



HOW WOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL
ESTABLISHED 1968

Head Teacher: Mrs C Rowe
Newsletter 5



4th December 2020

Dear Parents & Carers,

"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year."
Charles Dickens, A Christmas Carol



Christmas has begun at How Wood School this week: the tree has been decorated – thank you Mrs Thompson – the classroom doors are dressed for the season – please see class pages on website - and the hoops for the hall, created by the children, are ready to be hung after school today.

We are very much looking forward to the last 2-weeks of term. On Monday, we have a visit from our Hertfordshire Improvement Partner, Anne Peck. The focus for her visit this term is maths and she will be looking at books and meeting with some teachers & children, following COVID guidelines.

Parent/Teacher consultations will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday – an opportunity to discuss how your child has settled and their progress in learning.

In the final week of term, the children will have their class Christmas parties; Santa will be visiting in a socially distanced way; children will enjoy Christmas lunch and the children will take part in a Christingle assembly (virtual for all but Y3 & Y4).

School finishes on Friday 18th December between 1pm & 1.30pm to accommodate staggered departures – see below:

Nursery: 1:05pm finish

Reception: 1.15pm finish

Year 1/Year 2 & Year 5/Year 6: 1.25 finish

Year 3/Year 4: 1.30pm finish

Please note: All food and drink for the Christmas parties will be supplied by the school to avoid sharing of food. We are asking for a donation of 50p per child payable via School Gateway. Thank you.

Anti-bullying Week

During Anti-Bullying Week, each class create a collaborative piece of art named 'United in Kindness', now a beautiful display in the hall.



St Albans Rainbow Trail

Four families sent photos in for St Albans Rainbow Trail celebration '**Diwali Festival of Lights Trail**'. Thank you to Zach & Jake Barker, Eli & Roo Ieronymides, Dylan & Willow Cooper and Samir Chahal.



How Wood School Community Food Bank

Thank you for your kind donations to the **How Wood School Community Foodbank**. We are in need of the following Xmas goodies please as well as the standard items listed below.

List of non-perishables & toiletries

- Pasta
- Couscous
- Rice
- Cereals
- Pasta sauces
- Tinned tomatoes
- Tinned Tuna
- Instant coffee
- Tea
- Sugar
- Tomato Ketchup
- Stock cubes
- Jam/spreads
- Tinned Tuna
- Toilet paper
- Soap
- Shower gel
- Toothpaste
- Washing up liquid
- Detergent

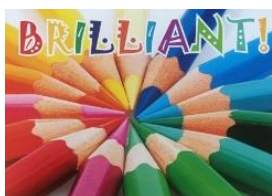
Christmas Goodies

- Nice jams
- Hot chocolate
- Mince pies
- Chutneys
- Biscuits for cheese
- Christmas Biscuits
- Selection Boxes
- Chocolates for tree
- Candy sticks for tree
- Nice squashes

At the moment, we **do not need** the following: Spaghetti hoops; baked beans; soups.

Thank you

Praise Postcards



Harvey Graham in Year 1, Kamil Dziubanda, Thomas Barr & Harper Holding in Year 3, Ruben Sahota & Adam Barnes in Year 5 and Mara Boghean, Ashley Burgess, Juliette Paice, Ben Dell, Evie Russell and Sophia Creanga in Year 6, have all received Praise Postcards this half term

for excellent learning. Well done!

Head Teacher's Award

This afternoon, I was pleased to present a Head Teacher's Awards to: Parker Boswell in Year 6 for an exceptional descriptive book review of *'Wisp' A Story of Hope* by Zana Fraillon and Grahame Baker-Smith. Well done!

E-Safety

I am writing to remind parents of the e-safety agreement between school and home and the need to ensure that your children are not accessing age-inappropriate apps such as Tik Tok & WhatsApp that have an official age rating of 13+ (please see link)

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/social-media-guides/tiktok>

I am aware that some children in school are using these apps which leads me to have concerns for their online safety. I appreciate your support with this matter.

Staff Appreciation Board

The following staff have been recognised since the last newsletter: Thank you to ...

- ❖ **Mrs Reed & Mrs Thompson** for the transition to Reception.
- ❖ **Mrs Parkins** for improving the phonics so quickly. I've been really impressed by what my son knows already since coming back.

wonderful
fantastic
awesome
positive
welcoming
thoughtful
care
amazing
incredible

Recognised by Miss Hagan

Please remember to send your 'appreciative comments' to head@howwood.herts.sch.uk

Reception Virtual Phonics Meeting

Thank you to all parents who attended our Virtual Phonics meeting for Reception, this term. We hold this meeting every year to explain how we teach phonics at How Wood. I hope that you found it informative and that you came away with some useful tips on how to support your child with their early reading. *Mrs Parkins*



St Albans Action for Homeless

St. Albans Action For Homeless, a non-profit organisation, has organised 15 Christmas bags packed with essentials and goodies for the homeless on our streets of St.Albans.

The children of How Wood School have been asked to participate in this wonderful initiative by drawing pictures and writing short letters to go with the Christmas bags. Children from across the school will have time in class to write their letters or draw a picture.

The children in Year 5 & Year 6 will be helping me to wrap the gifts during lunchtime next week (they have been quarantined). I would like to thank Miss Wright, mum to Cruz in Year 1, for nominating How Wood School to be involved this year.

Kindest regards

Cynthia Rowe

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Tuesday 8 th December & Wednesday 9 th December	Parent Teacher Consultations
Thursday 10 th & Friday 11 th December	Y2 Phonics Screening Check
Week beginning Monday 14 th December	Class Parties
Wednesday 16 th December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 17 th December	Christingle
Thursday 17 th December	Santa Visiting
Friday 18 th December - Finish between 1.05pm & 1.30pm	Last day of term

How Wood Primary School

Term Dates 2020 - 2021

Autumn Term

INSET Wednesday 2nd September

Children back to school: Thursday 3rd September to Thursday 22nd October 2020

Half term: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2020

INSET Friday 23rd October

Children back to school: Monday 2nd November to Friday 18th December 2020

Occasional Day Friday 27th November

Spring Term

INSET Monday 4th January 2021

Children back to school: Tuesday 5th January to Friday 12th February 2021

Half term: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2021

Children back to school: Monday 22nd February to Friday 26th March 2021

Summer Term

INSET Monday 12th April

Children back to school: Tuesday 13th April to Friday 28th May 2021

May Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2021

Half term: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2021

Children back to school: Monday 7th June to Wednesday 21st July 2021

INSET Thursday 22nd July