

PRINCIPAL: PEGGY MURPHY, MA
HEAD OF PRIMARY: TIM WILLIAMS, MA (Ed)
HEAD OF SECONDARY: RICHARD DALTON, BA
BOUGHTON LANE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 9QF
TEL: OFFICE 01622 743925
EMAIL: office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk
WEBSITE: www.fiveacrewood.co.uk



15th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

Here we are at the end of term 3 already! It has been a fairly quiet term after all the excitement of Christmas. Hopefully we have had our quota of snow for this winter and the spring term will bring some slightly warmer temperatures.

Pupils and Staff

We have welcomed some new staff this term. Kathleen, Vicki, Zaira, Stefania, Tylie, Hanne, Chloe, Alice, Olivia, Wendy, Chloe, Vicky, Shaunette and Kate have joined us as Teaching Assistants. Cathy, Jayne and Lisa have joined us as lunchtime supervisors. We were also delighted to welcome Michael Garcia back to Five Acre Wood as our Behaviour Lead Teacher.

We have had some new pupils join Five Acre Wood – welcome to Ayra, Alyssa, Esmee, Katherine, Kayleigh-Mai, Minhaj, Kyra, Elise, Finley, Gabriel, Finley, Mitchell, Jessica, Vishal and Eva.

We hope that they have enjoyed their first term and we would like to wish them all the best at Five Acre Wood School.

Fundraising

A message from Alex, our fundraiser:

It's incredible to think that we launched "Create a ripple...MAKE A SPLASH!" just a year ago. Well over £70,000.00 has now been raised involving a huge number of people. This campaign will continue throughout 2019. There are currently so many supporters training to run half marathons, full marathons, cycle from London to Brighton; there are people losing weight; people arranging boxing events; bake sales; shopping through Easyfundraising and Amazon Smile; taking part in FAW Club; getting involved in the Sainsbury's Stores Sponsored Cycle....ALL for the benefit of our wonderful students.

If you can put on an event that might raise funds or awareness for our school (YOUR school!) – please let me know so I can give you all the support you need. If you can't do something yourself, please consider sponsoring someone who is able to, or persuade your local gym, church, knitting group, choir, brownie pack, ANYONE really, to "Create a ripple...MAKE A SPLASH!".

Plenty of work is going on behind the scenes to get the balancing major chunk of funding needed to ensure we can build our hydrotherapy pool SOON! Plus work on other projects too – the Sensory Garden – an ongoing and organic project; we are still looking for funding to get School Radio here; to develop Forest School; to get more equipment in the music department.

Social media buzzes constantly with interactions on Facebook and Twitter as well as traffic moving to our dedicated Fundraising website. Thank you for all your support for our endeavours – please never stop this support!



Sporting events

Pupils in our formal and functional learning approaches have competed in some great sporting events this term. We were delighted to hear that our teams became silver medalists at both the Panathlon Aqua Splash at Medway Park and at the Kent School Games Disability Indoor Rowing. Our pupils also participated in the County Table Cricket competition at the KCG in Beckenham. Congratulations and well done to them all!

Makaton for parents

You should already have received a letter regarding Makaton workshops for parents/carers. If you wish to attend either workshop, please ensure you return the reply slip. The training is provided free of charge but all attendees will need to purchase a set of Makaton manuals costing £31.00. We are running both a week day and a Saturday course. The dates are as follows:

Workshop 1	Workshop 2
Part 1	Part 1
Date: Tuesday 19th March 2019	Date: Saturday 20 th April 2019
Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm	Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm
Venue: SMILE 2 room (Five Acre Wood School)	Venue: The Hall (Five Acre Wood School)
Part 2	Part 2
Date: Tuesday 26th March 2019	Date: Saturday 27 th April 2019
Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm	Time: 9.30am – 3.30pm
Venue: SMILE 2 room (Five Acre Wood School)	Venue: The Hall (Five Acre Wood School)

Places will be offered on a 'first come-first served' basis with a maximum of 12 attendees per workshop. Unfortunately, workshops cannot be run with less than 6 attendees. Refreshments will be available during all workshops, but please bring your own lunch.

SCERTS training

Our staff training days will be held on Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th March so pupils will not be in school on these days. A number of our staff will be taking part in SCERTS training, led by international expert Emily Rubin. Emily specialises in Autism, Aspergers Syndrome and related social learning disabilities and she is coming from America to deliver this training to us.

