

Academic Year 2015-16

Issue No.1  
AUTUM TERM

# Wollaston Community Primary School



*Headteacher: Mrs Sally Hamson—BEd (hons) NPQH*

Hello and welcome back to all our children and parents and a huge welcome to those of you who are new to the school, especially our Reception children. All the new children have settled in very well and have had a tour of the school to meet everyone.

The Autumn term is constantly busy, settling in new pupils and our other children getting to know their new class teacher. We are pleased to welcome Miss Emma Robinson and Mrs Jane Haddon—two new teachers in Key Stage 1. Both did their final training at the school and we would like to congratulate them on becoming teachers. We would also like to welcome Mrs Georgina Wise who has taken up the position of School Business Manager as Mrs Buttell is taking a phased retirement.

As always in school we are busy planning ahead so please find dates for your diaries including homework days, PE days, school holidays, class assembly dates and training days that we hope you will find useful.

As you are aware all infant children are now entitled to a free school meal following on from the Government initiative. As a school we would like to remind any parent/carers, who may be on benefits, to still apply through Northamptonshire County Council for free school meals. This generates income for the school (called Pupil Premium) that can be passed on to parents. Please see the article in the newsletter on page 4 with further details on how to claim/eligibility etc.

Just to highlight we are continuing with our safeguarding password system. This is for anyone who you have asked to collect your child from school, who is new to us and does not normally collect your child/children. When you telephone us we will ask you to supply a password that you will need to pass to the person collecting your child and we will inform your child's class teacher.

You will probably have noticed that we now have electronic gates at the front of the car park. They are fitted with sensors so will not injure anyone if they happen to walk through as they are closing.

Finally, I would like to wish all our children a very happy start to the new academic year.

Sally Hamson  
Headteacher

## **HOMEWORK / PE DAYS ETC!**

We hope the following information will be useful to you:

### **Miss Willoughby's and Miss Pullin's Yr5/6 classes:**

**Miss Pullin & Miss Willoughby:** Reading at least 3 times per week—parents to sign Reading Diaries and return to school every Friday. Homework—given every Friday to be returned the following Friday. Spellings given weekly to be tested the same day the following week.

**PE days:** Miss Willoughby—Monday indoor and Friday outdoor.

Miss Pullin—Tuesday indoor and Wednesday outdoor.

### **Mr Robinson's and Mr Goacher's Yr4/5 classes:**

Homework and spellings set on a Friday to be tested on the following Friday. Read at least 3 times per week and diaries signed. Also learn times tables each week.

**PE days:** Mr Robinson — Wednesday indoor and Friday outdoor.

Mr Goacher —Wednesday outdoor and Thursday indoor.

### **Mrs Cole's and Mrs Frost's Y3/4 Classes:**

Reading at least 3 times weekly and parents to sign reading log. Spellings set Friday to be tested the following Friday. One creative task per half term and either 1 literacy or 1 numeracy homework set each week.

**PE days:** Mrs Frost —Wednesday indoor and Friday outdoor.

Mrs Cole —Wednesday outdoor.

### **Reception and KS1—Years 1 & 2:**

**PE days:** Miss E Robinson—Tuesday indoor and Thursday outdoor.

Miss K Robinson—Monday outdoor and Thursday indoor.

Mrs Haddon—Tuesday indoor Thursday outdoor.

Mrs Brown —Monday outdoor and Friday indoor.

Mrs Timms & Mrs Coates — Friday indoor

Finally please try and encourage your child to read every day as this greatly improves their vocabulary and confidence. Thank you.

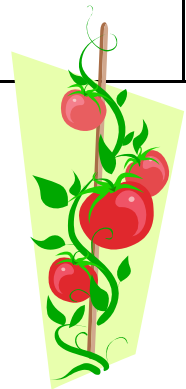
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## CLUBS IN TERM 1

|                  |                            |                            |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>MONDAY</b>    | Gym Club (KS2)             | 8:00-8:50am                |
|                  | Freestyle Football (KS2)   | 12:30-1.10pm               |
| <b>TUESDAY</b>   | Dodgeball                  | 8:00-8:50am                |
|                  | Freestyle Football (KS1)   | 3.30-4.45pm                |
|                  | Hotshots                   | 5.00-5.45pm                |
| <b>WEDNESDAY</b> | Dance Funktion             | 8:00-8:50am                |
|                  | Guitar (private Tuition)   | During the school day      |
| <b>THURSDAY</b>  | Woodwind (incl. recorders) | 8.40-10.20am               |
|                  | Gardening Club             | 3.30-4.30pm (January 2016) |
|                  | Gym club (KS1)             | 3.30-4.30pm                |
| <b>FRIDAY</b>    | Cheerleading               | 8:00-8.45am                |
|                  | Violin                     | 12-1.30pm                  |
|                  | Multi-skills club          | 3.30-4.30pm                |

Gardening Club

The summer seems to have ended but our school garden is still producing some lovely food from the crops we planted. I must admit my tomato plants at home weren't so healthy but the school ones did very well and we are selling bags of tomatoes after school for 50p. If you don't spot any children selling please ask at the office if you want some. This seems to have been a good year for fruit in the school garden with the little plum tree giving it's first ever crop of really tasty plums and the raspberries we only planted this spring showing promise for next year.



