

# Woodlands Unit Newsletter

Issue 4/ February 2019

Welcome back to another busy term with lots going on.

## Curriculum

This term our theme is '**Once Upon a Time**'. A curriculum overview will be coming home with your child explaining what they will be learning as part of this topic. We will focus on lots of traditional and fairy tales as part of this topic and try to develop the children's imagination.

## Assessment

Following the governments **Rochford Review** there have been a lot of changes for assessing children with special educational needs. Together with other NPAT Unit Provisions, we have been looking at new assessment frameworks. We are going to be taking part in a research project with Fairfields Special School trialing their new assessment framework called **Assessment for All**. We will be initially using this in Rabbits and Squirrels Class. We would like to invite parents of children in these classes along to a session on **Friday 15th March** from **2pm - 3pm** where we will share this new system with you.

## Sensory Integration

Lots of our children have sensory needs and we would like to learn more about this area. We have organised some training for both staff and parents which will be led by a trained Occupational Therapist.

The parents session will be held on **Thursday 21st March** from **2pm - 3pm** in The Nest. This will be a really interesting session so please do come along if you can.

## School Disco

We are having a Unit Disco! By popular request from parents we have arranged for the unit to have their own disco session on the same night as main school. This will be on **Wednesday 20th March** from **4.30pm - 5.15pm**. This will be held in the top hall. You are welcome to stay with your children if you would like or you can have a cuppa in The Nest if you would prefer to wait rather than go home and come back.

## Coffee Afternoons

This term we are going to try a **Friday afternoon** instead of a Thursday for our parents to meet and catch up. These will start on **Friday 8th March**. The Nest will be open from **2.30pm**. Just come along make yourself a drink and have a chat.



## Snack Money

We ask for a voluntary contribution of £1 per week to cover the cost of snacks and our out and about trips on the mini bus which are a valuable life skill. We really appreciate it if you can donate to this each term.



## Woodlands Wonderful Wednesday

We will be holding our Easter themed event on **Wednesday 3rd April**. You will be invited to come in to your child's class in the morning from 9.15am. There will be Easter crafts to take part in with your child, an Easter Egg Hunt and an Easter Egg raffle. Donations of cakes for the cake stall would be much appreciated. Do you have a talent in cake making? Then maybe you would like to make a special Easter Themed Cake we could raffle off? - **more details to follow**.

## Book Bags

Please check your child's book bag regularly as we often send home notes and letters. It would really help us if you could make sure letters are sent back promptly and bags are kept free from clutter so letters aren't missed. Any homework is also put in here too.

## World Book Day

This event is on **Thursday 7th March**. We will be having a focus in school on the children's favourite books that day. Reading is very important and so is developing children's love of books too. Please read/share books with your children as often as possible as this is such a valuable experience.

## Autism Awareness Week

The week beginning the 1st April is **National Autism Awareness Week**. We will be supporting this as a school - **more details to follow**.

## New Staff

And finally we would like to welcome Mrs Stephanie Skelton to our Woodlands Unit team. Mrs Skelton has joined staff in Rabbits Class.

**Best wishes from  
All the Woodlands Unit  
Team**

