



P6 & P7 SWIMMING **COMMENCING FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER** **(2PM-2.30PM)**

P6 and P7 classes will attend swimming lessons on a Friday for Term 1 (12 weeks) and Term 2 (11 weeks). Two swimming instructors will be available for these sessions and children will be grouped according to their swimming ability. 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 11 September at the latest.

PTA MEETING **TUESDAY 8 SEPTEMBER AT 7.45PM** **IN THE SCHOOL STAFF ROOM**

PTA will hold their first meeting on Tuesday 8 September 2015. We would encourage as many parents as possible to attend the meeting so that we can plan our main PTA event for this school year. If you are interested in helping out with an event but are unable to attend the meeting please complete and return the reply slip by Tuesday 8 September at the latest so that we can anticipate numbers for helping with an event.

P7 SCHOOL INTERVIEWS **20, 21 and 22 October**

Parents will be given a 15 minute appointment to speak to the class teacher about their child's progress. This will not affect the school day as the P7 class will be taught by Mrs White to facilitate interviews in the afternoons.

P1-6 PARENT INTERVIEWS **10, 11 & 12 NOVEMBER 2015**

School will close at 1.30pm on each of these dates to allow interviews to commence at 2pm.

P1 - 3 & older siblings – to be collected at 1.30pm

P4 - 7 children – to be collected at 1.45pm.

JMB Coach children – 1.30 pm

Please complete the reply slip below and return to your child's class teacher. Details of day and time will be sent to you later.

There will be **NO** After School 123 Club on these early closing days. JMB coaches should be able to accommodate us at 1.30pm but there will be no Ulsterbus. All KS1 and KS2 children who are eligible for bus transport will be able to use the JMB coach on this day.

Important Dates for your diary this term...

- A selection of upper KS2 children will be singing with the African Children's Choir in Magherafelt High School on Thursday 3 December (more details to follow).
- Christmas Concert Evenings - Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 December.
- P1 Open Night Wednesday 25 November
- Pantomime Tuesday 15 December
- End of term(Half Day) 18 December.



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 30 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 Mrs Mary Catherwood 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.

NEW TERM STAFF CHANGES

We want to welcome our new P5 teacher, Mr Edge, to our school. Mrs Davidson will teach the P7 class each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday alongside Mrs Bell who will teach the class on Thursdays and Fridays.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME

All children will be going to the Grand Opera House, Belfast on **Tuesday 15 December 2015** to see their production of 'Snow White'. 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 voluntary contribution of **£10 per child** to be paid **on or before Friday 19 September 2014, 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 Wednesday 23 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 have a filtered tap in school where water bottles can be refilled. We will also be encouraging as much physical play outside as we can when the weather is dry so remember to send a **named** coat to school for the cooler/rainy days.

123 CLUB P1 - P3 (SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER)

The 123 Club runs from 2-3pm for P1-2 children every day. P3 children may attend on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays when they finish normal class at 2pm. 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, by Thursday 3 September. Primary 1 children may attend this club from Monday 28 September. **Please note that we did not take account of the school development day now planned for Monday 5 October 2015. Please deduct one Monday from your payment when sending in your payment.**

CREDIT UNION SAVINGS

Due to a lack of parent interest we have decided not to continue with the Credit Union savings scheme. Parents already involved can continue to save with the credit union by visiting the local office at the address below:
7 Kirk Avenue Magherafelt BT45 6BT Tel: 02879301744

**SCHOOL HOLIDAYS &
STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2015/16
AMMENDED LIST**

OCT	5	(1 SCH DEV DAY)
	26,27	(2 SCH DEV DAY)
	28-30	(3 DAYS)
DEC	21-31	(9 DAYS)
JAN	1	(1 DAY)
FEB	15,16	(2 DAYS)
	17	(1 SCH DEV DAY)
MAR	17	(1 DAY)
	24-31	(7 DAYS)
APRIL	1	(1 DAY)
MAY	2-5	(4 DAYS)
	6	(1 SCH DEV DAY)
	30	(1 DAY)
JUNE	SCHOOL WILL FINISH ON THURSDAY 30 JUNE.	

