



# HOW WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

ESTABLISHED 1968

Head Teacher: Mrs C Rowe  
Newsletter 12

29<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents,

*Being in a good frame of mind helps one keep in the picture of health.*

### *Anonymous*

School has been busy, busy, busy and we have had much to celebrate this term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our lovely parents for your continued support, goodwill and kindness. The staff team are often overwhelmed by the generosity of spirit of many parents so 'Thank you!' to:

- All the parents who attended the Maths Fayre and Open Morning. Having you there really made the two days special for the children and was much appreciated by all the staff.
- All the bikes, trikes and 4 wheel vehicles donated by many parents
- Mr Smiths amazing kindness raising money for EYFS outside space whilst taking part in the National 3 Peaks Challenge.  
[https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/howwoodschoo?utm\\_term=dKEkqpxAb](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/howwoodschoo?utm_term=dKEkqpxAb)
- Three amazing parents who are supporting me with IT & building a new website (in the making)
- Your voluntary contributions

The staff team and I would like to wish you all a very happy Easter!

### **Joint Annual Review Meeting (JARV)**

In March, we were visited by Mrs Julie Kemp who is our Local Authority Hertfordshire Improvement Partner. Mrs Kemp visits three times a year, spending time in classrooms, observing teachers, scrutinising books, speaking to children and analysing data, amongst other things. The school is then graded using judgements that must align with the grade descriptors in the current Ofsted School Inspection Handbook and I am very proud to be able to tell you that How Wood School was judged as follows:

- Effectiveness of leadership and management: Outstanding
- Personal development, behaviour and welfare: Outstanding
- Effectiveness of the early years provision: quality and standards: Outstanding
- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment: Good

I would also like to share some of her comments with you:

### Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

*The learning walk, talking to various children and a brief look at some of the children's books indicates that teaching, learning and assessment in KS1 and 2 is at least good. Some examples of outstanding practice, for example questioning skills, were seen in both key stage 1 and 2.*

*The learning environment across the school is exemplary. The use of working walls and the availability and use of materials to support learning are maximised in all classes. This includes materials to support the school's continuing drive to raise standards of spelling and phonological awareness. Children's work is celebrated through very high quality displays, showing work of the highest standard and reinforcing high expectations.*

### Personal development, behaviour and welfare

*The school's work to promote pupil's personal development and welfare continues to have a very high priority. There is a culture of the highest expectations, both in terms of attitudes to learning as well as standards of behaviour. Pupils confidently spoke about what it is like to be a pupil at How Wood School. They are proud of their achievements. Work in books shows high standards of presentation. Pupils talked about the high expectations of staff. They spoke with great affection about their head teacher, teachers and the support staff.*

*Pupils also spoke at length about how they love learning. 'The best thing about How Wood School is our learning. We know we can make mistakes and that helps us learn even more.' 'Every day I learn lots of new things.' 'Teachers make learning fun and exciting.' They spoke about how the teachers help them to learn. 'I didn't use to be so good at mathematics I'm good at maths now.' Conduct around school, including at lunch time, was exemplary. During the visit, no low-level disruption was observed. The school's culture actively promotes all aspects of pupils' welfare.*

### Effectiveness of the Early Years Foundation stage (EYFS)

*During the visit, Child Initiated Learning sessions were taking place in both the Nursery and Reception classes. Provision in both classes is of a very high quality and certainly worthy of dissemination to others. Resources are exceptionally well organised and are easily accessible to children. There are good opportunities for free flow between activities, both inside and outdoors. Activities are carefully chosen to reflect the personalised needs and interests of the children. Children demonstrated exceptionally high levels of concentration and curiosity. What lifted the quality of teaching to the highest level was the quality of questioning by adults. Children were highly responsive, to both the adults and to each other.*

*Leaders are using highly successful strategies to engage and involve parents in their children's learning.*

*This outstanding provision is leading to almost all children making substantial and sustained progress in relation to their starting points.*

The governors and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their absolute commitment and dedication to ensuring that all children at How Wood School continue to receive an excellent education.

