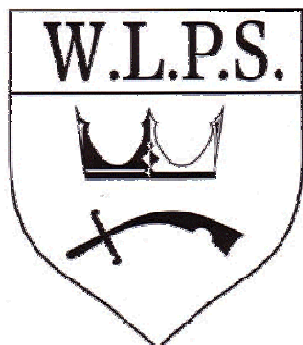


Spring Term

Volume 8

26th June 2015



Dear Parents and Carers,

Roll up Roll Up!!

Thank you to all who came to our Circus Last night. I have been speaking to many children and parents who said that it was a fantastic evening and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Early indications are that the profit from this event will be approximately £2600. A very big thank you to Mrs Brett and the PTA team for pulling out all the stops once again!

New Attendance policy

From September 2015 The Government will be changing the rate at which they determine when a child is considered a 'Persistently Absent Child'. The present rate is 85% attendance or below. From September this threshold rate will increase to 90% or less. This means that if your child's attendance is less than 90% then they will appear on our Persistent Absence Report, which is then forwarded to the Education Welfare Team for monitoring purposes. Please see attached letter for further detailed information.

Sports Day

Well it was worth the wait and our second attempt at this years Sports Day resulted in a fantastic day. Congratulations to The Yellow Team (team Harvey) who won the trophy for the second year in a row! Well done to Mr King and all the Teachers and LSAs who helped out to make the day run so smoothly and to all the parents, grandparents, aunties and uncles who cheered the children on.

Library news

In response to the reading questionnaire carried out in book week, we would like to open the school library before school for families to access our wide range of books that are available. If there are any parents that would be interested in volunteering to help out for one day a week, please register your interest with Miss Wise.

Netball match Thursday 11th June

The last game of the season saw our Yr 5 girls play at Robert Drake and get a 4-2 win. The scorers were Freya 3 and Holly 1. The player of match was Freya. This was not only the last game of the Season for the Team but also for Miss Wise, who is leaving us. We would all like to say a big thank you to Miss Wise for all her help and support with the Netball Team throughout the year.

COMMUNITY COHESION PICNIC 17th June

A handful of children from our Drama club represented the school at the annual Community Cohesion Picnic held at Holy Family School. They gave a marvellous rendition of 'When I grow up' from Matilda. Well done to all of those who took part.

Asthma Information

Thank you to those parents who have already provided us with up to date information about your child's Asthma condition. If you haven't yet done so, please let the office know ASAP.

Notice of pending road closure

We have been made aware of an impending road closure on Overton Road from the Junction of Rushbottom Lane to the Junction with Seamore Avenue in the forthcoming weeks. Unfortunately we do not have the exact dates yet, but will let you know as and when we do. If and when this does happen can I ask that you park responsibly and consider the local residents.

Internet safety workshop

If you like many other parents are concerned about the internet and the children's access to it and what you, as parents can do to safeguard them, then please join Mr Walton and Mrs Hopkins on 7th July at 2-3pm For an Internet safety Workshop.

Attendance League

Well done to Goldsworthy Class for winning the attendance league for this week.

Weekly results

Class	Result	League points
Turner	98%	5
Picasso	92%	7
Matisse	95.52%	3
Monet	95.97%	11
Hockney	95.52%	1
Goldsworthy	98.88%	10
Dali	94.14%	3
Whole school % since the start of the year	95.53%	Lead Class Monet

Diary dates

29th June	Science Day
30 June & 1st July	Year 6 transition days at Appleton
30th June	Meet the Teacher Part 2 (new Reception Children)
3rd July	School Disco
7th July	Internet Safety talk for parents 2-3pm
8th July	Yr 6 Crucial Crew event at the Deanes School
9th July	Reception medieval day
14th July	District Sports Day at the Deanes School 1-3.30pm
15th	Swimming Gala At Runnymede
16th July	Yr 3&4 trip to Epping Forest Yr 6 afternoon and evening performances
22nd July	Last day of term Leavers assembly

'WLPS is committed to developing unique and ambitious children who make informed choices and are inspired to reach their greatest potential.'

The Woodham Ley Weekly

WOODHAM LEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Rushbottom Lane Benfleet Essex SS7 4DN

Headteacher Mr. D. Walton B Ed (HONS) NPQH

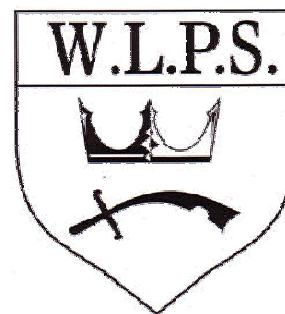
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5th June 2015

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you of the forthcoming changes to the persistent absence threshold. From 1 September 2015, the Government is reducing the threshold from 15% to 10%. This will now class a student with attendance below 90% as a persistent absentee, compared with the previous figure of 85%, regardless of whether the school has authorised or unauthorised the absence. This equates to 38 sessions or 19 days of absence across the year.

Schools are no longer judged solely on their overall attendance figures but also on the number of students who fall into the persistent absence category.

Regular attendance at school is essential to ensure uninterrupted progress and to enable children to fulfil their potential. The attendance pattern for all children is monitored weekly with the school seeking to work actively with parents to ensure that regular attendance is maintained. The Department for Education has published data on their website that clearly shows the link between attendance and attainment. This highlights the fact that there will be an impact on your child's education and exam results if attendance is not consistently above 95% throughout their schooling.

Minor ailments, such as a headache or slight cold, are not acceptable reasons for failing to attend school. Repeated absences may require the school to request that you obtain medical evidence from your doctor's surgery or local pharmacy as recommended by the Government.

I would also like to remind you that the law does not give any entitlement to parents to remove their child from school during term-time for the purpose of a holiday. Head teachers may only grant leave of absence where an application has been made in advance and the head teacher considers that there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

We will be writing to you towards the end of the academic year with details of your child's attendance record. We are confident that you will be keen to work with us to ensure that your child meets the new threshold requirements since it is clear that this will have a positive effect on their learning.

Thanking you in advance for your support.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher