



FOX WOOD SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



July
2018

Important Dates

Our Website address: www.foxwoodschooll.org.uk

Thursday 19 July

School closes for pupils

Friday 20 July

Inset Day for staff

Monday 3 & 4 September

Inset Days for staff

Wednesday 5 September

Pupils return to school

10 and 11 October 2018

School Photographer in

Friday 19 October

School closes for half term

Message from Lucinda

This has been another incredibly busy year with so many achievements that it really is hard to know where to start! In September last year we introduced our brand new curriculum which has had a massive impact on all learning opportunities and, as the data from our new assessment procedure shows, led to our pupils making exceptional progress across the board in comparison with a range of other Special Schools. Pupils continue to grow in confidence and independence and it is fabulous to see them also developing in so many ways that data alone cannot evidence. We enjoy having opportunities to better share these events and progress milestones (via new tools such as Tapestry and Evidence for Learning) and always love to hear your stories and WOW moments! We have also begun to further develop our offer in relation to Learning Outside of the Classroom and this will be a big focus over the coming year so that all pupils have opportunities to access learning in a variety of environments. I am mindful that none of the above is possible without the passion, commitment and general awesomeness of my staff team and so I would like to thank every single one of them for their hard work and for continuing to ensure that Fox Wood is a wonderful place to laugh and learn.

We look forward to welcoming you back in September!

Other Notices - Dinner Money—Just a reminder that Dinner Money has increased to £2.30 per day, (£11.50 per week) This is still payable on the Friday for the following week and must be paid on a weekly basis or termly in advance.

Any monies sent into school must be in a sealed envelope with the pupil's name, the amount, and what the money is for, written clearly. School **cannot** take responsibility for any loose cash.

Goodbye

It is with sadness that we say Goodbye to Val Howorth our Deputy Head. Val has been at Loushers Lane/Fox Wood School for 23 years. She came as an Early Years Teacher and progressed to Deputy Head. Val has also been Acting Head a number of times. We wish her well in the future with whatever she chooses next.

We have one pupil who is in year 11 and is moving to Woolston 6th Form College in September. The young man is Sam who is a pupil in class 12. He has had a long period of transition so that he is familiar with the rooms, staff and some of the routine at college. Sam is a real character and will be missed by all. We wish him all the best at college and we are sure he will enjoy everything it has to offer.

We also have to say goodbye to James, from class 8. James is moving to a school nearer to where he lives and has had several visits to his new school. We wish him all the best and are sure that he will soon settle and find out where all the ICT equipment and books are!

Dawn, a teaching assistant in class 3, is leaving us this term. Dawn has only been with us for 1 Year but will obviously be missed particularly her artistic talents, as she was a member of the arts team who organised arts week in February

Penny, our class 8 teacher has completed her NQT year with us this year and has been successful in securing a post at another special school. We wish her all the best

We say Goodbye to teacher Alison in class 4. Alison joined us as a Class Teacher in January 2011 and took a leading role within school for Art including planning several Arts Weeks, which were a great success, and Enrichment.

AIMING HIGH

As you know, we had our Aiming High celebration on 6 July to celebrate the achievements of pupils at Fox Wood and Green Lane Schools. The following pupils received certificates for their achievements throughout the year.

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| Foundation Stage | Matthew and Eva |
| Key Stage 1 | Ben and Max |
| Key Stage 2 | Joe and Lucas |
| Key Stage 3 | Emma and Savannah |
| Key Stage 4 | Sam and Keides |
| Citizenship Award | Evan |
| Karen Nicholls Award | Sarah |

Congratulations to all the winners. We hope all the parents and friends of Fox Wood who attended enjoyed our celebration.

Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT)

Congratulations to Louise, teacher at College, and Penny, class 8 teacher, who have completed their NQT year. They and Val attended a celebration event at Walton hall on 11 July and they received a certificate of recognition for completing the year. Congratulations to them both

Summer Fair

A big thank you to everyone who attended the summer fair and made it a great success. We raised a grand total of £ 1000 which is significantly more than we have ever made before and is very much appreciated through everyone's hard work to make it a huge success. It was a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon with huge smiles and positive comments from all. A special thank you to Friends of Fox Wood and parents for the wonderful prizes donated, it really wouldn't have been a success without your generosity. Also to Rita who organised the fayre and the SMSC team for their planning to make it run smoothly. What a wonderful way to celebrate the pupils work and achievements and to end the week!

