

Middle Woodford, Salisbury
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Woodford Valley C.E Primary Academy



1st September 2023

Dear Parents

Welcome back to old friends and a special welcome to our new families. I hope that you had a restful summer and managed to do something together. Please help our new parents to feel at home and introduce yourself – it helps to have a friendly face to help you to quickly pick up the daily routine.

Our new worship theme is **Thankfulness**. We explore all that we can be thankful for and how we can share these gifts with others.

Psalm 106:1 "Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

We will be using the drop off and collection arrangements as before at the beginning and end of each school day. Please arrive from 8.30am and make sure that your child/children are in school by 8.45am. Learning starts straight away so arriving late impacts on this time for them as well as the rest of the class. Our new friends will join us at 9.00am for the first week so that they can avoid the business of the start of school and experience a bit more of a relaxed start to the day. Their year 5 buddies will be waiting for them each morning by the gate.

Collection at the end of the school day will be along the school field and by each of the gates. I am sure you are all familiar with this routine by now. Anyone arriving late will find their child/children waiting in the main school office reception area.

Please use the car park responsibly. Park close enough so that spaces are not wasted but allow room to give yourself space to get in and out of your vehicle. Please drive slowly as you enter and leave the car park as we have had a number of near misses with very young children running across the road. Please always ensure that you and your children use the footpaths and cross the road carefully at all times. If you can share lifts that would be very helpful. Please use the drop off and pick up stop just as you enter the gate.

It is important that pupils wear school uniform and that their hair is neatly tied up. Please help us to make sure that this happens. There is a very good second hand uniform shop run by the PTA so let them know if you are after something specific – we get lots of requests at the start of the year so you won't be the only customer. All clothing and equipment needs to be labelled. It is much quicker to find the owner if we know who to track down. If you find someone else's items have accidentally made their way to your house please return ASAP so we can reunite these items. PE kits need to be in school at all times but can go home at weekends for a wash.

Please can we also ask you not to send pupils in wearing jewellery. Only watches, simple studs or sleepers for pierced ears are acceptable.

Our Year 6 pupils are busy choosing their next school for September 2025 along with other families considering new reception places for September 2025. Remember to complete and return your preference forms online to Wiltshire Council Admissions team before the admissions deadlines – these are evident on the Wiltshire website and posters around the school; 31/10/2023 for secondary school places starting in September 2024 and 15/01/2024 for primary school places starting in September 2024. An application must be made regardless of whether a sibling already attends the school of your choice.

We would love to welcome some parent/grandparent volunteer helpers in school. Mrs Smith would dearly love some help in the kitchen for food technology on a Tuesday, either during a morning or afternoon session (or both). We would also welcome some additional readers to hear the children read and Miss Naish is also desperate for help in the school allotment, either during the club on a Tuesday or at times within the school day too.

Teachers are busy ensuring that the class website pages are up to date and that these are regularly refreshed so please look at these regularly. We will also post important documents on our website with a prompt from parent mail so please make sure you look at these too. Please look at our excellent results in the Parent Information section.

We welcome Miss Arrandale to Salterton Class. I know you will make her feel very welcome. We are very excited to work with her at the top end of the school.

We are starting to collect shoeboxes for our Christmas shoebox workshop. These boxes are filled on a workshop day in November with all sorts of items and given as a Christmas present to families in Bulgaria by the Trussell Trust. Please send in any unwanted empty shoe boxes so that we can start building up our supply early.

Children regularly visit the church, the field at the back of the school and at times the village hall. We ask for a blanket permission slip for these occasions. Please could you either complete and return the slip below or provide your consent via an email to office@woodfordvalley.wilts.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely

Rebecca Carson

Key Dates:

Monday 4th September – Return to School

W/C Monday 18th September – Clubs Start for Y1-Y6 (information to follow)

Friday 22nd September - Jeans for Genes Day

Tuesday 3rd October – Harvest Assembly for the Trussell Trust

Tuesday 3rd October – Parents Evening

Thursday 5th October – Parents Evening

Tuesday 10th October – Individual Photos

Future Events

Thursday 2nd November – Fireworks and Bonfire Evening

Friday 10th November – Christmas Boxes

Friday 10th November – Remembrance Service

Friday 1st December – Christmas Bazaar

Friday 8th December – Afternoon Christmas Performance for Y1-Y6

Wednesday 13th December – Evening Christmas Performance for Y1-Y6

Thursday 14th December – Evening Christmas Performance for Y1-Y6

General Consent form

I give permission forto be taken out of school in the local area.

SignedParent / Guardian