



Money Details

SCHOOL DINNERS ARE £2.60 A DAY.

SNACK SEPT £6.60

OCT £4.80

Correct money or a cheque (payable to EA Southern Region) should be sent into school on a Monday for the week ahead or month ahead. It is easier if money is paid for the month ahead. Money should go to each class teacher separately.

123 CLUB P1 - P3 (SEPT/OCTOBER)

If you have not already filled in a form, please download one from the school website or phone and request a paper copy from the school office. Return it to school accompanied by the correct money. This club can be paid for with cash, childcare vouchers or a separate cheque (not to be included with dinner money please).

All cheques for 123 Club should be made payable to 'Woods Primary School'. We are registered with Employers for Childcare, Sodexo, Childcare Choices, Care 4 and Busy Bees childcare vouchers. Always notify school first before commencing payment by vouchers.

Please note that if your child enrolls for a particular day, it is every day in the session e.g. every Monday.

EARLY BIRD CLUB 8.15-8.45am

Where? In the school hall or outside in the playground weather permitting £1.50 per day. We require payment in advance along with the booking form(see website) to enable us to plan for a safe provision for our children attending.

Vouchers can be used as payment or correct CASH.

We will try where possible to supervise the children outside and practice social distancing. Surfaces will be cleaned before and after the club.

Dates for the Diary

- **Flu Immunisation Clinic in school – Monday 1 November 2021**
- **School Photographer – Tuesday 19 October 2021**



As we commence a new school year in challenging times we want to welcome back all of our returning pupils and give a warm welcome to our new P1 pupils. We hope everyone will have an enjoyable learning experience with us and settle quickly into life at Woods Primary.

We want to thank all of our support staff and teachers for getting the school ready for the new school year. As we continue to implement the protective measures previously in place to help reduce the spread of COVID19 our staff and children are settling well into their school routine. We trust that this term we can see more of a return to normality.

STAFFING

Miss McQuillan will continue to teach the P7 class each Monday to Wednesday alongside Mrs Bell who will teach the class on Thursday and Friday. Miss McQuillan will be timetabled for P2 on a Thursday to enable Mrs Milliken to carry out VP/SENCO duties. We also welcome some new support staff who help to keep our children on task and carry out essential cleaning duties throughout the day.

WE ARE AIMING TO BE A 'NUT FREE' SCHOOL



WE HAVE A NUMBER OF PUPILS WHO HAVE NUT ALLERGIES ENROLLED IN OUR SCHOOL. THEREFORE, WE WOULD ASK ALL FAMILIES TO HELP US TO PREVENT ANY INCIDENTS OF SERIOUS ALLERGIC REACTION. WE ARE ASKING P1 PARENTS NOT TO SEND IN KIWI AS ONE P1 PUPIL HAS A KIWI ALLERGY.

PLEASE DO NOT SEND IN BOXES USED FOR CEREALS CONTAINING NUTS FOR CRAFT ETC. DO NOT SEND ANY NUTELLA OR NUT CONTAINING FOODS IN YOUR CHILD'S LUNCHBOX.

WE WOULD ALSO ASK THAT YOU ONLY PACK ITEMS THAT YOUR CHILD CAN EAT INDEPENDENTLY IN SCHOOL. E.G. IT IS NOT ALWAYS POSSIBLE TO PEEL OR CUT UP CHILDREN'S APPLES.

NEW ROUTINE

We are all adjusting to our new school routine including extra cleaning and regular handwashing and sanitising. The children have all been fantastic and are settling back into the routine at WOODS P.S. very well.

We thank all parents for wearing a mask when entering our building for pre-arranged appointments.

Please also be aware that when dealing with a positive case within the school community we may be asked by the Public Health Agency for contact details of children within the identified bubble for tracking and tracing purposes. Therefore, please ensure that you have provided school with the most up-to-date contact details. Contact the school office to update details ASAP if this applies. If you have any issues with this information sharing for the prevention of the spread of COVID 19 please contact Mrs White.

P7 PARENTS

IF YOUR CHILD PLANS TO SIT THE GL ENTRANCE TEST ALL PARENTS SHOULD COMPLETE AND RETURN THE REGISTRATION FORM TO THE SCHOOL WHICH YOU HAVE NOMINATED AS ASSESSMENT CENTRE 1 BY 2.00PM ON **FRIDAY 24 SEPTEMBER 2021.**

THE ASSESSMENTS ARE PLANNED TO TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY 13 NOVEMBER 2021.

PLEASE VISIT THE POST-PRIMARY WEBSITES OR TELEPHONE THE SCHOOLS DIRECTLY FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SCHOOL FUND DONATION

School funds are being used to pay for the extra copies of reading books, library books and textbooks that have been purchased to allow children to have their own individual copy for use in school. School funds have enabled us to purchase ICT equipment and stationery for the children to use in school. You may want to still purchase a pencil, rubber, ruler and colouring pencils for homeworks as some teachers may prefer their class to keep the classroom resources in school.

