3rd October 2014

Dear Parents,

 The 25th birthday celebrations went well. The afternoon assembly with all the children, staff, governors, the Mayor of Stowmarket and Mr Meadows, the first Headteacher at Wood Ley was a memorable occasion. The children sang the song Mrs Oliver wrote especially for the celebration with pride and “gusto”.

The new time capsule will be buried later this term with the contents of the original one. We all wonder what people will think when they see what we have buried and also what will be in place in twenty five years time.

We will keep the display in the atrium to commemorate 25 years until half term. If you have not had the chance to see it, please come to have a look. If you know anyone who has had connections with Wood Ley School over the last 25 years please invite them to call in.

Thank you to all parents who made individual cakes for each child to take home at the end of the day.

Fortunately the weather remained fine and we were able to hold the official opening of the new build outside. All of Key Stage two were in attendance. The local press covered the event this week in Thursday’s edition of the East Anglian Daily Times and in the Stowmarket Mercury.

Next Friday is Harvest Festival. We always try to hold this event outside on the playground, weather permitting. This year Key Stage One and Two children will be standing on the stage and bank. After you drop your child/ren off in the morning you are very welcome walk straight to the playground ready for the Harvest assembly to begin at 9.15a.m. At the end of the service children will return to their classes.

We welcome parents of Foundation Stage children to this event but children in Foundation Stage will not be taking part outside because we feel they may be a little over awed by the occasion.

For the second year we will not be selling the Harvest produce at the end of the day. This year we are going to support the Food Bank in Stowmarket. We would very much like dry goods rather then fresh fruit and vegetables, for example tinned produce and dried goods. Please bring produce to the atrium from next Wednesday onwards to be displayed in the atrium. At the end of the day Major Beverley from the Salvation Army will collect the food items and take them to the collection centre. If it is raining we will have the Harvest assembly in the hall. If this should happen I am afraid we will not be able to accommodate Parents in the school hall. This will be disappointing, but we do not have enough room for children and Parents together.

We are very pleased with the new arrangements for entering and leaving school. A reminder to all children that they are to dismount from their scooter or bike at the gate and walk along the path to the cycle park. This will ensure everyone is safe walking to school. Children leaving school must walk until they get to school gate.

For safety reasons the front gates are kept closed, but there are occasions when visitors do not close them on their exit, so the gate is open. Some parents are choosing to walk through the car park with their child. This causes me concern for the safety of the children because should a vehicle enter the car park at the same time an accident may happen. For your safety and good practice please keep to the path even if the gate is open, thank you.

When children are outside doing P.E. during the last lesson of the afternoon and you enter the playground to collect your child there is often a over lap. In light of this will parents please wait at the “wood” end of the playground. Only when the children have gone in, move to the outside of the playground in front of the boat. This would be very helpful to the needs of the children, thank you.

The children in each Key Stage are working collaboratively on pieces of art work connected to their Religious Education work. The work is going to be exhibited in Bury Cathedral from 18th October for a week. You are warmly invited to visit the Cathedral to view. There will also be work from other schools in Suffolk being exhibited at the same time.

Yours sincerely

**S.A. Ward**

**Headteacher**

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