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18 October 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have already reached the end of term 1 and autumn has definitely arrived. It has been lovely to meet some of our new parents and also to see many parents and carers in and around the school.

Pupils and Staff

This term we have welcomed lots of new staff and pupils and they have all settled in well. We hope that they have enjoyed their first term and hope that they will be very happy at Five Acre Wood School.

Grow 19

We were proud to launch Grow 19 on 9 September; a specialist college for learners aged 19-25. Grow 19 is based in East Malling Community Centre and offers vocational education in catering and hospitality or construction and horticulture, alongside functional skills. Learners complete weekly work experience opportunities and are learning life skills such as cooking, travel awareness and social skills. I am delighted to hear that this has been a resounding success and would like to thank everyone involved for all of their hard work in setting the college up.

School Events

Class coffee mornings/afternoons took place in September. These sessions are a great opportunity for parents and carers to come and visit the classroom and to meet the class team. Thank you to all who were able to attend and support their children.

We held our summer fair at the end of September again this year. Following a typical week of rain, the day dawned bright and warm but BREEZY! Fortunately this didn't put anyone off coming along and a happy and buzzing crowd of parents, carers, family, friends and pupils enjoyed a fun and relaxed afternoon. With support from local companies and organisations including the Golden Boot, the Walnut Tree and the Guide Dogs we raised over £3,000.00 from the event. Our fabulous school community pulled together to ensure we had a well-stocked selection of tombolas and bric-a-brac stalls, plenty of games, a delicious refreshments area serving a BBQ, cakes, popcorn and candy floss. There were arts and crafts, face painting and pampering. Creepy Claws were as popular as ever. Our therapy ponies-in-waiting, Sprat and Lulu, were there meeting our children and enjoying giving



them rides. Squeals of delight and laughter could be heard around the fair! Our raffle was well supported and thanks go to Barclays who are match funding £750 of ticket sales.



On Tuesday 1st October we held our Harvest Festival celebrations for primary pupils. Many of our pupils had never taken part in a performance before, so this was a new experience for them and for some parents! I am sure that the parents and carers who were able to attend will agree, they all did really well. There were some wonderful costumes and pupils enjoyed keeping their audience entertained. We would like to thank everyone for the food items which were brought in; we have donated these to the food bank at The Vine Church. They were very grateful for the donations and we were pleased to be able to support a local deserving cause. Some photos of this event will be included in the winter newsletter which is published at the end of next term. Thank you to everyone who was involved with the organisation of this event.

Parent Support Groups

Details of our parent support groups for this academic year will be sent home shortly, following collation of responses to our survey. Reminders will be sent home nearer the time of each session, together with details of how to confirm your attendance. Please be advised that these groups will not run with fewer than 5 attendees.

Strategic Development Plan

The school Strategic Development Plan for this year has been finalised so please find attached a summary of this. This highlights all of the targets that we will be working towards this year.

Please find attached the term dates with diary dates for your information. I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable half term and I look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 28th October.

Kind regards,

Peggy

Peggy Murphy
Principal

Term Dates with Diary Dates 2019/20

Date	Time	Event
<u>Term 2</u>		
Monday 28 th October 2019	N/A	First day of term 2
Monday 2 nd December 2019	3.45-6.45pm	Parents evening
Wednesday 4 th December 2019	10.00-11.30am	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 10 th December 2019	TBC	Nativity performance
Wednesday 11 th December 2019	TBC	Nativity performance
Tuesday 17 th December 2019	Various	Class Christmas parties
December 2019 (TBC)	Lunch time	Christmas dinner
Wednesday 18 th December 2019	N/A	Last day of term
<u>Term 3</u>		
Monday 6 th January 2020	N/A	First day of term 3
Friday 14 th February 2020	N/A	Last day of term
<u>Term 4</u>		
Monday 24 th February 2020	N/A	First day of term 4
Monday 9 th March 2020	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 10 th March 2020	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 11 th March 2020	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 31 st March 2020	10-11.30am	Easter Fair
Wednesday 1 st April 2020	N/A	Last day of term
<u>Term 5</u>		
Tuesday 16 th April 2020	N/A	First day of term 5
Friday 8 th May 2020	N/A	Bank holiday (pupils and staff not in school)
Wednesday 20 th May 2020	10-11.30am	Secondary summer performance
Friday 22 nd May 2020	N/A	Last day of term
<u>Term 6</u>		
Monday 1 st June 2020	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 2 nd June 2020	N/A	First day of term 6 for pupils
Wednesday 24 th June 2020	TBC	Sports day
Thursday 25 th June 2020	TBC	Sports day
TBC	TBC	Sports day – FAW Snodland
Friday 3 rd July 2020	All day	Transition day
Monday 6 th July 2020	3.45-6.45pm	'Meet the new teacher' parents evening
Thursday 16 th July 2020	10.30am	Secondary prize giving
Wednesday 22 nd July 2020	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

