



Palace Wood Primary School

Issue 1—2015-16

Friday 11th September 2015

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Welcome Back

Did anyone else have those 'First day nerves'? I know that I did. I barely slept a wink on Sunday night, nervous and excited about the term ahead. However, those nerves were soon put to bed when I walked onto the playground and saw all of the children—some nervous like me, and some raring to get started again. It is a very strange time for me, as I am used to knowing the names of the children, and so the long process for me has begun of trying to learn nearly 400 names. I promise that I will practise, and that I will get there in the end!

We have begun to welcome our new reception children who have started this week, but have also had some new arrivals to other year groups. I know that the children in their classes have been making them feel very welcome.

We also welcome Mrs Wallace to the staff this year. She is the new Foundation Stage Leader, and those of you in Elephants will already have met her.

In addition to Mrs Wallace, I am delighted that Miss Ridout will be Deputy Headteacher this year, and that Mrs Vincett and Mrs Childs will be Assistant Heads.

If you would like to contact me for any reason, I will try to be out on the playground most mornings and afternoons, but you can also email me at headteacher@palacewood.kent.sch.uk

A Meeting for Parents

We will be holding a meeting at 6pm on Wednesday 23rd September for all parents. As well as this being an opportunity for me to meet many of you and talk to you about the year ahead, I will also talk to you about the important developments to assessment in the new curriculum. Some of these changes

are quite extensive and will affect all children, and the meeting will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have about the new assessment. If you would like to attend, please contact the office.

ParentMail

As you are aware, we use ParentMail for the majority of the communication from the school. If you receive a ParentMail email, and wish to reply to it, please make sure that you send it to office@palacewood.kent.sch.uk or we may not receive the reply.

Helpers wanted!

If there are any parents, carers, grandparents or other family members who would like to volunteer at the school on a regular basis, for things like hearing children read, we would be delighted to have you. In order to do this, a DBS check must be carried out by the office. If you are interested, please email office@palacewood.kent.sch.uk and include your name, your email address, the year groups of your children, and what availability you have. We will then contact you to arrange a suitable time to complete the DBS check.

Superstar Corner

Congratulations this week go to Eliana in Pandas who has been working incredibly hard on her swimming. Over the summer holidays, she achieved her 10m and 15m badges. Well done Eliana.

Alfie the Attendance Alligator

Rhinos - 98%

Hippos - 95.7%

Tigers - 99.6%

LIONS - 100%

Leopards - 87.6%

Panthers - 98.4%



Monkeys - 99.5%

Crocodiles - 97%

PANDAS - 100%

Zebras - 96.8%

Bears - 92.6%

Giraffes - 96.6%

Thinking question.....

Are there hard things or soft things in the world? How could you test it? Why do you think that?

All suggestions to Mr Chatley, 2tps an entry.

A Message from Mrs Dunn

"I would like to send a huge thank you for all the messages, cards and gifts that I received on my last day at Palace Wood. I haven't been able to thank everyone personally but please know that they are all very, very much appreciated. Palace Wood will always have a place in my heart and I look forward hearing about its exciting next chapter.

With gratitude and love, Mrs Dunn"

Pencil Cases

Just a reminder that Year 5 and 6 children are allowed to bring in some stationary in a pencil case. Other year groups do not need a pencil case as all relevant stationary will be provided for them.

Sports News

No sports news yet – but please note the following sporting clubs.

Year 6 Basketball club starts Monday until 4:30pm,

Year 5&6 Football starts Wednesday until 4:30pm.

Child Refugee Crisis Appeal

As I am sure you have all seen in the news, Europe is facing its biggest refugee crisis since the Second World War. Many of these refugees are children. In order to try and support this, and to offer what help we can, we will be having a non-school uniform day on Thursday 17th September. A suggested donation of £1 can be brought in on Friday and will be given to 'Save the Children'. I hope that you will join me in supporting this incredibly worthwhile cause.

And finally

I started this week with an assembly about new starts, new years and new shoes. New shoes can be, as one child said, different, but it doesn't take long for them to feel like you have been wearing them forever. Seeing the children again this afternoon, and hearing about their fantastic work, I think they have reverted to 'old, comfortable shoes' already, as their work and attitude have been so good, that it is almost as if they were never away!

Have a lovely weekend,

Mr Chatley

This week's letters home (or via parentmail):

All: Whole School Newsletter
Yr1/2: Phase Newsletter, French Club
Yr3/4: Phase Newsletter,
Yr3 : Swimming
Yr5/6: Phase Newsletter, Football Club
Yr6 : Basketball club

Dates for your diary: New dates are in red

Inset Days:
2nd November 2015
4th January 2016
6th June 2016

17th September: Non-uniform day – Save the Children.

18th September: KM Photographer in FS
2nd October: Individual Children's Photos
& Whole School Photo

3rd October (Saturday!), Family Group Photo Shoot

October Holiday 26-30 October 2015