

## NEWSLETTER, February 2019



I hope you all had a happy and safe half term. This month has seen the creation and launch of our Woodlands Hub. The Hub will provide a safe and secure sensory based environment for some of our learners. The area is currently being developed and we are particularly excited to be receiving specific items to promote learning in the Hub, for example, our special 'mud kitchen' and themed mirrors for the outside area.



Planning permission for the new perimeter fence has now been granted and work will be starting in early March. Please see below for an update on the swimming pool.

There is a possibility I may be starting my maternity leave sooner than expected at some point during March. If I don't see you at the various Parent and Carer events scheduled for the remainder of this term, I will look forward to seeing you in July. I know that Andrea is very much looking forward to working with you again for the Summer Term.

Kind regards  
**Jenny Baker**  
Headteacher

### SEN Schools Football Tournament



Many congratulations to our KLS Amber League mixed football team led by Captain Ellie who played at Reading on 7<sup>th</sup> February.

Fantastic team work and sportsmanship was shown by all, resulting in us beating Brookfields by one point and earning silver medallist places once again! Well done team!

### Woodlands Hub

We are excited to share with you all that we have created a new area in school to support our young people with more complex needs. The Woodlands Hub gives each learner opportunities to explore their environment in a safe and secure space. Learners within the Woodlands Hub will typically follow a sensory based curriculum which will be built around a 'stage not age' approach. We are fortunate to have additional resources within the Hub, led by highly skilled and experienced staff, including our Physio and OT provision, as well as our large topic-themed sensory learning space.



We are continuing to update and improve the outdoor area of the Hub. Currently we have wheelchair accessible benches; water play; a sensory exploration tray which is changed daily for a new experience; and a mud kitchen! The artificial grass is due to be laid soon and we love the look of the sensory cushions and the leaf fence covering (pictured).



We are also currently working hard, with support and advice from our partnership SEN schools, on developing our curriculum for the Woodlands Hub which will be launched in September 2019.

### Swimming Pool

Following the really exciting news that we have been given a grant to refurbish our swimming pool and surrounding areas, the pool will be closed for the whole of the Summer Term and part of the Autumn Term to allow these works to begin. We'll update you on progress in future newsletters.



## School Gateway



If you haven't already done so and have an Android or iPhone, please download this free app for the 'School Comms' service. This saves us the cost of a text when we need to communicate urgent news or information to you, for example the recent closure of school due to adverse weather. Only 38% of our parents have signed up for this method of communication which is the most effective way to get urgent messages to you. Thank you for helping us save money for our school.

## Emotional First Aid for Parents



This course helps parents to identify their own early warning signs of emotional distress and develop their own sense of positive emotional health and wellbeing. The course will offer an overview of mental health and well-being in relation to being a parent.

Find out more at [www.emotionalfirstaid.co.uk/about-parents](http://www.emotionalfirstaid.co.uk/about-parents)

## Practical Self-Defence Aiki-JuJitsu

We have been asked to pass on information of this self-defence course which runs at the New Priestwood Community Centre on Mondays and Tuesdays. The sessions are for all abilities, adults and children and cost £5 per class. For more information please visit [www.allabilitiesmartialart.co.uk](http://www.allabilitiesmartialart.co.uk) or email [info@allabilitiesmartialart.co.uk](mailto:info@allabilitiesmartialart.co.uk).

## Dates for the Diary



<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	World Book Day	
<b>Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Secondary Bring and Share Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Primary 'All Join In' Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
<b>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Woodlands Hub 'All Join In' Morning	11.00am – 12.00pm
<b>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Friends of Kennel Lane Quiz Night – Binfield Club	7.30pm
<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Family Fun Session	3.10pm – 4.30pm
<b>Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Introduction to Sixth Form Coffee Afternoon	1.30pm – 2.30pm
<b>Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>End of Term</b>	<b>1.00pm (for learners)</b>
<b>Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>Start of Summer Term</b>	<b>8.50am</b>
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Options Coffee Morning (invitations to follow next term)	9.15am – 10.15am