



Woodberry Down Community Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Michelle Thomas

Headteacher: Mr Derek Hewie

Monday 19th June 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Questions Raised By Parents

On Thursday 18th May, Mrs Thomas and I held an informative coffee morning to tell you all about our upcoming 'Curiosity Challenge' which is taking place during the week beginning 26th June. A letter will be coming home later in the week inviting you to come along to a showcase from 2.15pm on Friday 30th June. There is also information available on our Twitter page @woodberrydownN4. Please do follow us and track the amazing things we do.

In the meeting, we gave parents the opportunity to ask any questions that they might have had about our school, the children's learning and recent government proposals. In order to inform you of the questions asked, and of the responses we gave, please see the table below.

Question	Response
Is it possible for Woodberry Down to be represented on the governing body?	<i>At the time of the most recent parent elections, no Woodberry Down parent put him/herself forward for the position. At present there are two parent governor posts on the governing body. These governors have a four year term. The Woodberry Down leadership team agreed for a parent to come along to a future meeting to observe.</i>
How will the changes in government funding affect Woodberry Down?	<i>Many schools are facing real hardship following reduction in school budgets. At present we do not foresee any significant changes. At present, we will continue to offer the same provision across all three schools and are making no major changes to the staffing structure.</i>
Can 'Home Learning' tasks be differentiated to ensure all children are challenged?	<i>Mr Hewie agreed that some activities set for homework could include a challenge task so as to ensure all of the children are set work which pushes them and encourages them to try things which might be more difficult for them. Mr Hewie has informed classteachers to ensure homework tasks are challenging.</i>
Are 'Reading Journal' raffles still taking place?	<i>Mr Hewie agreed that the 'Reading Journal' raffle needed to be refreshed and that we would bring this back to the beginning of our Wednesday assemblies. The prize of a bike will be awarded to the child chosen from the final raffle at the summer break.</i>

<p>Is it possible for more music lessons to take place at Woodberry Down?</p>	<p><i>Currently all pupils across the school each receive a weekly music lesson with one of our music specialists with their class. In addition, pupils from Y2 upwards were offered piano or guitar lessons at the beginning of the school year. We have increased this provision to three days per week due to the high number of pupils being offered lessons. At present we do not have capacity to extend this further.</i></p>
<p>Can my child continue to attend a particular club for longer periods of time when they have begun to build their skills?</p>	<p><i>At present, we make every effort to ensure as many children as possible can attend clubs at some point in the year. In order to do this, we need to change the children attending clubs regularly. This may mean that your child attends a specific club for a term only with the space being offered to another pupil during the following term. This way more children get to experience at least one term. We can help you to find clubs in the local area specialising in the sport or activity.</i></p>

As always, the school's leadership team are present at the school gate each and every day. We are always willing to listen to any comments, complaints, or even compliments when you arrive at school in the morning or afternoon.

In addition, shortly after the summer break, we will be creating a parent group including representatives from across each year in the school. The group will allow parents a voice in sharing any comments with myself and senior leaders through the representatives. A letter explaining this in greater detail will be issued closer to the summer break.

Finally, Mrs Thomas and I will be holding our final coffee morning of the school year on Tuesday 4th July with the theme of 'Internet Safety'. We will be holding the session at 9.30am in the lower hall. Please do come along if you are interested or have any questions on this topic.

Please remember that school is closed on Friday 7th July for our final INSET Day of the school year.

Kind regards

Derek Hewie
Headteacher