
Friday 23 rd March	<i>The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> M&M Productions
Tuesday 27 th March	PTA Event – Easter themed Bake-off
Tuesday 27 th March @ 9.30am	Year 3/4 Dress Rehearsal
Wednesdays 28 th March @ 6pm	Year 3/4 Evening production
Thursday 29 th March	Last day of term - Finish at 1.30pm
Monday 16 th April	Summer term begins - children return to school

Assemblies

Parents are invited to their child's class assembly at 9am. Year 3 and Year 4 will not be sharing an assembly as they will be performing an end of term production.

Date	Class	
Friday 19 th January	Year 6	Parent
Friday 2 nd February	Year 5	Parent
Friday 9 th March	Year 1	Parent
Friday 16 th March	Year 2	Parent
Thursday 22 nd March	Reception	Parent

Spring Term 2018

Half-term – Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2018

Children back to school – Monday 19th February to Thursday 29th March 2018

Summer Term 2018

Children back to school – Monday 16th April to Thursday 24th May 2018

May Bank Holiday – Monday 7th May

Friday 25th May – INSET Day

Half-term – Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June 2018

Children back to school – Monday 4th June to Friday 20th July 2018

Monday 23rd July – INSET

Tuesday 24th July – INSET

Wednesday 25th July – INSET

Mrs Rowe
Head Teacher