

WESTWOOD WITH IFORD SCHOOL



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Dear Parents,

A very warm welcome back to you all as we begin another exciting academic year together. I hope that you all had a wonderful summer and that I will catch up with you at some point in the playground. Can I also extend a welcome to our new parents and their children to our community; we are thrilled to have you. Please feel free to ask questions, we will always do whatever we can to help you settle in to our school.

As always, we are starting the year with energy and enthusiasm and I have lots to tell you over the coming weeks. I am also pleased to let you know that we already have some parent's evening meetings arranged.

This year, in line with the introduction of the new National Curriculum, we will be teaching the *International Primary Curriculum* at Westwood with Iford School. This skills based curriculum provides excellent opportunities to develop child centred learning and I will be hosting a meeting on **Tuesday 9th September at 6.30pm** in the school hall to outline how it will be taught and the benefits for your child.

We are also giving you an opportunity, this year, to meet your class teacher on **Tuesday 16th September** in your child's classroom. There will be two sessions, 2.20-2.40pm and 2.40-3.00pm, should you have more than one child at school. It will be an informal session where we will be outlining what you can expect from us as a school throughout the year and how you can help your child(ren) with their learning. I strongly recommend you try to attend this, if at all possible.

The following week, we will be having our school Open Day on **Tuesday 23rd September**, where prospective parents are welcome to visit, have a look around and to see the wonderful atmosphere of our school during a typical working day. If you have friends or relatives who you think may like to join us, please can you let them know as it would be good to see as many prospective parents as possible.

On **Wednesday 24th September at 6.30pm**, I will be hosting a Digital Literacy evening as this year we will be, once again, focusing on writing but with the use of technology to develop it and raise standards. I am particularly excited about this and would urge you to come along, as parental support and involvement will be so valuable to helping your child develop their writing skills.

We also see the return of Tea with the Head this year. Our first get together will be on **Friday 26th September** in the newly refurbished meadow straight after school. The usual home made cakes, biscuits and the opportunity to have an informal chat are on offer to end the week on a high. Last year was lovely, so I am looking forward to doing it all again!

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a successful term and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Ian Rockey
Head teacher