

Wicklea Academy

Newsletter No. 2

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Dear Mothers, Fathers, Carers and Local Residents

Rewarding excellent behaviour:

This year we have made changes to provide more rewards for positive behaviour. Chance card draws are now held weekly, rather than fortnightly, providing more opportunities for all children with excellent behaviour to win a prize in Friday's achievement assembly.

Furthermore, we have introduced a termly event to reward consistent excellent behaviour. On the afternoon of the last day of this term all children that have earned a chance card every week will be able to watch a movie in the hall. Every term all children will again have the opportunity to earn their place at the end of term celebration. The School Council will choose future events.

Sharing Information:

You are the experts on your children and your input to school regarding their education and well-being is very important to us. If you have concerns/things to share with teachers please do this when picking up at the end of the day or through the school office, via letter or arrange a meeting for after school.

Year 4 Camp:

Hooke Court is drawing nearer. We hope the children are looking forward to their residential camp on 16th October. If you have misplaced your kit list and need another, please let the office know and we will print another for you. For those children that are not attending, please remember that they will be expected to attend school for those three days where they will be taught in a small group.



HOOKE COURT
RESIDENTIAL EDUCATIONAL
OUTDOOR ACTIVITY CENTRES

Safeguarding Reminder:

Please remember that any adults, including parents, who enter the building, must do so via reception. You must be wearing a visitor's pass and have signed in before entering. Please do not attempt to enter through the pupil entrance in the mornings.

In addition, we have now introduced a pupil signing out sheet in reception. Parents and carers must complete this if they are collecting their child before the end of the day.

Operation Christmas Child:

Last week volunteers from the Operation Christmas Child visited Wicklea to talk to all the children about their appeal. Each year thousands of shoeboxes full of gifts are donated to this appeal and delivered to children in parts of the world where Christmas would otherwise go by unnoticed.

Look out for the leaflet coming home soon that details what can be donated. If you and your child wish to take part in the appeal please return your gifts in a shoebox to school by 17th November.

This is Wicklea's first year supporting this appeal and we are hoping to send as many boxes as possible.



Goodbye:

Mr Rainford, who supported teaching in Year 4 last year and in Year 5 this year, left last week to move to New Zealand. We all wish him well in this new adventure!



Welcome message from our Family Link & Pastoral Support Worker:

Hello, I am Nkoyo Antigha. My role at Wicklea is to support pupils and parents with any worries, anxieties and issues. This may involve me working with you directly or to signpost you to other agencies or resources that could help or support you. Each week there will be a sign up sheet in reception for parents/carers to book a short initial meeting to discuss any safeguarding or family support needs. The sheet will detail the slots for the particular week (this may vary). Please note if you have concerns relating to learning you should still contact your child's teacher. If you have concerns relating to SEN you should still contact Mrs Harrison, our Senco.

Exceptional leave of absence:

Our whole school attendance target this year is 97%. As a school, we aim high in everything we do and high attendance gives children the best chance of reaching their potential. We are able to administer prescribed medicines so children can be in school while on medication.

Moving forwards, we will be being tougher on holidays, in line with our attendance policy and it is unlikely any holidays will be authorised, even if it includes visiting unwell family or family weddings, as children do get 13 weeks school holidays spread over the year.

Leave of absence must be exceptional to be authorised.

School Councillors:

Last week each class held elections for their **school councillors**. In addition, every child in each house attended a 'House Assembly' where Year 6 children put their case forward to become House Captain. Congratulations to the following children that were elected:

Year 3 Ash – Amira & Sebastian

Year 3 Willow – Anna & Archie

Year 3 Beech – Natasha & Charlie

Year 4 Birch – Isaac & Isabel

Year 4 Maple – Theo C & Ellianna

Year 4 Pine – Flynn & Lexie

Year 5 Councillors & House Vice Captains:

Brunel – Will

Cabot – Abel

Fry – George

More – Alice

Year 6 Councillors & House Captains:

Brunel – Louie

Cabot – Harry

Fry – Jonty

More – Eve

Coats:

Now that the weather is becoming colder and wetter, please ensure your child is bringing a coat to school each day. Unless there is heavy rain, the children do go outside for playtimes and lunchtimes. Don't forget to label all clothes with your child's name.



Kerry McCarthy visit:

On Friday 22nd September Kerry McCarthy, our local Member of Parliament visited Wicklea.

During an assembly, Kerry explained the role of being an MP and recalled some of her personal experiences. The children then had the opportunity to ask her questions. Kerry was very impressed with the variety of questions asked and the children's enthusiasm for politics. Perhaps one of our school councillors will become an MP one day!

Cross Country:

On Wednesday 20th September, Miss McLeod and I took a team of year 5 and 6 children to Ashton Park to compete in the South Bristol school cross-country event.

This was the first time the children had run such a long race, with Year 6 running 1.6k. All the children represented the school fantastically, with a number pupils qualifying for the local county championships in November. Special congratulations go to Will in Year 5, who won his race, beating around sixty other children.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Morgan (Head of School)