

Friday 5th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the start of the Spring Term and the New Year. I would like to send my very best wishes to all of you for a happy, healthy and peaceful 2024.

Things have got off to a great start here in school, and it has been lovely to see all of the children return with news of their adventures from the holiday period. As usual staff have lots of wonderful things planned throughout the term so, please ensure that you keep checking our communications to keep up with everything.

I am delighted to inform you we are able to offer a wide range of clubs this term, so I am sure, like me, you will be very grateful to the staff who will be giving up their time to do this. Please see the attached information which gives details of the clubs on offer. Places will be allocated on a 'first come first served' basis.

In order to book your child into a club, you will need to register for an account with School Cloud. The Office should have already provided you with details of how to do this, so if you have not received this information, please let us know ASAP. I'm afraid we do have a tight deadline to register for School Cloud and book clubs, as this is the first time using the new system, but in the future, it will hopefully be much more straight forward. Thank you in advance for your patience whilst we get things up and running.

School Cloud will be used later in the year for booking other events, such as Parent Consultations, so it is important to get yourself registered, even if your child does not want to attend a club this term. We trialled a system in the autumn term that was unsuccessful and School Cloud will be the preferred system moving forward.

If you don't have it on your radar, please make a note of the date for our very first PTFA meeting. This will be taking place in school on **Monday 22nd January at 2pm** and anyone is welcome to attend so please save the date, and feel free to pop along. Refreshments will be available.

Another date for you to be aware of is the publication of our next newsletter which will be finding it's way to you on Friday 19th January. We are very excited about sharing issue number 3 of the newsletter and hope you are enjoying these communications.

Don't forget, that important calendar dates are now available through the school website and you can also see regular 'news' features here. Another new method of communication available to you is the 'School News' App which you should be able to download and find both, OWN Trust and Woodston Primary, giving you instant access to all our latest news in a user-friendly format through your phone.

You may recall that I wrote to you back in October with a plea for your support with school uniform? I am sorry to say that this is still causing concern for staff in school. It is *really* important to us that we promote a sense of pride, belonging and equity for *all* of the children in our school and one of the most important ways we do this, is by ensuring that *all* children demonstrate pride in their appearance through the way in which they wear their uniform, and we can't do this without your support. Increasingly children are wearing items which are not included in our policy and this makes them stand out negatively.

As we start the new year, please can I ask you to share our commitment to promoting pride and belonging by ensuring that your children have the correct uniform; tie back their long hair; only wear studs in pierced ears

and do not wear any jewellery or nail varnish. Not only will this promote belonging in our Woodston community, it will also prepare them for life in Secondary School where they will experience significant consequences for failing to wear the correct uniform. In order to help us improve this, we will be starting to trial sending text reminders to you if children turn up in inappropriate items for school. Staff will also remind children verbally as required.

Many thanks in advance for your co-operation. I am excited about seeing the impact of our combined efforts. If you need help to understand the expectations of the school uniform, please don't hesitate to contact us or check the school website. We will send out a further reminder next week.

As always, I am looking forward to the coming term and celebrating all that I know the children will achieve.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Becky Ford', written in a cursive style.

Becky Ford
Headteacher