

The Woodlands Federation Newsletter 20th January 2023

Music of the Week: *Winter* from The Four Seasons by Vivaldi

Dear Parents/Carers

Here is a reminder of key dates for this next week:

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 23 rd Jan	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Tuesday 24 th Jan	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Wednesday 25 th Jan	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Thursday 26 th Jan	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Friday 27 th Jan	WRAP AROUND Care (AM)	WRAP AROUND Care

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Friday Feb 3 rd	Number Day NSPCC	Number Day NSPCC
Friday 10 th Feb	Safer Internet Day	Safer Internet Day
Friday 17 th Feb	Celebration Assembly 2.45pm - 3.15pm	
Monday 20 th Feb - Friday 25 th Feb	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Thursday 2 nd March	WORLD BOOK DAY	WORLD BOOK DAY
Friday 24 th March	Maple visit to Creswell Craggs	Birch visit to Creswell Craggs
Monday 3 rd April - Friday 14 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 17 th April	INSET DAY - School closed to children	INSET DAY - School closed to children

WELCOME to my first weekly newsletter! I always think that it is a good way to keep in touch, remind you of key dates and to let you know what's happening in our lovely schools! I am SO pleased to be supporting both schools to ensure that your children are receiving the best possible education. I think that everyone has probably felt a little turbulence during the last few weeks but I'm pleased to say that we are now back on track enjoying a smoother flight path once more!

I know that you are aware that our two schools are currently graded as *Requires Improvement* and much work is being done to address the key issues. I also recognise that as Parents/Carers, you are not always aware of the school improvement work that takes place. Therefore I will be keeping you up to date with work that is going on behind the scenes! The staff teams from both schools are now working far more closely, sharing their talents across the Federation and reaping the benefits of pooling their expertise.

EXCITING NEWS!

We introduced our new Traffic Light system in January to help us to manage our behaviour. Traffic Lights are checked regularly throughout the day in each classroom and we are working REALLY hard to stay on GREEN!

Our next step will be to link our system to POINTS so that we can earn enough points for a GREEN TREAT! Watch this space!

Special Notes:

- I will always try to see you at short notice if at all possible. If your issue is urgent and I am unavailable, I will ensure that Miss Beynon or another senior member of staff is made available to you. For non-urgent meetings, you are welcome to telephone the School Office. Mrs. Hill manages my diary and will be more than happy to make you an appointment at a mutually convenient time or you can always drop me an email (jfarrington@woodlandsfederation.staffs.sch.uk). Alternatively, you can catch me on the school gate where we can easily make an arrangement to meet.
- My weekly newsletter will be accessible via Dojo. If you would prefer an email version, you can log on to the school website (following the NEWS AND EVENTS tab and then NEWS/LETTERS) and enter your email address to sign up. In the same way, if you would prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please let the School Office know.
- We are extremely fortunate to have a Governing Body where many are visible at the gate each day. I realise that it is tempting to approach one of our Governors and ask them to pass on a concern or issue for you. However, having had the experience of being a Parent Governor, I know how difficult it can be to keep the two roles separate and this is essential in order for them to be able to fulfil their role in the way that it is intended. Therefore in order to support with this and to help to establish clear lines of communication for our schools, please can I ask that in the first instance you:

- Speak to the class teacher if it is a class-based issue or ask the school office to arrange for the class teacher to give you a call.
- If the class teacher is not able to resolve the issue or you are not happy with the outcome, then speak to me or drop me an email and I will do everything I can to sort out the problem.
- If you are not happy with the outcome having spoken to me, then your next step would be to raise the issue with our Governing Body who will then look into the matter for you.
- The snow took us all by surprise yesterday! Thank you for battling with it and managing to get your youngster into school safely. During the winter months, we will always strive to keep our schools open. Inevitably, there may be times when it is unsafe to do so. A SNOW PROCEDURE will be available on the school website which gives clear guidance as to what to do in the case of heavy snow.
- Please remember that if earrings are worn, this should be a small, plain stud. Please remember to remove earrings on PE days. Don't forget that we are not allowed to remove earrings for safeguarding reasons.
- A reminder for Maple Class - FULL FOREST SCHOOL KIT on Fridays please, ie. coat, boots/wellies, hat, gloves

STAFFING UPDATE

Mr. Kitching remains absent from school at the moment and in his absence, I am leading the two schools, supported by other members of the Senior Leadership team.

Mrs. Holden also remains absent from school. In order to bring about the necessary stability for the children until her return, I have asked Miss. Laura Davies to teach the class, supported by the Talbot Early Years team. Miss Davies is an extremely experienced teacher who is delighted to be joining us in this interim period. The children have already had a lovely day with her today and are looking forward to seeing her next Monday! Miss Davies will be contacting you next week to arrange an informal Come and Meet The Teacher! I would like to take the opportunity to thank Miss Utterly for her commitment and hard work during the last few weeks.

Miss Beynon has been unwell this last week but we are very much hoping to see her back later next week. I have asked Miss Frances Wright to begin working alongside Miss Beynon on a Monday and also Tuesday morning. This is to enable Miss Beynon to fulfil her role as Senior Teacher and work alongside me on rapid school improvement. Miss Wright is already a familiar face to St. Peter's and has enjoyed working with the children in the latter part of this week.

Last week's STAR OF THE WEEK Certificate winners - WELL DONE to all these children!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Lottie (N), Indie (N), Freddie (N), Olivia (N), Ella (R), Kyryl (1), Max (2), Harry (3), Tommy (4)	Lauren (R), Freddie (R), Tommy (2), Annie (2)

I am always pleased to hear about and celebrate out of school achievements. Don't forget to send in any achievements so that I can add them to our weekly newsletter and celebrate together!

FOMS and TSA work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children. They are always looking for volunteers to join the group or simply to help out at some events. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Timmis in the School Office who will be happy to pass on your details!

I hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing and peaceful weekend.

W.J. Farrington