Garden club this year will start properly in January but I will do some gardening with groups in class time or at dinnertime where I'm hoping to develop the wildlife garden to provide some places for insects and larger animals to overwinter. We will have some violets for sale in a few weeks so keep them in mind for your displays.

Finally if there is anyone who would be willing to come and help with a group at all in gardening club, you don't have to be a gardener we would be very grateful, please leave a note at the office.

Thanks for all your help with our gardening needs,

Miss Loasby

## PUPIL PREMIUM INFORMATION

### ARE YOU ENTITLED?

Although all children in KS1 (Reception, year 1 & year 2) are now entitled to a free school meal your child might also be entitled to PUPIL PREMIUM which will in turn allow you to access other benefits and help from within school for example, help with trips and uniform costs.

Your child will be eligible for Pupil Premium (which includes free milk at break time and free meals if in KS2 or secondary school), if you or your partner receive either:

- Income Support
- Income based Job Seeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credits (with no Working Tax Credit element), and a household income below £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs)
- National Asylum Seeker's Support
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance

**It's easy to check and see if your family are entitled:**

- Go to the Northamptonshire County Council website [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk)
- Enter- Free School Meals.
- Click on the first link and then "how to apply"
- This will take you to a form: you will need to fill in some details, name, address, date of birth etc. and your National Insurance Number or Asylum Seeker's Number. You will get an immediate answer as to whether or not you are entitled to the Pupil Premium. The school will

## LETTERS TO PARENTS



### KNITTING AND CROCHET CLUB

Our school knitting club will be up and running again after half-term. Children from years 3/4/5 & 6 are invited to learn how to knit and crochet and experienced knitters are encouraged to come along and extend their expertise! Further information will come out shortly.

**ParentMail** has now been successfully running for many years and **printed letters are no longer sent home to parents who are signed up to ParentMail.** We are very pleased to report that 90% of our parents are now signed up!

There may be occasional documents that cannot be sent by ParentMail, such as this newsletter, so please remember to check your account on a regular basis.



### KEY STAGE 2 SATS

These important assessments will take place for all Key Stage 2 (Junior) children during the week **9-13 MAY 2016.**

### KEY STAGE 1 SATS

Tests for KS1 children also take place throughout May.

### REMEMBER TO UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION!

All parents will shortly receive a **DATA SHEET** containing all personal information that has previously been supplied to the school.

In order to enable us to have an up-to-date data base PLEASE ensure that you return the form as soon as possible.

The information is very important to us especially if we have to contact you in an emergency.

Thank you.



It's Jeans for Genes Day on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2015, please bring your child to school in their jeans and let them join in the fun! The money raised provides vital care and support for thousands of children living with genetic disorders.

Please bring a 50p donation for our collection box.

Do something extraordinary in jeans and help us transform the lives of children with genetic disorders.

# TERM DATES

## TERM DATES—ACADEMIC YEAR 2015-16

### TERM 1

Term ends: Friday 23 October

### TERM 2

*(Monday 2 November—Training Day)*

Term starts: Tuesday 3 November

Term ends: Friday 18 December

### TERM 3

*(Monday 4 January—Training Day)*

Term starts: Tuesday 5 January

Term ends: Friday 12 February

### TERM 4

Term starts: Monday 22 February

Term ends: Thursday 24 March

### TERM 5

*(Monday 11 April—Training Day)*

Term starts: Tuesday 12 April

***(Monday 2 May—Bank Holiday)***

Term ends: Friday 27 May

### TERM 6

Term starts: Monday 6 June

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## SEPTEMBER

Friday 18 'Jeans for Genes' Fund Raising Day  
Wednesday 30 New Reception Intake start full time

## OCTOBER

Wednesday 7 School Nurse visit Y6—Talk & Height/Weight Session  
Monday 12 School Photographs—Individual & Sibling groups  
Tuesday 13 Flu vaccinations—Y1 and Y2  
Thursday 15 Phonics information evening for parents  
Wednesday 21 Parents' Consultation Evening  
Thursday 22 Parents' Consultation Evening (late)  
Friday 23 School Closes

## NOVEMBER

Monday 2 Training Day—school closed  
Tuesday 3 School re-opens to pupils  
Warwick Castle trip KS1

