

Dear Parents,

I initially wrote this newsletter thinking that we would have broken up by now, have packed and be ready to move to the new school. As you all know by now, on Monday we received the news that the new school is not ready to move into in January. So, we have another half term in this building and we will move over February half term. This will mean 6 days extra holiday (3 days either side of the half term week):

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
22 Christmas holiday	23 Christmas holiday	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Boxing Day
29 Christmas holiday	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 Jan New Year's Day	2 Christmas holiday
5 Jan 2015 INSET Day – no school for pupils	6 Children return to the old school	7	8	9
12 Jan	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
2 Feb	3	4	5	6
9	10	11 Packing – no school for pupils	12 No school	13 No school
HALF TERM 16-20 FEB				
23 Feb Unpacking – no school for pupils	24 No school	25 No school	26 Pupils return to the NEW SCHOOL!	27

New School Q&A session

Thank you to all the parents who came to the New School Q&A session last week. Do not worry if you couldn't make it, as you will now be able to read the questions and find out the answers:

School Uniform

The school uniform is mainly the same except that children will now have a choice of 3 colours of polo shirts: green, orange and white (not red). New polo shirts with the new school logo will be available to buy in January. As an incentive to buy an orange shirt (they are difficult to source and so cost more), we will be offering an exchange of an old red shirt for a new orange one for the same cost as the green/white ones. The navy sweatshirt and cardigans remain the same, although new stock will have the new school logo.

Book bags

All children will receive a new navy book bag when we move. PE rucksacks will be available to buy from the school office.

Some of the special things about our new school

As well as having all the modern classrooms, offices and a very big hall that can be divided in two, we will also have:

- A Library
- A Studio – for music and drama
- An art room
- 'Woodlands Suite' – a group of rooms that will support pupils with a range of learning and support needs. Inclusion is a very important aspect of Woolmore and we are proud that we are able to extend our provision.

Questions from parents

Do Y6 need to buy new school uniform, as they will be leaving in July?

No, Y6 can carry on wearing the uniform they have.

Can the children wear pinafores? What colour?

Yes – pinafores, shalwar and skirts are fine in navy blue.

Can the parents look around the new school?

Once we have settled in I will do fortnightly meetings which will include a tour of the new school. Look out for information.



WOOLMORE NEWS

DECEMBER 2014

NOT THE FINAL EDITION FROM THE OLD SCHOOL

Is there a lift?

Yes, we do have lifts although we will only be using them when absolutely necessary. Most of the time we will use the stairs – and keep ourselves fit!

What about Breakfast Club?

We plan to continue with Breakfast Club (which has been running very successfully for 17 years and is subsidised by Morgan Stanley and Magic Breakfast) and we are still working out the best way to organise this.

What about after school clubs?

Once we have settled in we will be planning our after-school clubs programme. There will be opportunities to do extra activities and learning in sports, arts, computers and other areas.

How is the school expanding?

We currently have 2 classes in year 3 (we took in an extra class 3 years ago to support the need for extra places) and 2 in reception. Otherwise we have one class in each year group. When we open we will have 2 nursery classes in addition to the above.

The expansion plan is that the school will grow from the bottom upwards. It will all depend on the number of families who come to Woolmore. So let your friends know!

Who will be coming to our school?

As a local authority community school that takes inclusion very seriously we will admit children according to the local authority admissions policy. We welcome everyone.

Will the school be well equipped for children with special educational needs?

We are very fortunate that, in our new school, we will be able to further strengthen our provision for SEN. We will have an 'inclusion suite' which is called 'Woodlands'. Within Woodlands we will have an office and meeting room, the Tree House (nurture group room), The Nest (counseling room) and The Warren (sensory room).

We have also appointed a new Assistant Headteacher for Inclusion and Pastoral: Monica Steinharter, who was at the meeting.

Is there a room for parents?

What will you do for parents in the future?

Yes, the new Community room on the ground floor will be used for meetings and training sessions for parents. Tasneem is already busy planning our new programme; so far it includes e-safety sessions, practical parenting and how to help your child become a great reader.

The room has a kitchen area so that everyone can enjoy a cup of tea!

Will we lose the Woolmore Welcome Tree?

We have tried hard to see if it can be moved from the wall but it does not seem possible.

We are planning a way for all families to have a memory of this iconic piece of artwork that means so much to our children. So watch this space...

And finally,

Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and
have a great holiday everyone.
See you in 2015.

With very best wishes,

Ms Argent

*Last Friday: Colourful own clothes day and being
photographed for a piece of artwork for our new
school (it was a bit chilly!) ➔*