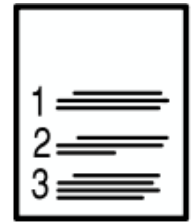
Any nurse will have the right to refuse the administration of medication to your child if this information is not clearly shown on the label.

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.





Five Acre Wood School Development Plan








Five Acre Wood School staff are





working on these targets

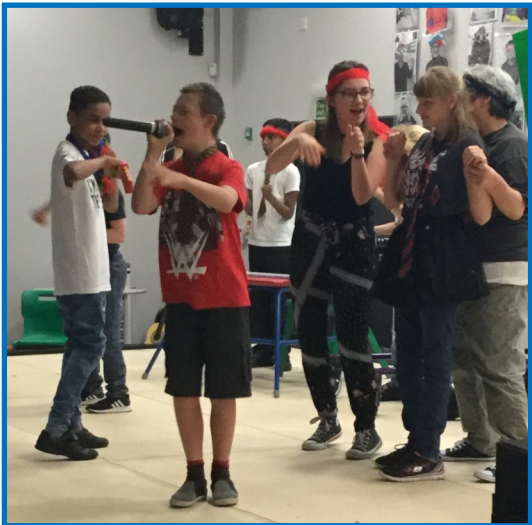



Learning and Teaching

To learn more drama and art and dance and


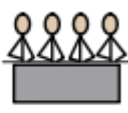
singing and music



To show my learning





To have a radio station






Leadership and Management

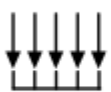












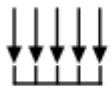




To work with my parents to make




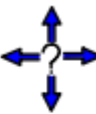
Five Acre Wood School the best




For all adults to know how I learn best

For all adults to work together to help me

For adults to find new ways

of helping me learn





Personal Development



To give me time to



think about my learning



To help me to know about Human Rights



Behaviour and Attitudes



To give me time to



get ready to learn





BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES



TARGET

- To introduce 'readiness for learning' time into the daily timetable for all pupils

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- All pupils will have the time, support and space to prepare for their learning



PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

TARGETS

- To introduce reflection time into the daily timetable for all pupils
- To increase the opportunities that pupils have to meaningfully influence their lives by embedding pupil agency and self-determination within the culture of the school.



PUPIL OUTCOMES

- All pupils will have the opportunity to 'reflect' on their day and prepare for the transition to home
- Pupils understand and exert their human rights as defined by the UN Charter



FIVE ACRE WOOD SCHOOL

Growing and Learning Together

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2019-2020





OVERVIEW

To further develop Five Acre Wood School, the Strategic Development Plan for the school has been developed for the coming year

The aim of this plan is to remain 'Outstanding' whilst building upon our current excellent practice

In order to achieve this, there will be four key areas:

1. Leadership and Management
2. Quality of Education
3. Personal Development
4. Behavior and Attitudes

This document is an overview of the plan for the academic year 2019-2020



There are also seven Strategic Plans that focus on the development of each of the Learning Approaches and Therapy Provision



QUALITY OF EDUCATION

TARGETS

- To raise the profile of the Arts across the school
- To trial Evidence for Learning
- To establish a radio station at the Snodland site

PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Pupils will have access to high quality arts experiences and have the opportunity to achieve arts accreditation
- Pupils will have their progress demonstrated in a meaningful and appropriate way through their school career, involving their families
- Secondary pupils at the Snodland site have the opportunity to access and experience new ways of working and communicating



LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

TARGETS

- To harmonise health and education working practices within school
- To build on the development of newly appointed staff
- To introduce three research strands
 - External
 - Internal
 - Questions outside remit
- To increase parental engagement through the development of a co-produced parent engagement framework. #ThePowerOfUs



PUPIL OUTCOMES

- Pupils learn through an enhanced holistic approach
- All pupils have access to suitably trained staff and therefore high quality learning opportunities
- Pupils will benefit from individualised, high quality learning environments and approaches
- Pupil's school environment, learning experiences and individual goals will be shaped through ongoing parental dialogue