## DECEMBER

Wednesday 9 Christmas Production KS1  
Thursday 10 Christmas Production KS1  
Friday 18 School Closes

**Please note that for all events listed above further information will be sent to you nearer the time**

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## SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

The School Policy is that all children should wear school uniform. The uniform consists of:

- Sweatshirt/cardigan with school badge (available from school or Tesco on-line) or sweatshirt/cardigan/jumper in plain navy blue with no hood.
- White or navy polo shirt with school badge (available from school) or T-shirt/polo shirt, shirt/blouse in plain white or blue (no logos or stripes).
- Trousers/tailored shorts/skirts/pinafore dresses in plain navy blue, black or grey (no logos or stripes).
- Summer dresses may be worn - either blue/white striped or blue/white checked.
- Navy book bag and PE bag with logo - purchased through the school.
- A plain navy baseball type cap is also available to purchase for summer wear and a plain fleece pull-on hat for winter wear.
- PE kit consists of T-shirt - white or pale blue – Navy shorts (available from school)– *not beach or cycle shorts* – plain Plimsolls or trainers. Navy tracksuit bottoms and a plain navy fleece body warmer (available from school) may also be worn during winter months.
- Swimming trunks for boys (shorts not acceptable at pool for health and safety reasons), one piece swimming costume for girls.
- As well as these items, **children are expected to wear sensible footwear – black shoes (NO TRAINERS)**. Shoes must not have heels in excess of 5cm.
- **No jewellery except stud earrings** may be worn in school, which must be removed by children for all physical activities or if they cannot be removed then the child will have to temporarily miss the activity.
- **Nail varnish, make-up, hair colours or braids, should not be worn in school. Long hair—on both girls and boys—must be tied and secured for PE Lessons and Swimming.**
- All items of clothing must be clearly marked with the owner's name.



*It is expected that parents and children honour this agreement and make every effort to uphold the desired standard of dress. Should parents experience problems in purchasing articles of uniform they should initially contact the Office or see the Headteacher.*

### PE KIT

Please remember that acceptable wear for PE should be:

**WHITE or PALE BLUE T-SHIRT**

**PLAIN NAVY SHORTS** (not beach or cycle shorts)

**PLAIN PLIMSOLLS or TRAINERS**

**NAVY TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS** and/or **NAVY FLEECE** may be worn during winter months.

**EAR-RINGS MUST BE REMOVED FOR PE AND LONG HAIR TIED BACK FOR BOTH GIRLS AND BOYS**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.

### POLICIES

Many policies are available in school and on the web site. If parents wish to make an appointment to view them, please contact the school office to make a request.

**If your child is unable to take part in PE lessons due to a medical condition, it is important that you either send in a note to the class teacher OR call the school office and leave a message. Thank you.**



## HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION

We are pleased to inform you that 5 staff hold full first aid certificates and 4 staff hold emergency first aid at work certificates and 3 hold Paediatric certificates.

All new members of staff go through the DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) police clearance checks and a comprehensive file is kept in the school.

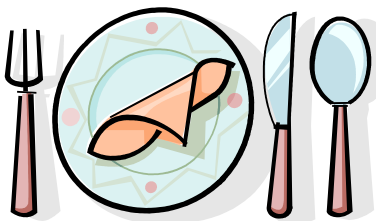
Three members of the Senior Staff and one governor have also gained a qualification in 'safer recruitment'.

H & S checks are routinely carried out daily on the field play equipment as well as all other areas of the school.

## HOT MEALS!

A reminder that hot meals for any child wishing to take them are available at lunchtimes and are very popular with our pupils. Also all infant aged children are now able to partake of a free hot meal.

If you have not yet registered please call at the school office for further information.



For our regular customers—please remember that you can now take advantage of the on-line service offered by the caterers and this is the easiest way to order. This saves the necessity of having to remember to bring your order to the office before 12am on a Monday (orders can only be accepted at this time). Meals must be ordered one week in advance and if you miss this collection day then unfortunately you will not be able to order until the next Monday. Spare envelopes for your orders are always available in the Reception Area for your child to collect.

**HEALTH SCHOOL**Please help us at snack and lunchtimes!

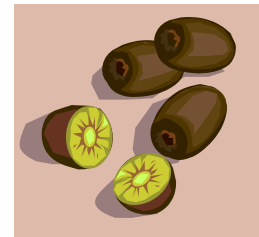
As many of you are aware we have a child in school who suffers from a severe nut allergy. Whilst we have in place procedures to manage this condition we request that you do not send in any foods containing nuts or traces of nuts.



We understand that this may present problems with snacks/packed lunches but alternatives that we could suggest are cereal bars (without nuts), malt loaf, cheese biscuits, bread sticks, sausage rolls, mini sausages, cake bars, rice cakes, yoghurts, raisins or other dried fruit or vegetable sticks.

