



**50th Anniversary Dinner
FRIDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2018**

**Tickets are still available
from the school Office -
£25pp**

We would encourage everyone to contact people who might be interested and extend a warm invitation to this event.

If you would like tickets to sell to friends/neighbours we will happily furnish you with them.

We need to sell more tickets to make this a viable event.

**REMINDER
HALF TERM HOLIDAY**

**15 & 16 February 2018
School re-opens Monday
19 February 2018.**

**PARENT INTERVIEWS
20/21 MARCH 2018**

If you have a concern about your child and would like to make an appointment to speak with their classroom teacher on the afternoon of Tuesday 20 or Wednesday 21 March 2018 between 3 pm and 4 pm please **phone Mrs Derby for an appointment.**

SNACK

Feb £5.40
March £5.10



Congratulations to our P7 children who recently received their GL Assessment results. You have all done yourselves and our school proud! The hard work has really paid off! Well done boys and girls.

P7 parents should return the transfer forms to school by Friday 2 February 2018. If any parent would like to discuss any aspect of the form they can make an appointment to speak to Mrs White.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

After School Clubs will be changing after Half Term and we will have a new timetable. Please complete and return the reply slip, with the correct money, to school on or before Monday 19 February 2018.

BUDGET NEWS

Schools budget allocations have again received media attention due to the serious financial situation in all of our schools. The budgets are being reduced so much that we now have to depend on grants, parental contributions and fundraising to buy textbooks, reading books and resources for the children, when in the past the school budget (LMS) was able to provide these items. Our school has had a surplus of money saved through careful management over the years. This money was saved to help safeguard staff jobs. However, the Education Authority is now saying that the surpluses held by some schools are under threat as they have such a huge deficit in the overall EA budget (so many other schools have huge deficits). Without this surplus the annual allocated budget is inadequate to maintain our current staffing levels in school. In the future, our school will have to make cuts to classroom assistant hours which will impact on all of our children in school. In the longer term these cuts could also affect teachers' hours, which is our greatest resource and makes the greatest impact on children's learning! Very worrying times for everyone in Education, especially leaders and parents. The unions are advising all parents to take a stand and write to their MLA's and Education Boards. The Chief Executive of the Education Authority is Mr Gavin Boyd, 40 Academy Street, Belfast, BT1 2NQ.

A BIG THANK YOU!

Thank you to Richard White for making and donating our new, outdoor chalkboard. The boys and girls are really enjoying playing with it!



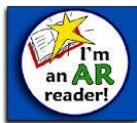
WORLD BOOK DAY
1 March 2018

We encourage our children to read in their spare time for enjoyment and to develop their vocabulary. This year on 'World Book Day' the children will enjoy an online storytelling session bringing together a love of stories and STEM. Local actor, Adam Dougal, will take the children through an enchanting version of the story 'Anything's Possible'. We would encourage parents to support their child's reading at home by reading to them and listening to their child's reading on a regular basis.

We are proud of the efforts of all of our pupils in Accelerated Reader (P4-P7) and are delighted with their achievements this year.

Words read from Sept 2017:

P4 – 2,397,353
P5 – 10,218,765
P6 – 9,417,325
P7 – 5,164,710



Total Words Read:
27,198,153

Books Read to Date:
2007

If you have a book at home and would like to find out if it is on Accelerated Reader then visit

www.arbookfinder.com

INTERNET SAFETY

KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE!

Internet Safety is an important issue for all parents and teachers with the growing use of ipads, social media and gaming online. We have been focusing on raising awareness and increasing children's knowledge of how to stay safe online over recent weeks. We will be having a special assembly to help communicate these important messages.

The children have experienced drama workshops provided by the UK Safer Internet Group, to reinforce the important safety messages to help keep them safe when online. The older children learnt about cyberbullying and were given the opportunity to take part in many drama activities to reinforce the eSafety messages.

If parents want to find out more, please visit the BBC website "Growing up Digital" or www.saferinternet.org.uk. We have sent home a free online safety magazine for all parents with this newsletter.

HOLIDAYS 2018/2019

School begins **Thursday 30 August**

October	29 – 31 (3 days)
November	1 – 2 (2 days)
December	21 – 31 (7 days)
January	1 – 4 (4 days)
February	18 -20 (3 days)
March	18 (1 day)
April	15 – 26 (10 days)
May	6 (1 day)
	24 – 27 (2 days)



School will finish on Friday 28 June 2019.

Please note that at present these dates are provisional.

RECYCLING AT WOODS P S

The ECO committee has decided to organize a Recycling Book Sale on Thursday 22 March 2018 during school hours. If you have novels/books your child has finished with that are in good condition, please send them into school. Proceeds will go to charity.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS FEB – MAR 2018

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

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| P6 - P7 Art - £6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Child's Name: _____ | Class: _____ |
| P4 - P7 Multi Sports (MAX 24) - £7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Child's Name: _____ | Class: _____ |
| P6 Coding & iPad (Max 10) - £5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Child's Name: _____ | Class: _____ |
| P4 - P5 Art Club - £6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Child's Name: _____ | Class: _____ |
| P6 - P7 Scripture Union - FREE | <input type="checkbox"/> | 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)