



P5 SWIMMING

COMMENCING FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

Our P5 class will attend swimming lessons on a Friday for Term 1 (11 weeks) and P6 and P7 will attend during Term 2 and 3. There will be a charge of £22 per child for transport costs to the swimming pool for Term 1. The school will pay for each child's swimming lessons for both terms. This first payment of £22 must be received by Friday 8 September at the latest.

FUN SCIENCE SHOW

MONDAY 16 OCTOBER 2017

6.45 PM - 7.45 PM

We would like to invite all P4 - P7 children and parents to a fun science show to be held in our school hall on Monday 16 October 2017. This will be funded through the Shared Education Project and we will invite St Trea's Primary School P4-7 children and parents to join us for this session.

Please complete the reply slip and return to school before Friday 29 September to let us know if you will be able to attend.

PARENT INTERVIEWS (P1 – P7)

14, 15 & 16 NOVEMBER 2017

School will close at 1.30 pm (P1 - P3 and older siblings) and 1.45 pm (P4 - P7) to facilitate Parent Interviews on these days. Parents are asked to let school know, by filling in the reply slip below, if there is a day that would not suit them and we will do our best to accommodate parents where possible.

NO 123 Club on these days.

PARENT INTERVIEWS (P7)

Primary 7 parents of children who are sitting the Rainey Entrance exam are being offered an opportunity to meet with Mrs Davidson on Tuesday 10 October (from 9 am – 3 pm). All other P7 parents will be invited to attend for interview with the rest of the school in November.

Please complete the reply slip below.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS 2017

Wed 13 December Morning & Evening

Thursday 14 December (School will start at 11am on this day). Evening concert only.

More details later.

PROSPECTIVE P1 OPEN NIGHT

29 NOVEMBER 2017

6.30PM – 7.30 PM

If you know any families who have a child due to start school in September 2018 please invite them to come along and meet us. Parents and children are welcome to attend.

MONEY DETAILS

SCHOOL DINNERS ARE NOW £2.60 A DAY.

SNACK	SEPT	£6.60
	OCT	£6.00



As we commence a new school year we want to welcome back all of our returning pupils and give a warm welcome to our new pupils who have joined us from other schools. We also want to welcome our 28 new P1 pupils and their families. We hope everyone will have an enjoyable learning experience with us and settle quickly into life at Woods Primary.

Thank you to all our support staff and teachers for getting the school ready for the new school year. We especially want to thank Ms Mary Devlin and Mrs Barbara Derby for the spotless classrooms, toilets and corridors. We are very fortunate to have such a bright, attractive and highly resourced school with dedicated and caring staff.

STAFFING

We want to welcome our new permanent P4 teacher, Mrs Brady, to our school. Mrs Davidson will continue to teach the P7 class each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday alongside Mrs Bell who will teach the class on Thursdays and Fridays. We are delighted that Miss Caroline Jones will teach P7 whilst Mrs Davidson is off on maternity leave.

WE ARE NOW A 'PEANUT FREE' SCHOOL



WE HAVE A PUPIL WHO HAS A PEANUT ALLERGY ENROLLED IN OUR SCHOOL. THEREFORE, WE WOULD ASK ALL FAMILIES TO HELP US TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS OF SERIOUS ALLERGIC REACTION.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN BOXES USED FOR CEREALS CONTAINING NUTS FOR CRAFT ETC.

ANY QUERIES REGARDING THIS NEW POLICY SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MRS WHITE.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

All children will be going to the Grand Opera House, Belfast on **Tuesday 19 December 2017** to see their production of 'Peter Pan'. A deposit of £1 per seat has already been paid from School Funds. To enable us to make the final payment we are asking for a contribution of **£10 per child** to be paid **on or before Wednesday 20 September 2017, at the latest**. The coach transport costs will be paid from school funds. **Please fill in and return the reply slip attached along with your contribution to your child's class teacher.**

It is very important that these reply slips come in promptly as alterations to numbers cannot be made after the final payment which will be paid to the Opera House on Friday 22 September.



KEEP OUR CHILDREN HEALTHY

We encourage all children to keep hydrated during the day so please remember to send your child to school with water in a reusable bottle. We will also be encouraging as much physical play outside as we can so remember to send a **named coat** to school for the cooler/rainy days.

123 CLUB P1 - P3 (SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER)

The 123 Club runs, every day, from 2 pm – 3 pm for P1- P2 children. P3 children may attend on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when they finish normal class at 2 pm. Each day costs £2. Children attending on a **Friday** should bring a pair of wellies to school on that day. Parents must sign up in advance for the club to ensure that we can cover the costs of providing each activity. If you have not already filled in a form please collect one from the school office and return it to school accompanied by the fee, as soon as possible. Primary 1 children may attend this club from Monday 25 September if they have completed the registration form and sent the money to school. This club can be paid for with cash, childcare vouchers or a separate cheque (**not to be included with dinner money**). All cheques should be made payable to **'Woods Primary School'**. We are registered with Employers for Childcare, Sodexo, Care 4 and Busy Bees childcare vouchers.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2017/18

OCT	30 AND 31 (2 DAYS)
NOV	1 - 3 (3 DAYS)
DEC	21 - 31 (7 DAYS)
JAN	1 - 3 (3 DAYS)
FEB	15 - 16 (2 DAYS)
MAR	29 - 30 (3 DAYS)
APRIL	2 - 6 (5 DAYS)
MAY	7, 28 - 31 (5 DAYS)
JUNE	1 (1 DAY)

SCHOOL WILL FINISH ON FRIDAY 29 JUNE.