Race For Life

Students, staff, parents and family members took part in Race for Life for Cancer Research on Thursday 22 June. The pupils ran/walked through Woolston Park. It was a massive turnout with lots of laughter and fun. The Friends of Woolston Park supported the school. We raised an amazing £508 and each child was awarded a special medal. Thank you and well done to everyone who took part and donated.

On Monday 4th June, I held a parent workshop which was attended by a few parents/carers. The workshop was based around 'speech and language therapy support for children and young people with severe learning difficulties.' During the workshop we looked at ways to support children's language development, adult -pupil interactions and the importance of non-verbal communication. The workshop gave an excellent opportunity to look at some of the resources we use in school including E-Tran frames, PODD books, symbol mats, switches and prompts. Thank you to those of you that attended. **Laura**

Professional Development

Makaton Training, Team Teach Refresher, Data Protection Officer training, Safeguarding, Designated Senior Lead termly update, Inclusion Day and Minibus training.

SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

As you know, the safety and security of our pupils and staff is a top priority for Fox Wood School and if you have children attending other schools you might well have received information from them in regards to the lockdown procedure. Schools have been advised to ensure they have a procedure in place which would be used in a circumstance such as a reported incident or civil disturbance in the local community which potentially poses a risk to the Fox Wood school.

During a Lockdown Procedure, classroom doors are secured and the pupils remain inside the room until instructed by the teacher to resume their usual activities. All exterior doors are locked and no one is permitted to enter or leave the building. Pupils are kept inside the school and classrooms when circumstances make it safer to stay in the classroom rather than evacuate.

Just as we prepare our staff and pupils to properly respond to a fire drill, staff also need to be aware of the proper response during a lockdown drill. Please be assured that staff at our school will spend time discussing the importance of this procedure.

Sensory Kingdom

Many of our pupils are now accessing the Sensory Kingdom on a regular basis. I withdraw pupils and facilitate Occupational Therapy sessions; following guidelines and functional targets set by our Occupational Therapist, Debi Ost. There are 18 timetabled sessions to meet the needs of an identified case load and 4 sessions reserved for specific classes. Sensory Kingdom continues to be used for Enrichment activities each Tuesday afternoon and some college pupils also benefit from allocated time too. The case load continues to be reviewed half termly by Debi.



Our Acrobat swing has finally arrived and has been a particular hit with all those who have already tried it out!
Amanda Kelly (OT Assistant)

TLR – English/ School Council/ Coffee Morning

This half term, the focus has been on updating and revamping the library. Rita and Jo from focused support, have spent time revamping the library which means it is now much more accessible both for pupils and staff. Focused support lessons will continue to be held in the library and classes will have timetabled library sessions from September to hold their reading lessons.

School council have contributed to improving the library and they have held a coffee morning to raise funds for new books for the library. Thank you to all that attended I think you will agree it was a success.

Finally, I would like to thank the current members of the school council for all of their support and brilliant ideas this year. We have been very busy! Early next September, classes will vote for their new councillors ready for the first meeting of 2018-19. Full minutes from the last meeting are available on the website – we were joined by Rebecca Lynskey this half term – our Governor Representative on the school council – thank you Rebecca!

KS4 Citizenship Days

This half term, KS4 have worked on their election campaigns for Head and Deputy Head Pupils. Pupils made power points and presented them to upper school. Our outgoing Head and Deputy Head Pupils (Emma and Kelan) handed over their badges to the successful candidates. A big well done to Lewis (Deputy Head Pupil) and Alisha (Head Pupil) our new Head and Deputy Pupils.

This term, classes had an exciting day trying out new sporting activities including Archery and New Age Kurling. The Kurling was the most popular sport, pupils had to roll the stones and get them onto the target. All the classes involved were great at waiting for their go and taking turns. Class 1 really enjoyed the New Age Kurling and shared their turn with pupils from Green Lane School. Hopefully there will be lots of opportunities for classes to continue trying these sports and even go to tournaments. Class 10 enjoyed playing with the archery set and counting their points to see how many points they had got and who the winner was! All of the sports staff were very impressed with the Fox Wood students who took part and are looking forward to having other opportunities to try different sports in school next year.



Please remember to return the **Pupil Information Sheet** in September if you have not already done so. It is vital that the contact details we have for yourselves are up to date. This sheet can also be found on our website if you need another copy.

Thank you

