



30<sup>th</sup> September 2011

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

This has been a very busy and successful week in school – as well as a very warm one! It was fantastic to see several grandparents visiting classes in Key Stage 1 yesterday where the children really enjoyed hearing about some of the ways that children's lives were different in the past. If you weren't able to come in (or you are not a grandparent!) I know that the classes would still love to hear anything the children can find out about life in the past – perhaps by talking to an older relative or friend at home about their childhood.

Also thinking about living history the children in Year 6 have been visiting the Pitt Rivers Museum this week, as part of their 'Night in the museum' project – and also as part of the Y6 children's transition project with secondary school called 'Making museums'. It was great to hear excellent feedback about how our children got on during the trip, and about what brilliant ambassadors for the school they were. The children will be putting together their own personal museum exhibition so have been asked to think about some interesting personal items that might go into this.

The children are busy getting ready for this year's harvest celebration, which we plan to hold on the last day of this term. This year we are going to do things slightly differently: we are expecting the demolition work on the hall and old classrooms to start shortly after the half term break, so we want this assembly to be more of a general thanksgiving for the school and all that the hall has seen over the last 50 years! The children will sing some songs, and are finding out about some important events in the world since the 1950s, but it would be nice to include any of your memories of the school and hall too: perhaps you came to Wood Farm School, or have seen some favourite productions in the school hall – or been in some! If you would like to write any memories on the attached sheet and return it to the school some of our Y6 children would love to read them out during Harvest assembly.

A quick reminder about school lunches: school dinners now cost £2.10 per day. Many people now prefer to pay for a whole half term or term in advance, which makes collecting payments much easier. Whether you are paying each week or for several weeks in advance please make payments on a Monday. Please put payments in a sealed envelope with your child's name and class clearly shown.

**Attendance challenge:** Well done to everyone in **Mrs Hayward's class** who scored the highest class attendance last week, with a fantastic **99.3%**! Not only that, but this was their second week in a row as the class with the best attendance. Each Monday morning assembly this term we are announcing the class with the best attendance over the previous week – and on Monday this week we reminded all of the children of the importance of being on time in the mornings. We have certainly noticed a difference for some children, with them hurrying to be on time for the bell in the mornings, so thank you and well done.

For some reason Wood Farm School children in Foundation stage were missed out of the Oxford Mail's 'First day in school' photographs this year. However I'm pleased to say that a photographer from the paper is going to visit the Foundation stage groups on Monday morning to photograph the children. (This is separate from the school photographer, who will be photographing all children on Wednesday).

Do remember that there is no school next Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, as we are closed for staff training. We open again as usual on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> when the Life Education bus will be visiting.

**Dates for your diary:**

- 5<sup>th</sup> October School photographer
  - 7<sup>th</sup> October School closed for staff training
  - 10<sup>th</sup> October Life Education bus visiting all week
  - 11<sup>th</sup> October Group of children visit Houses of Parliament
  - 21<sup>st</sup> October Harvest Festival.
- End of term 1

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](http://www.wood-farm.oxon.sch.uk)

