



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

Dates for next academic year:

Term 1	6 th Sept - 22 nd Oct	School closed on 8 th Oct for staff training
Term 2	1 st Nov - 17 th Dec	
Term 3	5 th Jan - 18 th Feb	
Term 4	28 th Feb - 8 th April	
Term 5	26 th Apr - 27 th May	School closed 2 nd May Bank Holiday
Term 6	6 th June - 21 st July	

You will notice that school opens for children a few days into September next year - this is because we have grouped several of the staff training days together at the start of the year to give us time to deal with any classroom changes that may be necessary because of the new building works. This does of course give families the option of taking a late summer break in the first week of September when prices may be lower rather than asking to take children out of school during term time and I'd like to encourage anyone planning holidays next year to consider this. Our attendance, whilst improving, was still too low over this year and good school attendance is essential to children progressing well in their learning. Please bear in mind that if your child misses more than about 11 days of school in a year (through illness, holidays or being late in the mornings) he or she is likely to fall below the target attendance figure.

Special note for parents of children in **Year 5** who will be in Year 6 next year: National Curriculum tests (SATs) are due to take place in June next year. Please don't make any arrangements for holidays during June as I won't be able to authorize any planned time off for Y6 children during this month - please speak to me or one of the Y6 teachers if you have any queries.

Staff changes for next year

At the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to a few of our teachers who will be moving on to new things. **Miss Blackwell** will be moving on to work in another primary school outside the city and **Miss Phillips** will be taking some time out to go travelling, including spending some time teaching and doing voluntary work in schools in Uganda. We are very sorry to say goodbye to them both but quite understand that after three years at Wood Farm School it is time for them to experience some new things! **Miss Dhaliwall** will of course be taking most of next year off on maternity leave, and in fact finishes with us next week - it's a very exciting time for her and we all send our best wishes to her and her family. **Miss Eddy** will also not be with us next year as she will be taking a year's secondment to work at Northern House School, where she is looking forward to widening her professional experience. It is always sad to say good bye to colleagues, but I am pleased to say that we will be joined by some excellent teachers next year - as ever we were inundated with applications from people who want to work in our school. **Miss Vyas** (who has been working in Y1/2 this term and last) will join us in Foundation stage, and **Miss Barton** will be returning to us in September to teach her own class. We will also be joined by **Miss McCaffrey** and **Mrs Hayward** who bring experience of working in other schools in Oxford and will be teaching in key stage 2 and 1 of our school. Next Friday the children will spend part of the morning with their new teachers, and I'll send you details of the new class organisation at the start of the week.

Congratulations to all of the children on a very successful Science Week - the classes have enjoyed lots of extra challenges this week and some special visitors, and well done to the winners of the science quiz who were announced in assembly this morning.

Children in years 1 to 6 will be taking part in 'Big Dance Week' in our school in the week beginning 5th July, which will culminate in the children joining in with a national record breaking attempt at the most people joining in with a dance. **Miss Farr** and some of the children in Y5 have been busy teaching lots of the other classes the right moves in preparation this week!

You may have heard in the local news about proposals to close Oxford (secondary) School and replace it with a new academy. A consultation period is now open so that members of the public can give their views on this change. You can take part by visiting www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation or by writing to School Organisation and Planning at Oxfordshire County Council.

With best wishes from Mr. Lewin and everyone at Wood Farm School.



'Children leave the school as confident, well rounded individuals' Ofsted 2009

www.wood-farm.oxon.sch.uk