



**P5 SWIMMING
COMMENCING FRIDAY 7 SEPTEMBER**

Our P5 class will attend swimming lessons on a Friday for Term 1 (12 weeks) commencing 7 September until 30 November. P6 and P7 will attend during Term 2 and 3. There will be a charge of £2.50 per child for transport costs to the swimming pool for Term 1. The school will pay for each child's swimming lessons. This first payment of £30 must be received by Friday 14 September at the latest.

PARENT INTERVIEWS (P1 – P7) 20-22 NOVEMBER

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 Miss Hunter 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.

Money Details

SCHOOL DINNERS ARE NOW £2.60 A DAY.

SNACK	SEPT	£6.60
	OCT	£6.30

**123 CLUB P1 - P3
(SEPT/OCTOBER)**

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. Please note that Monday activity will now be team games. 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.

Please note that if your child enrolls for a Monday it is every Monday in the session.



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 26 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 of 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. We are especially excited to have the use of our new multi-purpose rooms and KS1 playground again. We believe the extra space will really enhance our school provision.

STAFFING

We want to welcome Miss Hunter to our school to teach the P7 class each Monday to Thursday alongside Mrs Bell who will teach the class on Fridays. Mrs Bell will be timetabled for SEN teaching on a Thursday for the 2018/19 academic year.

WE ARE 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.

IMPORTANT DATES

30 August	New Term commences with 123 club and Early Bird clubs open
31 Aug - 4 Sept	Star Reader Tests administered for P4-7 children
10 September	After school clubs commence for P4-7
17 September	6.30pm An election of parent representatives to the new board of governors.
17 September	7-8 pm Parents Night for all P1-7 parents 'Developing good mental health in our children'.
21 September	School council 2018/19 to be introduced in assembly
25 September	Photographer in school for promotional photos
4 October	School photographer in for all children/family groups
23 & 25 Oct	P7 Parent Interviews with Miss Hunter
26 October	Sponsored School Fitness Day – fund raising for school funds to buy more computers. Children wear sports clothes to school on this NON-UNIFORM FUNDRAISING DAY.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS 2018/19

AUGUST 1 – 29
OCTOBER 29 – 31
NOVEMBER 1- 2
DECEMBER 21- 31
JANUARY 1- 4
FEBRUARY 18 -20
MARCH 18
APRIL 15-26
MAY 6
MAY 24-27

P7 PARENTS

IF YOUR CHILD PLANS TO SIT THE RAINEY SCHOOL ENTRANCE TEST IN NOVEMBER 2018 THEN PLEASE NOTE THE CLOSING DATE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORMS TO RAINEY IS FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 2018. 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.

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 lodgment.
- **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, coats, hats, PE shorts, plimsols 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 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 3 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.**

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 14 September**. During the week **17 - 21 September P1 will stay in school for lunch and go home at 1.30 pm** and from **Monday 24 September 2018 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.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

ALL CHILDREN WILL BE GOING TO THE MILLENNIUM THEATRE, LONDONDERRY ON TUESDAY 18 DECEMBER 2018 TO SEE THEIR PANTOMIME 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 26 SEPTEMBER 2018, 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 THEATRE ON FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2018.

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.

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!



**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.

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.



Due to hygiene compliances we no longer keep a supply in school. We have purchased recorders at a reduced price of £3 Therefore we would ask that all children would send in their £3 to school with their replies before 7th September.

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

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



**WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME**



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

To Go To The Millennium Forum to See 'Peter Pan' on Tuesday 18 December 2018.

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 Millennium Forum on Friday 22 September 2017.

P7 PARENT INTERVIEWS – RAINEY ENTRANCE TEST CHILDREN ONLY

I would like my P7 interview to take place on (Children sitting the Rainey Test)

Tuesday 23 October Thursday 25 October



P1 – P7 (including P7 not sitting the Rainey Test) 20 – 22 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.)

FREE MICROSOFT PACKAGE AVAILABLE

FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO AVAIL OF IT, THERE IS A FACILITY WHEREBY PARENTS CAN OBTAIN MICROSOFT OFFICE FOR THEIR CHILDREN FREE OF CHARGE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE DETAILS ABOUT THIS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE SCHOOL OFFICE FOR INSTRUCTIONS HOW TO DO SO.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

TERM ONE – SEPT/OCT 2017 – 7 WEEKS

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

P4-6 Miniversity ICT Club - £18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P4-7 Netball- £10	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P7 Numeracy (P7) -£18	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P4/5 Craft Club (P4&P5) - £14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P4-6 Multi sports (Thurs) - £14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
Literacy (P7) - £14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Child's Name: _____	Class: _____
P5-7 Hockey - £14	<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: £ _____ or have made an online payment using vouchers.

Signed: _____ (Parent) _____ (Date)

MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING AWARENESS WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS P1-7
MONDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 7-8PM

We have recently had the 'Healthy Me' programme delivered to the children in our school. This has been a very worthwhile experience for our children and the teachers have also benefitted from a staff information session.

- ***Being a parent is a difficult job. Do you worry about the effect technology is having on your child?***
- ***Do you think your child needs to develop better resilience?***
- ***Would you like to foster a healthy mental and emotional wellbeing in your children and yourselves?***

If the answer is yes to any of these questions, then come along to a short information session in our school on Monday 17 Sept from 7-8pm. This will be a free event.



Miniversity ICT Club



P3 children will have the opportunity to take part in our Miniversity ICT Club commencing Monday 17th September from 2pm – 3pm. **Places are limited so it will be on a first come first served basis.** The cost will be £3 per session but the cost of £18 must be paid up front in advance to secure your child's place. Reply slip to be returned to school with full payment as soon as possible. Online vouchers may be used to pay this fee of £18.00

I do/do not allow my child _____ to take part in the Miniversity ICT Club with full payment of £18 enclosed or have paid using _____ vouchers online.

Parents signature _____ Date: _____