

Wooden Hill Primary and Nursery School

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Headteacher

Mrs Joanna Lagares



3rd September 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome Back 2018

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer holiday and that your children are looking forward to coming back to school tomorrow, refreshed and eager to learn. I'd like to take this opportunity to extend a very warm welcome to all of our new children and families who are joining us this academic year. In addition to the new families joining our Nursery and Reception, we also have a number of children throughout the school who have joined the Wooden Hill family.

This term we are welcoming Miss McGowan as our new PE specialist teacher. Also joining the teaching team are Miss Smart and Miss Robertson. Miss Bannister is joining the teaching team as a School Direct Trainee.

Joining our team of support staff, we have Ms Hill, Mrs Moidu and Miss Smith. Mrs Wallington has also re-joined our staff as an Early Years Key Worker in reception. We currently have vacancies for a Technical and Media Support Officer and a Specialist Support Assistant. If you are interested in either of these roles, please look at <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/jobs>. The Technical and Media Support Officer closes tomorrow, so you'll need to be quick!

Congratulations

Miss Miller gave birth to a beautiful baby girl called Harper on Tuesday 21st August 2018 weighing 5lb 9oz. Mr Billers' wife gave birth to a baby boy weighing 7lb 10oz on Friday 24th August who they've named James. Mr Billers will be back in school following paternity leave on Monday 10th September.

Congratulations to Miss Barnes who tied the knot in August. Miss Barnes has taken her husband's name and is now called Mrs Brown.

New Look Website, Emails, Logo and Social Media

You may have noticed that our email and letter look has changed. Our website has also taken on a new, fresh look and feel and will hopefully go live later this week. We will send you a link and further details once this has happened. We are also launching the Official Wooden Hill School Facebook page later this week as we still have a few minor adjustments to make. Through this and through our website, you will have regular updates on events in and out of the classroom as well as timely reminders relevant to your child's year group. As we did with the old website, all of the main events (e.g. sports day, reports, parents' consultations, INSET etc.) for the school are uploaded at the start of the academic year. As new events are created, these will be uploaded to the school calendar.

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Enterprise Week and Fun(draising) Day

Those of you who were with us in the summer will know that this month is our exciting Enterprise Week and Fun(draising) Day. Enterprise Week will take place on the 24th – 27th September and Friday 28th September is Fun(draising) day. The aim is to raise a significant amount of money so that we can purchase a new play frame for the main playground.

On Fun(draising) Day, each class will be running a stall selling items or games / activities which they have designed and made during Enterprise Week. In addition to the school stalls, outside stall holders / entertainers / groups are invited to attend for a donation to our fundraising activities. The event will be open to the public and families invited to attend. If you know of an organisation, business or group who would like to attend this fantastic event, please leave details of the stall / activity at the office no later than Wednesday 19th September. Further details of the event will be published on Thursday 20th September.

If you are available to support in school during Enterprise Week, please speak to your child's class teacher. Each child had £1 to make as much money as possible and classes should have already decided what they are going to do or make for Fun(draising) Day. The children will be busy that week, designing and making and I am sure that the teachers would appreciate help in the classrooms; especially if things get messy!

To help the £1 per child budget go further, we will be holding two non-uniform days. These will be on Friday 14th September and Friday 21st September. Instead of a contribution of money, we will be asking children to bring a contribution towards the things needed for the class stalls. For example, a bag of flour, a piece of wood, a ball of wool. A list of items needed will be sent out on Friday 7th September.

In the meantime, please start spreading the word about the event; encouraging people to attend; either as a contributor or as a visitor. It is all for a good cause – the equipment will be used for many, many years to come.

Tidy School Day

Some of you may remember that we held a couple of Tidy School Days the year before last. These were well attended (sometimes despite the awful rain and wind!) and the group achieved great things; clearing the small quads from weeds, clearing and digging beds and clearing up the vast quantities of leaves which we always have. We have set 3 dates for this academic year:

15th September 9am – 12pm

30th March 9am – 12pm

15th June 9am – 12pm

Parents, families, friends and neighbours are invited to come and help make our school look fabulous. Tea, coffee and cake will be readily available for helpers. The event will run from 9am – 12pm and helpers are welcome to pop in to lend a hand at any point during those times. It is helpful for Mr Munden to know estimated numbers so if you think you may be able to pop in, please let Mrs Squires in the office know.

For the first Tidy School Day our priorities are:

- Clearing and digging in the nature garden as this is being transformed into a sensory garden to be officially opened on Fundraising Day
- Weeding overgrown beds / containers

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- Fixing the wooden fences around the paths
- Painting / treating the wooden fences around the paths
- Painting / treating the wooden fences for the Y1 outside area
- Clearing leaves

If you have any specific skills and are willing to lend a hand, please let us know as we would love as much support as possible.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

There have been a couple of date changes for the meet the teacher meetings this week. Please see below all of the classes – any changes the class has been highlighted.

	Class Name	Teacher
Wednesday 5 th September	Mole Beaver	Mrs Atkinson/Mrs Pitcher Mrs Kelly
Thursday 6 th September	Chaffinch Owl	Miss Christie Miss Wright
Friday 7 th September	Greenfinch Otter	Miss Robertson Miss Smart
Monday 10 th September	Deer Jay Crossbill	Mrs Barley / Mrs Steel Miss Carter Miss Bolton
Tuesday 11 th September	Woodpecker Rabbit	Mrs Sawford Mrs Brown
Wednesday 12 th September	Kite Vole	Mr Billers Mrs Andrews / Mrs Jones

Dates for the Diary

Parents' consultations will be held on Wednesday 19th September and Thursday 20th September. Appointments will run from 1.20pm until 7.30pm and a letter will go out shortly with which classes are on which day.

Please note that Bracknell Forest's term dates are not the same as Wokingham's this year. The Autumn term ends on Friday 21st December and children return on Monday 7th January.

Thursday 22nd November and Friday 23rd November are INSET days at Wooden Hill School and the school and Nursery will be closed to children.

May 2019 Elections

Over the summer, I received notification that the school will be used as a polling station on 2nd May 2019 for the Borough and Parish Elections. This means that the school will be closed on this day. Many of you will know that I have tried hard over the last few years to look at alternative solutions to closing the school. Unfortunately, due to the lack of lighting and adequate pathways my attempts have been unsuccessful therefore we have no other option than to close the school on this day.

Health and Safety

For health and safety reasons, please do not allow your child to climb on the wooden fencing by the path at the front of the school.

Bikes and scooters are not permitted to be used anywhere in the school grounds. Please ask children to dismount on entering through the gates and walk their bikes or scooters to the bike store. This includes pre-school aged children and children who do not attend Wooden Hill School.

School Play Equipment


Children, including Nursery children, are strictly forbidden to play on or use any school equipment before or after school. Parents should ensure that children do not climb on or use the timber trail as this can only be used under the supervision of school staff.

School Uniform

Just a quick reminder that all children are expected to wear the full and correct school uniform, including correct school shoes. Hair accessories must be functional and in school colours; large bows or decorative accessories are not permitted.

We look forward to working with you this year.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Lagares', written in a cursive style.

Mrs J. Lagares
Headteacher

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