P7 PARENTS

IF YOUR CHILD PLANS TO SIT THE RAINEY SCHOOL ENTRANCE TEST IN NOVEMBER 2017 THEN PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS TO RAINEY IS FRIDAY 22 SEPTEMBER 2017. VISIT THEIR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The children are looking really well in their uniform and we want to remind everyone that black footwear should be worn daily. Thank you for your support in maintaining our high standards in behaviour and attitude to school. We have some 'like new' uniform items available for anyone wanting a spare change for their child - £1 donation per item to School Funds.

PE UNIFORM – This should be sent to school in a named bag ASAP.

- Sky blue round neck t-shirt with motif (available at RA Cuddy)
- Navy shorts
- Navy joggers for cooler weather
- Black plimsols for indoor PE lessons. Trainers will only be needed for certain outdoor activities and you will be notified when they are required.

We would remind all parents to name each item of PE Kits, uniform and coats to avoid confusion and help to prevent loss.

SCHOOL DINNER

We have been informed that the price of a school dinner will increase to £2.60 from 1 September 17 ie £13 per week. **If anyone has already paid dinner money could you please forward 5p per meal to your child's class teacher with a note stating the number of meals already paid.**

EARLY BIRD CLUB 8.15 AM - 8.45AM

This club continues to be popular and costs 50p a day for any child wishing to attend. Online Childcare Vouchers may be used as payment for the club.

PAYMENT VOUCHERS

We would appreciate it if any parents paying After School/123/Early Bird clubs by voucher would itemize these clubs and name the child on their payment.

SAFETY AT OPENING AND HOME TIMES

We ask all parents to collect their child inside the school gates and walk them safely to their car each day. This is for your child's safety.



TEACHER DIFFICULTIES WITH CHANGE

Getting correct change for children to take home or send to other classes is always a problem for teachers and valuable class time is being used trying to balance class registers. Therefore, it would be appreciated if you could adhere to the following as far as possible:

- It is essential, if at all possible, that the correct money should be sent to **each child's own class teacher.**
- Dinner money is payable each Monday for the number of meals you wish your child to have that week. (This money is lodged each Monday afternoon.)
- We would encourage the use of personal cheques (**made out to 'Education Authority, Southern Region'**) in payment for dinner and snack money. These can be included on one cheque but we would ask that each child has their own cheque/cash payment to be presented to their classroom teacher. **The use of cheques and payment of monies on a monthly basis has proved to be very successful.** If you wish to pay for the whole month please send in a note to your child's teacher detailing which days dinner is to be taken. This will only work if you are paying for the month in advance. NO CREDIT CAN BE GIVEN AS THE SCHOOL MUST PAY FOR THE DINNERS ON A WEEKLY BASIS.
- If however, due to unforeseen circumstances, money is brought in during the week please ensure that the **correct** amount is sent as it is very difficult for us to provide change after the Monday lodgement.
- **All money should be in an envelope with the child's name and money details on the outside.** Envelopes are available from the school office at a cost of £2.00 for 40 envelopes.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a number of hoodies, hats, PE shorts, plimsols size 2 and other pieces of uniform in our lost property box. If your child has lost a coat or item of uniform please call in and check our box.



If not collected by 8 September all these items will be recycled in our clothing bank.

P4 - P7 AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

See Attached Timetable.

Please return the attached reply slip to school on Monday 4 September with payment to secure a place. Some clubs are limited to 24 spaces. Places will not be reserved for your child unless payment has been made for the club. Payment can be made by sending in the correct cash, a cheque (**made payable to Woods Primary School**) or using childcare vouchers online. If you are starting to use childcare vouchers for the first time you must speak to the Principal first. Always state on the child's form which method of payment you have used.

We are fortunate to have such a good variety of clubs running but unfortunately this is not provided by the Department of Education and is an extra school cost. With budgets being reduced we will only be able to continue with clubs that are popular and can cover their costs.

SHARED EDUCATION PROJECT 2017/18

We are delighted to continue with the Shared Education Project with St Trea's Primary School. All classes will receive a free joint educational trip and teachers will receive substitute release days to enable them to work on planning and resources for their lessons. Both schools will share teacher training to help to bring about improvements in our schools. Five of the classes in Woods will take part in 4 shared lessons with St Trea's Primary School. All classes will receive extra funding from the programme to buy new resources to enhance the teaching and learning in both schools. There will also be opportunities for parents and children from both schools to get to know each other and share in learning opportunities outside of school hours. The first event, a science show, will take place on the 16 October at Woods Primary School

RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER ABSENCE

If returning to school after an absence a parent **must send in a signed note** giving the reason why his/her child was absent.