SCERTS is an educational model for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or individuals not on the autism spectrum who are developing social communication and emotional regulation skills. SCERTS provides specific guidelines for helping an individual become a competent and confident social communicator and active learner. It can be adapted to meet the demands of different social settings for youngsters, including home and school. Therefore, Emily will also be holding a parent/carer session on Wednesday 13th March 2018 from 6pm-8pm, at Five Acre Wood. Refreshments will be available and there will be an opportunity for you to ask questions. The session is open to any parents/carers from other schools, at a cost of £20 per person but will be FREE TO FIVE ACRE WOOD PARENTS/CARERS! This is a great opportunity and we hope to see you there. An information poster is attached but if you would like to book a place, please email

hstewart@five-acre.kent.sch.uk or call the school office on 01622 743925.

New staff for September 2019

Due to the increasing number of pupils at Five Acre Wood School, we have been interviewing for new teachers to join us in September. We are pleased to have appointed 5 really good teachers. We have also appointed an additional Assistant Head.

Healthcare Plans

Please can I remind all parents/carers that in the interest of your child's health and safety, it is your responsibility to ensure all information on Healthcare Plans is kept up to date.

I hope that you have an enjoyable half term and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Kind regards,



Peggy Murphy
Principal

PRINCIPAL: PEGGY MURPHY, MA
 HEAD OF PRIMARY: TIM WILLIAMS, MA (Ed)
 HEAD OF SECONDARY: RICHARD DALTON, BA
 BOUGHTON LANE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME15 9QF
 TEL: OFFICE 01622 743925
 EMAIL: office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk
 WEBSITE: www.fiveacrewood.co.uk



Term Dates with Diary Dates 2018/19

Date	Time	Event
------	------	-------

Term 4

Monday 25 th February 2019	N/A	First day of term 4
Monday 11 th March 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 12 th March 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 13 th March 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 19 th March 2019	9.30am-3.30pm	Parent Support Group – Makaton for parents
Tuesday 26 th March 2019	9.30am-3.30pm	Parent Support Group – Makaton for parents
Tuesday 2 nd April 2019	10-11.30am	Easter Fair
Friday 5 th April 2019	N/A	Last day of term

Term 5

Tuesday 23 rd April 2019	N/A	First day of term 5
Monday 6 th May 2019	N/A	Bank holiday (pupils and staff not in school)
Tuesday 7 th May 2019	2.00-3.30pm	Parent Support Group - Behaviour
Wednesday 8 th May 2019	9.30am-12.30pm	Parent Support Group – Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
Tuesday 14 th May 2019	2.00-3.30pm	Parent Support Group - SCERTS
Wednesday 15 th May 2019	All day	Danceathon
Wednesday 22 nd May 2019	10-11.30am	Secondary summer performance
Friday 24 th May 2019	N/A	Last day of term

Term 6

Monday 3 rd June 2019	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 4 th June 2019	N/A	First day of term 6 for pupils
Wednesday 26 th June 2019	TBC	Primary sports day
Thursday 27 th June 2019	TBC	Secondary sports day
Friday 5 th July 2019	All day	Transition day
Monday 8 th July 2019	3.45-6.45pm	'Meet the new teacher' parents evening
Thursday 11 th July 2019	9.30-11.00am	Parent Support Group – Online safety
Wednesday 17 th July 2019	9.30am-3.15pm	Woodstock
Thursday 18 th July 2019	10.30am	Secondary prize giving
Tuesday 23 rd July 2019	N/A	Last day of term



NOTE TO PARENTS/CARERS REGARDING MEDICATION

To ensure that your child is given the most current prescribed medication of the correct dose and at the right time, please read these guidelines:

1. Please ensure that all medicines sent into school are in the ORIGINAL pharmacy containers/packaging clearly labelled with:

- Your child's name
- Name of prescribed medication
- The dosage and frequency of administration
- How medicine should be given, e.g. by mouth, via feeding tube
- Date medicine was dispensed
- Expiry Date

Any nurse will have the right to refuse the administration of medication to your child if this information is not clearly shown on the label.

2. Please inform the school nurse of any change to your child's regular medication, including alterations to dose, frequency or medication being stopped as advised by a doctor. These alterations need to be confirmed in writing by the prescriber. **We cannot accept verbal alterations and will be unable to give an amended dose unless we have the medication in its original contained with the correct information printed on the label or receive the changes in writing from the prescriber.**

3. If your child is prescribed emergency medication (Diazepam/Midazolam for epilepsy or Anapen/Epipen for allergy) please inform the school nurse immediately. Further information from your child's doctor will be needed regarding when the emergency medication should be given and this will be kept in school so all staff are aware of what care your child needs in an emergency.

4. Please ensure there is a sufficient supply of all the medicines your child needs whilst in school. We will contact you to advise when we are running low.

5. When sending in medication, it must not be put in your child's bag. Instead, it should be handed directly to a member of the class staff. If your child comes into school by taxi, the medication should be given to the escort who will then hand it to a member of the class staff when they arrive at school.