



Welcome to our first termly newsletter in academic year 2023—2024. On behalf of all the staff at Wouldham, thank you for all the support you have given especially to new members of staff, we do appreciate it. We hope you have begun to see some positive changes within the school as well as new initiatives being developed and we look forward to continuing to work with you all.

Mrs Victoria Baldwin, Headteacher

Attendance Matters



Whole School attendance this term: 94.5%

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

Individual school photos are being taken in school on Thursday 2nd November. Your child will bring home a card with a code for you to view and order photos if you wish. Sibling photos for children in school will be taken on Friday 3rd November.

We are asking if it is possible for younger siblings (not currently at school) to be photographed early each of these mornings prior to school starting. We will let you know if we are able to do this.

HOMEWORK

At our parent forum it was mentioned that homework expectations are not clear and consistent between classes. We will send out further information next term, which will be age specific. The most important homework for primary aged pupils is reading. Children should be reading aloud to an adult every single day throughout primary school, even in KS2 when they may have the capacity to read in their head. This will improve their fluency and reading speed. Furthermore, it enables the adult to know what has been read and ask questions to develop their comprehension. Rote learning will also form a part of our homework, including timetables and spelling of irregular (common exception) words which need to be learnt by sight.

SWIMMING



Swimming this year is for Year 3. This is to enable them to get a substantial amounts of lessons to enable them to learn to swim. In previous years all children have gone on 6 week blocks but this doesn't give us enough time to teach swimming effectively.

We have requested a voluntary payment of £1 per week for swimming for each year 3 pupil (£17 requested) so far we have only received £272.00 which equates to 16 children out of 60. Please note that school has to pay for the swimming lessons/teachers and the transport so any help with this would be much appreciated. Thank you for your support.

SEN PARENTS FORUM

The SEN parental support group is back running every other Wednesday at 9.00 in the WASPS room. All welcome to attend, refreshments provided. On Wednesday 1st November a guest speaker will be Rebecca Belsey who is a Paediatric Occupational Therapist.

THE FRIENDS OF WOULDHAM (PTA)

The next PTA meeting takes place on Tuesday 31st October at 9.00 am in WASPS room. This will include final preparations for the Firework evening (Saturday 4th November).

As always new members would be encouraged to come along to see what we do, how to help and the amazing things we do to raise extra money for the children and school.



UNIFORM

Reminder that we only have a limited amount of uniform left at school—you can see what is available at www.eduspot.co.uk by going under the shop section.



When this has run out the uniform will only be sold at Uniform base in Chatham. You can visit the shop, order on their website or call them to order. If you want purchases sent to school free, ask them to hold it and send in bulk with other parental orders to school.

EXPECTATIONS

We expect children to be wearing the correct school uniform at all times. On P.E days this will include a school P.E t-shirt and dark shorts or tracksuit bottoms with the school jumper. We do not want to see hoodies or named sportswear. We are looking into purchasing some school fleeces for the colder months.

For outdoor learning and Forest school we have asked that the children wear old clothes, wherever possible we would ask that these are plain and not emblazoned with sports or designer motifs. If your child is not dressed appropriately you will be contacted by the class teacher and they may be changed into some of our more suitable spare clothes.

Children with long hair must have their hair tidied back and children should not be wearing jewellery apart from plain stud earrings and a simple watch. If children have their ears pierced they should be able to take the earrings out. The school have previously allowed children to tape their ears for P.E. From January 1st 2024 this will no longer be our school policy. Therefore, we would ask that children's ears are only pierced at the start of the school summer holiday so they are fully healed and can be taken in and out by the time they are back in school.

Further information about our school uniform can be found on our school website.

NEW SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

We have rewritten our school mission statement so it is reflective of the current school community and new leadership team:

At Wouldham All Saints CE Primary school, we firmly believe in the principle of inclusion.

We strive to nurture and value every aspect of every child, ensuring that they feel a sense of belonging and acceptance.

Our aim is to enable every student to reach their academic potential, supporting them in achieving their personal best through a broad balanced curriculum, and opportunities to discover their own interests and talents.

Moreover, we are dedicated to developing a strong moral compass and sense of right and wrong, based on the teachings of Christianity, ensuring our students grow into empathetic and responsible members of society.



"Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good".

Hebrews 10:24

EDUSPOT/TEACHERS 2 PARENTS

We use Teachers2parents for our texting system. Eduspot is used for all payments/bookings for lunches and afterschool clubs etc. Eduspot will ask you to download their APP. However, if you do this we are finding that our text messages do not always reach you.

If you have the Eduspot App, please delete this and if you need to access Eduspot use the web address www.eduspot.co.uk



Parents Forum

We have just held our first parent forum meeting—one parent from each class has volunteered to attend. This will hopefully be a useful link between parents and school to discuss matters.

Your parent forum member will report back to parents via your class page.

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|-------------|--------------|----------|---------------|---------|------------|------------|------------|
| Dove | Mrs Paterson | Wren | Mrs Millett | Wagtail | Ms Parr | Kingfisher | Mrs Finan |
| Goldfinch | Mrs Rac | Starling | Mrs Belcher | Robin | Mrs Lew | Heron | Mrs Hill |
| Nightingale | Mrs Millett | Magpie | Mrs Brind | Raven | Mrs Kearns | Jackdaw | Mrs Conway |
| Falcon | Mrs Rac | Swan | Mrs Obafisoye | | | | |

Nasal Flu Spray

We sent the link for [all parents to sign in or out](#) of the nasal flu spray which happens on 7th December. You must complete the form by 1st December latest. This letter is also on our website under: [Wouldham All Saints CEP | Essential Reading Letters](#) along with 2 parental information leaflets.

SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023—2024

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|--------------------------|---|
| End of term 1 | Friday 20th October |
| Harvest worship | Friday 20th October (donations of non perishable good welcome) this will be given to Caring Hands in the community |
| Term 2 | Monday 30th October |
| PTA meeting | Tuesday 31st October at 9.00 am |
| Photos | Thursday 2nd November—individual Friday 3rd November—siblings in school |
| Firework night (Friends) | Saturday 4th November |
| Reception 24 open days | Monday 13th November at 1.30 (places need to be booked) Wednesday 15th November at 10.00 am Monday 27th November at 12.30 and 6.00 pm |
| NCMP (Yr R and Yr 6) | Wednesday 15th November |
| Children In Need | Friday 17th November—wear something spotty for a donation to CIN |
| PTA Christmas fair | Saturday 2nd December |
| Year R Nativity | Wednesday 6th December at 9.30 am and 2.30 pm (booking coming soon) |
| Flu Nasal Spray | Thursday 7th December |
| KS1 Nativity | Friday 8th December at 9.30 am and 2.00 pm (booking coming soon) |
| Christmas dinner day | Wednesday 13th December |
| End of Term 2 | Friday 15th December |
| Term 3 starts | Thursday 4th January 2024 |