MONEY DETAILS

	MILK	SNACK
SEPT	£4.62	£6.60
OCT	£3.57	£5.10



PE UNIFORM – This should be sent to school in a named bag and changed into before PE lessons.

- Sky blue round neck t-shirt
 - 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 UNIFORM

The children are looking really well in their uniform and we want to remind everyone that black footwear should be worn daily. Brightly coloured trainers are not part of the school uniform and should only be changed into for after school activities or outdoor sports. 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.

**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.

**P4 – P7 AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
See Attached Timetable.**

Please return the attached reply slip to school on Monday 7 September with payment to secure a place. Some clubs are limited to 24 spaces.

CAR PARKING AND SAFETY AT OPENING AND HOME TIMES

We must ask all parents to collect their child inside the school gates and walk them safely to their car each day. Help us to keep your children safe! We would ask all parents to please be patient with each other as we know there are times when there is congestion at the front of the school. We do not allow children to run up the footpath or through parked cars looking for their parent as this is dangerous.



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, snack and milk money. These can be included on one cheque but we would ask that each child has their own cheque/cash payment. **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.**
- If however, due to unforeseen circumstances, money were 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.

MILK ORDERS

Can we please remind all parents of children who take school milk that our policy is that milk **can only be ordered or cancelled at the end of a month** and we should be informed **in writing** of any changes by the **Wednesday of the week before the change is to take effect.**

GRASS PLAY

Despite additional drainage work our grass area continues to be quite wet in places. Therefore children who are playing on the grass at break/dinnertime (mainly P4 – P7) should bring in an old pair of trainers to change into. These can be kept in a bag on your child's coat peg/child's schoolbag.

HOMEWORKS

Please ensure that all written homework is signed by a parent to indicate that they have seen it and are happy that it is their child's best effort.

BUG CLUB

This programme has now finished.

LOST PROPERTY

We have a number of coats in our lost property box. If your child has lost a coat or item of uniform please call in and check our box.

HEAD LICE

Several parents in KS1 have reported that they have treated their children for head lice.

Within most schools at any one time, there can be a small number of children infected with head lice. If you suspect your child has head lice, please report any incidences to the school. Detection and effective treatment of any head lice outbreaks is key to reducing the problem.

Treating head lice is not a problem. For further advice consult your pharmacist, doctor or practice nurse. If you have access to the Internet, you can obtain more information from www.headliceadvice.net.

P1 PARENTS

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 Halloween 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 **2.00 pm**, commencing **Monday 28 September 2015**. If any travel arrangements have changed since filling out the data form please let Mrs Gardiner know before this date.

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.



WOODS PRIMARY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME



I DO ALLOW*/DO NOT ALLOW* MY CHILD(REN) _____ TO GO TO THE GRAND

OPERA HOUSE, BELFAST TO SEE 'SNOW WHITE' ON TUESDAY 15 DECEMBER 2015.

I ENCLOSE £ _____ VOLUNTARY 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 Wednesday 23 September 2015.

PTA SUPPORT VOLUNTEERS

I WISH TO BE CONTACTED REGARDING PTA EVENTS AND AM WILLING TO HELP OUT ON OCCASIONS.

NAME _____ TEL CONTACT _____ EMAIL _____

P7 PARENT INTERVIEWS 20, 21, 22 OCTOBER 2015
P1-6 PARENT INTERVIEWS 10, 11 & 12 NOVEMBER 2015



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 15/16

PLEASE TICK THE BOXES OF THE CLUBS YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| MULTI SPORTS (P6/P7) - £10.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| ICT CLUB (P4/P5) - £7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| P7 NUMERACY (P7) -£14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| ART CLUB (P6) - £7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| AMBASSADOR'S FOOTBALL (P4/P5) -£6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| ICT CLUB (P6&P7) -£3.50 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| LITERACY (P4-P7) - £14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |
| ART (P4-P5) - £7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILD'S NAME: _____ | CLASS: _____ |

I GIVE MY PERMISSION FOR MY CHILD TO TAKE PART IN THE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES TICKED.

I enclose: £ _____

SIGNED _____ (PARENT) _____ (DATE)