Also please do not send fizzy drinks, fruit winders, or full-size chocolate bars.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

As you are no doubt aware, due to Government legislation, the headteacher is no longer able to grant leave during term time. As a result of this you need to be aware that this time off will be recorded on your child's records as an unauthorised absence.

A reminder that unauthorised absences include: *shopping, going to an appointment with siblings, visiting relatives, buying shoes, a haircut, parent/s unwell, birthdays and holidays.*

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS!!!

Please remember that **all** children should be in school by **8.50am** to start the school day. Gates are opened at 8.40am and closed at 8.50am.

- Any child who arrives before registration closes (9.15am) will receive a present/late mark.
- Any child who arrives after registration has closed will receive an unauthorised absence mark.



**PLEASE HELP US** by ensuring that any money that your child brings into school is put into a **sealed envelope** containing the following information:

**NAME/CLASS/AMOUNT/ACTIVITY**

Please hand **directly to the class teacher**. Thank you.

## TELEPHONE CALLS TO THE SCHOOL

At busy times of the day the school's answer-phone will automatically cut in to accept calls.

Please be assured that all messages left on the answer-phone are dealt with as soon as possible.

**Please remind your children to return to the Office after school if you do not turn up to meet them because you have been delayed.**



**PLEASE REMEMBER**—To keep the school informed of any changes to your personal details especially mobile phone numbers to enable us to keep your information up-to-date. It is important that we only hold correct details on the database and as this information can only be supplied by yourselves and in an emergency these details are important. Thank you.



**IF YOUR CHILD IS UNWELL** and cannot attend school, please ensure that you **telephone the school office by 9.30am** so that the correct mark can be put in the register.

If we have no notification of absences they are recorded negatively as 'unauthorised' on your child's school records.

We would very much appreciate it if you could give us a reason as soon as possible for any absence from school.

Thank you for your support.



**MEDICINES**—As responsible parents you are very unlikely to send your children to school if they are unwell. However, there may be occasions when they have to undertake a course of antibiotics, and some doses have to be administered during the school day. The school has a clear policy on this and advises that parents may take one of the following options:

- \* Visit the school during the day to administer the medicine.
- \* The child may supervise their own medication if the pupil's doctor has formally stated this. Evidence of this approval must be communicated to the school.
- \* The school can only administer medication in exceptional circumstances provided we have written instructions and that the medication is in its original container with the dispensing label attached. This will be approved by the Headteacher.
- \* Commercially available medication, such as pain-killers, antiseptics etc. cannot be administered by the school staff.
- \* Children who bring medication to school should pass it to their teacher, who forwards it to the office, for safe keeping. On no account should it be left in the child's drawer or in a shared area.
- \* It is important that children who require inhalers for asthma know how, and when, to use them. Inhalers that are kept in school will be stored in a secure and accessible place in the classroom.

## PARKING OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL

As always this does cause concern as some parents still double park adjacent to the yellow road markings opposite the school gates or by the Zebra crossing in South Street.

The safety of our children is paramount and we would appreciate your consideration at the beginning and end of the school day. Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

## AT THE START AND END OF THE SCHOOL DAY

We invite you to leave and collect your children from the playground. If you need to speak to your child's teacher they will be available, on the playground, to speak to you. However, if you need to enter the school building please do so via the Main Office Entrance so that we can monitor visitors on site. Please encourage your children to walk down the designated paths for safety reasons.

Thank you for helping us to keep the school a safer environment for your children.

## WALK-IN-WEDNESDAY!



Walk-in-Wednesday will resume for Years 1 to 6 classes from [16th September](#) and Reception will start after half-term. We welcome parents, relatives and friends in to school to share books, games and Maths challenges with the children. The session runs from 8.50am until 9.20am. Please try to support your child if you can during their time at the school.

## SAFEGUARDING

A reminder that, for the safety of all children in the school, if you come in to school as a volunteer to work with children on a regular basis or assist with swimming, a preliminary police check (List 99) followed by a full police check DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) is required (not needed for Walk-in-Wednesday). For the safety and protection of everyone in school, a security check must be carried out. We are always grateful for the help and support that you, as parents and friends, give to the school.

A reminder that after 3 years, or if you do not come into school for more than 3 months, the DBS process will need to be renewed to allow you to continue to visit.

## FINALLY .....

**A FINAL REMINDER!** Although we are sure that your dogs are lovely, friendly animals, the school policy is that dogs are not permitted on school premises and we would respectfully ask you to remain on the pavement side of the gate.

As you will appreciate some children are nervous of dogs and also animals do present a health and safety hazard.

Thank you for your support.

