



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

9th  September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year and a special warm welcome to all the new members of our school. All the Reception children seem to have settled into school brilliantly over the past few days, and everyone across the whole school has started the year so positively! I am so delighted to see everyone smiling, having fun and working hard right from the off. With several changes (hopefully improvements) being implemented this term, it feels to me like there is a buzz around the school as we continue to enhance the curriculum and the school environment. However, if you have any questions or feedback (positive or otherwise), we very much welcome it so do come and see myself or a member of staff.

Below: Fieldmice Class came to Collective Worship on Thursday.



Lynne and Jo (left) in our school kitchen have been working hard over the summer to prepare for running our own lunch catering and are now employed by the school directly - here they are looking smart in their new 'Wilburton' branded uniforms! Jo White is the kitchen manager and if you have any questions about menus or allergies, please let the Office know and we will put you in touch. Our new sitting plan for lunchtimes has already made a noticeable impact to make the dining hall a much calmer and quieter environment. If you haven't considered giving school meals a try in a while, why not take a look at our new menu? Remember, all children in Fieldmice and Squirrels Class have free school lunches, which could save you hundreds of pounds a year!

Arts Project Set to Launch Next Week

I'm delighted to have secured funding for our school to benefit from a year-long arts project, which aims to develop children's confidence, creativity, aspiration and cultural engagement. This particular project is just for Wilburton Primary School, and will be created by artists and youth workers alongside children, staff and parents. On Thursday next week, community artist Hilary Cox Condron and our local Youth and Community Worker will spend the day with us, learning about the children and their lives, and starting to shape the project. Although the project will involve everyone at some point, most of the regular sessions will be with KS2 classes

as for the remainder of the year, Hilary will spend alternating Monday afternoons with Foxes, Owls and Hedgehogs classes on a lot of the art itself. I am excited to see what comes of it all! You can find out more about some of Hilary's work on the Activate Cambridge website: <https://www.activatecambridge.co.uk/>

PE Days and Kits

Here are the timetables days for PE for each class:

Fieldmice: Monday and Tuesday

Squirrels: Monday and Wednesday

Foxes: Wednesday and Thursday

Owls: Wednesday and Thursday

Hedgehogs: Wednesday (plus additional fitness sessions linked to Science and Topic work – children will be briefed on this).

This term we would like to trial allowing children to wear their PE kits to school on the days when they have PE. The reasons for trying this are (a) to reduce the amount of stuff children have to bring in and out of school as many went home in their PE kits anyway; (b) to decrease the amount of lost property after changing; (c) to improve children's experience in school by not having congested unsupervised changing; (d) to increase the time *doing* PE rather than changing.

When children are doing indoor PE and wearing shorts, and if it is a cold day, they could wear joggers over their shorts to slip off at the start of PE. If you prefer your child to wear school uniform and change into their PE kit in school, this is also fine and we will let those children get changed during lunchtime so they are ready for PE in the afternoon. This is a trial for the autumn term and we will take feedback on-board to decide whether to continue it for the year.

Children also need to wear shoes which they can run in every day. Please also remember that Reception and Year 1 children have Forest School every Wednesday afternoon and need kit for this – we don't want children to miss out when it gets cold!

Dates

A list of dates for this term will be sent with this newsletter. You can also find a copy on our school website and events are listed on our website calendar. This is a Google Calendar so you can sync it on your phone too.

Wellbeing Afternoon Units: Autumn 1

On Wednesday afternoons, children in Year 2-6 will be doing Wellbeing Afternoon. As well as a PE lesson, this half-term they will have lessons on what resilience means and how they can improve their own level of resilience. Each week, a different small group will also have a reflective, mindful session called 'Soul Space' to relax and be calm.

Friday Fun

On Friday afternoons, children will go into their four house groups and do a six week unit of work in either Art, Music or Design and Technology. We have used grant funding from the Universal Music Sound Foundation to purchase a class set of glockenspiels, and subscribed to a high-quality music education programme so that all children will be able to learn to play, read and write music. Our new construction area is now well-stocked with woodworking tools, and all the groups will get out here over the year: I'm hoping that we'll have some highly-skilled carpenters in years to come! To start with, children will learn how to use (real) hammers, drills, saws and screwdrivers correctly and safely. Woodworking does come with some level of risk but we have taken expert guidance on how to minimise this when writing our 'risk benefit analysis' of how children will use the area and the tools. For some projects, we may ask for a small contribution of a couple of pounds for each child for wood they need.

Proposed Carriageway Works – Berristead Close, Wilburton

Cambridgeshire County Council will be carrying out specialised carriageway works called Slurry Patching within Berristead Close, Wilburton. **These works are due to take place from Monday 23/09/19 for up to 9 working days, between the hours of 9.30am and 3.00pm.** Therefore Berristead Close will be restricted, and vehicles

will not be allowed to park on the road or footway. If you usually park here when picking up children from school you may need to think of an alternative.

I hope your child has a great start to this year. If there is anything that causes a problem or could help, please let us know so we can try to put things right as soon as possible. You can usually catch me on the school gate in the morning or after school, or drop us an email and we'll get back to you.

Best wishes,

David Aston
Headteacher

Hi All

Please see the advert below for the First Cambridge Wood Fair.

BURWASH MANOR PRESENTS...
14TH & 15TH SEPTEMBER Sat 9-5 / Sun 10-5

THE WONDER WOOD

Willow weaving ✦ Artisan carpentry ✦ Coppice crafts ✦
Survival skills ✦ Local food & drink ✦ Local Folk musicians ✦
Pond dipping & fenland wildlife education ✦ Den building ✦
Storytelling ✦ Face painting ✦ and lots more

CAMBRIDGE'S FIRST WOOD FAIR
Loads of fun for all the family

WE ARE DEDICATED TO INTRODUCING CHILDREN TO THE JOY OF ENGAGING WITH NATURE

ADULTS: £10.00
UNDER 16S: FREE

www.burwashmanor.com
www.wonderwoodwillow.com
www.artisanstructures.co.uk

FOLLOW US ON:   

Birthday List for the next 2 weeks

Alfie	Class 3	09/09/19
Mya	Class 2	09/09/19
Romanee	Class 5	09/09/19
Thea	Class 2	12/09/19
Marnie	Class 2	12/09/19
Ben	Class 5	14/09/19
Finn	Class 5	14/09/19
Niall	Class 5	18/09/19

will be celebrating their birthdays



Dates for your diary:

- 11/09/19: WOOSC Committee Meeting 7.00pm
- 12/09/19: Launch of 2019-20 School Arts And Aspiration Project
- 13/09/19: Roald Dahl Day
- 13/09/19: Celebration Assembly 2.45pm
- 16/09/19: Clubs Begin
- 19/09/19: Waste & Recycling Workshops for KS2
- 20/09/19: WSA Autumn Fete 3.30-5.30pm