### Maths Curriculum Enrichment Day



to expand their knowledge.

In March, the school successfully held a Maths Fayre as well as an open morning which aimed to inspire the children and increase parental engagement in Maths. Both events had a fantastic turnout and we would like to thank each and every parent who turned up to support their child's learning. In addition to these events, the school also held a Pirate themed Math's workshop which concentrated on problem-solving and inquisitive learning. It was brilliant to see the children immerse themselves in their learning and willingly wanting

## House Tug of War



We held a House Tug of War On Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March to determine the winning House this term. It was a really enjoyable event and the children did an amazing job of 'tugging'. Well done to Team Courage who won the event and were the overall winners this term with 707 points!

Yesterday, as their winning House treat, Team Courage had a trip out to Greenwood Park with an ice lolly as well! See photos below.



Since Team Courage got the most House points, we went to Greenwood PARK. Most Year 3, 4 5 & 6s played football. The rest used the other equipment in the park. Mrs Barnes, our PE Leader, bought ice lollies for us. Thank you to all the staff that came. We couldn't have gone without you. **By Austin Bone Year 5**

## House Points Scores

	<b>Courage</b>	<b>Determination</b>	<b>Friendship</b>	<b>Respect</b>
<b>Total to date</b>	707	406	697	585



### **Information from the Road Safety Officer, Active and Safer Travel Team**

Most people do wear their seatbelts but still nearly ten per cent choose not to – help them make the right decision for themselves and others. If you have friends or family, who still do not realise how important it is to belt up, have that conversation and make sure they know how much you value their safety, and everyone else's in the vehicle. Please make sure children are secured in the most appropriate car seat for their age and height. For more on seatbelts and car seats go to [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/seatbelts](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/seatbelts)

The Hertfordshire Road Safety Partnership is supporting the seatbelt campaign run by Roads Policing, raising awareness about the importance of wearing your seatbelt. You can receive a fine of up to £500 if you are caught not wearing your seatbelt.

### **E- Safety**

Happy #WakeUpWednesday!

This week we've teamed up with the talented Dan & Sam from Musicalternative and their superstar pupils from Our Lady & St Joseph Primary School to bring you 'The Online Reputation Song'. We invite you to listen, enjoy, sing-a-long and share!

**You can find below a link to both guides on our social media platforms below:**

WEBSITE: <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/resources/platform-guides/online-reputation-song/>

TWITTER: <https://twitter.com/natonlinesafety/status/1110901100893405187>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/NationalOnlineSafety/videos/2200387663545021/>

### **Praise Postcards**



Ava Fielder in Reception & Albie Drew in Year 1 received a Praise Postcard for excellent learning. Well done!

### **Note**

There are 4 pairs of children's glasses in our office.

**Photos from the Talent Show**



Kimiya, Georgia, Millie & Bella,  
Niamh, Oscar/Adam/Joe/Harry,  
Ruqayyah/Mauli/Lucy, Marta,  
The Choir, Jessica & Bethany,  
Ollie & Sam.

## 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.***

## Summer Term 2019

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> & Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – INSET; Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Occasional Day

## Key Dates for the Summer Term 2019

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

Summer Term Dates	
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Bikeability –Year 6
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April 9am	Year 5 PGL Meeting
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 3 & 5 Visit University of Hertfordshire
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>PTA event – QUIZ NIGHT</b>
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs Week – Year 6
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 to PGL
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Walk to School Week All classes will walk to the local park at some point during this week.
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	Skipping Workshop
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	KNEX Challenge Year 5 & 6
Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Sponsored Walk
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Bling-up my bike/scooter
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June to Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 to the Isle of Wight
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> June 9.15 to 11.15	New Nursery Parent Meeting
<b>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>PTA CAKE Sale for Queen's Birthday</b>
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> June 1pm start	Science CE Day
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Science CE Day
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> June	Mental Health & Well-Being Day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Children's Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> June	Nursery Sports Day in the morning Whole School Sports Day in the afternoon
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Village Afternoon – Year 2 parents invited for picnic lunch with their children
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>Summer Fayre</b>
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Winning House 'Treat'

