

Woodlands Newsletter

Issue 1/ September 2021

A warm welcome back to the new school year and I hope you all had a lovely summer break. The staff are all very proud of how well the children have settled back into their class routines. A very warm welcome to our new children and their families.

Woodlands Staff

We are really pleased to welcome a new member of staff to our Woodlands Team. Mrs Bethany Griffiths is our new Squirrels Class teacher. We are currently advertising again for a new teacher for Foxes Class. At the end of term the person we had appointed withdrew her acceptance of the role. In the meantime, Mrs Sue Henson will continue to lead the class brilliantly. To support Mrs Henson, Mr Oliver Chivers has moved over to join Foxes Class and Mrs Florina Solomon who worked with us in the spring and summer term is staying with us until Christmas in Squirrels Class.

We are taking part in whole staff training called **Attention Autism** this term and we completed Day 1 on the training day. This is the link to the website if you want to find out more <https://ginadavies.co.uk/>

New Building!

We are delighted with our new provision. It looks amazing and we have so much more space for the children to move around. We are just awaiting now the arrival of some gates so that our undercover area outside Hedgehogs and Squirrels can be finished. We are looking forward to you all coming in and having a look.

Woodlands Themes



Our theme this term is **'My Super Self'** and your child's teacher will be sending home an overview of what the children will be learning about this term.

Woodlands Wonderful Wednesdays

We are delighted that we can start holding all our parent events again. Our first event will be our Woodlands Wonderful Wednesday which will be held on **Wednesday 13th October**. This will start at **2pm** and you are invited to come and join your child in their class and take part in some fun activities. There will also be tea and coffee serve in our new hall so you can come and meet other parents too.

Annual Reviews

We will be setting dates for annual reviews for all of the children for the year and you will receive a letter letting you know the date. Please make a note of this and let us know straight away if you need to change the date. These will mostly be on Friday mornings again this year.

The meetings will be led by either Mrs Karen Smith or Mrs Dawn Silk. Annual reviews will be face to face this year which we are so pleased about and will be held in our new school hall, The Nest.

Speech and Language Therapist

We have received a letter today informing us that there will be no visits from the Speech and Language Service in the first term. This is because they are reviewing their core offer to schools. I have been invited to attend a meeting on the 22nd September where I will find out about the new framework and what that means for us at Woodlands.

We will continue to promote communication and interaction in all that we do and provide high quality support to all our children so that they continue to make progress with their speech and language.

Occupational Therapist

We are continuing with our service level agreement with Thrive OT this year. Claire Davenport will still be our Occupational Therapist and come in every term supporting our children with their sensory needs. She has been in this week supporting us in setting up our Sensory Movement Corridor in the new building.

PE Kits

The children will be doing PE every week. Please can you make sure they have kit in school, preferably in a draw string bag as these fit on the pegs much better than bag packs. Our children will get changed in school for PE as dressing and undressing is an important skill for the children to learn.

Swimming



We will be swimming this year and this will start again on Friday 17th September. Please send your child in with a towel and a swimming costume. We will provide swimming hats.

Autumn is approaching!

Please can you make sure that you send your child to school with a coat as we do go outside every day and the weather is unpredictable.

Snack Money

We ask for a voluntary donation of £1 per week so we can provide the children with a range of snacks. Please give this to your child's class teacher. We also use the money towards our **out and about** trips on the mini bus.

School Lunches

Please can you make sure you order your child's school lunch online with Dolce. Contact the school office if you need any help with this.

Best wishes

Karen and all the Woodlands Team

Karen Smith

Deputy Head/Woodlands Lead