

21st January 2022

# How Wood Newsletter 1 Spring 1

## DEAR PARENTS & CARERS

A belated Happy New Year to you all!

*Walk on a rainbow trail;  
Walk on a trail of song,  
and all about you will be beauty.  
There is a way out of every dark mist,  
Over a rainbow trail.*

Navajo Song

I hope you enjoy the new layout of the newsletter. It is designed to share information in a more succinct and readable format.

## PTA NEWS

### Our PTA Needs New Members

The Chair and secretary will both be stepping down this term and members are needed to fill these roles. Without an active PTA, the children at How Wood will miss out on many events including discos, summer and Xmas fayres plus subsidised trips. Please contact Mrs Barnes (Year 1 teacher) if you are interested in supporting the school and saving our PTA.  
Thank you.



## PLAYGROUND MENTORS

Our House Captains have taken on new roles as Playground Mentors. The roles of the Playground Mentors are:

- Being friendly and approachable so children can ask them for help
- Organising and teaching playground games
- Playing with children who may be feeling lonely
- Helping with friendship problems
- Informing adults of any concerns
- Helping to make the playground a happy and safe space

I know the House Captains are excited about this opportunity and will make a big difference to lunchtime play.



## SWIMMING

Swimming and water safety is a **statutory** element of the national curriculum for physical education in England.

All primary schools **must** provide swimming and water safety lessons in either Key Stage 1 or 2.

Each pupil is required to be able to do the following:

- Perform safe self-rescue in different water based situations
- Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- Use a range of strokes effectively, for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-curriculum-in-england-physical-education-programmes-of-study/national-curriculum-in-england-physical-education-programmes-of-study>

## REMINDERS

Half-term Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February

Parent/Teacher Consultations will take place in the second week after half term. Appointments will be available to book from the evening of Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February. Details will follow.

Please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform, including black shoes. Earrings should be small studs or stud-like and hair that is shoulder length must be tied back.

## VACANCIES

### Part time Cleaner

Come and join our friendly team!  
We are seeking to appoint a part time cleaner.

The hours of work are 3.30pm to 5.30pm Monday to Friday. The starting date is as soon as possible following a successful interview.

If you are interested in this role, please contact the school office so that we can provide you with an application form.

## PRAISE POSTCARDS



Ted Boothby, Holly Enticott and Oliver Hammond in Year 1 & Josiah Fisher in Year 2 have all received Praise Postcards this half term for excellent learning. Well done! Five

children in Year 3 will be receiving Praise Postcards very soon. Look out for the postman!



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January** - E-Safety Konflux Theatre Workshops for KS2

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January** - Chinese New Year Storytelling Workshops EYFS KS1 & 2

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> January** - National Story Telling Week

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> February** - Children's Mental Health Week

**Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> February** - Y3 Visit to St Albans Cathedral

**Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February** - Dress Down Friday

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March** - Parent/Teacher Consultations 3.30pm to 6pm

**Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March** - Parent/Teacher Consultations 4pm to 7pm

## POLLING STATION

District Council Elections will be held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and How Wood School has agreed to be a Polling Station. Therefore, school will be closed on

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> May.** The staff team will be in school taking part in training.

## STAFF APPRECIATION BOARD

The following staff & members of the How Wood School community have been recognised since the last newsletter

*"I just wanted to drop a quick email to say how wonderful the Year 4 assembly was today. It was nice to see the children excited to show the amazing work they've done and the uplifting music played was great! Since my daughter has started at How Wood her confidence has grown so much. Every day she is excited to tell me what she's done at school and she is really enjoying all the topics and showing such interest in her learning! I wanted to say thank you and express how much I appreciate all the hard work and effort made by everyone at the school."*

**Recognised by: Mrs Costa**

Please send your appreciation message to:

head@howwood.herts.sch.uk

Thank you