The school funds were used to pay for repairs to the safety surface and essential maintenance of the school play area equipment over the summer. These funds also allowed us to replace some items of PE and play equipment for outdoor use over recent years.

Thank you to all families who have already sent in their donation. We would remind all other families to please pay this fee by **30 September 2021.**

GUITAR LESSONS 2021-22

Ryan McGarrity (guitar teacher) has contacted the school to inform us that he is available to re-commence Guitar lessons in school hours on Tuesday mornings if there is enough interest from parents. **Children would have to supply their own guitar and 30 minute lessons would cost £5.** Please complete and return the reply slip if your child is interested in taking Guitar lessons during 2021-22 academic year.

P7 PARENT INTERVIEWS (14 & 15 OCTOBER 2021)

P7 Parent Interviews will be held on the 14 & 15 October 2021. More details will be provided soon regarding the format of these. P1-6 Parent interviews will be held later in November. More information to follow.

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 or for the month (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.
- However, if 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 £2.50 for 40 envelopes.

COMMUNICATION WITH ALL PARENTS

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU VISIT OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR IMPORTANT UPDATES. TO HELP KEEP YOU INFORMED OF CHANGES WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO SIGN UP FOR THE SCHOOL WEB DESIGN PRIVATE MESSAGING APP SERVICE. You will receive a text about this over the next week and we would ask that you accept the invitation to activate your account. Please phone the school office if you are having any issues and we will try to help.

RETURN TO SCHOOL AFTER ABSENCE

If your child is returning to school after an absence a parent **must send in an email or written note** stating the reason why his/her child was absent to: info@woods.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk or send a written note to the teacher.

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 would remind all parents to please **name each item of uniform and coats** to avoid confusion and help to prevent loss. We have some 'like new' uniform items available for anyone wanting a spare change for their child - **£2 donation per item to School Funds.** Please phone the school office to check availability and we will be in touch.

MUSIC SERVICE

The EA Music Service are planning for music tutors to restart lessons in flute/clarinet on 9 September. The violin tutor is currently off so lessons will not start until later in the month. **Please complete the music reply slip if your child wishes to continue or commence lessons in school for the first time.**



P1 PARENTS SEPTEMBER HOME TIMES

We are delighted to see how independent our new P1 children are at walking to their classroom by themselves. Remember there will always be a member of staff at the 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 24 September**. From Monday 27 September children will stay until 2pm each day and get picked up from the P1 Fire Exit Door. If any travel arrangements have changed since filling out the data form, please let Mrs. Gardiner know. ***Please be reminded to return the SEN & Disabilities form to School ASAP. This should be returned even if your child does not have any specific needs.***

CHILD PROTECTION UP-DATE

PLEASE NOTE: To comply with our up-dated Safeguarding 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 for each class bubble and washed regularly. Thank you for your co-operation.

Please go online to www.woodsprimaryschool.com to read a selection of school policies for your information. We hope these policies will be easy for everyone to follow and acceptable to all. Any queries should be made in writing to Mrs White.

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 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. We are also collecting used batteries for recycling. These can be placed in the collection box at the front entrance.



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**. Please ensure that you remember to send **in all school books and textbooks after use**.

We have set up all classes for the **SEESAW APP** and would encourage you to become familiar with this app as it will be used as a communication/teaching tool should a class or teacher have to self-isolate. Please remember that important messages should always be sent in **writing to the class teacher** and not on the Seesaw App as this will not be checked DAILY.

REPLY SLIP

P7 Transfer Support - After School Club
Thursdays 3-4pm
Literacy and Numeracy
COST £15 (includes practice tests)

Please sign and return the reply slip and payment before Monday 13 September if your child plans to attend this club.

Child's Name _____ Parent Signature _____

Enclosed £ _____

Date _____

***** REPLY SLIP *****



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN TAKING GUITAR LESSONS IN SCHOOL

- I would like my child to receive guitar lessons in school.
I agree to providing them with their own guitar.
I will pay the Guitar tutor £5 per lesson.

I understand that my child would have to participate in an assessment before a definite space could be allocated.

Child's Name: _____ CLASS: _____ Parent Name: _____ Date _____

Two horizontal lines for additional information.



P4-7 EA MUSIC SERVICE REPLY - Please return to school by Wednesday 8 September 2021

- I do /do not (delete as appropriate) want my child _____ (insert name and class) to continue to receive music lessons in school.
I would like my child (insert name) _____ to be considered as a new start for _____ (Insert strings or woodwind) music lessons in school.
I understand that if my child is allocated a space on the programme he/she will have to commit to one year of participation in the programme. I agree to pay all fees associated with lessons (usually £110 approx. but no fees have been agreed for this year 2021/22).

Signed: _____ (Parent) Date: _____



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