SEPTEMBER HOME TIMES

We encourage our children to be as independent as possible and would like them to walk to their classroom by themselves, as soon as possible – certainly by Half term at the latest. There will always be a member of staff at the front door from 8.45 am to 9.00 am, when the bell rings for classes to commence, to ensure your child's safety. If your child arrives after 9.00 am they should be **brought into school** and signed in at the school office.

Parents of P1 children please remember that your child will be staying in school until **12.15pm until Friday 15 September**. During the week **18 - 22 September P1 will stay in school for lunch and go home at 1.30 pm** and from **Monday 25 September 2017 P1 children will go home at 2pm**. If any travel arrangements have changed since filling out the data form please let Mrs Gardiner know.

Please note: If your child is paying for Healthy Snack it is not necessary for them to bring any additional snack.

CHILD PROTECTION UP-DATE

PLEASE NOTE: To comply with our up-dated Safeguarding school policy no child should bring a mobile phone/electronic toys into school.

However, if you feel there is an occasion that it is necessary for your child to bring a phone into school it **MUST** be given to the class teacher and collected at the end of the school day.

We would also remind all parents to make sure that their children do not bring toys or special belongings to school as we do not want items to go missing or get broken. Playground toys and equipment are provided for playtime. Thank you for your co-operation.

RECYCLING

Thank you to everyone who has recycled textiles or clothing in our collection bank. The school received over £100 for clothing recycled from June to August. Well done everyone!



SEESAW APP – COMMUNICATING WITH THE HOME

MRS MILLIKEN WILL BE TRIALING THE SEESAW APP WITH P2 PARENTS THIS YEAR. IT IS A WAY OF SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT YOU CHILD HAS BEEN LEARNING IN SCHOOL. FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE SENT HOME TO P2 PARENTS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING HOW EVERYONE GETS ON WITH THIS NEW APP AND POSSIBLY INTRODUCING IT TO THE REST OF THE SCHOOL.

**KEEP UP TO DATE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING IN OUR SCHOOL ...
VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST PHOTOS AND SCHOOL NEWS.**

www.woodsprimary school.com

HOMEWORK POLICY



We would like to remind parents of the importance of your child reading at home. Written homeworks should be signed by parents to show that you feel that your child has done their best. It is important that children take special care of all reading books and/or textbooks sent home as these items cost money to replace and the budget is especially limited this year. A huge thanks to all parents who have donated library books which can be added to the AR reading scheme. Any other books that your child has finished with will be gratefully received.

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RECORDERS

Primary 5 – 7 children are given the opportunity to learn to play the recorder as part of the music curriculum. Over the three years the children will develop their skills but they need to practise their recorder at home to make good progress.

We have purchased recorders at a reduced price of £3 and recommend that all children in these classes should buy one.



I would like to buy a recorder and enclose £3.

Child's Name: _____ Signed: _____ (parent) _____ (date)

SUITABLE FOR PARENTS AND CHILDREN P4 - P7.

No of adults to attend: _____ No of children to attend: _____

Name(s) of child(ren)/Class: _____

Signed: _____ (Parent) Date _____



WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME



I Do allow*/Do Not Allow* My Child(ren) _____

To Go To The Grand Opera House, Belfast To See 'Peter Pan' on Tuesday 19 December 2017.

I Enclose £ _____ contribution (£10 PER CHILD).

Signed _____ (Parent) _____ (Date)

It is very important that these reply slips come in promptly as alterations to numbers cannot be made after the final payment which will be paid to the Opera House on Friday 22 September 2017.

P7 PARENT INTERVIEWS – RAINEY ENTRANCE TEST CHILDREN ONLY

I would like my interview to take place: Tuesday 10 October 14-16 November



P1-7 PARENT INTERVIEWS

I would*/would not* like to have an Interview with my child's class teacher:

Name: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Name: _____ Class: _____

Signed _____ (Parent) _____
(Date)

COMMENTS:(Please give details of any days/times which are unsuitable for you and we will try to accommodate you.)

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
TERM ONE – SEPT/OCT 2017 – 7 WEEKS

Please tick the boxes of the clubs you are interested in joining.

- P4-7 Netball- £7 Child's Name: _____ Class: _____
- P7 Numeracy (P7) -£14 Child's Name: _____ Class: _____
- Multi Sports (Tues P4-6) - £7 Child's Name: _____ Class: _____
- P6/7 Craft Club Child's Name: _____ Class: _____
- P4/5 Multi sports (Wed) Child's Name: _____ Class: _____
- Literacy (P7) - £14 Child's Name: _____ Class: _____
- P4-7 Football Child's Name: _____ Class: _____

I give permission for my child to take part in the After School Clubs ticked and have enclosed payment.

I enclose: £ _____

Signed: _____ (Parent) _____ (Date)