



Dear Families,

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL

I can see by how much the children have all grown that the summer was a good one!

Staff Update

You may have noticed that Monica has some news! She will be with us until the beginning of December. Lois Wilcox will be with us until about half term. She is working across the school this term.

New faces

Dana (Assistant Headteacher) has returned bringing lots of energy! She will be working on Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays this term. Her focus will be on supporting children with their learning and developing partnerships. She is already looking for reading volunteers. If you have some regular time to spare she would love to hear from you dana.dajani@woodgrange.newham.sch.uk

Samsia Uddin returns from mat leave and will be working mornings only and re-joins our inclusion team

We welcome Poppy Nelson to the Year 2 teaching team, and Poppy Todd to the Reception teaching team.

We are joined by Teaching assistants: Whitney Magonda (Y1), Titi Aderoba (Y2) and Hazera Begum and Tania Khan join the Nursery.

The daily routine

Thank you for helping with our new morning routines and for being punctual to the lines. We will be closing classroom doors at 9.05 so please be on time.

Staff have been asked to keep doors open until then... clocks will be checked regularly.

School finishes promptly at 3.30pm.

When Reception and Nursery children start school please bring Year 1 and 2 children in first and then go to Reception classes/ Nursery if you have younger children- the doors there will close at 9.10.



Please bear with us as we get to know faces and make sure the children get home safely!

Attendance

We understand that younger children naturally are more prone to illnesses as their immune systems develop. However our attendance target is 95% (Ofsted standard for "Good") so we need the children moving into Year 1 to come to school more! If you look at your child's report from last year you can see their % for last year.

If your child seems a little unwell you can

1. bring to school and ask the staff to keep an extra eye and send home if they feel worse OR
2. keep them at home but call us and bring them in if they feel much better

Playful learning

This year the children in Year 1 will be experiencing a more flexible day and more access to outdoor learning. We have made this change because research shows that young children learn best through exploration and play. They do not undergo a radical change over a 6 week holiday and should not be expected to learn by sitting and listening to a teacher for long periods of time.

Already we have noticed that they are really happy and have taken to their new classes with no hesitation! As the year progresses we will gradually introduce more structure. I will keep you informed of our progress.

The woods have had a mud kitchen installed and den making equipment has been added to the resources.

I ask that you monitor how your children use this space before and after school.

Already this year I have had to remove children from the shed roof!

I look forward as always to an exciting year. If you have any questions please just stop Monica or myself in the playground any day...

Sarah & Staff